



FOR RELEASE  
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CONTACT: Dylan Lane  
865/546-4578

## **Tau Beta Pi Announces Daniel F. Dolan, Ph.D., as 2017 McDonald Mentor**

Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, has named its 12<sup>th</sup> McDonald Mentor. The award celebrates excellence in mentoring and advising among Tau Beta Pi educators and engineers who consistently support the personal and professional development of their students and colleagues. While the primary goal of Tau Beta Pi is to recognize students of superior scholarship and exemplary character and to honor eminent practicing engineers, the Association also lauds excellence in engineering education and in the ethical practice of engineering.

**Daniel F. Dolan, Ph.D.**, *Minnesota Alpha '70*, is CAMP director at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. He is the *2017 Tau Beta Pi-McDonald Mentor*, and will be honored on October 13, 2017, at the 112<sup>th</sup> annual Convention in Michigan. Tau Beta Pi President Norman Pih will present \$1,000 and an engraved medallion and pin to Dr. Dolan. Another \$1,000 grant will be presented to the South Dakota Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi for nominating him.

Established in 2005 by Marion and Capers W. McDonald (*NC G '74*) and the Association, the McDonald Mentor Award recognizes engineering educators or professionals in industry, government, or service organizations who have shown true concern for the individual, supporting an environment for developing talents, and who have earned respect and recognition for contributions to their field and to the greater community.

Dr. Dolan is dedicated to mentoring on campus and beyond through engaging prospective engineering students, SD Mines students in all disciplines, and faculty. He is an example of a well-balanced engineer that promotes technical abilities and soft skills equally.

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All of Dr. Dolan's degrees, B.S., M.S., and Ph.D., are in mechanical engineering and were earned from the University of Minnesota. He joined the faculty at SD Mines in 1981 after a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Duisburg in Germany.

He is a former professor of mechanical engineering and the Director of the Center of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing and Production (CAMP) at SD Mines. CAMP is a competitive, nationally recognized program that brings together students, faculty, and industry leaders to partner on real-world projects. According to the nominating chapter, CAMP is one of the best recruiting tools on campus for prospective students.

In his role as CAMP director, he advises and coaches the Society of Automotive (SAE) Aero Design, Baja SAE, Formula SAE, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, and SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge teams. He also received a higher education assessment certificate in graduate psychology from James Madison University. This degree compliments his passion for research in the area of the psychology of learning.

Dr. Dolan's work provides qualitative values assessment as a formative assessment, and placement in the competitions as a summative assessment have been used to measure the quality of the teaming, leadership, and general level of the quality of the engineering done by the team. Teams with high values assessments are considered successful and often place high in their competitions. His efforts in this area involve students from all departments on campus that participate in the CAMP programs and their progression through their education.

Dr. Dolan was cited for fostering creativity, design thinking, and a love for engineering in his students. He was also commended for performing outreach activities in the local community through CAMP, including GEAR-UP, recruiting and retention of women in STEM fields, and high school visits.

He has been recognized for his accomplishments with many prestigious awards, including: the Presidential Award for Outstanding Professor, an Outstanding SD Mines Student Activities Advisor, and the SAE Faculty Advisor Award. He is also the co-inventor on six patents and is well-published in areas from composite materials to vehicle dynamics and engineering teaming.

Although Dr. Dolan retired from the faculty in May, he plans to continue his work with the CAMP program, which is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

Attributing the success of the CAMP program directly to Dr. Dolan's leadership, a former academic peer said, "Dan's vision that values matter, that collaboration, responsibility, and understanding are critical to accomplishing goals. He helps (teams) develop their own mentoring skills."

For his continued commitment to the education and development of engineering students and for positively impacting thousands of lives through encouragement, guidance, and with passion, Daniel F. Dolan, Ph.D., is the 2017 Tau Beta Pi-McDonald Mentor.

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**Tau Beta Pi is the Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. It has collegiate chapters at 246 engineering colleges in the United States and active alumni chapters in 41 cities. It has initiated more than 582,000 members in its 132-year history and is the world's largest engineering society. (See <https://www.tbp.org/>)**