



THE Bulletin

of Tau Beta Pi

September 2001

A Publication
for the Collegiate
Chapters

Convention in Columbus

THE MEMBERS OF OHIO GAMMA invite all Tau Bates to experience all of the splendor and beauty of fall in central Ohio. Located along the Scioto River, Columbus is a bright and wonderful city to visit.

The host chapter boasts many fine and talented members and distinguished alumni. The chapter is honored to host its fourth Convention and help lead the Association into the 21st Century at the first Tau Beta Pi National Convention of this new millennium. Many members have worked hard to prepare a successful and memorable conclave. Previous Conventions in Columbus were held in 1927, 1946, and most recently in 1970.

Arrangements Chair **Adina D. Rollins**, *Ohio Gamma '01*, and her outstanding crew have booked sleeping rooms at the Radisson and the Marriott Courtyard hotels, a short van ride from the airport. All meetings and most meals will be held in the Radisson. On Saturday, attendees will enjoy lunch, witness the model initiation, and tour the Ohio State campus prior to the final banquet.

Most delegates, national officers, and other attendees will fly into the Port Columbus International Airport for these October 18-20 meetings, Engineering Futures sessions, ICE discussions, chapter and individual awards, and other activities.

A new Executive Council to

serve the Society during 2002-06 will be elected; one slate is running—from the four corners of the U.S. Expenses of one student delegate per chapter and the on-site expenses of chapter advisors will be paid by the Association. Non-voting delegates and alumni are welcome and invited to attend at their own expense, except that partial travel costs of students can be reimbursed.

Duke Energy has stepped forward with the lead contribution to the Tau Beta Pi Convention and will host the major awards banquet on Saturday. Other companies—including Procter & Gamble, Fluor, United Technologies, and Teradyne—are partnering with Tau Beta Pi as major sponsors and will set up recruiting booths from Wednesday evening through Thursday afternoon. Be sure to bring your résumé!

The purpose of the annual Convention, which officially begins Thursday afternoon, is to conduct the business of Tau Beta Pi. Delegates, who are usually presidents or chapter officers, convene to oversee the Society's



Craig Homan, The Columbus Dispatch.

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Issue available at www.tbp.org

fiscal and governmental policies, choose the major chapter award winners, prepare for District conferences, learn more about the Tau Beta Pi election and initiation process, receive leadership training, and plan future Conventions. They are assisted in monitoring the Society's activities by the Executive Council, national officers, and chapter advisors.

The delegates themselves are the legislative, executive, and judicial body of this primarily student-run organization. Each delegate arrives ready to participate directly in the Association's business and has already been assigned to one of the 10 Convention committees. National officers serve as committee advisors.

Each committee elects a student chair to conduct its internal affairs and represent the committee on the Convention floor. Any Constitution or Bylaw changes brought forth from the committees are voted on by the Convention during the major business meetings.

This year seven standing committees will survey the Association. Three *ad hoc* committees have been organized: one on image review, another on possible issues relating to establishing an international chapter, and the third on membership eligibility of computer-science majors. The committee advisors and major responsibilities of committee members are briefly outlined.

Committees:

Petitions. C.W. Caldwell, advisor. This group will consider and recommend action on petitions from the local engineering societies at: Dartmouth, Univ. of Missouri-KC, Univ. of Portland, and Univ. of Texas at San Antonio.

Constitution and Bylaws. L.A. Simonson, advisor. Three subjects have been assigned for direct consideration—proposals to: amend Bylaw X to allow the Association to award partial



Illinois Alpha rakes in new members.

Fellowship stipends of \$2,000; make English the official business language (Const. I, Sec. 10); and place chapters that fail to hold initiations on probation.

Chapter and National Financial Affairs. M.J. Cunningham, advisor. Committee members are charged to: determine allowable delegates' expenses for the 2002 Convention; review the chapter accounts receivable to the national Headquarters; and review the annual reports of the Association's auditor and Treasurer.

Rituals. A.R. Hirsch, Director of Rituals and committee advisor.



Alan R. Hirsch
Director of Rituals

Members of this group will consider a proposal regarding motto secrecy/ ceremony and will prepare the Model

Initiation at the Convention. Members will ensure that the ritual shall be conducted with "due formality and elegance."

Convention Site. J.G. Macro, advisor. Delegates from this committee will recommend acting

on invitations from UT A/B/T and FL A/Δ to host the 2004 Convention. In accord with the Constitution, the Convention site may not be selected more than three years in advance.

The committee will also consider a proposal that the criteria for site selection be explained in writing to the delegates before the Convention makes a decision.

The Executive Council approved the selection of Texas Beta at Texas Tech University to host the 2003 Convention in Lubbock. Michigan Epsilon at Wayne State University in Detroit will be host to the 2002 Convention.

Resolutions. J.S. Bibb III, advisor. Team members will present resolutions to the Convention at the Saturday morning business meeting and the Saturday afternoon Initiation and Awards Banquet. The committee will also review the duties of electees.

Awards. D.A. Kamat, advisor. The principal assignment of this committee is to select the recipients of the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award and the R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award for 2000-2001. The team will select a single winner in each category and as many honorable mentions as are deserved. Winners will be announced at the awards banquet on Saturday.

Image Review (*ad hoc*). B.L. Frost, advisor. Members of this group will determine the effectiveness of the new membership materials in use on the campuses and will review proposals for changes to three Executive Council policies.

International Chapters (*ad hoc*). E.D. Styles, DD6, advisor. Members will review the recommendations from the 2000 Convention and provide direction and recommendations to the International Activities Task Group.

Computer-Science Eligibility (*ad hoc*). R.L. Werneth, advisor. Committee members will consider issues concerning the possible eligibility of computer-science majors.

Engineering Futures — Active Leadership Training! R.W. Pierce and Facilitators. Delegates will have the opportunity to explore ways to develop their



Russell W. Pierce
Director, Engineering Futures

own leadership skills, to improve their local chapters, and to strengthen District ties while the voting

delegates conduct Convention business.

The Convention itself is organized to assist the delegates in their roles as chapter leaders. The opening orientation is a lesson in parliamentary procedure. Parliamentarian James W. Johnson Jr. will act as a role model for delegates as they observe *Robert's Rules of Order* in action. Convention Chair Ronald M. Hickling will cordially lead the major meetings throughout the three days of scheduled events.

On Thursday and Friday, non-voting delegates will be involved in Engineering Futures training sessions, designed to teach them practical solution-

oriented leadership techniques such as motivation, planning, delegation, and team building. Voting delegates who complete their committee assignments should join the sessions in progress.

District Directors will be meeting with chapter delegates daily to assist them with organizing their local chapter activities and with planning District conferences and other annual events. Chapter advisors have separate daily meetings.

Officers can familiarize themselves with chapter supplies and the newest insignia items (tie, T-shirts, and coffee mug) available from the national Headquarters by visiting the Tau Beta Pi display in the hotel lobby.

Saturday evening is the highlight of the Convention when the annual Association awards will be presented. In addition to recognizing the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter and the R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter, the 2001 Laureates, National Outstanding Advisor, and Distinguished Alumnus will be introduced.

Tau Beta Pi's 96th National Convention promises to be your convention opportunity of a lifetime. Join us!

2002 Fellowships

Tau Beta Pi's 69th annual program of graduate fellowships for study in the 2002-03 academic year will close January 15, 2002, when applications must



D. Stephen Pierre Jr.

be in the hands of Director of Fellowships D. Stephen Pierre Jr., P.E., Alabama Power Com-

pany, P.O. Box 2247, Mobile, AL 36652-2247.

Winners in the program will be selected by the Fellowship Board and notified by April 1.

Up to 20 cash awards will be given, each worth \$10,000. They will be made on the promise of future development in engineering or related fields and financial need.

All members of Tau Beta Pi are eligible to apply. Students should obtain applications from their local chapter presidents and alumni from pdf files at www.tbp.org.

Constitutional Amendments Ratified

The 2000 Convention approved three amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of Tau Beta Pi and sent them to the chapters for ratification. In accord with the Association's amending procedure, with 221 chapters eligible to vote, 166 or more affirmative chapter votes are required to ratify an amendment, and 56 or more negative votes would defeat the amendment.

The original voting deadline was April 1, but the polls were kept open. As of May 25, 2001, Headquarters received 118 valid ballots (7 invalid for lack of a chapter quorum). The Council acted on the proposed amendment on June 8 and voted on behalf of those chapters submitting an invalid or no ballot.

Amendment	Outcome
1. Include equivalent insurance in requirement for bonding. (Const. Art. IV, Sec. 5)	1. Unresolved by chapter vote; 115 affirmative, 3 negative. Ratified by Council vote for invalid and missing chapters.
2. Replace "Officers of the Association" with "These Directors." (Const. Art. IV, Sec. 2(f))	2. Unresolved by chapter vote; 112 affirmative, 6 negative. Ratified by Council vote for invalid and missing chapters.
3. Define requirements for international chapters. (Const. Art. I, Sec. 3, 10, & 11, Art. II, Sec. 1, ++)	3. Unresolved by chapter vote; 115 affirmative, 3 negative. Ratified by Council vote for invalid and missing chapters.

James E. Drewry Named 2001 Distinguished Alumnus

Dr. James E. Drewry, *Virginia Alpha '60*, retired executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Oak Ridge Associated Universities, is the *2001 Tau Beta Pi Distinguished Alumnus*. He will be honored at the 96th annual



October Convention in Columbus, OH. Tau Beta Pi President Douglas M. Green, P.E., will present a commemorative plaque and a \$500 scholarship to be given in Dr. Drewry's name to the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Virginia. Dr. Drewry earned two degrees there

in aeronautical engineering. He holds a doctorate in aerospace sciences from the University of Toronto. His work as a civilian scientist at Wright-Patterson AFB involved leading-edge research in the development of supersonic combustion ramjets and high-energy gas laser systems — work that was published extensively in the 1960-80s.

He worked in the natural gas industry throughout the 1980s, first with the Gas Research Institute and then as vice president of R&D for the Toledo division of Teleyne CAE, a manufacturer of small gas turbines. He led the company in productivity improvement, implementing a master production plan involving a manufacturing-cell concept.

For 11 years, Dr. Drewry served as the executive vice president of ORAU, a not-for-profit corporation and a consortium of 85 universities and colleges. Under his leadership, the annual operating revenues for ORAU grew from \$46 million to more than \$95 million—all while leading the organization through major cultural changes in business management and continuous improvement, resulting in numerous business quality awards for the organization.

Because of his achievements in engineering, his commitment to education, and his visionary leadership in management, Tau Beta Pi proudly recognizes Dr. James E. Drewry.

AlumNet Makes a Difference

Last fall, Tau Beta Pi began the AlumNet Program as a three-year trial, creating a way for alumni to share valuable experience with interested student members. The program pairs students with alumni who are in various settings, such as graduate programs, academe, industry, etc., to allow sharing of information and to facilitate the establishment of networks that are so critical for career development.

Students have been asking for this service, and thanks to the hard work of members of the Central Illinois Alumnus Chapter and the Illinois Alpha Chapter, AlumNet was born.

Nearly 215 alumni from various disciplines have already registered in the database, but only slightly more than 30 students have registered.

Student reaction has been positive. Some of the comments offered include:

- "He gave me great information."
- "I did contact the person, and he was very enthusiastic about helping. The service was definitely useful."
- "Mike Cunningham was extremely helpful.

He sent a detailed response that answered many of my questions. **His advice is invaluable to me at this stage in my career development.**"

To get in touch with an alumnus, register online with AlumNet by going to the TBP website at www.tbp.org and clicking on the AlumNet link on the "For Members" page. Complete the three-to four-line contact request fields, and alumnus contact information will be emailed to you by the program coordinator. It is the student's responsibility to follow-up and to make contact with the alumnus.

Alumni can register on-line in the same way. Encourage your peers to use this service. AlumNet is one more example of the unique value of membership in Tau Beta Pi and another opportunity to gain life-long benefits from the Association.

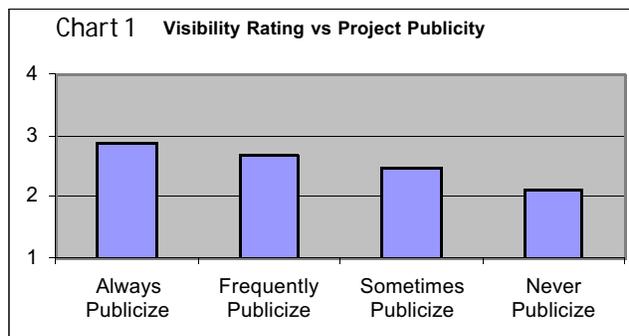
\$\$\$ 2001 GIG Grants \$\$\$

Your chapter may receive up to \$750 to conduct a project involving civic affairs and public policy issues. The cash is available and waiting under Tau Beta Pi's Greater Interest in Government Program to involve students in their communities and the political process.

Send your chapter's 2001-02 proposal to the national Headquarters. Application guidelines are in Section C-IV of the President's Book on the website. There is no deadline, and joint chapter projects are now encouraged.

Are You Visible?: 2001 Chapter Survey

TO MARK IN A FITTING MANNER those who have bestowed honor upon their alma mater—this is the reason Tau Beta Pi exists. It is not enough to want to recognize the best students in the engineering colleges; the students must allow themselves to be recognized. Election to membership is only part of the process. If students fail to see membership in Tau Beta Pi as meaningful, they will not choose to join. In today's highly competitive world, the simple act of marking in a fitting manner is not enough. Chapters need to let their light shine. How a chapter is perceived in the engineering college goes a long way toward success.



The Annual Chapter Survey asks several questions which pertain to a chapter's image. Officers are asked to rate their chapter's visibility as excellent, good, fair, or poor. The charts show the impact of several factors on chapter visibility and the impact of visibility of a chapter's most important function—membership.

Charts 1 and 2 clearly show the relationship between how often chapter projects receive publicity and a chapter's visibility. Visibility rankings run from Excellent (4) to Poor (1). As would be expected, the more a chapter publicizes its project activity or its members, the better its visibility on campus.

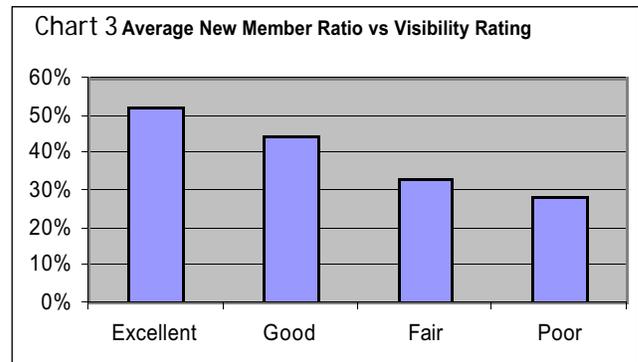
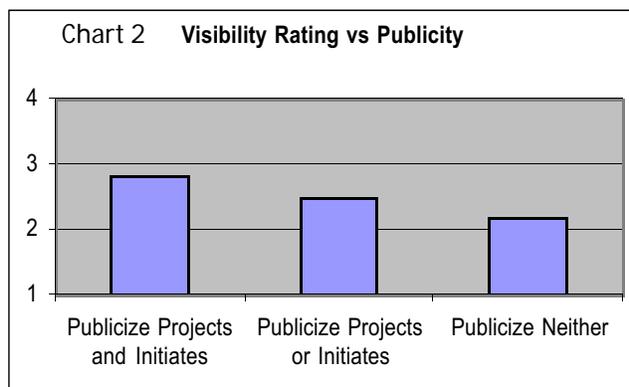
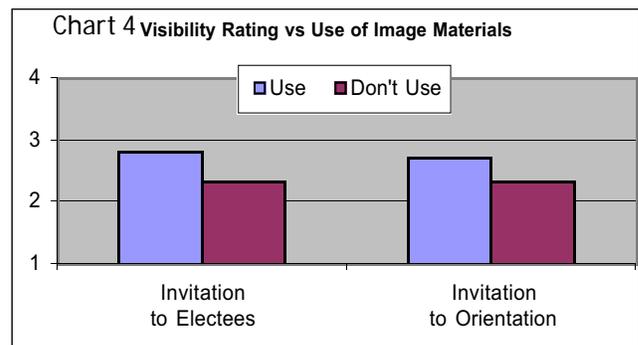


Chart 3 shows how this translates into more members (chapters that rate their visibility as excellent have higher New Member ratios). The New Member ratio is a measure of the percentage of eligible candidates who become initiated members. Clearly, better visibility results in more students being "marked in a fitting manner."



Headquarters provides materials to assist chapters in becoming more visible on campus. These include two invitations that can be used to inform candidates of their eligibility and electees of their election. Also available is a sample letter which your dean can send to candidates informing them of their eligibility and explaining the benefits of membership. These and other materials may be ordered from the website at www.tbp.org/chapters. Chart 4 shows the impact of these materials on chapter visibility.

Reach out to those students who are eligible but not yet members. Personally invite them to attend your chapter's orientation meeting. Ask your dean to send a letter to the candidates. Find ways to let the top freshmen and sophomores know about Tau Beta Pi and the benefits of membership, and encourage them to maintain their grades so they will be eligible when the time comes. Make *your* chapter visible!

R.E.H

The Newest Tau Beta Pi—Ware

Show off Tau Beta Pi's new look, which inspired the designs of two of our latest insignia items—T-shirts and black mug.

A.



Our newest item! This classic necktie is 95 mm wide and made from 100% silk. One style only — navy and burgundy with gold pinstripes and Bent. Priced at \$35, which includes shipping.

B.



Not just another coffee mug! You will love the extra-large handle on this tall, curved-lipped ceramic mug with a strikingly beautiful four-color design on front and back. Front side as shown, back design is the same as on black shirt pictured below. Holds 12 oz. Available in black only. Priced at \$10 plus \$3 shipping.

C.



"Integrity and Excellence in Engineering," plus a colorful, contemporary display of the traditional Bent. Tau Beta Pi is printed in white on the left sleeve. Black only—no design on back. This high-quality T-shirt is made of 100% pre-shrunk cotton and is available in sizes M, L, XL, (\$16) and XXL(\$18). Prices include shipping.

D.



This Hanes Beefy-T®, 100% pre-shrunk cotton T-shirt displays our new blue logo on both front and back. Available in white only; sizes M, L, XL, and XXL (\$13). Prices include shipping.

To order:

Quantity	Item	Size	Unit Price	Total
_____	A. Tie	N/A	\$35	_____
_____	B. Mug	N/A	\$10+\$3	_____
_____	C. Black Shirt		\$16/\$18	_____
_____	D. White Shirt		\$13	_____

Mail order and check to:

Tau Beta Pi
P.O. Box 2697
Knoxville, TN 37901-2697

Total Enclosed: _____

Ship to: Name _____

Address _____

Member's Name _____

TBP Chapter & Class _____

Credit-card orders may be placed through PayPal on www.tbp.org.

100 TBPI Scholarships!

The Tau Beta Pi Association Scholarship Program for senior-year study during the 2002-03 academic year will close March 1, 2002, when applications must be in the hands of Director of Fellowships D. Stephen Pierre Jr., P.E., Alabama Power Company, P.O. Box 2247, Mobile, AL 36652-2247.

A record total of 100 cash awards, each worth \$2,000, will be given in our fantastic, expanding program. They will be made on the basis of high scholarship, strong recommendations, extracurricular activities, and financial need. Winners will be selected and notified before April 1. Junior members of Tau Beta Pi are eligible to apply. Applications are available from chapter presidents and from www.tbp.org.

Educational Loan Fund

Since 1935, Tau Beta Pi has assisted student members with their financial needs while in school or with payment of their initiation fee through our Student Loan Fund. We are pleased to offer this service for student members in amounts up to \$2,500 per member.

Repayment is required after three years, and a simple interest rate of 6% is charged from the day the loan is received.

Interested students can obtain promissory notes and loan applications from their chapter presidents or directly from Secretary-Treasurer Jim Froula at the national Headquarters in Knoxville, TN.

Student Assistance Fund

The Tau Beta Pi Student Assistance Fund was endowed in 1992 through the interest and generosity of C.C. Young, *Illinois Alpha '24*. Its purpose is to make funds available to student members of his and other chapters who would otherwise be without sufficient financial resources to remain in college. Repayment is not required, no interest is charged, and grantees are requested to help others in need should they become financially secure.

Interested students should write directly to Secretary-Treasurer Jim Froula at the national Headquarters in Knoxville, TN.

advI.C.E.

This is the third in a series of columns presenting issues typically explored through the Interactive Chapter Exchange. The ICE program centers around an important seminar presented at the national Convention in which delegates exchange ideas and successful solutions to situations that challenge most chapters.

The topics of the “advI.C.E.” columns are generated by ICE seminar discussions. Suggestions for solutions are taken from actual chapter experiences and shared here.

Our busy ICE committee members have spent a portion of their summer meetings preparing to assist in a new project: the evaluation of the initiation process of the chapters at 36 of the larger schools. In light of this, we are devoting this column to a summary of an interesting survey conducted by PA B (Penn State) on the topic of declining membership, entitled “Initiation Revitalization Recommendation Report for 2001-02.” The chapter officers were distressed by the 15-year trend in declining number of initiates, so they began a long-term project to address this problem. Since the national trend of membership is declining, and since most large schools are experiencing low candidate/initiate rates (below 20%), we feel that PA B’s information is particularly valuable.

The first step in analyzing the problem was to send an email survey during the fall 2000 semester to approximately 600 candidates who chose not to join. Of the 237 students who responded, many of the students simply did not feel that they had the time to devote to TBP, but the majority knew little or nothing about the Society. The main categories of reasons for not joining were:

- lack of time (courseload, other organizations, social priorities)
- lack of information (benefits, general TBP knowledge, eligibility and initiation requirements, activities)
- objection to membership fee
- no interest in honor societies
- lack of follow-up to “non-response.”

Here are some of the actual responses to the question “What could have been done that would have made you more likely to join Tau Beta Pi?”

MonsterTrak —It Worked for Me!

From a recent email to Headquarters

*“Hello, I am Rita Newton Lazio,
University of Central Florida*

(Florida Delta '99) and I thank you for your help in starting my career with the use of JobTrak (now MonsterTrak). I will begin work on July 30, 2001, as a civilian engineer with the Department of the Air Force in Warner Robins, GA. I believe being a member of Tau Beta Pi helped to increase my signing bonus and starting salary. I am very excited and happy for this career start and also to be a member of Tau Beta Pi.”



MonsterTrak (formerly JobTrak), one of the largest on-line, nationwide, college job-listing and résumé

services, maintains a special job-listing site for members of Tau Beta Pi. More than 500,000 employers list their position openings with MonsterTrak, advertising for both entry-level and experienced full-time jobs, as well as internships. To use this service, email Headquarters at tbp@tbp.org to request the password, using *monstertrak* in the

subject. Then visit the site at monstertrak.com and begin your search. Since last year, more than 700 members have requested the password. Many, like Rita, have launched their careers through this service. We’d like to hear from you!

“I would be interested in the group, but I don’t feel like I have the time . . . right now.”

“I don’t know what they do and what the major activities are. I was worried that it was a ‘name only’ organization. I don’t understand what the benefits are to joining.”

“A clearer explanation of benefits received for joining TBP as opposed to [another society].”

“Fewer induction requirements.”

“I have the feeling that most honor societies have little impact in the community and [on] members, and that the only gain is putting them in my résumé.”

“I would have joined if there weren’t a membership fee. I don’t believe in joining these honor societies which you have to pay to belong.”

“I was actually planning on joining, but . . . I set the announcement aside and lost track of it.”

Chapter members have determined that they probably cannot address the problem of lack of time, but they can overcome the poor public image of the chapter. Their long-term solutions include creating a permanent initiation revitalization committee to ensure implementation of the plans. The group will continue to survey regularly those who decline membership, and to increase public relations efforts which will: make TBP’s name more recognizable, uphold its reputation as a worthy organization, and provide knowledge of the benefits of membership. Immediate plans for projects to meet these goals are: **Recognition awards to the general engineering population, public postings of names of initiates, and sponsorship of university-wide events that have a high profile and are fun.**

The entire survey can be found on the website under Chapter Resources. We thank Pennsylvania Beta and Chief Advisor Lou Geschwindner (see page 8) for this project and hope for positive results!

P.B.M.



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Important Deadlines

- GIG Project Proposal (any time)
- January 15
Fellowship Application
 - March 1
Scholarship Application
 - March 15
Laureate Nomination
Distinguished Alumnus Nomination
 - March 21
Outstanding Advisor Nomination
 - June 1
Convention Bid for 2005

**Louis Geschwindner Jr. is
2001 National Outstanding Advisor**

A man with a high-profile personality, **Dr. Louis F. Geschwindner**, *New York Gamma '67*, P.E., is known on the Pennsylvania State University campus as the man with the handlebar moustache and the flashy ties. His ties are always held in place by the Tau Beta Pi key. Should anyone chance to call attention to his tie, he shares his enthusiasm about his Tau Beta Pi Bent tie tack, telling stories about Conventions he has attended around the country and sharing his enthusiasm for the more than a century-old organization. Members of the Pennsylvania Beta Chapter nominated him as the 2001 Outstanding Advisor and proudly acknowledge his 22 years of enthusiasm and dedication to the engineering students on campus.

Known for his open-door office policy, Dr. Geschwindner and his active participation in the ongoing needs of their chapter are appreciated by the officers. He greets prospective candidates and inspires chapter leaders. As a liaison between the students and administrators, he was instrumental in procuring a chapter email address, a computer, and an office in the suite for engineering organizations.

A distinguished scholar, Dr. Geschwindner is a leading consultant in the field of architectural engineering, particularly on load and resistance factors in the design of struc-



tures. He travels extensively, teaching and lecturing, and has authored a textbook, design manuals, and numerous published papers. He has a hectic schedule, but he finds the time to offer his services to students whenever and wherever needed. As the interim assistant dean for student services, he is in the dean's office in the mornings and teaches two classes each afternoon. In addition to serving as the Chief Advisor to Pennsylvania Beta, he advises students in the architectural engineering honor society, and he is a role model for all Tau Bates.