

Tau Beta Pi Scholars - 2004-05



Nicholas R. Ballor, Nagel Scholar No. 17

A Michigan Technological University chemical engineering major, Nicholas is the top engineering student in a class of more than 2,050. He was Vice President of both TBP's Michigan Beta Chapter and Omega Chi Epsilon and elected to Phi Kappa Phi honor society. He is a member of the ACS, AAAS, and the AIChE and has been webmaster and president of his residence hall. Nicholas is minoring in biochemistry and mathematics. After his undergraduate research assignment at the University of South Carolina, he was cited on a paper and poster.



David C. Gomez, Nagel Scholar No. 18

At the top of his engineering class of more than 1,100 students at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, David is majoring in petroleum engineering and will graduate next May. Elected to Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, he is vice president of the Society of Petroleum Engineers chapter, a member of the American Association of Drilling Engineers, and the Latin-American Student Association. David is from Venezuela, and his goal is to complete a master's degree in drilling engineering after working for several years in the oil fields.



C. Leigh Pipkin, Nagel Scholar No. 19

Number one in her engineering class of more than 1,500, Leigh is majoring in mechanical engineering at Auburn University and will graduate in 2005. She is president of her sorority, Sigma Kappa, and director of programs for the student government cabinet. She holds academic and departmental scholarships, is a member of SWE, and has been elected to ODK, Mortar Board, Alpha Lambda Delta, and Tau Beta Pi honor societies. Interested in biomechanics, she plans to spend her second summer at Georgia Tech's center for assistive technology and environmental access.



Scott D. Rock, Nagel Scholar No. 20

At the top of his class at Kansas State University, Scott is majoring in computer engineering and will graduate next May. He and his wife are both full-time students and work part time to offset expenses. During the summers, Scott has worked in computer maintenance for a Kansas bank and for a large corporation programming in Java. During the next three years, he hopes to learn more about the business and management of technology-related companies, expecting someday to start his own firm. He was elected to Tau Beta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi and is a member of IEEE and an at-large member of the engineering student council. He volunteers in the community and for his church.



Adam M.F. Johnson, Dodson Scholar No. 14

A top electrical engineering student at the University of Southern California, Adam was inducted into Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu, and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies and serves as the local IEEE secretary and on the engineering student council. He is president of the fencing squad and a member of the foil squad. His minor is in music, and he plays French horn and sings in the concert choir. In graduate school, Adam plans to continue research in electrophysics and continue working in the microphonic devices group.



C.H. Fan, Elsa & Peter Soderberg Scholar No. 6

A biomedical engineering major at Columbia University, Christina is vice president of the Hong Kong Students and Scholars Society and is an English tutor for Chinese immigrants. She plays the flute in a wind ensemble and in a Hong Kong chamber group and is sound editor for Cantonese Radio Drama. She is conducting independent research at the neurotrauma and repair lab and is working as a summer intern at a biotechnology research company. She plans to pursue a Ph.D., perhaps in biomechanics or bio-nanotechnology.



Marisa C. Palucis, Fluor Scholar No. 4

Marisa is a chemical engineering student at the University of South Carolina and a co-op student. Her work at the Pbi plant for Celanese Advanced Materials—first as a lab analyst, then in fibers production, and recently researching air quality control—widened her involvement in the chemical industry. Her goal is to design more environmentally friendly processes and ultimately earn a Ph.D. Marisa is an avid backpacker and rock climber and a member of the AIChE, Alpha Lambda Delta, Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, and TBP.

F. Garcia Bermudez, Campbell Scholar No. 3



An aerospace engineering major, Fernando is the top student in his class at the Florida Institute of Technology and was selected outstanding sophomore and elected to Phi Eta Sigma and Tau Beta Pi. A member of the AIAA and ISA, he enjoys writing fiction and viewing films—he set up a movie-review web page and is president of the film society. He has been a TA in a mechatronics course and is a research assistant working on the magnetic levitation project for NASA. Fernando has worked on data acquisition, circuit interfaces, and aerodynamics.

Joel N. Mehler, Campbell Scholar No. 4



An electrical engineering major at Wichita State University, Joel has held numerous leadership positions on campus—Vice President of Tau Beta Pi, member of engineering council and Mortar Board, Emily Linquist honor scholar, concert and pep band member, campus tour guide, and student ambassador (vice president of finance and outreach). He is one of five senior finalists for senior man-of-the-year. Next fall, Joel will begin graduate work in nanotechnology, perhaps continuing toward a Ph.D.

J.J. Williams, Campbell Scholar No. 5



Tops at South Dakota State University, Jordan is majoring in E.E. and engineering physics, taking additional courses for pre-med. In a combined M.D./Ph.D. program in biomedical engineering and neuroscience, he will focus on developing neural prosthetics for applications in restoring motor control to patients. A member of IEEE and the Society of Physics Students and elected to Alpha Lambda Delta, Eta Kappa Nu, Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, and Tau Beta Pi, he is an Elk scholar, a track-and-field team member, and a vocal soloist.

Amy J. Conine, GM Scholar No. 2



Amy is majoring in mechanical engineering at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo and will graduate in December 2005. She is a FEMA Corporation engineering student, employed 20 hours weekly during the school year and full-time in the summer. Amy won the women's WMU flag football championship in fall 2003 and qualified for state regional competition as a level-9 gymnast. She has been a gymnastic coach, a WMU grader, and served on the volunteer committee of TBP's Michigan Kappa Chapter. She plans to pursue an M.S.M.E before seeking R&D work in industry.

O.M. Oluwagbemi, Jacobs Scholar No. 1



Michael is an electrical engineering major and first in his class at Prairie View A&M University in Texas. He chairs the IEEE campus chapter and is a member of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, the UK Institute of Electrical Engineers, the American Association of Artificial Intelligence, and the National Society of Black Engineers. He is senate leader for the SGA and has served as an editor for EDICOM at the University of Lagos. Michael will apply to graduate school in the field of telecommunications.

Adam P. Plesniak, Mentor Scholar No. 1



the top student in his class at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY, Adam expects to graduate with a degree in mechanical engineering in May 2005. Independently, he has sought and obtained summer internships for the past five summers at various NASA locations—Goddard, GST, and JPL—and has held co-op positions at Boeing. He enjoys writing for the school paper, plans to continue participating in Tau Beta Pi chapter activities, and will prepare for the GRE in order to attend graduate school.

Mitchell R. Ladd, Reneau Scholar No. 1



Mitchell will graduate from the University of Tennessee with a degree in biomedical engineering and a minor in mathematics. He then plans to begin an eight-year M.D./Ph.D. program in order to practice medicine and conduct research. He has heMatthew D. Cross, Scott Scholar No. 1 Id a research internship in biochemistry and worked as a medical engineering technician. He has volunteered locally—mentoring, fund-raising, and coordinating engineer's day. For two years Mitchell has participated in a dance marathon to raise money for the children's hospital for Humanity, and later work on an M.B.A. degree.

Matthew will complete both his B.S. and M.S. degrees in electrical engineering at Case Western Reserve University in December 2005. He enjoys intramural sports and is active in the Student Turning Point Society which encourages undergraduate leaders who also act as ambassadors for the school. He is the student representative to the college's accreditation committee. As a co-op student, he has worked for an electronics R&D firm in Knoxville, TN, and is involved in circuit design with Intel in California. Matthew may enter industry as a circuit designer or continue his education.

Keith E. Jackson, Scribner Scholar No. 1





Keith is majoring in aeronautical & mechanical engineering at Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY, planning to graduate in May 2005. He is number one in his engineering class and anticipates going to graduate school and earning advanced degrees in aeronautical engineering. A member of the honors program—elected to Tau Beta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi—Keith has been involved in courses built around emerging problems in science, technology, or society. An eagle scout and a co-op student, he is involved in intramural sports and tutoring.

Michael D. Adams, Record Scholar No. 56



A National Merit scholar now embarking on his fifth year of undergraduate study at the University of Kansas, Michael is pursuing a double major in computer science and computer engineering, with a minor in mathematics. He worked as a research assistant on a digital-video processing project and in the community as a software developer. Participation in his departmental honors project has taught him cutting-edge functional programming design. Michael plans to earn his doctorate and teach or pursue research.

J.L. Bartolome, Record Scholar No. 57



Jamie Lynn is the number one chemical engineering student of her California State University, Long Beach, class of 2005. She was selected as a president's scholar upon graduation from high school and has maintained a 3.97 GPA. Offices held include treasurer, secretary, and vice president of her local AIChE chapter, and she is also a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers. She has participated in outreach to recruit high schoolers to her school. Jamie will intern with British Petroleum this summer and hopes to follow a career in petroleum engineering and refining.

Craig E. Beal, Record Scholar No. 58



Craig is at the top of his engineering class of 134 students at Bucknell University. A mechanical engineering major, he has maintained a 4.0 cumulative GPA. He participated in the school's institute for leadership in technology and management's intensive academic internship program last summer. Active in the great outdoors and an eagle scout, Craig has been elected to office in both the snowboarding and outing clubs and has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity. His plans include graduate work.

Asha-Dee N. Celestine, Record Scholar No. 59



Asha-Dee is an international student majoring in mechanical engineering at Howard University. She ranks in the top three among 90 juniors in the school of engineering and computer science and is first in her department. She is an ASME member, and has participated in two semesters of study abroad. Her other talents—as a church musician and writer for the college's magazine—round out her exceptional academic performance. Asha-Dee plans to obtain her doctoral degree in aerospace engineering with a focus on aerospace materials.

Tanguy M. Chau, Record Scholar No. 60



Tanguy is an American citizen raised in Belgium. Since coming to UC, Berkeley, in 2000, he has not only adapted to English, but flourished - earning a 4.00 GPA and several A pluses in challenging classes. In high school, he enjoyed competing in regional and national chemistry competitions, ultimately representing Belgium in the 2000 International Chemistry Olympiad. Tutoring his peers in languages, math, the sciences, and sailing are Tanguy's other interests. He plans to enter graduate school after some professional experience.

Bryan F. Dalley, Record Scholar No. 61



Experience in the navy and the private sector mark this 29-year-old electrical engineering major's passion for excellence and community service. During 2000-03, he took classes and worked full-time, attaining third place in his department of 92 at the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities. He is now a full-time student and looks forward to employment as a control systems engineer in the aerospace or defense industry. A master's degree is on the horizon. Bryan is a member of IEEE, and, as a representative, has volunteered at career fairs and a "Lego league" competition.

Jessica J. Deane, Record Scholar No. 62



Jessica is a biological engineering major with a concentration in biomedical engineering at the University of Maine. She was a participant and research trainee in the National Science Foundation's research experience for undergraduates program last summer, exploring the use of optical methods in physiological genomics. Currently she is President of her Tau Beta Pi Maine Alpha Chapter, and is the engineering representative for seniors in local high schools. Jessica enjoys intramural sports and has participated in the Susan G. Komen breast cancer race for the cure.

J.H. Koistinen, Record Scholar No. 63

Jerome is the top student at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in a class of 301 students. Earning two B.S. degrees—one in electrical engineering in May 2005 and another



in mechanical engineering in Dec. 2006—his career goal is to design and develop control systems. Jerome was elected to Phi Eta Sigma and Tau Beta Pi and is president of the school's amateur radio club. He is the design leader for both the Ch.E. car team and the robotics team. Active in his church, he volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and school science fairs.

Anne M. Larson, Record Scholar No. 64

Anne is majoring in chemical engineering at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and has been multi-tasking while working on her B.S. She was co-captain of the car team, which took first in performance at the regional competition and second and fourth at the AIChE nationals. She is a peer advisor, a mentor to freshmen, and a figure-skating coach, dance teacher, and performer. Anne competes in varsity indoor pentathlon and high-jump events. As a research intern at the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities, she became interested in process design.



Kelsey J. Miller, Record Scholar No. 65

Kelsey is a materials science and engineering major at the University of Idaho and is first in his engineering class of 538. He expects to complete his B.S. in December 2005 before continuing graduate work in magnetic recording media. He is a member of the American Society of Metallurgists and the Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society and was elected to Tau Beta Pi and Phi Eta Sigma. Kelsey was elected the most outstanding freshman and received the TMS division award in electronic, magnetic, and photonic materials. He plans to work in industry.



Jesse A. Shoultz, Record Scholar No. 66

The top student in his engineering class at the University of South Carolina, Jesse is involved in biomedical engineering research, and his reports are models for other students. He plans to attend graduate school before entering the workforce or continuing with his research interest in academe. For his academic achievement, he has been elected to the chemical engineering honor society (Omega Chi Epsilon), Alpha Lambda Delta, and Tau Beta Pi, which he serves as Vice President of Membership. Jesse plays intramural football and was a varsity high-school state champion.



E.J. Simpson, Record Scholar No. 67

A love of the art of programming, drive, determination, and self-discipline mark Elspeth's academic career at Rice University. Her double major is in computer science and economics. College activities include honor council representative and web-master for the student-run honor system, ongoing leadership in the mock trial team, and peer mentoring. Elspeth has excelled as a research assistant on a 14-person team working on Java syntax levels for ease of learning. She is Treasurer of her Tau Beta Pi Chapter, Texas Gamma.



Bi Jun Tan, Record Scholar No. 68

Bi Jun entered Cooper Union in 2001 with a perfect SAT score in mathematics. An electrical engineering major, she is equally facile as a leader. In the wake of the September 11 attacks, Bi Jun advocated for programs to help students understand terrorism. She is active in student council, she sings with the Pro-Arte Chorale, she plays varsity tennis, and she even started a new volleyball team, all while working part-time at Thin Film and Electronics Lab in New York City and maintaining her 3.9 GPA. She aspires to create new products and new ways to improve people's lives.



Khanh P. Thieu, Record Scholar No. 69

A bioengineering major at the University of Pennsylvania, Khanh is co-founder and local director of National Student Partnerships, a national organization to mobilize students to improve communities by offering free clinic-service work. He is project director for Communtech, which works to narrow the "digital divide" by increasing computer accessibility and knowledge locally and internationally. He has participated in the "Urban Asthma Initiative" and led girl scouts earning health environmental badges. His goal is to earn M.D./Ph.D. degrees.



W.A. Tisdale III, Record Scholar No. 70

A chemical engineering major and economics minor at the University of Delaware in the top two percent of his class, William has exceptional leadership and interpersonal skills. He is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta and NSPE and active in his fraternity and the Interfraternity Council. Educational and service projects have taken William to South Africa and Switzerland. He interned at Merck & Company, Inc., this past summer. His plans include earning an honors degree with distinction in chemical engineering, followed by a Ph.D.



Joel P. Wagner, Record Scholar No. 71

Joel is in a five-year program to obtain a biochemistry/chemical engineering degree at the University of Wisconsin—Madison. Either MIT's or Harvard's M.D./Ph.D. programs interest Joel



for post-graduate work. This eagle scout is active in his AIChE chapter and will take part in a research project at MIT this summer. He writes for the college's engineering magazine and is a creative fund-raiser, with the goal of educating the public in chemical engineering concepts. Joel also donates his time to helping the elderly and infirm.

Austin L. Wareing, Record Scholar No. 72

Austin attends Kansas State University in Manhattan and is majoring in computer engineering. He is first in his class of 479, with a 4.0 GPA. Memberships include IEEE, the engineering student council, freshman leadership committee, the engineering honors program, and participation in the Blue Key society's self-development program. He is the website director for the university's engineering student council as well. Austin's plans for the next three years include graduate school and then research and development experience in a professional capacity.



Bradley A. Watts, Record Scholar No. 73

First in his engineering class and first in his electrical and computer engineering department, Bradley studies at the West Virginia University Institute of Technology. Last year he was granted the sophomore-of-the-year award. He has lent his talents as a tutor in his college and at the West Virginia Community and Technology College. He enjoys intramural basketball. This summer Bradley hopes to enter a co-op program to gain professional experience, and his long-range plans include a master's degree in electrical engineering.



Shawn I. Wolf, Record Scholar No. 74

A top student at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, MI, Shawn is active in his church and outdoor sports. His 3.98 GPA in computer engineering belies his superior people skills. He has served on the student disciplinary committee and helps with the incoming freshmen class orientation. For his church, he leads and trains musicians for worship services, leads Bible study, and has staffed summer camp. Shawn hopes to marry his sweetheart, start a family, and work as an engineer within a few years of graduation.



B.K. Woolstenhulme, Record Scholar No. 75

Bryan attends the University of Idaho and is first in his computer engineering class of 84. He served as a mentor for freshman engineering students last fall, working with two project groups. He was always willing to put in the extra effort needed to ensure his students understood the class material. He enjoys soccer, ultimate Frisbee, hockey, and softball. He has coached soccer with the AYSO and participated in boy scouts as a youth. An internship is planned for this summer at Micron Technology in Boise, where Bryan hopes to be employed upon graduation in 2005.



Chung Ming Wu, Record Scholar No. 76

"One of the best teaching assistants in 20 years!" Glowing comments such as this describe Chung, an electrical engineering/computer science major at the University of California, Berkeley. He is a member of the EECS honors program, Eta Kappa Nu, SANE Club, and the Taiwanese Students Association. He enjoys website design for a variety of groups inside the university, and outside. For the next few years, Chung plans to pursue his Ph.D., focusing on database systems. As a professor—his ultimate goal—he hopes to help educate the next generation of engineers.



Winston C. Yaw, Record Scholar No. 77

Winston is an international student from Malaysia majoring in civil engineering at Michigan Technological University. He is second in his departmental class of 190. He is a coach at the civil engineering learning center at his college and is secretary of the Malaysian Student Association. He plans for graduate studies in the field of transportation or construction engineering at an American university. After obtaining his master's degree, he would like to start his own civil engineering firm or work for a civil engineering firm.



J.S. Zahorian, Record Scholar No. 78

Jaime is enrolled in a combined undergraduate doctoral program in mechanical and electrical engineering. He attends Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA, ranking second in his engineering class of 303. His minor is in visual arts. During the 18 months he led his Tau Beta Pi chapter as President, membership and enthusiasm increased significantly. He is also a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Tau Sigma, IEEE, ACS, and ASME. He enjoys fencing, rock climbing, and walking with his peers at college.

