



# THE Bulletin

of Tau Beta Pi

September 2000

A Publication  
for the Collegiate  
Chapters

## Business by the Bay

The California Alpha Chapter at the University of California, Berkeley, California Gamma at Stanford University, California Zeta at Santa Clara University, and California Eta at San Jose State University invite all Tau Beta Pi members to experience all that beautiful California has to offer. From Alcatraz to Fisherman's Wharf to the Golden Gate Bridge, the San Francisco Bay Area offers activities unmatched elsewhere.

All four hosting chapters are extraordinary and diverse schools with talented, dedicated students. California Alpha, the first chapter established in California, celebrates its 93rd anniversary this year; California Gamma is proud to have several of its members nationally recognized; Santa Clara University was the first university in California; and San Jose State University was the first public university in California. The chapters are honored to host the final Tau Beta Pi National Convention of this outgoing millennium and help lead the Association into the 21st century. Their many members have worked hard to build a successful and memorable Convention, the first to be held on the West Coast since 1981.

Arrangements Chair Amir A. Schricker, *California Alpha '00*, and his outstanding crew have booked rooms for the more than

400 attendees at the Westin Hotel, which is only minutes from the airport. All meetings and meals will be held in the hotel. On Saturday, attendees will view the model initiation, enjoy the final banquet lunch, and have plenty of time to visit San Francisco. Most delegates, national officers, and other attendees will fly into the San Francisco International Airport for these October 5-7 meetings, site-seeing opportunities, Engineering Futures sessions, chapter and individual awards, and other activities.

The expenses of one student delegate per chapter and the on-site expenses of chapter advisors will be paid by the Association. Non-voting delegates and alumni are welcome and invited to attend at their own expense, except that partial travel of students can be reimbursed.

The purpose of the annual Convention, which officially begins Thursday afternoon, is to conduct the business of Tau Beta Pi. Delegates, who are usually presidents or chapter officers, convene to oversee the Society's fiscal and governmental policies, choose the major chapter award



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Issue available at [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org)

winners, prepare for District conferences, learn more about the TBPI election and initiation process, receive leadership training, and plan future Conventions. They are assisted in monitoring the Society's activities by the Executive Council, national officers, and chapter advisors.

The delegates themselves are the legislative, executive, and judicial body of this primarily student-run organization. Each delegate arrives ready to participate directly in the business and has already been assigned to one of the nine Convention committees. National officers serve as committee advisors.

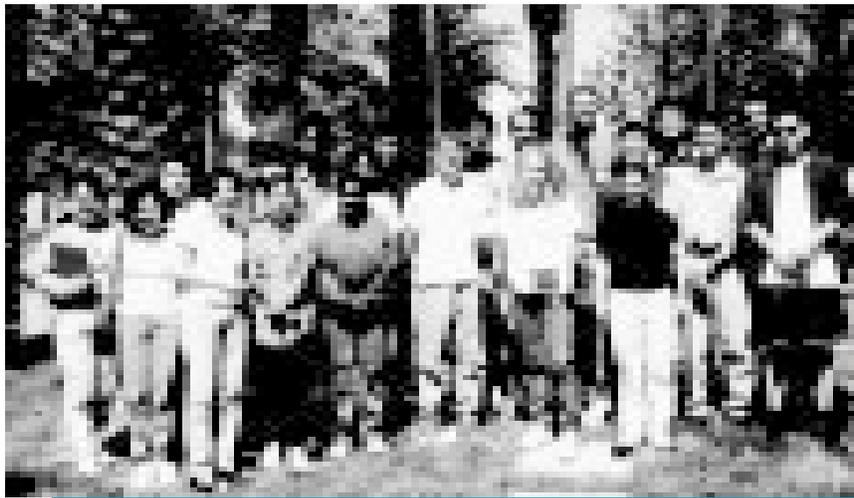
Each committee elects a student chair to conduct its internal affairs and represent the committee on the Convention floor. Any Constitution or Bylaw changes brought forth from the committees are voted on by the Convention during the major business meetings.

This year seven standing committees will survey the Association. Two *ad hoc* committees have been organized; one on image review and another on issues related to the possible request for an international chapter. The committee advisors and major responsibilities of committee members are briefly outlined.

### Committees:

**Petitions.** H. Havens-Beardsley, DD7, advisor. This group will consider and recommend action on a petition from the local engineering society at Cedarville University in Ohio.

**Constitution and Bylaws.** Russell A. Werneth, DD4, advisor. Two subjects have been assigned for direct consideration: proposals to amend Constitution Article IV, Sec. 5, to include equivalent insurance protection in the requirement for bonding and to



Convention organizers from the four host chapters.

allow the Association to award partial Fellowship stipends.

**Chapter and National Financial Affairs.** Christina M. Harrison, DD11, advisor. Committee members are charged to: determine allowable delegates' expenses for the 2001 Convention; review the chapter accounts receivable to the national headquarters; review the annual reports of the Association's auditor and Treasurer; review a proposal to pay on-site Convention expenses of either an advisor or non-voting delegate; and review the Executive Council response to the report of the 1993-98 Financial Review Committee.

**Rituals.** Alan R. Hirsch, Director of Rituals and committee advisor. Members of this group will consider any proposals for ritual



Alan R. Hirsch  
Director of Rituals

changes that may come from the Director of Rituals or others and will prepare the Model Initiation at the Convention. The initiates are expected to be various California student candi-

dates and alumnus electees. Members will ensure that the ritual shall be conducted with "due formality and elegance."

**Convention Site.** Nila D. Bhakuni, DD3, advisor. Delegates from this committee learned that the proposal of Michigan Epsilon at Wayne State University to host the 2002 Convention has been approved by the Executive Council. Ohio Gamma at Ohio State University is hosting the 2001 Convention in Columbus. In accord with the Constitution, the Convention site may not be selected more than three years in advance. Texas Beta at Texas Tech University and Florida Alpha/Delta have extended invitations to host the 2003 Convention in Lubbock and in Gainesville.

**Resolutions.** Daniel A. Kamat, DD10, advisor. Team members will present resolutions to the Convention at the Saturday morning business meeting and the Saturday afternoon Initiation and Awards Banquet.

**Awards.** Keith S. Wilberg, DD1, advisor. The principal assignment of this committee is to select the recipients of the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award and the R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award for 1999-2000. The

team will select a single winner in each category and as many honorable mentions as are deserved. Winners will be announced at the awards banquet on Saturday.

Image Review (*ad hoc*). Barry L. Frost, DD7, advisor. Members of this group will recommend a process and metrics for determining the effectiveness of the membership materials for use on the campuses and will help to identify any gaps in the materials and to make recommendations to add or modify existing materials.

International Chapters (*ad hoc*). Ellen D. Styles, DD6, advisor. Members will consider issues which may arise if and when a non-U.S. institution petitions for a chapter.

Engineering Futures — Active Leadership Training! Russell W. Pierce and Facilitators. While the business is conducted throughout the Convention,



Russell W. Pierce  
Director, Engineering Futures

delegates will also have the opportunity to explore ways to develop their own leadership skills, to improve their local chapters, and to

strengthen District ties.

The Convention itself is organized to assist the delegates in their roles as chapter leaders. The opening orientation is a lesson in parliamentary procedure. Parliamentarian James W. Johnson Jr. will act as a role model for delegates as they observe *Robert's Rules of Order*. Convention Chair Ronald M. Hickling will cordially lead the major meetings throughout the three days of scheduled events.

On Thursday and Friday, non-voting delegates will be involved in Engineering Futures training sessions, designed to teach them practical solution-oriented leadership techniques such as motivation, planning, delegation, and team building. Voting delegates, who complete their committee assignments, should join the sessions in progress.

District Directors will be meeting with chapter delegates daily to assist them with organizing their local chapter activities and with planning District conferences and other annual events. Chapter advisors have separate daily meetings.

Officers can familiarize themselves with chapter supplies and the newest insignia items (T-shirts and coffee cup) available from the national headquarters by visiting the Tau Beta



D. Stephen Pierre Jr.  
Director of Fellowships

Pi display in the hotel lobby.

Saturday afternoon is the highlight of the Convention when the annual Association awards will be presented. In addition to recognizing the R.C. Matthews

Outstanding Chapter and the R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter, the 2000 National Outstanding Advisor and National Outstanding Alumni will be introduced.

Tau Beta Pi's 95th National Convention promises to be your convention opportunity of a lifetime. Join us in the City by the Bay!

## 2001 Fellowships

Tau Beta Pi's 68th annual program of graduate fellowships for study in 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.

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

Up to 20 cash awards will be given, each worth \$10,000. They will be made on the promise of future development in engineering or related fields and financial need.

All members of Tau Beta Pi are eligible to apply. Students should obtain applications from their local chapter presidents and alumni from pdf files on [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org).

## Constitutional Amendment Ratified

The 1999 Convention approved one amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of Tau Beta Pi and sent it to the chapters for ratification. In accord with the Association's amending procedure, with 220 chapters eligible to vote, 165 or more affirmative chapter votes were required to ratify an amendment, and 56 or more negative votes would defeat the amendment.

As of May 26, 2000, Headquarters received 135 valid ballots (5 invalid). The Council considered action on the proposed amendment on June 9 and voted on behalf of those chapters submitting invalid or no ballot.

Amendment	Outcome
Clarify the time limit for chapter actions or votes. (Const. Art. XVII, Sec. 3)	Council voted on June 9 to ratify the amendment.

## Publicity Is the Key: 2000 Chapter Survey

**T**AU BETA PI MEMBERS can take pride in what they accomplish. Thousands of students are initiated as new members. Thousands of hours are volunteered to make the nation a better place for all, to support the profession, to help improve their alma maters, and to increase the camaraderie so important to keeping a chapter strong. But too many chapters are hiding their light under a bushel. In this day of increased competition for a student's attention, we must be out there tooting our horn.

As part of the Annual Survey, chapter presidents are asked to rate their chapter's image or visibility on campus as excellent, good, fair, or poor. They also report on the frequency of publicity given to projects and new initiates. Here the choices are: all the time, frequently, sometimes, or never.

You might think there is a relationship between the amount of publicity and image. There is. The chart below clearly shows that relationship. Chapters reporting an excellent image are the ones that most often publicize projects and initiates. Chapters reporting a good image publicize a little less often, and so on. The chart also illustrates a similar relationship between initiation ratio (percentage of students elected who are initiated) and publicity. Twenty-eight chapters initiated 100% of their electees last year, and 26 chapters initiated 100% of electees in either fall or spring.

Eighty percent of the chapters reporting an excellent image publicize either their projects or new initiates, or both. This falls to around 15% for chapters reporting a poor image. Failure to publicize project activity relative to initiates drops off for chapters reporting a fair or poor image. This could be due either to a failure to report project activity or



*Members of the New Mexico Gamma Chapter help to keep our highways clean, and thousands of motorists know it.*

because few or no projects were conducted.

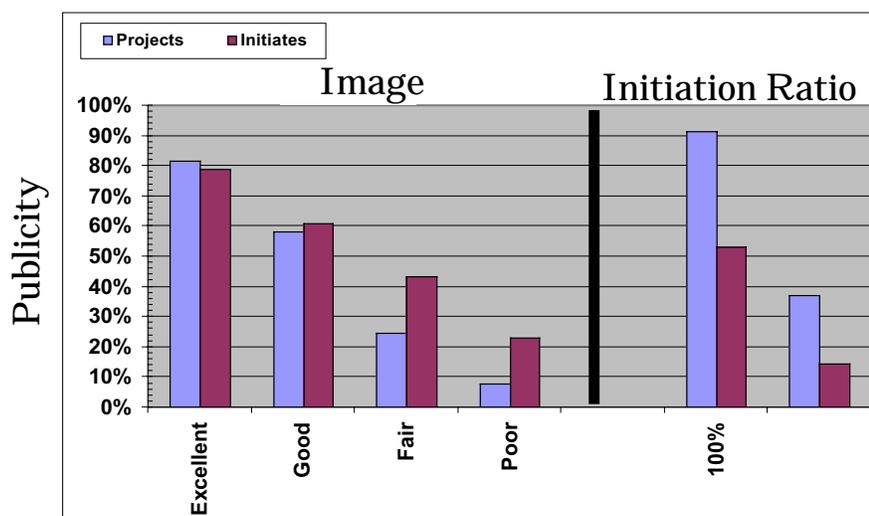
It should be clear that one excellent way to improve your chapter's image on campus and to increase the number of electees who become members is to let others know what you're doing. Most of the students who do not accept our invitation do so because of a lack of interest. You need to let them know that you exist and tell them what we stand for.

There are many ways to place your light on a stand. A listing of the new initiates or a simple story provided to your campus newspaper can go a long way. Chapters in smaller towns have had success with their local newspapers. If the paper doesn't have a reporter to send, just seize the initiative, write the story yourself, and submit it. I'm sure it would be appreciated. Be sure to take pictures—the more 'action' the better—and send them along with your story.

You don't need to publicize every project, but a story on every initiation is a good idea! Choose a project or two with wide appeal that demonstrates your chapter's support for your community, college, or campus or possibly even a social event.

So, go ahead and give that horn of yours a real loud toot. You've done much to deserve it, and when your fellow students see the good things Tau Beta Pi members do, more of them just might want to join the fun.

R.E.H.



## advI.C.E.

This is the first in a series of columns presenting issues typically explored through the Interactive Chapter Exchange or ICE.

The ICE program is a seminar presented at the national Convention in which delegates exchange and formulate ideas and successful solutions to situations that challenge most chapters.

For this first article, we asked a member of the ICE Committee to recall the most frequently asked questions during the seminars. We chose one of the top six questions to address in this issue. The suggestions and solutions to this problem were taken from chapter presidents' summaries in the chapter report booklets and from a District 5 Chapter Guide created from a brainstorming session held at the 2000 District 5 Conference.

### Question : How do we get more electees to join?

District 5 offers these suggestions:

- Enlist the help of your dean's office to send a letter congratulating the students invited to join Tau Beta Pi.
- Send a letter to the parents of every elected student congratulating them on their son's or daughter's invitation. At some schools, this letter is from the dean of engineering.
- Ask members personally to approach the candidates whom they know to congratulate them and remind them of the steps to follow to become a member.
- Add a more personal touch by calling each eligible student to follow-up on the invitation.
- Make use of posters and other types of publicity.
- Work with the freshmen and sophomore classes, targeting them for projects, (i.e. tutoring, recognition awards, class scheduling assistance, etc.) or organize entertaining events that involve them. Create the awareness early enough so that by the time invitations are sent, they are fully aware of who is in the organization and what it is all about.
- Ask professors to encourage students to accept the invitation to membership, especially when the invitations are first sent.
- Tap electees in front of a class.

Here's what works with other chapters:

MA B (MIT) changed the requirements of eligibles to promote more social interaction with active members, making the process less impersonal.

PA B (Penn State) conducted a survey and led in-depth discussions on the topic of new membership. They found that the main problem was the lack of information available to students before they are eligible to join Tau Beta Pi. The plan is to send out a series of letters to prospective candidates before they become juniors, to inform them about TBPI.

To minimize the appearance of being elitist, IA A (Iowa State) decreased the number of days that initiates dress-up and wear the bent from one week to one day. They also held an initiate recognition night, inviting their dean of engineering, all departmental heads, Tau Beta Pi professors, members, and initiates. Iowa Alpha strongly promoted Engineering Futures and organized a phone tree in which officers called potential initiates to congratulate them and answer questions.

PA Γ (Carnegie Mellon) found that handwritten invitations accompanied by a form letter actually increased attendance at the orientation meeting.

Several chapters post a list of eligible candidates.

In the next issue of *The Bulletin*, the ADVI.C.E. column will cover the issue of promoting awareness of Tau Beta Pi on campus. Please email your comments on this subject or any other questions to Pat McDaniel, Director of Communications and Development, at [pat@tbp.org](mailto:pat@tbp.org).

## Chang-Lin Tien Named 2000 Distinguished Alumnus

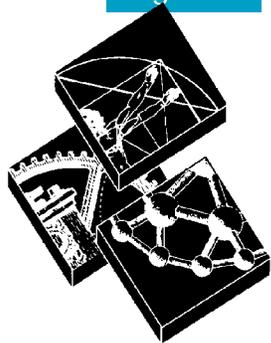
Tau Beta Pi established the Distinguished Alumnus Award recently to recognize those members who demonstrate adherence to the

ideals of the Association—integrity, breadth of interest, adaptability, and unselfish activity—and who have fostered a spirit of liberal culture on local, national, and international scales.

**Dr. Chang-Lin Tien, California**

*Alpha '55*, professor of mechanical engineering, NEC Distinguished Professor of Engineering, and former chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley, is the *2000 Tau Beta Pi Distinguished Alumnus* and will be honored on October 5, 2000, at the 95<sup>th</sup> annual Convention.





## What will YOU do February 18-24, 2001 for National Engineers Week?

**B**ecause you are an engineer or student of engineering, you already know that the diverse profession you are joining has made, and will continue to make, life-altering contributions to the way we live. National Engineers Week helps other people see and appreciate the often invisible role of engineers and their contributions to the quality of our lives.

Founded in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, National Engineers Week, or EWeek, is a consortium of more than 100 engineering, scientific, and educational societies (including Tau Beta Pi), and major corporations. Always celebrated at the time of George Washington's birthday, the recurring theme is "Engineers: Turning Ideas Into Reality." The dates for the upcoming EWeek are February 18-24, 2001.

During EWeek, engineers and students reach out to their community through events designed to promote public awareness and appreciation of engineering, math and science. They visit K-12 classrooms to talk about what engineers do, help 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students design and build computer-generated cities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, sponsor special exhibits and hands-on activities at the local mall, host an open house for public tours, develop an engineering-based contest, or sponsor a banquet. Visit [www.eweek.org](http://www.eweek.org) for more ideas, step-by-step advice for a successful EWeek, a catalog to order attractive promotional materials to use on campus, and a free planning kit. Here's a sample of what our chapters do for EWeek.

The dean of engineering at the University of Rochester coordinates an open house for high-school students and their parents. Members of **New York Kappa** conduct tours of buildings, organize a Tau

Beta Pi information booth, and participate in a panel discussion. Other activities include mural painting on the walls of the campus underground tunnel system and a campus-wide scavenger hunt. This chapter found that scheduling traditional activities like Bent polishing or Engineering Futures sessions during EWeek enhances interest in the event.

**Florida Theta** co-sponsors events with other engineering organizations to create a huge week-long celebration at Florida International University featuring a sci-fi movie night, murder mystery ("Engineering a Murder") with prizes and T-shirts, career planning workshop, fashion show, and a volleyball tournament/picnic.

Among other fun events organized by chapters are a nerd contest, pizza break, pie-eating contest, calculator or computer toss, ice-cream social, and visits to freshman engineering classes.

So take pride in your profession, and help advance its future by participating in National Engineers Week. Turn great ideas into EWeek realities!

### jobtrak.com—by Popular Request!

Tau Beta Pi has entered into a contract with JOBTRAK to create a special job-listing site for Tau Beta Pi members. More than 400,000 employers list their position openings with JOBTRAK, advertising for both entry-level and experienced full-time jobs, as well as internships. To use JOBTRAK, email headquarters at [tbp@tbp.org](mailto:tbp@tbp.org) to request the password, using jobtrak in the subject. Then visit the site at [www.jobtrak.com](http://www.jobtrak.com) and begin your search. We ask only that you maintain the confidentiality of the password and keep us informed of your success stories using JOBTRAK.

### Nominate 2002-06 Executive Council

**S**lates 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 electing 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 December 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.

## New TBPI 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, strong recommendations, extracurricular activities, and financial need. Winners will be selected by the Fellowship Board and notified before April 1. Junior members of Tau Beta Pi are eligible to apply. Applications are available from chapter presidents and from [www.thp.org](http://www.thp.org).

## 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 Secretary-Treasurer Jim Froula at the national headquarters in Knoxville, TN.

## 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.

## The Newest Tau Beta Pi—Ware

Show off Tau Beta Pi's new look, which inspired the designs of our latest insignia items.

A.



Not just another coffee mug! You will love the extra-large handle on this tall, curved-lipped ceramic mug with a strikingly beautiful four-color design on front and back. Front side as shown, back design is the same as on black shirt pictured below. Holds 12 oz. Available in black only. Priced at \$10 plus \$3 shipping.

B.



"Integrity and Excellence in Engineering," plus a colorful, contemporary display of the traditional Bent. Tau Beta Pi is printed in white on the left sleeve. Black only—no design on back. This high-quality T-shirt is made of 100% pre-shrunk cotton and is available in sizes M, L, XL, (\$17) and XXL(\$19). Prices include shipping.

C.



This 100% pre-shrunk cotton high-quality T-shirt displays our new logo in a richly shaded design on both front and back. Available in white; sizes M, L, XL (\$15) and XXL (\$17). Prices include shipping.

### To order:

Quantity	Item	Size	Unit Price	Total
_____	A. Mug	N/A	\$10+\$3	_____
_____	B. Black Shirt	_____	\$17/\$19	_____
_____	C. White Shirt	_____	\$15/\$17	_____

Mail order and check to:

Tau Beta Pi  
P.O. Box 2697  
Knoxville, TN 37901-2697

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Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

TBP Chapter & Class \_\_\_\_\_

Ship to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

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THE Bulletin  
of Tau Beta Pi  
P.O. Box 2697  
Knoxville, TN 37901-2697

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 80  
Knoxville, TN

**THE Bulletin**  
of Tau Beta Pi  
(ISSN 8755-5670)

Vol. LXXIV September 2000 No. 1

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Councillor: Catherine P. Rice, P.E.,  
Maryland Beta '83, Ellicott City, MD

**William W. Mendenhall Jr. is  
2000 National Outstanding Advisor**

**W**illiam W. Mendenhall Jr.,  
*New York Delta '48*,  
longtime advisor to the  
Alaska Alpha Chapter and retired  
professor of civil engineering at the  
University of Alaska Fairbanks, is the  
2000 Tau Beta Pi National Outstand-  
ing Advisor and will be honored on  
October 7, 2000, at the 95th annual  
National Convention. President Green  
will present \$1,000 and a commemora-  
tive plaque to Professor Mendenhall,  
and another \$1,000 grant will be  
presented to the engineering college's  
discretionary fund.

Professor Mendenhall was  
instrumental in establishing the  
Alaska Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi  
in 1974 and has served with extraordi-  
nary dedication as Chapter Advisor  
for 26 years, even following his  
retirement from his teaching position  
in 1987. He has given 50 years of  
dedicated service to Tau Beta Pi and  
almost as many years acting as an  
inspirational role model to students  
and colleagues at the university. It is  
rumored that he hasn't missed a  
meeting of Tau Beta Pi since 1974 and  
that his presence and use of humor  
and wit transformed most project  
work into fun. The value of his  
maintaining the importance of rituals  
and tradition cannot be understated.

Professor Mendenhall's infectious  
enthusiasm inspired the students of

Alaska Alpha  
to receive  
national Tau  
Beta Pi  
awards for  
the quantity  
and quality  
of their projects  
in 1993-94  
and 1998-99.  
Tau Beta Pi  
now honors  
him with the  
prestigious national honor as the 2000  
National Outstanding Advisor.



**NEW look!**

Your headquarters staff is ex-  
tremely pleased to present the rede-  
signed 2000 *Bulletin of Tau Beta Pi*.  
Editorial Assistant Judith A. Stewart  
and Director of Communications and  
Development Pat McDaniel have  
worked with a designer to produce this  
attractive, interesting new look. Enjoy,  
and tell us what you think.

This issue and the previous two  
issues are available as pdf files on  
[www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org). Bylaw IX, Sec. 9.03,  
states that *The Bulletin* shall be  
distributed to all members of the  
collegiate chapters.

**Important Deadlines**

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