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## Tau Beta Pi Leaders Attend 108th Convention

Ames, Iowa, was the site of the 108<sup>th</sup> annual Convention of Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society. Leaders of the organization met at the Iowa State Center Scheman Building to conduct the Association's business. Members from Iowa Alpha (Iowa State University) hosted the event. Four hundred and five engineering students from 226 collegiate chapters received leadership and management training and practiced their skills in conducting the business of the Convention, held this year from October 31–November 2. A total of 559 members of Tau Beta Pi were on hand for this gathering of talented engineers.

One school was granted a charter to establish a Tau Beta Pi chapter: the University of Texas–Pan American to be known as Texas Nu.

Awards to outstanding members and chapters were presented.

The R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award for 2012-13, the top honor to a collegiate chapter, went to Kentucky Alpha at the University of Kentucky. Honorable mentions were given to Alabama Epsilon at the University of South Alabama and Ohio Iota at Ohio Northern University.

The R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award for 2012-13 was presented to Kentucky Alpha at the University of Kentucky. Honorable mention was given to Florida Epsilon at the Florida Atlantic University. Both the Matthews and Nagel awards are named for former Secretary-Treasurers of the Association.

The J.D. Froula Most Improved Membership Award for 2012-13 was also presented to Kentucky Alpha at the University of Kentucky. The award was presented by **James D. Froula, P.E. (ret.)**, *Tennessee Alpha '67*, Executive Director Emeritus. This is the first time in Tau Beta Pi history that a collegiate chapter has swept all major chapter awards. Congratulations to Kentucky Alpha!

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**M. Lucius Walker Jr., Ph.D., P.E., *District of Columbia Alpha '57***, professor emeritus of mechanical engineering and former dean of Howard University's engineering school, was presented with the 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award posthumously. A \$2,000 scholarship in his name will be awarded to a Tau Beta Pi student for the 2013-14 academic year.

**Bruce L. Walcott, Ph.D., *Indiana Alpha '81***, Chief Advisor to the Kentucky Alpha Chapter and professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Kentucky, was recognized as the 2013 Outstanding Advisor. Dr. Walcott received a cash award of \$1,000 and a grant in the same amount will be presented to the dean of the college of engineering at the University of Kentucky for his discretionary fund.

The McDonald Mentor Award celebrates excellence in mentoring and advising among Tau Beta Pi educators and engineers. **Lt. Col. Donald W. Rhymer, *Colorado Zeta '94***, professor and department head of engineering mechanics at the United States Air Force Academy, was named the 2013 McDonald Mentor, receiving \$1,000 and an engraved medallion. Another \$1,000 grant will be presented to the Colorado Zeta Chapter of Tau Beta Pi.

The Laureate Program recognizes students who have demonstrated outstanding expertise outside the field of engineering. The Tau Beta Pi 2013 Laureates were: **Michael R. Lacey, *South Carolina Gamma '13***, cited for diverse achievements; **Darick W. LaSelle, *Colorado Epsilon '13***, cited for his service contributions; **Benjamin B. Macy, *Indiana Delta '13***, cited for his service contributions; **Glenn M. Miltenberg, *Colorado Zeta '13***, cited for achievements in athletics; and **Adam R. Pizzaia, *New Jersey Beta '13***, cited for diverse achievements. Recipients received a \$2,500 cash award and a commemorative plaque.

Eleven scholarships of \$500 each were presented for sustained excellent performance in project activities to the following chapters: Alabama Epsilon (University of South Alabama); California Alpha (University of California, Berkeley); California Epsilon (University of California, Los Angeles); Florida Alpha (University of Florida); Georgia Alpha (Georgia Institute of Technology); Iowa Alpha (Iowa State University); Michigan Gamma (University of Michigan); Minnesota Alpha (University of Minnesota-Twin Cities); Ohio Iota (Ohio Northern University); South Carolina Alpha (Clemson University); and Texas Alpha (University of Texas at Austin).

**Gwenne A. Henricks, *Illinois Delta '81***, vice president of product development & global technology and chief technology officer at Caterpillar, Inc., delivered the welcoming keynote address on Thursday night. Friday's Advisor Recognition Dinner included keynote speaker **Charles E. Sukup, P.E., *IA A '76***, president of Sukup Manufacturing Company. **Ralph A. Rockow, *Ohio Gamma '58***, founder and president of Exodyne, Inc., delivered the keynote address at Saturday's Awards Dinner. **Rodger F. Smith, *Wisconsin Alpha '64***, managing director of Greenwich Associates and the TBP Trust Advisory Committee Chair (TAC), and **Harry W. Lange, *Michigan Zeta '75***, member of the TBP TAC, conducted two investments and personal finance sessions.

The Convention opened with 32 different professional development sessions conducted by Tau Beta Pi alumni and guests. At the same time, representatives from 19 graduate engineering programs and from 17 companies, non-profit agencies, and government entities manned recruiting booths at the annual recruiting fair, which was also financially supported by an additional nine companies.

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Tau Beta Pi is the Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. It has collegiate chapters at 241 engineering colleges in the United States and active alumni chapters in 33 cities. It has initiated more than 547,000 members in its 128-year history and is the world's largest engineering society. (See [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org))