HE 95th Convention of Tau Beta Pi was held October 5-7, 2000, in Millbrae, CA. The California Alpha, Gamma, Zeta, and Eta Chapters were official hosts. The hundreds of out-of-town attendees were housed at the Westin Hotel near the San Francisco Airport, where the business meetings and model initiation were held and all meals were served.

A total of 482 members of Tau Beta Pi participated in the business of the Convention, the third-highest number in history. Of these, 368 were student voting and nonvoting delegates and host-chapter members; 32 were chapter advisors; 61 were national officials and Engineering Futures Facilitators of the Society; seven were alumna chapter representatives; and 14 were alumna visitors and petitioners. The attendees represented 212 collegiate chapters and seven alumna chapters. Most of the 32 chapter advisors attended at the special invitation and partial expense of the national organization. Additionally, at least 26 nonmember petitioners, consultants and guests attended some events.

Arrangements Chair Amir A. Schricker, CA Α ’00, expertly guided preparations for the Convention and its logistics. Together with host chapter presidents Caroline K. Lau, CA Α ’01, Austin J. Che, CA Π ’01, Erin M. Selser, CA Ζ ’01, and Thomas R. Anzelde, CA Η ’01, managed a hard-working group of effective host-committee chairs for such duties as housing, transportation, registration, meals, souvenirs, technology, hospitality, tours, and publicity.

Weather conditions in the Bay Area were slightly foggy, and air traffic was delayed in much of the rest of the nation. Several visitors who arrived early found time to enjoy nearby San Francisco, the wine country, and the majestic Pacific coast.

The initiation and awards banquet was held in the Westin Ballroom of the hotel. The program included the presentation of Tau Beta Pi’s 2000 National Outstanding Advisor and the 1999 and 2000 Distinguished Alumnus. Biographical sketches of Advisor W. W. Mendenhall Jr., NY Δ ’48, and 2000 Distinguished Alumnus Chang-Lin Tien, CA Α ’55, appeared in the Fall 2000 BENT. The citation for 1999 Distinguished Alumnus Robert T. Herres, OH Η ’60, who addressed the students, was featured in the Winter 2000 BENT.
The Convention formally opened Thursday afternoon with the President’s report by Tau Beta Pi President Douglas M. Green. Activities closed with visits to downtown San Francisco on Saturday afternoon.

Four Convention business meetings were held, starting on Thursday when President Green officially opened the session. He later turned the gavel over to Ronald M. Hickling, CA Ε ’89, the Executive Council-appointed permanent chair, for the duration of the Convention. The final business meeting came during the banquet on Saturday, when national and chapter awards were announced and the final report of the Resolutions Committee was heard.

Friday and Saturday were filled with business, committee, advisor, District, and Engineering Futures meetings, interactive chapter exchanges, and the model initiation.

The Chapter Development Program of the Convention, including the District and Engineering Futures meetings and ICE seminars, is reported on page 7 in this issue. These informal sessions are extremely valuable benefits of the Convention because they provide delegates with opportunities to exchange good ideas with other Tau Bates from all regions of the country. On Saturday afternoon an excellent model initiation was conducted by a team of national officers and Rituals Committee members. The ceremony brought 47 student members of California Alpha, four of California Gamma, 11 of California Zeta, 10 of California Eta, and one of Connecticut Alpha into the Association.

In Tau Beta Pi’s usual method, Convention business is handled by committees, except for those few items that emerge during the meetings as new business. Seven standing committees are called for by the Constitution, and two ad hoc groups were also appointed.

Every collegiate-chapter voting delegate served on a committee, and a national officer advisor opened each group’s first meeting on Thursday afternoon and then stood by with other national officials for consultation. Each committee selected fellow students as chair, vice chair, and secretary to present reports, recommendations, and proposals to the entire Convention. The following reports summarize formal business.

**Petitions.**

Jason A. Cervone, OH Β , Chair.

After studying the petition, catalog, and inspection report and interviewing the petitioner’s representatives, the committee recommended that a new chapter be established at one institution. The school and its student and faculty leaders are: Cedarville University—Daniel C. Gulledge and Dr. Harwood A. Hegna, MN Α ’69, advisor.

The Convention granted the petition by a unanimous vote. Ohio Nu will be officially installed on March 3, 2001, in Cedarville, which will raise the number of active collegiate chapters to 221.

**Constitution and Bylaws.**

Maria-Teresa Blanco, TN Δ, Chair.

Two topics had been referred to the committee for study and recommendation prior to the meeting, and a correction to Constitution Art. I V , Sec. 2(f), to replace “officers” with “directors” was assumed on site. The Convention adopted, by the required three-fourths favorable vote, the above change and an amendment to Constitution Art. I V , Sec. 5, to include equivalent insurance protection in the requirement for bonding; final approval of these changes is subject to chapter ratification. The Convention also adopted, by the required three-fourths favorable vote, changes to Bylaw X to eliminate alternate fellows and giving two awards to one person and to clarify the selection criteria, but rejected a proposal to allow partial Fellowship stipends.

**Chapter & Nat’l. Financial Affairs.**

Mark J. Lande, MA H, Chair.

The group had been given the 1999-2000 reports of the Association’s auditor and Executive Director, the Society’s budget for 2000-01, the Executive Council’s response to the report of the 1993-98 Financial Review Committee, and a proposal to pay on-site Convention expenses of either an advisor or alternate delegate of each collegiate chapter.

The committee reviewed the documents and concluded that Tau Beta Pi’s finances and records are strong, well-managed, and in order. It also agreed with the Council’s response on all issues. It recommended, after study, that the 2002 Convention review the proposal to pay the on-site Convention expenses of either an advisor or nonvoting delegate of each collegiate chapter.

The committee recommended, and the Convention adopted, specific allowable Convention expenses beyond those specified in the Bylaws for delegates to the 2001 meeting.

Finally, it recommended, and the Convention agreed, to continue to reimburse 20% of the cost of a coach/super-saver airline ticket purchased by the travel-plan deadline for one nonvoting delegate per chapter for future Conventions, up to $200 reimbursement.

**Rituals.**

Amy L. Key, TN E, Chair.

The team recommended no change to the Ritual. On Saturday morning, the delegates were impressed by the model initiation.
ceremony for the 73 candidates, which the committee helped to organize.

**Convention Site.**
Steven J. Plichta, WA A, Chair. The group reviewed invitations from Texas Beta, and Florida Alpha/Delta to host the 2003 Convention. The Convention happily accepted the invitation to hold the national meeting in Lubbock, TX, and encouraged the other bid to be resubmitted next year.

**Awards.**
Erin J. Moulesong, IN A, Chair. The committee spent long hours in Millbrae evaluating the chapters and selecting the 1999-2000 R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter and R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter and honorable mentions. The winners are reported elsewhere in this issue, and special plagues for the awardees were delivered to them after the Convention. The group considered, but rejected, a proposal to establish three award categories for small, medium, and large chapters, based on the number of members.

**Image Review (ad hoc).**
James R. Baxter, OH J, Chair. The team:
1) evaluated new Tau Beta Pi image materials and promotional literature (including posters, brochures, and publications) presented at the 1999 Convention;
2) recommended a new annual survey/report on image to determine the effectiveness of these materials;
3) made a series of recommendations to the national officers; and
4) recommended that an ad hoc 2001 Convention Committee on Image Review evaluate the survey results and decide further actions, if any.

**International Chapters (ad hoc).**
Joseph P. Blackford, DC I, Chair. The group spent many hours evaluating the issues expected to arise when an international institution petitions for a chapter. It:
1) recommended several Constitution and Bylaw changes regarding official language, currency, and organization that the Convention accepted and that were sent to the chapters for ratification,
2) prepared a website design and a formal letter with a questionnaire to international petitioners,
3) made a series of recommendations to the Council, and
4) referred other topics to a task force for further study and to report to the 2001 Convention.

**Resolutions.**
Ellie R. Phelps, OH Z, Chair. This group prepared the appropriate resolutions for Convention adoption. At the final banquet, Ms. Phelps presented resolutions of thanks to the host chapters, national officials, alumni, and others, whose support had been gratefully received by the Association. Preceded by a humorous skit by committee members on Saturday morning, the final resolution provided an inspirational charge to all:

> This Convention thanks all of the voting delegates for such wonderful attendance and enthusiasm and the nonvoting delegates for coming and paying your way. We hope that everyone takes home a well-earned sense of accomplishment and renewed commitment to the ideals of Tau Beta Pi. We hope that interaction among chapters and active volunteer alumni strengthens each individual chapter and the bonds that hold us together. If we undergraduates take anything from this Convention, we hope that it is a commitment to remaining an active part of Tau Beta Pi well beyond graduation.

**New Business.**
In this session, delegates recommended that:

- The 2001 Convention review ceremony privacy and initiation-ceremony secrecy and make English the official business language of the Society;
- The 2001 Convention consider partial stipends for Fellows otherwise without stipend and remove class rank as the primary criterion in favor of greater emphasis on exemplary-character issues and the purposes of graduate studies;
- The 2001 Convention review the eligibility of computer-science students for membership;
- Future Conventions include an additional ICE session;
- The Council consider the establishment of an Outstanding Alumnus Chapter Award; and
- The 2001 Site Committee explain before the vote in writing the selection criteria for recommending a particular site.

*The Convention photographs in this issue were taken by Gary Cook.*
$17,500 in Scholarships Given to 28

Twenty-eight chapters, each of which had won Secretary’s Commendations and/or Chapter Project Awards for three consecutive years, won $500 or $1,000 scholarships.

Chapter  
1. Alabama Beta  
2. California Alpha  
3. Dist. of Columbia Alpha ($1,000)  
4. Florida Alpha ($1,000)  
5. Iowa Alpha ($1,000)  
6. Kansas Gamma  
7. Maryland Beta ($1,000)  
8. Michigan Epsilon  
9. Michigan Theta  
10. Minnesota Beta  
11. New Hampshire Alpha  
12. New Mexico Alpha  
13. New York Theta  
14. New York Kappa ($1,000)  
15. New York Tau ($1,000)  
16. Ohio Iota ($1,000)  
17. Oregon Beta  
18. Pennsylvania Zeta  
19. Pennsylvania Theta  
20. South Carolina Beta  
21. South Dakota Alpha  
22. Tennessee Alpha  
23. Vermont Beta  
24. Washington Delta  
25. Wisconsin Alpha  
26. Wisconsin Delta  
27. Wisconsin Epsilon  
28. Wyoming Alpha

School  
University of Alabama  
University of California, Berkeley  
Howard University  
University of Florida  
Iowa State University  
Kansas State University  
University of Maryland  
Wayne State University  
Oakland University  
University of Minnesota, Duluth  
University of New Hampshire  
New Mexico State University  
Clarkson University  
University of Rochester  
Binghamton University  
Ohio Northern University  
Portland State University  
Drexel University  
Villanova University  
University of South Carolina  
South Dakota School of Mines & Tech.  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Norwich University  
Gonzaga University  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Milwaukee School of Engineering  
University of Wisconsin-Platteville  
University of Wisconsin  
University of Wyoming

2000 Delegate  
Bethany R. Lancaster  
Caroline K. Lau  
Kerry A. White  
Michael A. Bidzos  
Michael A. Taylor  
Kevin M. Wanklyn  
Fletcher A. Robbins  
Curtis D. Gomulinski  
Angela R. Mulberger  
Anders R. Willberg  
Allen G. Bourgeois  
Todd M. Giles  
Elizabeth S. Kenney  
Karen L. Kreutziger  
Thomas R. McCabe  
Sommner N. Wallace  
Jeffrey G. Ratcliffe  
Gregory R. Goppold  
Kate D. McGowan  
Elizabeth E. Davis  
Jason J. Thuringer  
Brent D. Weinberg  
David A. Kirk  
Andrea L. Soth  
Becky A. Linden  
James J. Cigielski  
Benjamin A. Zeier  
Timothy S. Long

Director Commends 67 Chapters

Executive Director Jim Froula presented commendations for perfect and punctual headquarters reports in 1999-2000 to the following chapters:

- Alabama Beta (Auburn Univ.)
- Alabama Beta (Univ. of Alabama)
- Arizona Alpha (Univ. of Arizona)
- Arizona Gamma (Northern Arizona Univ.)
- California Alpha (Univ. of California, Berkeley)
- California Gamma (Stanford Univ.)
- California Zeta (Santa Clara Univ.)
- California Lambda (Univ. of California, Davis)
- California Mu (Cal Poly, State U., San Luis Obispo)
- California Tau (Univ. of California, Irvine)
- California Psi (Univ. of California, San Diego)
- California Eta (Harvey Mudd College)
- Colorado Beta (Univ. of Colorado at Boulder)
- Colorado Zeta (U.S. Air Force Academy)
- District of Columbia Alpha (Howard Univ.)
- Florida Alpha (Univ. of Florida)
- Florida Beta (Univ. of Miami)
- Florida Delta (Univ. of Central Florida)
- Florida Theta (Florida International Univ.)
- Georgia Alpha (Georgia Institute of Technology)
- Illinois Epsilon (S. Illinois Univ. at Carbondale)
- Indiana Gamma (Univ. of Notre Dame)
- Iowa Alpha (Iowa State Univ.)
- Kansas Gamma (Kansas State Univ.)
- Louisiana Gamma (Louisiana Tech Univ.)
- Louisiana Delta (Univ. of Louisiana at Lafayette)
- Maryland Beta (Univ. of Maryland)
- Michigan Beta (Michigan Technological Univ.)
- Michigan Gamma (The Univ. of Michigan)
- Michigan Epsilon (Wayne State Univ.)
- Michigan Zeta (b) (Kettering Univ.)
- Michigan Theta (Oakland Univ.)
- Minnesota Alpha (Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth)
- Missouri Beta (Univ. of Missouri-Rolla)
- New Hampshire Alpha (Univ. of New Hampshire)
- New Mexico Alpha (New Mexico State Univ.)
- New Mexico Beta (Univ. of New Mexico)
- New Mexico Gamma (NM Inst. of Mining & Tech.)
- New York Kappa (Univ. of Rochester)
- New York Kappa (Univ. of Wisconsin)
- New York Sigma (Polytechnic Univ.)
- New York Tau (Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison)
- North Dakota Beta (Univ. of North Dakota)
- Ohio Beta (Univ. of Cincinnati)
- Ohio Delta (Ohio State Univ.)
- Ohio Iota (Ohio Northern Univ.)
- Ohio Lambda (Youngstown State Univ.)
- Ohio Mu (Wright State Univ.)
- Oregon Beta (Portland State Univ.)
- Pennsylvania Zeta (Drexel Univ.)
- Pennsylvania Eta (Bucknell Univ.)
- Pennsylvania Theta (Villanova Univ.)
- Pennsylvania Iota ( Widener Univ.)
- South Carolina Beta (Univ. of South Carolina)
- South Dakota Alpha (SD School of Mines & Tech.)
- Tennessee Alpha (Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville)
- Texas Beta (Texas Tech Univ.)
- Utah Beta (Brigham Young Univ.)
- Utah Gamma (Utah State Univ.)
- Vermont Beta (Norwich Univ.)
- West Virginia Alpha (West Virginia Univ.)
- Wisconsin Alpha (Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison)
- Wisconsin Delta (Milwaukee School of Eng.’g.)
- Wisconsin Epsilon (Univ. of Wisconsin-Platteville)
- Wyoming Alpha (Univ. of Wyoming)

Successful petitioners from Cedarville University, (L-R) D.C. Gulledge and H.A. Hegna.

36 Chapters Receive Praise

At the Friday Convention dinner, Executive Director Jim Froula recognized 36 chapters for their outstanding project activity in 1999-2000:

- Alabama Beta (12 projects)
- Auctioned students.
- Alaska Alpha (9 projects)
- Constructed a concrete toboggan.
- Arizona Gamma (7 projects)
- Held EDIT reviews.
- District of Columbia Alpha (14 projects)
- Held computer literacy workshop.
- Florida Alpha (52 projects)
- Had high school students shadow members.
- Florida Beta (49 projects)
- Continued to “tap” electees.
- Most spirited organization in Miami Engineer.
- Florida Gamma (31 projects)
- Helped clear inland waterway.
- Florida Eta (31 projects)
- Adopted a highway.
- Florida Theta (54 projects)
- Made presentation at local high school.
- Indiana Delta (25 projects)
- Spoke to freshmen eng’g. classes about TBP.
- Indiana Epsilon (10 projects)
- Hosted a campus benefit for all honor societies.
- Iowa Alpha (55 projects)
- Ran 257 laps, raised $1,400 for cancer society.
- Louisiana Gamma (13 projects)
- Held clothing drive.
- Louisiana Epsilon (11 projects)
- Sponsored a haunted house.
- Michigan Theta (29 projects)
- Scholarships to most active member/initiate.
- Michigan Iota (14 projects)
- Helped clean the Rouge River.
- New Mexico Alpha (22 projects)
- Gave scholarship to outstanding sophomore.
- New Mexico Gamma (10 projects)
- Kept its adopted highway clean.
- New York Kappa (29 projects)
- Tutored 8th grade students in math.
- New York Tau (25 projects)
- Hosted visiting Russian students.
- Ohio Iota (18 yrs in a row) only chap to win 12 in six yrs/23 projects
- Award to sophomore with highest GPA.
- Ohio Theta (12 projects)
- Helped organize Sugar Plum Festival for kids.
- Ohio Kappa (23 projects)
- Helped Habitat for Humanity.
- Ohio Mu (15 projects)
- Helped Habitat for Humanity.
- Pennsylvania Gamma (47 projects)
- Held dean’s list recognition dinner.
- Pennsylvania Eta (9 projects)
- Adopted a highway.
- South Carolina Beta (23 projects)
- Spoke about TBP at society info day.
- South Dakota Alpha (24 projects)
- Published article in school newspaper.
- Vermont Beta (18 projects)
- Helped Cub Scouts earn badges.
- Washington Delta (14 projects)
- Held engineering jeopardy contest.
- Wisconsin Delta (39 projects)
- Held clothes and food drives.
- Wyoming Alpha (20 projects)
- Presented student-of-the-year awards.

23 projects
- Adopted a highway.
- Helped clear inland waterway.
- Helped habitat for humanity.
- Helped organize sugar plum festival for kids.
- Published article in school newspaper.
Vermont Beta is the Best

The 2000 R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award was captured by members of the small Vermont Beta Chapter on the campus of Norwich University. Even though the chapter had only nine members, all of them participated in the many service projects and extensive community outreach endeavors. Competition this year was keen, and Maryland Beta, a large chapter that often wins this accolade, received an honorable mention.

In deciding the winner, the awards committee was impressed particularly by an ongoing project which began a few years ago when Vermont Beta received a GIG award. That grant money purchased robots which were used to teach local elementary students about reality, problem solving, and some introductory engineering concepts. Many hours were spent on this project, and eventually the robots were donated to the school for future use. Other outreach projects included helping Cub Scouts earn badges, holding ICE sessions, and sponsoring a campus “Engineering Olympics” and a science fair for area elementary and high-school students. A consistent showing of nine members assisted with the projects.

The 80 active members of the Maryland Beta Chapter functioned well and completed many projects for the benefit of their community and students. They volunteered at a local food bank, cleaned highways and parks, and held EIT reviews and ICE sessions. Through selling at concessions during sports events, they raised nearly $6,500 for scholarships. President Fletcher A. Robbins proudly received the honorable mention in the chapter competition at the Convention.

Named for Tau Beta Pi’s first Secretary-Treasurer, the R.C. Matthews Award recognizes chapters for four areas of excellence: (1) quality, variety, and number of projects; (2) chapter organization; (3) promptness and quality of reports to headquarters; and (4) number of members participating.

LA Γ Improves Steadily

Although many changes seem dramatic, many evolve over time. Over a three-year period, and already receiving a high rating, members of the Louisiana Gamma Chapter at Louisiana Tech University added projects such as ICE sessions and mixers, clothing drives, and an Engineers Day high-school competition. For increased chapter productivity, President Heath E. Tims was called to the Convention platform to receive the R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award.

Two other chapters were cited as worthy of distinction. The first honorable mention was California Gamma at Stanford University, Convention co-host. Chapter reports were submitted on time and included such projects as tutoring, creating member resume books, hosting dinners for recruiting companies, and staging social events. President Austin J. Che proudly received the honor.

The second honorable mention that showed major improvement was Missouri Beta, led by President Jessica Bigas at the University of Missouri at Rolla. Increased project activities included sponsoring scholarships and guest speakers, volunteering in the community, and holding a campus-wide BBQ. Voting delegate Jeanne M. Treasurer accepted the award.

Two Win G.I.G. Grants

Two chapters were awarded 2000 Tau Beta Pi Greater Interest in Government Grants by the Executive Council and were recognized at the Convention for original and innovative engineering-service projects promoting a greater appreciation for the role of engineering in society. President Douglas M. Green presented plaques during the awards banquet in Millbrae, CA.

Iowa Alpha was given $750 for its study of student apathy in organizations project. President and Convention delegate Michael A. Taylor received the award on October 7.

Wyoming Alpha received $480 for its engineering tours for elementary students project. Timothy S. Long, President and delegate, accepted the award from Dr. Green.

As much as $750 may be awarded for a single or joint-chapter GIG project. To date, 49 grants totaling $33,710 have been made to 26 chapters. Send your 2001 GIG proposals to Secretary-Treasurer J. D. Froula in Knoxville, TN, as soon as you’re ready.
2001 TBII Scholarships

The Tau Beta Pi Association Scholarship Program for senior-year study during the 2001-02 academic year will close January 15, 2001, when applications must be in the hands of Director of Fellowships D. Stephen Pierre Jr., P.E., Alabama Power Company, P.O. Box 2247, Mobile, AL 36652-2247.

Up to 12 cash awards, each worth $2,000, will be given in our third program. They will be made on the basis of high scholarship, sound recommendations, extracurricular activities, and financial need.

Winners will be selected by the Fellowship Board and notified before April 1.

Junior members of the society are eligible to apply. Applications are available from chapter presidents and from www.tbp.org.

jobtrak.com

Tau Beta Pi has entered into a contract with JOBTRAK to create a special job-listing site for our members. More than 400,000 employers list their position openings with JOBTRAK, advertising for entry-level and experienced full-time jobs, as well as internships. To use the site, email headquarters at tbp@tbp.org to request the password, using jobtrak in the subject. Then visit the site at www.jobtrak.com and begin your search. We ask only that you maintain the confidentiality of the password and tell us your success stories. Nearly 300 Tau B mates have requested the password.

Important Deadlines

- GIG Project Proposal (any time)
- January 15: Scholarship Application
- March 15: Fellowship Application
- March 21: Laureate Nomination
- April 1: Distinguished Alumnus Nomination
- April 1: Outstanding Advisor Nomination
- June 1: Executive Council Nomination
- June 1: Convention Bid for 2004

2001 Fellowships

Tau Beta Pi's 68th annual program of graduate fellowships for study in the 2001-02 academic year closes January 15, 2001, when applications must be in the hands of Director of Fellowships D. Stephen Pierre Jr., P.E., Alabama Power Company, P.O. Box 2247, Mobile, AL 36652-2247.

Winners in the program will be selected by the Fellowship Board and notified by April 1. Up to 20 awards will be given, each worth $10,000. They will be made on the basis of scholastic attainment, promise of future development in engineering or related fields, and unselfish activity.

All members of Tau Beta Pi are eligible to apply. Students should obtain applications from their local chapter presidents, and alumni from pdf files at www.tbp.org.

2001 District Conferences

The District Program provides a vital link between the national organization and individual chapters. Each year the Directors gather students for regional conferences to provide both retiring and new officers opportunities to discuss chapter operations and to socialize. All chapters are urged to elect new officers before their District conference. New and outgoing officers are urged to attend. The 2001 schedule is:

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<td>15</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>April 28</td>
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Educational Loan Fund

Since 1935, Tau Beta Pi has assisted student members with their financial needs while in school or with payment of their initiation fee through our Student Loan Fund. We are pleased to offer this service for student members in amounts up to $2,500 per member.

Repayment is required after three years, and a simple interest rate of 6% is charged from the day the loan is received.

Interested students can obtain promissory notes and loan applications from their chapter presidents or directly from Executive Director Jim Froula at the national headquarters in Knoxville, TN.

Nominate 2002-06 Executive Council

Letters of candidates for the next Executive Council of Tau Beta Pi should be submitted by April 1, 2001. The voting will take place at the 2001 Convention in Columbus, OH, and the successful slate will take office at the 2002 Detroit, MI, Convention and serve through the 2006 Convention.

Tau Beta Pi's Constitution and Bylaws, particularly Constitution Article III, Sections 3, 4, and 5, delineate the nominating and elective procedures and the Executive Council's responsibilities.

A slate of five alumnus candidates for Executive Council may be nominated by any chapter or group of chapters. Among them, the nominees should be from different branches of the profession and should have experience in a variety of functions — management, finance, teaching, business, research, etc. Candidates must agree to serve if elected, but all nominees on a slate no longer must reside in the same geographic area.

Nominations of Council slates must be sent to the headquarters for publication to all the chapters. If fewer than two slates are nominated by the deadline, additional slates may be nominated at the 2001 Convention in Ohio; but if two or more slates are nominated by April 1, nominations will then be closed.

In 1992, the Executive Council revised the travel reimbursement policy for Council slates whereby the Association will provide on-site expenses, plus prorated travel expenses up to $3,000 total, for all slates.
Chapter Development on Frisco Bay: What’s New About ICE?

The newly revised Interactive Chapter Exchange program met its first audience at the 2000 Convention. Three District Directors and three Engineering Futures Facilitators worked one full year to ensure its success as it drew focus to the delegates’ interactions with their peers.

To allow more discussion time for delegates, the committee compiled years of ICE session data to identify common recurring problems in the four major components to a chapter: Image, Membership, Leadership, & Activities. The strength of these four areas directly relates to the overall strength of a chapter. Knowing the targets, the delegates at the national Convention were able to focus upon their problem-solving skills.

The new ICE format divided students into smaller subgroups immediately to brainstorm solutions in their assigned problem area. Delegates shared their successes and failures to develop positive solutions. The latter part of the ICE session saw the sharing of solutions to the whole group. Ideas and suggestions were presented by each subgroup, which created an excellent forum for the student leaders to detail plans and projects for further improving their chapters. Notable synergy came from the sharing of ideas.

Evaluations by delegates demonstrated the success of the program by an average score of 4.7 on a scale of 1-5, where 5 is the top rating.

The ICE committee aims for continuous improvement for the program. How do we improve upon success? The answer is to watch your chapter grow and change and to match your new needs.

ICE was only one aspect of chapter development activity. Convention Chair Ron Hickling and Parliamentarian Jim Johnson guided delegates through the proper techniques of parliamentary procedure. After being understood and properly used, these basics of Robert’s Rules of Order provided techniques necessary for survival in three business meetings that would follow as they proceeded in an orderly fashion. Chapter presidents were well served to study and apply this knowledge on their campuses.

After the first business meeting, committees selected student leaders to serve as chairs, vice chairs, and secretaries. Valuable experience was gained as they guided their teams and presented reports before the entire body. Non-voting delegates built important interpersonal, team-building, and meeting-management skills at Engineering Futures sessions. Newly appointed Facilitators gained valuable training at these sessions as well. District meetings followed, allowing old friendships to be renewed and new ones begun as the bonds among chapters grew stronger. Vital links between individual chapters and the national organization, the District Directors provided valuable guidance for their delegates, drawing from their own experiences.

The first opportunity to practice Robert’s Rules arrived with Friday morning’s business meeting. Motions were moved and amended, points of inquiry were made, and questions were called as devoted delegates debated the issues before them.

On-time, properly completed reports garnered Secretary’s Congratulations for 67 chapters. The outstanding project activity of 36 chapters earned Project Awards as recognition for work well done. The students’ service to school, community, and the profession generated many ideas for officers to carry back and implement. In addition to the plaques, 35 checks for $500 were presented to 28 chapters for receiving awards in three consecutive years.

A high level of enthusiasm erupted at the conclusion of the awards banquet.

A assistent Secretary Roger Hawks framed the ICE meetings with his entertaining slide show and rapid-fire review of the membership process and the newly developed electronic web-based membership reporting system.

On Saturday, the third business meeting generated the usually high level of debate as students honed their Robert’s Rules skills. Final reports and concluding arguments helped them to reach their decisions. Everyone departed with a new appreciation for the proper way to conduct a large meeting.

Before concluding activities at the Awards Luncheon, members viewed the initiation of candidates from the California Alpha, Gamma, Zeta, and Eta and Connecticut Alpha chapters. Director of Rituals Alan Hirschl and the Rituals Committee demonstrated how a proper, impressive ceremony should be conducted.

Advisors play an important role in chapter development. President Doug Green conducted special sessions for these mentors, who were filled with renewed enthusiasm to continue their important function. William W. Mendenhall Jr., 2000 National Outstanding Advisor of Alaska Alpha, was recognized at the Awards Banquet.

The Convention provided numerous opportunities packed into the busy hours. Each student, advisor, alumnus, and national official gained something valuable before braving the airways for the trip home, satisfied with a job well done.

R.E.H.
Tau Beta Pi Bulletin
P.O. Box 2697
Knoxville, TN 37901-2697

Nominate a 2001 Laureate

Tau Beta Pi inaugurated the Laureate Program in 1981 to honor those student members who have demonstrated exceptional talents outside the field of engineering. Look among your members for an outstanding student. Chapters may nominate one or more members as a Laureate based upon their contributions in arts, athletics, service, or diverse achievements. Laureates each receive a $2,500 cash award, recognition at the Convention, and publicity in THE BULLETIN. A chapter nominating committee, excluding but in consultation with the candidate, should assemble the nomination package and send it to the Secretary-Treasurer by March 15—in triplicate. (Please refer to the President’s Book, pp. C-29 & 30, www.tbp.org.)

New! AlumNet for Students

Tau Beta Pi began the AlumNet Program this fall as a three-year trial, creating a way for alumni to share valuable experience with interested student members. The program pairs students with alumni in various settings, such as graduate programs, academe, industry, etc., to allow sharing of information and to facilitate the establishment of networks that are so critical for the attainment of pre-professional and career development.

Students have asked for this service, and thanks to the efforts of the Central Illinois Alumnus Chapter and the Illinois Alpha Chapter, AlumNet was begun. Many alumni from various chapters and disciplines are already registered in the database. To get in touch with an alumnus about a certain field, company, or institution, simply register on-line with AlumNet by going to the TBPI website at www.tbp.org and clicking on the AlumNet link on the “For Members” page. Complete the brief, three-to-four line contact request form, and alumnus contact information will be sent to you by e-mail from the program coordinator. It is the student’s responsibility to follow-up and to make contact with the alumnus.

A alumnus can register on-line in the same way described above. Encourage your peers to try out this service. AlumNet is one more example of the unique value of membership in Tau Beta Pi and another opportunity to gain life-long benefits from the Association.

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Tau Bate wins Nobel for chip

Jack S. Kilby, Illinois Alpha ‘47, who invented the integrated circuit in 1958, is a co-winner of the 2000 Nobel prize for physics. Now retired from Texas Instruments, Dr. Kilby also co-invented the hand-held calculator during his long career there. Quoted in a Reuters story, Kilby expressed surprise at winning in physics, saying that “I had thought that Nobel prizes were not given for accomplishments like mine. To some extent, my contribution was an engineering one and Mr. Nobel did not make any provisions for engineering prizes.” Dr. Kilby has received numerous awards and honors, including the National Medal of Science (1970), and was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1982. This prize brings the number of Tau Beta Pi Nobel laureates to 16.

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