THE 100th Convention of Tau Beta Pi was held October 6-8, 2005, in Salt Lake City, UT. The Utah Alpha, Beta, and Gamma Chapters were official co-hosts. The hundreds of out-of-town attendees were housed in the Sheraton City Centre Hotel, where business meetings were held and four meals were served.

A total of 481 members of Tau Beta Pi participated in the business of the Convention, the fourth-highest total ever. Of these, 349 were student voting and non-voting delegates and host-chapter members; 40 were chapter advisors; 64 were national officials, Convention leaders, and Engineering Futures Facilitators; nine were alumnus chapter delegates; and 19 were alumnus visitors and petitioners. The attenders represented 213 collegiate and nine alumnus chapters. Most of the chapter advisors attended at the special invitation and partial expense of the national organization. In addition, at least 45 non-member petitioners, consultants, and guests attended some events.

Arrangements Chair Michele L. Hollist, UT A ’04, guided preparations for the Convention and its extensive logistics. She and chapter Presidents Kara J. Stowers, UT A ’06, J effery D. Christenson, UT B ’07, and Spencer C. Wendel, UT T ’06, managed such duties as technology, hospitality, publicity, transportation, souvenirs, and campus tours.

Early on Thursday, students met with representatives from companies and the graduate schools of engineering of universities listed on page 3. The Convention formally opened Thursday afternoon when President Matthew W. Ohland presented his annual report.

(continued next page)

Keynote speaker Stephen D. Bechtel Jr., P.E, (l) congratulates Distinguished Alumnus Dr. H. Vincent Poor.
The three days were filled with business, committee, District and Engineering Futures meetings, Interactive Chapter Exchanges (ICE), 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, and the Resolutions Committee made its final report.

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, providing delegates the opportunity 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 20 students of Utah Alpha, 22 of Utah Beta, and four student members of Utah Gamma into the Society.

The initiation and awards banquet was held in the Three Seasons Ballroom of the hotel. The program included the presentation of Tau Beta Pi’s 2005 National Outstanding Advisor and 2005 Laureate, Biographical sketches of Outstanding Advisor Sally J. Stedman, Ph.D., WY A ’69; Distinguished Alumnus H. Vincent Poor, Ph.D., AL A ’72; and Laureate Clara C. Shih, CA Γ ’65; appeared in the Fall 2005 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 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 initial 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**

*John D. Cinnamon, OH H, Chair.*

After studying the petition, catalog, and inspection report and interviewing the petitioner’s representatives, the group recommended that a new chapter be established at one institution.

The school and leaders are: Rowan University; Gregory D. Webster and Dr. Steven H. Chin, P.E., NJ B ’79, advisor.

The Convention granted the petition by unanimous vote. New Jersey Epsilon will be officially installed on January 28, 2006, which will raise the number of active collegiate chapters to 230.

**Constitution and Bylaws**

*Meghan Desai, NY Δ, Chair.*

Three 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. XVII, Secs. 3 and 6, to revise the responsibilities of the trustee; final approval of this change is subject to chapter ratification. The Convention also adopted, by the required three-fourths vote, changes to Bylaw V, Secs. 5.01 and 5.03, to require initiation fees to be payable within two weeks instead of 10 days and to allow chapters to remove an elected officer for cause; these changes were effective immediately.

**Curriculum Review (ad hoc)**

*Stephanie C. Thompson, GA A Chair.*

The committee reviewed 18 appeals by 16 chapters to include non-ABET/EAC curricula as eligible. The Convention approved 11 programs, denied five, and committed two to the 2006 Convention.

**Chapter/Association Financial Affairs**

*Ryan D. Fontenot, LA A Chair.*

The group had been given the 2004-05 reports of the Association’s auditor and Executive Director and the Society’s budget for 2005-06. The committee reviewed the documents and concluded that Tau Beta Pi’s financial health is excellent.

The committee recommended, and the Convention adopted, specific allowable Convention expenses beyond those specified in the Bylaws for delegates to the 2006 meeting and set a limit of $25,000 for the annual cost of the Secretary’s Commendation Award Program before review by a Convention is required.

**Awards**

*Michael Y. Fozdar, OK A, Chair.*

The committee spent long hours evaluating the chapters and selecting the 2004-05 R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter and
Take a Bow, Convention Donors!
Tau Beta Pi gratefully acknowledges the following contributors to the 2005 Convention:

**Platinum Sponsors**
- Sandia National Laboratories • CH2M Hill • NCEES

**Major Sponsors**
- ATK Thiokol • Fluor • General Motors • Kaplan AEC Education • L-3 Communications • Raytheon

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**Bronze Sponsor:** Hill Air Force Base, UT

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R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter and honorable mentions. The winners are reported elsewhere in this issue, and special plaques for the awardees were delivered to them after the Convention.

**Rituals**
Matthew S. Henley, OH K, Chair.
The Convention approved a recommended change in the Ritual to define a procedure to permit remote initiations. On Saturday, delegates were favorably impressed by the model initiation for 46 students of Utah Alpha, Beta, and Gamma, which the committee helped to organize.

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2006-10 Council Elected

R. H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter and honorable mentions. The winners are reported elsewhere in this issue, and special plaques for the awardees were delivered to them after the Convention.

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**Major Sponsors**
- ATK Thiokol • Fluor • General Motors • Kaplan AEC Education • L-3 Communications • Raytheon

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**Bronze Sponsor:** Hill Air Force Base, UT

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**GIG Grant Dollars**
Your chapter may receive up to $750 to conduct a project involving civic affairs and public policy issues. The cash is available and waiting under Tau Beta Pi’s Greater Interest in Government program, to involve students in their communities and the political process. Maryland Beta was recognized at the 2005 Convention for its “Building a Refuge to Reconstruct Lives” project.
Send your chapter’s proposal to national Headquarters. Application guidelines are in Section C-IV of the President’s Book on the website. The deadline is June 1. [See Chapter Projects at www.tbp.org.]

**Member Discounts**
Kaplan AEC Education is now offering Tau Beta Pi members a 30% discount on preparation materials for the FE/EIT and PE engineering licensing exams. To take advantage of the discount on exam prep materials, visit www.tbp.org/pages/ForMembers and select the Kaplan link listed under “Member Benefits.” Kaplan is also available to support TBP chapter fundraising. [A bulk discount for sample exam books is available from NCEES. Contact Mike Shannon at mshannon@ncees.org.]

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Convention Site
Franklin D. Hartman, FL A, Chair.
This group reviewed invitations from California Alpha, Lambda, and Upsilon and from Massachusetts Beta to host the 2008 Convention. However, the Convention debated and then referred the bids to the 2006 Convention.

**Chapter Advisors (ad hoc)**
Yu-Han Chen, San Francisco Bay Area Alumni Chapter, Chair.
The team studied ways to improve the development of advisors and made recommendations to make better use of the TBII website to provide advisors with needed materials and training sessions at District spring conferences.

**Resolutions**
Grant A. Gary, VT A, Chair.
This group prepared the appropriate resolutions for Convention adoption and revised routine letters and emails sent to chapters from the national Headquarters. At the final banquet, Mr. Gary presented resolutions of thanks to the host chapters, officials, sponsors, alumni, and others, whose support had been gratefully received by the Association.
**Convention**

$9,000 in Scholarships

Eighteen chapters, each of which had won Chapter Project Awards for three consecutive years, won $500 scholarships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>DELEGATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Alpha</td>
<td>University of California, Berkeley</td>
<td>James W. Li</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Psi</td>
<td>University of California, San Diego</td>
<td>Tracy C. Becker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia Alpha</td>
<td>Howard University</td>
<td>Colin C. Tidd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Alpha</td>
<td>University of Florida</td>
<td>Franklin D. Hartman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa Alpha</td>
<td>Iowa State University</td>
<td>Jeremy J. Meeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Beta</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
<td>Ashley M. Korzun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Gamma</td>
<td>University of Michigan</td>
<td>Adam W. Tury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Epsilon</td>
<td>Wayne State University</td>
<td>Joseph D. Templin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Theta</td>
<td>Oakland University</td>
<td>Jamison C. Marchetti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Iota</td>
<td>University of Michigan-Dearborn</td>
<td>Michael E. Pierfelice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico Gamma</td>
<td>New Mexico Inst. of Mining &amp; Tech.</td>
<td>Nathan R. Goulding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Delta</td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>Meghan Desai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Kappa</td>
<td>University of Rochester</td>
<td>William J. Sauer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Beta</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>Carrie A. Hathaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Iota</td>
<td>Ohio Northern University</td>
<td>Michelle L. Bash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee Alpha</td>
<td>University of Tennessee</td>
<td>Andrew N. Wooster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont Beta</td>
<td>Norwich University</td>
<td>Krenar Komoni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming Alpha</td>
<td>University of Wyoming</td>
<td>Jared Strube</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Graduate Fellowships**

Tau Beta Pi’s 73rd annual program of fellowships for graduate study in the 2006-07 academic year will close February 1, 2006, when applications must be in the hands of Director of Fellowships D. Stephen Pierre Jr., P.E.

Up to 20 cash awards will be given, each worth $10,000, made on the promise of future development in engineering or related fields, and financial need. Winners will be selected by the Fellowship Board and notified in April.

All members of Tau Beta Pi are eligible to apply. Students and alumni should apply online at www.tbp.org.

**50 TBP Scholarships!**

The Tau Beta Pi Association Scholarship Program for senior-year full-time study during the 2006-07 academic year will close March 1, 2006, when applications must be in the hands of Director of Fellowships D. Stephen Pierre Jr., P.E.

As many as 50 cash awards, each worth $2,000, could be given in our fantastic, expanding program. They will be made on the basis of high scholarship, strong recommendations, extracurricular activities, and financial need. Winners will be selected and notified in early April. Junior members of Tau Beta Pi are eligible to apply online at www.tbp.org.

Please send reference materials concerning either of the above two programs to the Director of Fellowships, addressed as follows:

D. Stephen Pierre Jr., P.E.
Alabama Power Company
P.O. Box 2247
Mobile, AL 36652-2247

**55 Chapters Commended**

Executive Director Jim Froula presented commendations to these chapters for punctual Headquarters reports in 2004-05:

- Alabama Epsilon
- Arizona Gamma
- California Lambda
- Colorado Alpha
- District of Columbia Alpha
- Florida Beta
- Florida Gamma
- Idaho Alpha
- Idaho Beta
- Illinois Alpha
- Illinois Gamma
- Indiana Beta
- Indiana Epsilon
- Iowa Beta
- Maine Alpha
- Maryland Gamma
- Massachusetts Delta
- Massachusetts Theta
- Michigan Alpha
- Michigan Theta
- Michigan Iota
- Michigan Lambda
- Minnesota Alpha
- Mississippi Alpha
- Nevada Alpha
- New York Gamma
- New York Delta
- New York Kappa
- New York Nu
- New York Pi
- North Dakota Beta
- Ohio Beta
- Ohio Delta
- Ohio Zeta
- Ohio Iota
- Ohio Kappa
- Ohio Lambda
- Ohio Mu
- Ohio Nu
- Oklahoma Alpha
- Oregon Beta
- Oregon Gamma
- Pennsylvania Eta
- Pennsylvania Theta
- Pennsylvania Kappa
- Pennsylvania Lambda
- South Carolina Alpha
- South Dakota Alpha
- Tennessee Alpha
- Utah Gamma
- Vermont Beta
- Virginia Beta
- Virginia Delta
- West Virginia Beta
- Wisconsin Epsilon

PHOTO CREDITS: All Convention photographs in this issue were taken by Raymond H. Thompson, TBP Systems Administrator.
Outstanding Chapter: Vermont Beta

Vermont Beta emerged from among its larger counterparts to win the 2004-05 R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award. The yearly honor goes to the chapter that demonstrates excellence above all others in every aspect of Tau Beta Pi’s mission. Criteria include the number and quality of chapter projects, the ratio of actively participating members, and the number of those initiated compared to the number eligible.

Although Vermont Beta was one of the smallest chapters considered—with 10 members—it stood above all the rest in both quality and quantity. Not only did the group complete 22 projects, but it received a grade of outstanding for each one. The projects included an engineering showcase, an engineers week sled race, “engineering with the big kids” at Northfield Elementary, the Vermont State Science Fair, co-running a Vermont public television auction, and multiple Engineering Futures sessions. In the past year, the chapter’s membership doubled.

Most Improved Chapter: Alabama Epsilon

The R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award was established in 1971 to recognize major improvement in chapter development, including project work and reports to Headquarters. This year’s recipient was Alabama Epsilon, at the University of South Alabama, which showed consistent and marked improvement in the quality and diversity of chapter projects. The chapter completed 19 projects—including organizing a best robot competition, assisting Boy and Girl Scouts with badge requirements, and hosting the District 6 conference.

Alabama Epsilon officers who presided during the award-winning period were President Melissa M. Colby, Vice President Alberto A. Chavez, Secretaries Thomas J. Powers and Delores A. Turner, and Treasurer Karman T. Richardson.

Honorable Mention went to the Florida Gamma Chapter at the University of South Florida which improved in every area, including the successful completion of 40 projects.
### 30 Chapter Project Awards

At the Convention, Executive Director Jim Froula presented Chapter Project Awards for outstanding performance during 2004-05 to the following 30 chapters:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER / INSTITUTION</th>
<th>NO. PROJECTS</th>
<th>PROJECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AL E University of South Alabama</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Helped host a play to raise money for poor children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA A University of California, Berkeley</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Helped restore the quail habitat in San Francisco, Volunteered for “Rebuilding Together”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA A University of California, Davis</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Wrapped gifts to raise money for a food bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA Ψ University of California, San Diego</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>Participated in disciplines of engineering career fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO B University of Colorado at Boulder</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Tutored at Whittier Elementary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC A Howard University</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Hosted luncheon at Iowa senior services, Helped pack food at local food bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL A University of Florida</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Adopted a river, Assisted Habitat for Humanity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL Γ University of South Florida</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Helped students in foundations of engineering class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA A Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provided some hands for “Hands on Atlanta”, Held Tau Beta Pi eating contest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IL E Southern Illinois University at Carbondale</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Participated in “The Bicycle Project”, Prepared lunch at a homeless shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN A Valparaiso University</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Adopted a family, Held Tired Engineers Day Banquet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IA A Iowa State University</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Replaced catapult competition with roller coaster, Adopted a highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA Γ Louisiana Tech University</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Recognized outstanding freshman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD B University of Maryland</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Held 75th anniversary celebration as part of E-week, Volunteered several times with Compassion Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI Γ University of Michigan</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Prepared and served meals in Ann Arbor community, Helped kids have science fair at elementary school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI E Wayne State University</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Operated the Tau Beta Pi store, Welcomed students back with barbeque, games, &amp; prizes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI Θ Oakland University</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Participated in kid’s day at local daycare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI I University of Michigan–Dearborn</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Assisted and judged Science Olympiad, Visited several senior citizen homes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO B University of Missouri–Rolla</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Helped with Science Olympiad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NM Γ New Mexico Institute of Mining &amp; Technology</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Held Dilberts Ethics Challenge, Maintained litter clean-up on one mile of I-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NY Δ Cornell University</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>Helped in chill cook-off to raise money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NY K University of Rochester</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Held ultimate engineers challenge, Organized pizza party for freshman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NY N State University of New York at Buffalo</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Helped beautify Main Street, Held a Relay for Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH B University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Collected blood, Tutored high-school students in math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH I Ohio Northern University</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Delivered food baskets at Christmas, Helped judge Ada High School quiz bowl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR Γ University of Portland</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hosted the Pi Day party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN A University of Tennessee</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Helped with “Boo at the Zoo”, Adopted a spot on campus and kept it clean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT B Norwich University</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Roasted engineers, Hosted “Engineering with the Big Kids”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WI A University of Wisconsin–Madison</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Helped build a haunted house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WY A University of Wyoming</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Sponsored and hosted engineering honors banquet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter Development at the 100th Convention

Chapter Growth Cycle: The Circle of Life

What is meant by the phrase “Chapter Development”? The first word, “chapter”, is a familiar one because you already belong to one of the 229 Tau Beta Pi chapters nationwide.

For the word “development” we must turn to our friend Webster’s:

Development (noun)—the act, process, or result of developing.
Developing (verb)—to make active or promote the growth of.

Thus, by combining all of the above, we can see that chapter development is the act, process, or result of making a chapter active or promoting the growth of a chapter.

Fostering chapter development is the purpose of ICE meetings at the Convention. And the center of ICE activities is the Chapter Growth Cycle (shown above). This cycle revolves around four key aspects of chapter operations and functions, comprising a circle of life for chapters.

To understand the cycle, you need to start with Membership. This is the foundation for Tau Beta Pi’s existence and is a chapter’s most important building block. All other actions begin with building a strong membership base.

From among its members, each chapter selects those who can provide necessary Leadership. Officers and advisors provide organization, continuity, and direction.

Then, the chapter can become involved in Activities. These are opportunities for service to your school, profession, community, and chapter. The quality and quantity of your activities distinguish Tau Beta Pi as an honor society and not simply an honorary.

Projects establish your chapter’s Image. This is your chapter’s personality—how it’s perceived on campus and in the community. This generates the momentum which keeps excellent chapters on track.

Increased membership improves a chapter’s leadership, which leads to more projects and activities and an improved image, which strengthens your tradition, which increases your membership, which brings us full circle.

At the Convention, Chair Ron Hickling and Parliamentarian Jim Johnson instructed delegates in the use of parliamentary procedure. Jim reviewed some of Robert’s Rules of Order, a classic method for conducting orderly meetings. Chapter presidents were encouraged to learn and apply this system at home, then pass it along to others.

Later, committees met to select chairs, vice chairs, and secretaries. These leaders gained valuable experience guiding their teams and presenting reports. Non-voting delegates gained interpersonal, team-building, and meeting-management skills at Engineering Futures sessions. District meetings gathered chapters in each of the 16 geographical regions to renew old friendships and begin new ones.

Committees met twice on Friday morning before the second business meeting. The business meeting provided ample opportunity to practice Robert’s Rules of Order.

After Friday’s dinner, Sherry Jennings-King and some friends again entertained delegates with skits that offered lessons in philanthropy.

Chapter advisors—priceless assets to growing chapters—gathered in a committee of their own to decide how they might better serve the Association and their chapters.

The enduring strength of Tau Beta Pi is you, the members. You will select the next members who will then improve and strengthen the organization. By learning and using the Growth Cycle, you continue Tau Beta Pi’s circle of life.

—Roger E. Hawks
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
The Laureate Program

Exceptional Tau Bates are recognized annually at each Convention for their talents and contributions to society beyond the normal perimeters of engineering. This year, Clara C. Shih, CA Γ’05 was recognized for her outstanding leadership and diverse achievements. She 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.

If someone extraordinary in your Chapter qualifies, submit a nomination package in triplicate to national Headquarters by April 1—to the attention of Secretary-Treasurer Froula.