Tau Beta Pi Names
Richard H. Stanley, P.E.,
as 2009 Distinguished Alumnus

Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, has named the 2009 winner of its Distinguished Alumnus Award. Now in its thirteenth year, the award was established to recognize alumni who have demonstrated adherence to the ideals of Tau Beta Pi (integrity, breadth of interest, adaptability, and unselfish activity) and to fostering a spirit of liberal culture on local, national, and international scales.

Richard H. Stanley, P.E., Iowa Alpha ’55, chair of the board of directors of the Stanley Foundation, is the 2009 Tau Beta Pi Distinguished Alumnus and will be honored on October 17, 2009, at the 104th annual national Convention to be held in East Brunswick, New Jersey. Tau Beta Pi President Dr. Larry A. Simonson, P.E., will present a commemorative plaque, and a $2,000 scholarship will be given in Mr. Stanley’s name to a deserving student member of Tau Beta Pi.

Mr. Stanley’s selection as 2009 Distinguished Alumnus is representative of his personal and professional dedication to living as a world citizen promoting peace and justice in the world. As a leader of engineering services and the Stanley Foundation, he has influenced global change through a commitment to understanding and excellence.

Mr. Stanley holds bachelor’s degrees in mechanical engineering and electrical engineering from Iowa State University (ISU), and received a master’s in sanitary engineering from the University of Iowa in 1963. He was initiated into Tau Beta Pi by the Iowa Alpha Chapter in 1955 and has assisted his chapter and university in a multitude of capacities.

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Mr. Stanley is currently chair of the board of directors of the Stanley Foundation, chair emeritus of the Stanley Group of companies, and director of Stanley Consultants Inc., which provides engineering, environmental, and construction services worldwide.

As a registered engineer in more than 40 states, he has served the engineering profession in many capacities, including as chair of the Committee on Federal Procurement of Architectural and Engineering Services, as president of the Iowa Engineering Society, and on several other councils. Under his leadership, Stanley Consultants has grown to be the largest engineering firm in Iowa and is currently active in sixteen countries.

In his undergraduate years at ISU, he was student body president and a member of the Memorial Union student board, a group he continues to serve today as an alumnus. He has served as a member of ISU’s engineering college industrial advisory council for 25 years, two of those as chair.

Mr. Stanley has been a recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious Order of the Knoll Cardinal and Gold award for his creative leadership, the Anston Marston medal, the college of engineering’s highest award, and the Hoover medal, awarded annually to an outstanding American engineer for unselfish, non-technical humanitarian service.

The Stanley Foundation began in 1956 as an experiment to put global education into secondary schools in Stanley’s hometown of Muscatine, IA. The foundation has since expanded to promote thought and dialogue about world affairs among multiple constituencies. Established to foster world peace, by achieving freedom and justice built on world citizenship and effective global governance, the foundation is also considered to be an invaluable partner to the United Nations. Current international initiatives include: human protection, evolving global systems, nuclear security, and community partnerships in education.

Because of his humanitarian service record, Mr. Stanley is a frequent chair, presenter, and participant at conferences on world affairs and global issues. This has led to his receiving the Harry S. Truman distinguished service award from the American Association of Community Colleges and the award for citizen diplomacy from the National Council for International Visitors.

Philanthropic contributions to his hometown of Muscatine include serving as director and founding chair of Unity HealthCare, the community’s medical provider, as first president of the board of Eastern Iowa Community College, and as past president of the chamber of commerce.

Supporting Iowa Alpha’s nomination, ISU’s president, Dr. Gregory L. Geoffroy, wrote: “Dick has devoted a lifetime to building a better world, utilizing both his incredible knowledge and skills as an engineer and his deep commitment to peace, justice, and equality. I recommend him most highly....”

For his valuable contributions, global reach, and committed leadership in advancing engineering and developing effective governance through world peace, The Association hereby recognizes Dr. Richard H. Stanley as the 2009 Tau Beta Pi Distinguished Alumnus.

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Tau Beta Pi, the world’s largest engineering society, has initiated more than 508,000 members since it was founded in 1885. Headquartered in Knoxville, Tennessee, the Association has 234 active collegiate chapters and 17 active alumnus chapters throughout the country.