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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Tau Beta Pi Fellowship Program Receives ASEE Award**

The Fellowship Program of Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, has won the American Society of Engineering Education's Corporate Member Council (CMC) **2009 Excellence in Engineering Education Collaboration Award**. Tau Beta Pi Vice President Solange C. Dao, P.E., accepted the award at a luncheon held on February 4 during the ASEE Conference for Industry and Education Collaboration (CEIC) in Orlando, FL.

This highest award presented by the CMC recognizes member companies and organizations that demonstrate excellence and innovation in their collaborative efforts with universities to enhance engineering education. The Fellowship Program is Tau Beta Pi's initial major project for the advancement of engineering education and the profession. Stipends of \$10,000 were given to 26 of this year's fellows, the 75<sup>th</sup> group of scholars that Tau Beta Pi has helped, to complete their graduate work. To date, thanks to outright gifts by the Association, bequests and contributions from alumni, and from matching gifts and donations from industry, a total of \$4,805,000 has made a year of graduate study possible for 894 Tau Beta Pi members since 1928.

Tau Beta Pi Fellows are free to do graduate work in any field, which will enable them to contribute to the engineering profession. This has allowed the support of a diverse range of research. The only specific duty of awardees is to write a report at the completion of the fellowship year summarizing their work.

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Recent Tau Beta Pi Fellows include:

*Nagel Fellow No. 8* – **Mansi M. Kasliwal**, who pursued her Ph.D. in astronomy to design state-of-the-art astronomical instruments across the entire range of wavelengths.

*Fife Fellow No. 91* – **Evan R. Neal**, who pursued his Ph.D. in electrical engineering after his experience with mental disorders. His interests were to find ways that electronic instruments might mediate anomalies in various human systems.

*Tau Beta Pi Fellow No. 767* – **Andrew P. Wilson**, headed to Britain's Cambridge University for his master's. His research interests included catalysis/nanotechnology and producing biofuels by using enzymes to break down the sugars in plant matter and cellulose.

ASEE's CMC chair-elect Peter Janzow, a manager of education strategy at The Mathworks, Inc., asked Tau Beta Pi to participate in the leadership symposium at this year's conference. This allowed Tau Beta Pi to present the Fellowship Program's "best practices, lessons, and award-winning overview."

The theme for the 2009 CIEC was "Engineering Magic—Partnerships for the 21st Century," and this year's corporate sponsors included Rolls-Royce, Northrop Grumman, and DuPont.

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**Tau Beta Pi, the world's largest engineering society, has initiated more than 505,000 members since it was founded in 1885. Headquartered in Knoxville, Tennessee, the Association has 234 active collegiate chapters and 18 active alumnus chapters throughout the country.**