



For Immediate Release
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Tau Beta Pi Announces 2020 Outstanding Advisor Amy L. Kaleita Ph.D., P.E.

Knoxville, TN — Tau Beta Pi, The Engineering Honor Society, has named its 26th Outstanding Advisor. The award honors engineering faculty and practitioners who make important contributions to students and collegiate chapters.

Amy L. Kaleita, Ph.D., P.E., *PA Beta '97*, a professor and associate chair for teaching agricultural and bio-systems engineering at Iowa State University (ISU), is the 2020 TBP Outstanding Advisor. She will receive \$1,000 and a commemorative plaque. Another \$1,000 grant will be presented to the Iowa State University College of Engineering's discretionary fund.

Established in 1996 by the Association, the Outstanding Advisor Award recognizes *outstanding performance among chapter advisors, lauds excellence in engineering education, and in the ethical practice of engineering.*

Dr. Kaleita's biography follows:

Amy's devotion to guiding and assisting the chapter leadership as a faculty advisor has been essential to the success of the chapter.

She earned a B.S. in agricultural engineering from Penn State University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Dr. Kaleita joined ISU in 2003 as an assistant professor and became a professor of agricultural & biosystems engineering in 2018.

Upon arrival at ISU, Dr. Kaleita offered her services to the chapter and was elected in 2003 as an IA Alpha Chapter Advisor, spent nearly four years as Chief Advisor (2004-07), and has been the principal faculty advisor since 2011. Dr. Kaleita has served IAA for 16+ years and has done much to ensure the smooth operation and success of the chapter.

In addition, she is an active member of the IAA Chapter Advisory Board and the main liaison between the chapter and the college of engineering (COE) and university administration.

Dr. Kaleita serves as program leader for several of the annual outreach activities hosted by the chapter, including the Roller Coaster Competition and the Rube Goldberg Challenge, which includes several important tasks such as regulating attendance to provide supervision and oversight on behalf of the university. She is also responsible for identifying eligible students to join TBP at ISU. The IAA Chapter generally has over 100 financial transactions and spends in excess of \$24,000 each year. Dr. Kaleita reviews each transaction and approves those that are valid.



Amy L. Kaleita

Her leadership has greatly contributed to many of the chapter's achievements, including hosting the 2013 TBP Convention, receiving four Distinguished Alumni Awards, 2 McDonald Mentor Awards, 5 Laureate Awards, 2 Outstanding Advisor Awards, 11 Chapter Excellence Awards and 3 R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Honorable Mentions.

It is worth noting that she worked with TBP HQ in the early 2000s to develop *AlumNet*, which was based upon a local database she developed for Illinois Alpha Chapter alumni that included contact information, topics of interest to share with the chapter, and if they were willing to help other Tau Bates network at their company. Dr. Kaleita served as the TBP *AlumNet* coordinator from 2003-11 and received a TBP Resolution of Appreciation from the Executive Council. Professionally, Dr. Kaleita has risen quickly through the ranks at ISU and has served as the department's associate chair for teaching since 2017.

Due to her productivity she has been frequently honored, including the COE Superior Teaching Award (2010), more than 100 publications and presentations, named Fellow of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (2020), and with the Gilbreth Award from the National Academy of Engineering.

For her "invaluable leadership, service," and support of the Association and its ideals, Dr. Kaleita is the 2020 Tau Beta Pi Outstanding Advisor.

Tau Beta Pi is The Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. It has collegiate chapters in 250 engineering colleges in the United States and active alumni chapters in 46 cities. It has initiated more than 609,000 members in its 135-year history and is the world's largest engineering society.
See <https://www.tbp.org/> or contact (tbp.media@tbp.org) for more details.

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