



FOR RELEASE
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Tau Beta Pi Announces 2017 Laureates

Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, has named three Laureates in the Association's annual program to recognize gifted engineering students who have excelled in areas beyond their technical majors.

The 2017 TBP Laureates are Kasey M. Cooper, a senior at Auburn University, cited for achievements in athletics; Kevin Fraser, a recent graduate from Duke University, cited for diverse achievements; and Simone M. M. Stanley, a recent graduate from Howard University, cited for achievements in the arts. A total of 105 remarkable Tau Bates have been named Laureates since 1982.

The Laureate Program exists to further Tau Beta Pi's second fundamental purpose as stated in the Association's Constitution: ". . . to foster a spirit of liberal culture in engineering colleges." The primary concern of the Society is to recognize students of superior scholarship and exemplary character and to honor eminent practicing engineers. The Society also encourages excellence in engineering education and in the ethical practice of engineering.

The Laureates will be honored with other 2017 Association award winners on October 14 at the 112th annual Convention in Michigan. Tau Beta Pi President Norman Pih will present each with a \$2,500 cash award and a commemorative plaque. Their biographies follow:

(more)

KASEY M. COOPER, *Alabama Alpha '18*, is majoring in mechanical engineering at Auburn University and will graduate during the spring of 2018.

She has been a four-year starter as the third baseman for the Auburn softball team. She is a two-time SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year, is the SEC's all-time runs batted in (RBI) leader, and her .386 career batting average is exceeded only by her grade point average – 3.98.

She was selected and has competed for two summers with the USA Women's National Softball team, winning a silver medal at the World Cup of Softball (2016). In addition, Cooper is a three-time All-American, three-time Academic All-American, and Auburn's all-time home runs leader (67).

With her extraordinary time management skills, she makes time to volunteer through service activities with the AL Alpha Chapter and with the softball team. Kasey is a determined leader who helps others succeed through mentoring and as a camp counselor. She exemplifies what it means to be a student-athlete and has battled through adversity to meet her goals on and off the field. She plans to go to medical school to become a surgeon and help extend life.

KEVIN FRASER, *North Carolina Gamma '17*, is an electrical and computer engineering graduate of Duke University. He will work as a full-time analyst with BlackRock.

Kevin has contributed as a member of the varsity swimming and diving team, and has worked to help bring an end to anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination in athletics. He is a two-time All-ACC Academic Team selection and was a member of the 2013-14 ACC Championship team.

Through his role as a mentor, Kevin has helped to build a community among the first-year athletic class of student-athletes, establishing peer connections and instilling traits to enable future success. He also coordinated the representation of more than 50+ members of Duke Athletics in North Carolina's annual Pride Parade.

Kevin participates as a council member of Team IMPACT, which seeks to improve the lives of children facing life-threatening illness. Over the past four years, he has developed a close relationship with a young boy fighting leukemia. He was able to allow the young child to attend Duke swim practices and coach the team.

Through his actions, Kevin has displayed great character and devotion to broadening his own perspective and those of his peers in the classroom, the community, and the swimming pool. For these efforts, and from diverse experiences as a well-rounded student-athlete, he is prepared to make lasting contributions as an engineer.

SIMONE M. M. STANLEY, *District of Columbia Alpha '17*, is a graduate of Howard University with a degree in chemical engineering. She plans to work in a post-baccalaureate program at the National Institutes of Health before attending graduate school focused in healthcare technology.

Simone began studying dance at the age of 4 and by age 12 she had choreographed her first performance. In middle school, she began playing the clarinet and competing in science fairs. She has been a member of the "I.Am.We." Contemporary Dance Company at Howard since her freshman year.

As a sophomore, she was elected as president of the local chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers and as the Director of the Dance Company. Each summer, Simone has done research, worked an internship, or studied in South Africa through the Global Education and Awareness Research Undergraduate Program.

As a member of the DC Alpha Chapter, Simone has been active with the K-12 MindSET program sharing her love of STEM. She also participated in her chapter's Pi Talk Event 2015

giving a presentation “Dancers in the Lecture Hall,” which discussed the use of arts in traditional learning environments as a teaching supplement.

Simone has excelled in the arts (music, dance, & choreography) while fostering interest in STEM. Her participation in volunteer outreach and as a leader in the engineering community has demonstrated her personal integrity and commitment to promoting lifelong learning.

Tau Beta Pi is the Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. It has collegiate chapters at 246 engineering colleges in the United States and active alumni chapters in 40 cities. It has initiated more than 582, 000 members in its 131-year history and is the world’s largest engineering society. (See <https://www.tbp.org/>)