THE 98th Convention of Tau Beta Pi was held October 23-25, 2003, in Lubbock, TX. The Texas Beta Chapter was official host. The hundreds of out-of-town attenders were housed in the Holiday Inn Towers, and met in the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, where the business meetings were held and five meals were served.

A total of 428 members of Tau Beta Pi participated in the business of the Convention. Of these, 333 were student voting and non-voting delegates and host-chapter members; 33 were chapter advisors; 46 were national officers, Convention leaders, and Engineering Futures Facilitators; four were alumnus chapter delegates; and 12 were Laureates, alumnus visitors, and petitioners. The attenders represented 210 collegiate and four alumnus chapters. Most of the chapter advisors attended at the special invitation and partial expense of the national organization. In addition, at least 20 non-member petitioners, consultants, and guests attended some events.

Arrangements Chair Matthew Reile, TX ‘04, expertly guided preparations for the Convention and its logistics. Together with chapter President Curtis G. Campbell, TX B ‘04, he managed a hard-working group of effective host-committee chairs for such duties as housing, registration, meals, souvenirs, technology, hospitality, tours, publicity, and transportation.

Before the Convention began, students met with representatives from ExxonMobil, Lockheed Martin, NCEES, Sandia Labs, Schlumberger, and Texas Tech’s graduate school of engineering, while their chapter-résumé books were collected for Duke Energy and Fluor. The Convention formally opened Thursday afternoon when President Matthew W. Ohland presented his annual report.

The three days were filled with business, committee, advisor, District and Engineering Futures meetings, interactive chapter exchanges, and the model initiation.

In all, four Convention business meetings were held; Ronald M. Hickling, CA E ’80, the Executive Council-appointed permanent chair, presided and was assisted by James W. Johnson Jr., NC A ’77, the Executive Council-appointed parliamentarian. The Saturday Awards Banquet brought the Convention to a festive conclusion.
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 22 students and two eminent engineers of Texas Beta into the Association.

The initiation and awards banquet was held in the ballroom of the Civic Center. The program included the presentation of Tau Beta Pi’s 2003 National Outstanding Advisor, 2003 Distinguished Alumni, and 2003 Laureates. Biographical sketches of Outstanding Advisor Melvin R. Corley, P.E., Outstanding Advisor Melvin R. Corley, P.E., LA Γ ’70; 2003 Distinguished Alumni Irwin M. Jacobs, NY Δ ’56, and Daniel D. Reneau, LA Γ ’63; and Laureates Erin E. McIntyre, NJ Β ’03, and Patrick D. Schmid, PA Α ’03, appeared in the Fall 2003 BENT.

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 one ad hoc group of chapter advisors was 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 with other national officials for consultation. Each standing 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.**

- **Michael L. Younghblood, AL Δ, Chair.** After studying the petitions, catalogs, and inspection reports and interviewing the petitioners’ representatives, the group recommended that new chapters be established at two institutions. The schools and leaders are:
  - Grand Valley State University—David A. Wassilak, Dawn J. Witherell, and Dr. Charles R. Standridge, MO Γ ’75, advisor.
  - Idaho State University—Christie A. Chatterley, Anthony L. Crawford, and Linda R. Stuffle, MI Γ ’71, and Dr. R. Eugene Stuffle, advisors.

The Convention granted both petitions by unanimous vote. Idaho Beta will be officially installed on January 23, and Michigan Lambda will be established on March 27, 2004, which will raise the number of active collegiate chapters to 228.

**Constitution and Bylaws.**

Robert N. Davis, AL B, Chair.

Four topics had been referred to the committee prior to the meeting for study and recommendation. The Convention adopted, by the required vote, an amendment to Constitution Art. IV, Sec. 2(f), to add the Scholarship Program duties to the Director of Fellowships; final approval of this change is subject to chapter ratification.

The Convention further adopted, by the required favorable vote, an amendment to Constitution Art. III, Sec. 4; Art. IV, Sec. 1, 2 (c) & (f) (new), and 5, to define Councilor and re-define Officers and Directors; final approval is subject to chapter ratification.

The Convention also adopted, by the required vote, an amendment to Constitution Art. III, Sec. 2(c) (new), to establish a standing Convention Committee on Chapter Advisors; final approval is subject to chapter ratification.

Finally, the Convention adopted, by the required three-fourths vote, changes to Bylaw V, Sec. 5.07, and Bylaw VI, Sec. 6.04 (new), to allow chapters to revoke a candidate’s election; that change was effective immediately.

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cial records are satisfactory, to the best of its knowledge.

The committee recommended, and the Convention adopted, increases in the initiation fee from $27 to $32 and the Convention assessment from $3 to $5, effective August 1, 2004. The committee recommended, and the Convention adopted, specific allowable Convention expenses beyond those specified in the Bylaws for delegates to the 2004 meeting.

Rituals.
Michael D. Holt, LA E, Chair. The team recommended no change to the Ritual. On Saturday, delegates were impressed by the model initiation for 22 students and two eminent engineers of Texas Beta, which the committee helped to organize.

Convention Site.
Brian M. Crawford, IA A, Chair. Lt. Col. Lawrence M. Butkus, Colorado Zeta Advisor, reviewed causes of the Columbia Space Shuttle disaster—one Tau Beta died in the tragedy.

The group reviewed an invitation from Colorado Beta to host the 2006 Convention. The Convention happily accepted the bid to hold the national meeting in Denver, CO, if the choice is deemed acceptable by the Council.

Chapter Advisors. (ad hoc). Randall R. Lapierre, MA Z Advisor, and Sandra B. Pitzak, CO B Advisor, Co-Chairs. The group studied ways to improve training and development of advisors and made recommendations to expand the Advisor Program. The Convention adopted a change to Constitution Art. III, Sec. 2, to establish the committee as a standing committee; final approval of this change is subject to chapter ratification.

Resolutions.
Abdou A. Ayoub, OH A, Chair. This group prepared the appropriate resolutions for Convention adoption and made recommendations to extend the Convention program to improve the chapters and the Society. At the final banquet, Mr. Ayoub presented resolutions of thanks to the host chapter, officials, sponsors, alumni, and others, whose support had been gratefully received by the Association. Preceded by a humorous skit by committee members in the Third Business Meeting, the final resolution provided an inspirational charge to all: “Final congratulations and thanks should go to the leaders of all the collegiate and alumnus chapters throughout the country, whose effective and dedicated leadership truly maintained and improved the visibility and image of the Association and its members. We thank Ron Hickling, Convention Chair, and James Johnson, Parliamentarian, for leading us through the business meeting and being patient with Robert’s suggestions—I mean Rules of Order. “Unless you’re the lead dog . . . the view never changes.” Congratulations on being the lead dogs, and be sure to maintain that position.

Bylaw Requirement
Because of the ratification of amendments passed by the 2002 Convention, all Tau Beta Pi chapters are now required to list all eligible curricula for both undergraduate and graduate membership in their chapter bylaws.

The Convention established April 1, 2004, as the compliance date. If you need assistance, please contact Roger Hawks at the national Headquarters in Knoxville, TN, roger@tbp.org.
$16,000 in Scholarships Given to 26 Chapters

Twenty-six 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 | Institution | Delegate
---|---|---
California Alpha | University of California, Berkeley | Brian R. Love
District of Columbia Alpha | Howard University | Arthur R. Alexander
Florida Alpha | University of Florida | Rebecca A. Holcomb
Florida Beta | University of Miami | Natalie M. Sanchez
Indiana Delta ($1,000) | Valparaiso University | Charles E. Galik
Iowa Alpha | University of Iowa | Brian M. Crawford
Maryland Beta ($1,000) | University of Maryland | Erin K. Halferty
Michigan Delta | Univ. of Maryland Baltimore County | Talmesha A. Richards
Maryland Delta | University of Michigan | Jason D. Backus
Michigan Epsilon ($1,000) | Wayne State University | Daniel E. Owczarek
Michigan Theta | Oakland University | Casey B. Hourtienne
Nevada Beta | University of Nevada, Las Vegas | Timothy A. Atobatele
New York Kappa | University of Rochester | Jesse C. Beckstein
New York Pi | Rochester Institute of Technology | William M. Batts Jr.
New York Tau | Binghamton University | Brian E. Weil
Ohio Beta | University of Cincinnati | Daniel J. Monnin
Ohio Zeta | University of Toledo | Jason C. Bowling
Ohio Iota ($1,000) | Ohio Northern University | Christopher M. Pfeifer
Pennsylvania Theta | Villanova University | Bryan A. Zonies
Puerto Rico Alpha | University of Puerto Rico | Nicolas S. Estevez
South Dakota Alpha ($1,000) | So. Dakota Sch. of Mines & Tech. | Mark D. Heiberger
Texas Delta | Texas A & M University | Colleen E. Dominick
Vermont Beta | Norwich University | Thomas A. Beyerl
Wisconsin Alpha | University of Wisconsin–Madison | Nathan M. Aumock
Wisconsin Epsilon | University of Wisconsin–Platteville | Andrew W. Schmidt
Wyoming Alpha ($1,000) | University of Wyoming | Jason C. Delaney

Director Commends 50 Chapters!

Executive Director Jim Froula presented commendations for perfect and punctual Headquarters reports in 2002-03 to the following chapters:

- Alabama Delta
- Arkansas Alpha
- California Alpha
- California Gamma
- California Iota
- California Mu
- District of Columbia Alpha
- Florida Delta
- Indiana Delta
- Iowa Alpha
- Kansas Beta
- Kansas Gamma
- Louisiana Gamma
- Maine Alpha
- Maryland Beta
- Michigan Delta
- Michigan Epsilon
- Michigan Eta
- Michigan Iota
- Mississippi Alpha
- New Hampshire Alpha
- New Jersey Gamma
- New Mexico Gamma
- New York Theta
- New York Iota
- New York Pi
- North Dakota Beta
- Ohio Alpha
- Ohio Delta
- Ohio Eta
- Ohio Gamma
- Ohio Iota
- Ohio Mu
- Ohio Nu
- Oregon Gamma
- Pennsylvania Epsilon
- Pennsylvania Iota
- Pennsylvania Theta
- Rhode Island Alpha
- South Carolina Alpha
- South Dakota Alpha
- Tennessee Alpha
- Texas Delta
- Texas Theta
- Utah Alpha
- Utah Beta
- Vermont Beta
- Wisconsin Alpha
- Wisconsin Beta
- Wisconsin Epsilon
- Wyoming Alpha

The Convention photographs in this issue were taken by Raymond H. Thompson, TBII Systems Administrator.
Ohio Iota Is the Best of the Best!

The 2002-03 R.C. MATTHEWS OUTSTANDING Chapter Award was captured by members of Ohio Iota for the third time, and the chapter has received nine honorable mentions since 1975! On the campus of the Ohio Northern University, this relatively small-sized chapter of 33 members enjoyed 100 percent participation in the more than 30 service projects and extensive community outreach endeavors.

In deciding the winner, the Award Committee was impressed particularly by the chapter's outstanding effort in community service and university extracurricular activities, including its use of a GIG grant to build two wheelchair ramps for residents of Kenton. On campus, members hosted an Engineering Futures session and conducted a weekly group-tutoring program that involved every person in the chapter.

Leading activities last semester were President Brendan R. Thompson, Vice President Ethan S. Miller, Secretaries Robert L. Lowe and Miranda N. Shaw, Treasurer Marc E. Blohm, and Cataloger Patrick J. Taylor. Dr. Robert L. Ward serves as Chief Advisor.

Honorable Mentions:
- New Mexico Gamma at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
- Maryland Beta at the University of Maryland were noted as close contenders. Presidents George E. Schmaltz and Patrick J. Taylor, respectively, led their chapters in the friendly competition for top-chapter status.

Kansas Beta Steadily Improves

The R.H. NAGEL MOST IMPROVED CHAPTER Award was established in 1971 to recognize those chapters that have turned things around and, as one committee member stated, “have dragged themselves out of the gutter and on to the lush green grass.” This year’s R.H. Nagel recipient, Kansas Beta, did just that—a chapter that two years ago was barely alive is now a formidable force on campus and in its community.

While conducting projects such as running an elementary-school Lego® robotics program and searching the stars for extraterrestrial life, Kansas Beta has shown its commitment to operating a great chapter at Wichita State University. Chapter operations were enhanced by presidents, whose terms overlapped, Matthew J. McCarthy and Robert A. Collins II. Dr. David N. Koert is Chief Advisor.

Honorable Mentions:
- California Iota at California State University, Los Angeles, Utah Alpha at the University of Utah, and Utah Beta at Brigham Young University received honorable mentions for their notable improvements during the 2000-03 three-year period.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>University/Location</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Alpha</td>
<td>University of California, Berkeley</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Helped clean Montara State Beach, Learned CPR, Helped Second Harvest sort food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Gamma</td>
<td>Stanford University</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Held an engineering panel, Helped Second Harvest sort food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Psi</td>
<td>University of California, San Diego</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Added a plaque to the Bent monument, Helped “Ask an Engineer” mentoring night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dist. of Columbia Alpha</td>
<td>Howard University</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Helped at a women’s home, Shadowed the Gators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Alpha</td>
<td>University of Florida</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>Helped at the St. Francis Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Beta</td>
<td>University of Miami</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Helped homecoming blood drive, Helped with Engineers’ Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Alpha</td>
<td>University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Conducted a Halloween fun fest, Helped the Illinois Science Olympiad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana Delta</td>
<td>Valparaiso University</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Helped organizations in need, Adopted a family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa Alpha</td>
<td>Iowa State University</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Helped with a haunted house, Held a catapult competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Beta</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Helped clean Cheverlie Nature Park, Helped engineering open house at high school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Delta</td>
<td>University of Maryland Baltimore County</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Read to hospitalized children, Played flag football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass. Epsilon</td>
<td>Northeastern University</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Visited a science museum, Collected money for St. Jude’s Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Alpha</td>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Helped WKAR stay on the air, Volunteered at a city rescue mission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Gamma</td>
<td>University of Michigan</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Helped hands-on museum, Held honors brunch for college of engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Delta</td>
<td>University of Detroit Mercy</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Held two “Evenings of Engineering”, Kept the Bent monument shining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Epsilon</td>
<td>Wayne State University</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Hosted the 2002 TBP Convention, Helped with the “Motor City Makeover”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Theta</td>
<td>Oakland University</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Painted a church, Helped children’s book drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Iota</td>
<td>University of Michigan–Dearborn</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>Helped with “Robo Billiards” science olympiad, Offered tutoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri Alpha</td>
<td>University of Missouri–Columbia</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Helped clean-food drive, Celebrated its 100th anniversary with a banquet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri Beta</td>
<td>University of Missouri–Rolla</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Recognized the outstanding electee, Raised money at a bowl-a-thon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada Beta</td>
<td>University of Nevada–Las Vegas</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Held a canned-food drive, Recognized the outstanding professor and member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico Gamma</td>
<td>New Mexico Institute of Mining &amp; Technology</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Adopted a highway, Helped with the Science Olympiad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Delta</td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Helped clean Carvaja Nature Center, Held an Engineers Week quiz bowl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Kappa</td>
<td>University of Rochester</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Helped “Introduce a Girl to Engineering” day, Held an “Engi-NERD Challenge”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Tau</td>
<td>Binghamton University</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tutored fellow students, Held a Pi-carni contest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Beta</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Helped the March of Dimes, Held canned-food drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Iota</td>
<td>Ohio Northern University</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Built two-wheel-chair ramps (GIG project), Presented awards to outstanding freshman &amp; soph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Alpha</td>
<td>Lehigh University</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Led tours for high-school students, Hosted the District 3 Spring Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Epsilon</td>
<td>Lafayette College</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduced mentors to Tau Bates, Stuffed envelopes for the United Way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico Alpha</td>
<td>University of Puerto Rico</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Helped a conference on “Women in the Workplace”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina Alpha</td>
<td>Clemson University</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Placed follow-up phone calls to electees, Sold goggles to engineering students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota Alpha</td>
<td>South Dakota School of Mines &amp; Technology</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Helped the Boys and Girls Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee Alpha</td>
<td>University of Tennessee</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Prepared chapter project scans for <a href="http://www.tbp.org">www.tbp.org</a>, Asaistad Ronald McDonald house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Delta</td>
<td>Texas A &amp; M University</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Helped the Boys and Girls Club, Held a “Science, Technology, &amp; Youth” symposium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont Alpha</td>
<td>University of Vermont</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sent the dean’s letter to parents, Computerized Jeopardy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont Beta</td>
<td>Norwich University</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Let elementary kids go engineering with the “big kids”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming Alpha</td>
<td>University of Wyoming</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Held a blood drive, Held the college of engineering honors banquet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- GIG = Global Initiation Group
- TBP = Tau Beta Pi
- TBP.org = Tau Beta Pi’s official website
- TBP.org = Tau Beta Pi’s official online platform
New Member Benefits

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES FOR members may be accessed through www.tbp.org/members:
• TBP (The Best People) Job Connection—employment service connecting top people with top companies...features anonymous résumé posting.
• AnswerFinancial—find the best rates for many types of insurance through this free quoting service.

Student Assistance Fund

The Tau Beta Pi Student Assistance Fund was endowed in 1992 through the interest and generosity of C.C. Young, Illinois Alpha '24. Its purpose is to make funds available to student members of his and other chapters who would otherwise be without sufficient financial resources to remain in college. Repayment is not required, no interest is charged, and grantees are requested to help others in need should they become financially secure.

Interested students should write directly to Secretary-Treasurer Jim Froula at the national Headquarters in Knoxville, TN.

Chapter Development & ICE in Texas

Interactive chapter exchange—ICE—continues to be a vital part of chapter development at the Convention.

Students and advisors brainstormed solutions in sessions led by teams of District Directors and EF Facilitators. This year, advisors had their own ICE group so each could share from a wealth of knowledge to develop positive solutions. Sessions stranded Friday's lunch, which included a review of the Chapter website and online reporting system. Many resources, from information on all reports and how to complete them to online versions of the President's and Advisor's Books, can be found at www.tbp.org/chapters.

Ideas and suggestions presented created an excellent forum for the students to detail plans and projects for strengthening their chapters. Many improvements will be put into place when these leaders return home.

ICE was only one aspect of chapter development activity. Convention Chair Ron Hickling and Parliamentarian Jim Johnson demonstrated the preferred techniques of parliamentary procedure. Properly used, these basics provided a real opportunity to practice Robert's Rules as delegates debated the issues before them.

On-time, accurate reports garnered 50 Secretary's Commendations, while outstanding project performance earned 37 Project Awards. The students' service to school, community, and the profession generated numerous ideas for officers to implement. Also, 32 checks of $500 were presented to engineering deans on behalf of chapters that received awards in three consecutive years.

Advisors are important in chapter development. In addition to discussions in their ICE group, advisors gathered in a committee to decide how they might better serve the Association and their chapters.

ICE events helped each Tau Bate gain something valuable to make the world a better place before braving the airways for the trip home. —R.E.H.
The Laureate Program

Councillor and 1996 Laureate Alison L. Hu and 2003 Laureates Patrick D. Schmid and Erin E. McIntyre are all smiles following the award presentation at the Lubbock Convention.

Exceptional Tau Bates are recognized annually at each Convention for their talents and contributions to society beyond the normal perimeters of engineering. This year, Lehigh graduate Patrick Schmid was recognized for his leadership in cross-cultural dialogue, and Rutgers athlete Erin McIntyre was cited for her outstanding swimming record. Each received a $2,500 cash prize, a plaque, and publicity in THE BENT and on the web.

The Tau Beta Pi Laureate Program has been honoring collegiate members since 1982 and has recognized contributions of Tau Bates in the arts, athletics, diverse activities, and service. Chapters select nominees from their members; information on how to proceed is found in the President’s Book (pp. C-29 & 30) and on the web at tbp.org/chapters.

Search among your members, and submit a nomination package, in triplicate, to the national Headquarter by March 15—attention Secretary-Treasurer Froula. Perhaps one of your chapter members will be featured smiling next year too!