



Release Date: October 3, 2019
Contact: Malinda Wood
Voice: (865) 546-4578
E-mail: mwood@tbp.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tau Beta Pi Convention Recognizes Pioneering Women in Engineering Honor Society

Not only will Columbus host more than 500 of the nation's brightest engineering students and alumni members October 10 -12 at the 114th annual Convention of Tau Beta Pi (TBP), but also a special celebration is planned for those who were among the first women initiated into the engineering honor society in 1969.

Included in the invited group of honored guests is Columbus resident Evelyn K. Kinzel, Ph.D., a member of Ohio Gamma Chapter of TBP at The Ohio State University, class of 1969. She is retired from Ohio Dominican University where she taught physics.

Convention invitations were extended to approximately 700 women who were pioneers in the honor society and in engineering as TBP Women's Badge holders or Inaugural Year Initiates. More than 20 of the invitees will be in attendance as TBP celebrates with a Saturday night reception recognizing the 50th anniversary of the first class of females bestowed with full membership.

TBP was founded in 1885 at Lehigh University, is the oldest engineering honor society in the country, and recognizes outstanding engineers and encourages members to be responsive to community needs. TBP extends membership invitations to engineering majors whose grade point average falls within the top eighth of their junior class, and top fifth of their senior class, and who exhibit exemplary character.

At the time of the honor society's inception, there were very few women studying engineering; however, as more women entered the technical and mechanical work force during war time, more women entered those classrooms, as well. In 1936, Tau Beta Pi began to formally recognize outstanding women in the field of engineering by presenting a Women's Badge. It was not until 1969 that women were allowed to be fully initiated as members.

Throughout the Convention, these future engineers will attend professional development workshops, committee and business meetings, a recruiting fair, honor fellow members who received awards from the Association, and tour The Ohio State University.

Three TBP chapters are hosting the Convention, Ohio Gamma at OSU, Ohio Delta at Ohio University, and the Iota Chapter at Northern Ohio. For more information on the Tau Beta Pi Convention, visit <https://www.tbp.org/Convention.cfm>

-end-