



Press Release  
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## Tau Beta Pi Announces 2018 McDonald Mentor James C. Hill, Ph.D.

Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, has named its 13<sup>th</sup> McDonald Mentor. The award celebrates excellence in mentoring and advising among Tau Beta Pi educators and engineers who consistently support the personal and professional development of their students and colleagues.

**James C. Hill, Ph.D.**, *California Gamma '62*, is Iowa State University Professor Emeritus. He is the 2018 Tau Beta Pi-McDonald Mentor, and will be honored on October 12, 2018, at the 113<sup>th</sup> annual Convention in Denver. Tau Beta Pi President Sue Holl, Ph.D., will present \$1,000, an engraved medallion, and a pin to Dr. Hill. Another \$1,000 grant will be presented to the Iowa Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi for nominating him.

Established in 2005 by Marion and Capers W. McDonald (*NC G '74*) and the Association, the McDonald Mentor Award recognizes engineering educators or professionals in industry, government, or service organizations who have shown true concern for the individual, supporting an environment for developing talents, and who have earned respect and recognition for contributions to their field and to the greater community.

Dr. Hill's biography follows:

JAMES C. HILL, Ph.D., has provided leadership and a commitment to assisting engineering students for more than 45 years.

He retired in 2017 from Iowa State University (ISU) where he became a faculty member of the chemical and biological engineering department in 1971.

His service to the IA Alpha Chapter of TBII began in 1978 as an advisor, and he served for nine years as the chapter's chief advisor. Dr. Hill has also served as an Association District 11 Director since 1995. In these roles, his knowledge of the processes of TBII has been valued and passed on to other leaders.

Under his guidance, the IA Alpha Chapter has hosted two TBII Conventions (1988 & 2013) and received 22 chapter excellence awards, 2 R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Awards, and 8 Outstanding Chapter honorable mentions.

Dr. Hill has been recognized with his own awards, including the first TBII Outstanding Advisor Award (1994) and the American Solar Challenge Lifetime Achievement Award (2016).



**James Hill**

He was instrumental in ISU's development of a solar car for the first American solar car competition and when the University's solar car team became an independent student organization he continued to serve as its advisor and mentor for the next 27 years.

In 1991, his popularity with students led to his initiation into the Cardinal Key Honor Society for exemplifying outstanding leadership, scholarship, character, and service.

On the nomination form for the Cardinal Key membership, it was stated that "The number and quality of Dr. Hill's students who have gone on to occupy positions of leadership in industry and universities testify to his effectiveness as a mentor."

At the academic level, Dr. Hill is known not only for his outstanding research ability and superior teaching, but also for his dedication to professional service and his role as a true university citizen.

For his lifelong commitment to mentorship, inspiring students, and unselfish devotion to supporting associates, colleagues, and students, Dr. Hill is the 2018 Tau Beta Pi-McDonald Mentor.

**Tau Beta Pi is The Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. It has collegiate chapters in 247 engineering colleges in the United States and active alumni chapters in 44 cities. It has initiated more than 593,000 members in its 132-year history and is the world's largest engineering society. (See <https://www.tbp.org/>)**

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