



FOR RELEASE
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Tau Beta Pi Names Dr. Hampton, Dr. Madni, & Col. Payton as 2014 Distinguished Alumni

Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, has named the 2014 winners of its Distinguished Alumnus Award. Now in its sixteenth year, the award recognizes alumni who have demonstrated adherence to the ideals of Tau Beta Pi (integrity, breadth of interest, adaptability, and unselfish activity) and to fostering a spirit of liberal culture on local, national, and international scales.

Delon Hampton, Ph.D., P.E., *District of Columbia Alpha '54*; **Asad M. Madni**, Ph.D., *California Epsilon '69*; and **Col. Gary E. Payton**, USAF Ret., *Colorado Zeta '71*, are the 2014 Tau Beta Pi Distinguished Alumni and will be honored on October 4, 2014, at the 109th annual Convention to be held in Spokane, WA. Tau Beta Pi President Larry A. Simonson, Ph.D., P.E., will present a commemorative plaque, and a \$2,000 scholarship will be given in the name of each alumnus to a deserving student member of Tau Beta Pi.

Dr. Hampton is president and CEO of Delon Hampton & Associates and a past president of ASCE. **Dr. Madni** is a distinguished adjunct professor at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and retired president of BEI Technologies, Inc. **Col. Payton** is a distinguished visiting professor at the United States Air Force Academy and former NASA astronaut. The selection of these three eminent engineers as 2014 Distinguished Alumni recognizes their lifetime achievements and commitment to engineering education. Each has played a role in developing young minds, inspiring the next generation of engineers, and contributing to the advancement of the engineering profession. A short summary including biographical details, achievements, and work follows.

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Dr. Hampton has a bachelor's in civil engineering degree from the University of Illinois (UI) and master's and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University. His distinguished career in the engineering industry encompasses a professorship at Howard University, professional engineering registration in 18 states and the District of Columbia, the formation and growth of his construction management firm, and election as president of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE in 2000).

Delon Hampton & Associates has delivered engineering excellence on several notable projects, such as the re-design and re-construction of portions of Pennsylvania Avenue, the Ronald Reagan National Airport, and the Dulles International Airport, in Washington, D.C. He has received recognitions, including the James Laurie Prize and distinguished alumnus awards from Purdue and UI. In addition, he is a former Councillor of the National Academy of Engineering and Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Hampton has authored more than 40 papers, received two honorary doctorate degrees for services to the engineering profession, and published an autobiography "A Life Constructed: Reflections on Breaking Barriers and Building Opportunities". In the book, he details his campaign for equal opportunity and notion that the leadership of engineering firms and professional organizations need to better embrace diversity.

His philanthropy efforts have demonstrated this commitment to a level playing field and include the naming of the Delon and Elizabeth Hampton Hall of Civil Engineering, held at Purdue in 2012, and substantial gifts to the University of Maryland to promote liberal culture.

In summary, Dr. Hampton takes pride in his accomplishments, contributions, reputation as a leader in the profession, and efforts to raise the public awareness of civil engineering. His approach stems from a strong belief that success is possible through determination and support from family and mentors.

Dr. Madni earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from UCLA, Ph.D. from California Coast University, D.Sc. from Ryerson University, D.Eng. from Technical University of Crete, and Sc.D. from California State University & California State University, Northridge. He is an internationally recognized authority on the development and commercialization of "intelligent" sensors, systems, instrumentation, and signal processing. Dr. Madni is credited with more than 150 refereed publications; 100 research reports and internal publications; 100 keynote addresses; and 68 issued or pending patents resulting in numerous "industry firsts." His 40-year career has been a remarkable combination of leadership, pioneering research contributions to the electrical engineering & sciences, and community service.

He has served as a director on seven technology company boards and on many university advisory boards. In 2011, Dr. Madni was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) for "contributions to the development and commercialization of sensors and systems for aerospace and automotive safety."

The impact of his research can be found in the commercialization of intelligent micro-sensors and systems for aerospace, military, and transportation industries, including the Extremely Slow Motion Servo Control System for Hubble Space Telescope's Star Selector System and the revolutionary Quartz MEMS GyroChip technology, which is used worldwide for electronic stability control and rollover protection in passenger vehicles.

The other area in which Dr. Madni has given his time selflessly is in assisting K-12 students earn undergraduate degrees and in support of the engineering profession. During the most recent economic downturn, he designed the Certificate Program in Sensors and Control

Technology for CSUN's College of Extended Learning, in order to retrain displaced engineers to fill positions in the industrial and commercial industries. This helped hundreds of displaced engineers in California to obtain new positions.

In his career, Dr. Madni has demonstrated an ability to bridge the gap between theory and practice with technical knowledge and an ability to lead that is unmatched.

Col. Payton graduated with a degree in astronautical engineering from the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA). He also has a master's in engineering from Purdue University and completed pilot training at Craig Air Force Base. Distinguished service is the primary characteristic of Col. Payton, specifically community service, service in management, and service to his country.

He served as Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force for Space Programs (2005-10), served 23 years in the Air Force, and is now a distinguished professor at USAFA. He was initially a pilot instructor and then a spacecraft test controller. In 1985, he flew on STS-51C *Discovery*, as a payload specialist, which was the first dedicated Space Shuttle Department of Defense mission. He has logged more than 73 hours in space and traveled more than 1.2 million miles in 48 Earth orbits.

To date, he has given presentations on STEM and space to more than 25,000 students, from K-12 through undergrads in college. He has spent two summers at Boy Scout Jamborees helping scouts obtain their space badge. Col. Payton has trained more than 40 pilots; is an associate fellow in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA); and supports private aviation through ownership and operation of his own Cirrus SR22.

Other awards and honors bestowed upon Col. Payton include: USAF Outstanding Career Service Award, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and many more. He also spent time as NASA's Deputy Associate Administrator for Space Transportation Technology where he initiated and led the Reusable Launch Vehicle technology demonstrations program.

Unselfish dedication to service sets apart Col. Payton as a leader in aviation, space travel, and STEM education. His current and past work continues to improve the potential of future aviation and space exploration.

The Association hereby recognizes Dr. Hampton, Dr. Madni, and Col. Payton as the 2014 Tau Beta Pi Distinguished Alumni.

Tau Beta Pi is the Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. It has collegiate chapters at 242 engineering colleges in the United States and active alumni chapters in 39 cities. It has initiated more than 554,000 members in its 129-year history and is the world's largest engineering society. (See www.tbp.org)