



FOR RELEASE
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Tau Beta Pi Announces LeVern Faidley, Ph.D., as 2017 Outstanding Advisor

Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, has named its 24th Outstanding Advisor in its program to honor engineering faculty and practitioners who make important contributions to students and collegiate chapters. While the primary goal of Tau Beta Pi is to recognize students of superior scholarship and exemplary character and to honor eminent practicing engineers, the Association also lauds excellence in engineering education and in the ethical practice of engineering.

LeVern W. Faidley, Ph.D., *Iowa Alpha '67*, Chief Advisor to the Iowa Alpha Chapter and retired program planning and resource management consultant, is the *2017 Tau Beta Pi Outstanding Advisor*. He will be honored on October 13, 2017, at the 112th annual Convention in Michigan. Tau Beta Pi President Norman Pih will present \$1,000 and a commemorative plaque to Dr. Faidley. Another \$1,000 grant will be presented to the Iowa State University College of Engineering's discretionary fund.

Dr. Faidley exemplifies going above the call of duty and is always an enthusiastic supporter of students and TBP alumni. His nomination summary and references concur that the submitted documents could not do justice to the extensive involvement and continued roles he undertakes as chief advisor to the collegiate chapter. The energy and interest he brings to this position are integral to the vitality and continued success of the Association.

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Dr. Faidley received his bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering from Iowa State University (ISU). His master's and Ph.D. degrees are both in agricultural engineering from Michigan State University. He spent much of his career working for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, Italy, before retiring in 2004. He returned to Ames, IA, and became a non-faculty advisor to Iowa Alpha in 2005. He began serving as chief advisor to the chapter in 2011 and also serves as a member of the TBP Advisor Recruitment and Development Committee.

Both of LeVern's children are Tau Beta Pi members and were active ISU undergraduates. LeAnn graduated ISU with degrees in engineering science and physics. She earned her Ph.D. in mechanical engineering and is now an associate professor of engineering science at Wartburg College in Iowa. Galen earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in computer engineering from ISU and is a senior engineering project team lead at Caterpillar Inc.

Dr. Faidley's success as an advisor begins with his commitment to "being there." He participates in all chapter activities, attends all meetings, guides chapter leaders, and works tirelessly behind the scenes to make the chapter more effective. Other traits that make him an outstanding advisor include: improving the chapter's algorithm for identifying eligible candidates, ensuring that all ISU engineering department chairs are TBP members or become members, and leading the effort to nominate candidates for TBP awards such as the Laureate and Distinguished Alumnus.

According to his nomination packet, every semester since Dr. Faidley became an advisor the IA Alpha Chapter has initiated at least one eminent engineer and ISU alumni. The chapter also has the Alpha Scholars Program for first year engineering students. He initiated and helps support the program that now awards 24 scholarships each year. Often times, these scholars become IA Alpha Chapter leaders upon joining.

In 2013, the TBP annual Convention took place in Ames and Dr. Faidley was instrumental in the successful planning and implementation. This contributed to the exceptional reputation the chapter maintains on campus among students and faculty.

He was also cited for his vital contributions towards chapter outreach events including "Building the Future" and the "Roller Coaster Competition." These two K-12 events are focused on exposing and piquing interest in STEM disciplines. Dr. Faidley has supported the rapid growth of these events in whatever means necessary.

Dr. Faidley is involved in an initiative to assist historically black colleges and universities in installing collegiate chapters of Tau Beta Pi. He has personally contributed to help fund faculty from these schools to attend TBP Conventions.

Dr. Faidley is a proud ISU alumnus and is invested in the sustained success of the IA Alpha Chapter. He serves as a great example for other local alumni that are not employed as university faculty that might have interest in volunteering as advisors.

In recognition of his contributions as a leader and role model, for his commitment to improving the Association and strengthening its membership, and his limitless dedication to his alma mater and ISU collegiate chapter, Tau Beta Pi hereby recognizes LeVern W. Faidley, Ph.D., as the 2017 Tau Beta Pi Outstanding Advisor.

Tau Beta Pi is the Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. It has collegiate chapters at 246 engineering colleges in the United States and active alumni chapters in 40 cities. It has initiated more than 582,000 members in its 132-year history and is the world's largest engineering society. (See <https://www.tbp.org/>)