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### **Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society Elects New Executive Councillors and Names Association President**

In October 2019, at the 114th annual Convention in Columbus, Ohio, Tau Beta Pi elected three new alumni members to the Association's Executive Council (board of directors) for a three year term effective January 1, 2020. They are, Michael L. Peterson, George Youssef, and Mennatoallah M. Youssef, Ph.D. In addition, former Vice President C. Craig Smith, P.E., became the Association's 2020 President on January 1.

Short biographies are included below:

- **C. Craig Smith, P.E.**, *TN Epsilon '80*, of Knoxville, Tennessee, was initiated into the Tennessee Epsilon Chapter at the University of Memphis in 1980 where he graduated with a B.S. in mechanical engineering. He also earned a master's in nuclear engineering from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. In 2007, he became involved in the Great Smoky Mountains Alumni Chapter of TBP, taking on several officer roles including president; and in 2017, Convention voting delegates elected Smith to serve as a TBP Executive Councillor.

After receiving his bachelor's degree, Smith worked for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in nuclear plant design and at several engineering firms in different roles after leaving TVA. In 2003, Smith joined the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS), a Department of Energy research facility at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. His role at the SNS facility is as central cooling systems team leader. SNS, currently operated by UT-Battelle, acts as a host to scientists and researchers from over 80 countries and is a key focal point for neutron scattering in the United States.

- **Michael L. Peterson**, *IA Alpha '89*, from Waterford, Michigan, was initiated into the Iowa Alpha Chapter of TBP in 1989 at Iowa State University where he received a B.S. in electrical engineering. He earned a joint master's degree in mechanical engineering and an MBA from Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Leaders of Global Operations program (MIT-LGO). Peterson was a TBP chapter president, served as a District Director for the Association, and as a TBP Engineering Futures Facilitator for 24 years. The Peterson family has a legacy with Tau Beta Pi, beginning with Peterson's father who was an alumnus of the Sigma Tau society which merged with TBP, and his two sons are members of TBP through the Michigan Gamma Chapter at the University of Michigan. Peterson is also a member of IEEE-Eta Kappa Nu, the international honor society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

Peterson is retired from General Motors where he worked in the company's business development, strategy, and quality management areas. Currently, Peterson is teaching business statistics at nearby Oakland University and is the co-owner of Challenge Island (CI) in the Oakland County, Michigan, area. CI provides enrichment programs combining STEAM (science/technology/education/arts/math) principles, 21st Century Skills (communication, collaboration, critical thinking, etc.), and cross-curricular learning into a fun program for students ages 4-14 as afterschool programs. Since 2008, Peterson has also served as the Advancement Chair for Troop 51 in the Great Lakes Field Service Council for Boy Scouts of America.

- **George Youssef**, *NJ Gamma '01*, resides in New Jersey and is a 2001 graduate of the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) where he earned a B.S. degree in electrical engineering, cum laude, and was enrolled in the NJIT's Albert Dorman Honors College. While at NJIT, he was active in Tau Beta Pi and served as a chapter president. Youssef was a District 2 Director from 2009-16 covering the six chapters in New Jersey. He is an incumbent TBP Executive Councillor having won his first seat at the 2016 Convention. This January marks the start of his second three-year term.

Youssef joined the General Electric company field engineer program in 2002 working on gas turbines around the globe and has served in a number of positions including field engineer, resource engineer, training manager, and senior customer service leader in locales ranging from New Jersey and Georgia, to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. In a recent position, he was responsible for outage planning and execution, upgrades, and parts and repairs for ten nuclear power plants in PA, NJ, and CT.

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- **Mennatoallah M. Youssef, Ph.D., VA Gamma '04**, resides in Virginia Beach, and is a 2004 graduate of Old Dominion University where she earned a bachelor of science magna cum laude and an M.S., both in electrical engineering. She was initiated into the Virginia Gamma Chapter of TBP and was a chapter president. Dr. Youssef has served as a volunteer for 14 years with TBP, first as an advisor for the VA Gamma Chapter and including her first three-year term as a Councillor which began in 2016.

Dr. Youssef completed her Ph.D. in 2011 at the University of Dayton, focusing her research on pattern recognition and computer vision applications for human activity recognition. She was a Graduate Student Research Program fellow and Virginia Space Grant Consortium fellow at NASA Langley researching electromagnetic propagation in aircraft fuselages. She interned for NATO working on passive radar scenario testing. As an instructor at Old Dominion, she developed a strong interest in STEM and education reform that led her to work on developing initiatives in rural communities in the Middle East and North Africa region. In 2014, Dr. Youssef joined the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Patent Examiner in the Image Analysis workgroup.

#### **About Tau Beta Pi:**

Tau Beta Pi is the Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. As the world's largest engineering society, TBP has collegiate chapters at 248 engineering colleges in the United States, active alumni chapters in 45 cities, and has initiated more than 604,000. (See [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org))

#### **About the Executive Council:**

The TBP Executive Council is comprised of nine members with each member serving a three-year term. The Council names its own officers, including President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, while the remaining five serve as Councillors. The Executive Council guides the programs of Tau Beta Pi through a full-time Executive Director, Curt Gomulinski, *MI Epsilon '04*, whose offices at the University of Tennessee are the Headquarters of the Association. For more information about the Executive Council and a list of members who have served by their term of office, visit [www.tbp.org/about/EC.cfm](http://www.tbp.org/about/EC.cfm)

#### **Common Engineering Suffixes:**

Tau Beta Pi Chapter Affiliation: This is usually set off by commas after a person's name with state, Greek letter, and year of graduation.

Professional licensures and certifications: When "P.E." is placed after a name, it indicates that the person is a "Professional Engineer." "P.E." is given to engineers who have earned a four-year engineering degree from an accredited engineering program, gone through a four-year apprenticeship under a Professional Engineer, passed two competency exams, and earned a license from their state's licensure board.

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