

Iowa Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi

2017-18 Newsletter

<https://iowaalpha.tbp.org>

Chapter Receives National Recognition

At the 2017 Tau Beta Pi National Convention held in Dearborn and Ann Arbor, Michigan, Iowa Alpha was the recipient of a Chapter Excellence Award, a Chapter Project Award, and a Chapter Performance Scholarship. In addition, for the first time since 2003-04, the chapter received honorable mention as runner-up for the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award.



Other award recipients at the Convention were:

- Mr. Charles Sukup, IA-A '76, President of Sukup Manufacturing, who was recognized as a Distinguished Alumni for his philanthropic contributions at local and international levels and his commitment to creating a better world through designing and producing products that increase the world's food supply.



and

- Dr. LeVern Faidley, IA-A '67, recipient of the 2017 Outstanding Advisor Award. He has served as an advisor to Iowa Alpha since 2005 and as Chief Advisor since 2013. He was recognized for his contributions as a leader and role model, his commitment to improving the Association and strengthening its membership, and his dedication to his alma mater and the ISU collegiate chapter.



The chapter continued their long-standing K-12 Outreach events. The Roller Coaster Competition drew 22 roller coasters from 2 high schools and 3 middle schools. Over 100 students participated in the competition with trophies being awarded to the winning teams.

The Building the Future event brought 36 middle school students from 3 Iowa schools to campus to experience hands-on engineering. The event is based around the scenario of a tornado hitting a small Iowa town and what engineers can do to help. This year for the first time, the event included visiting the ISU Tornado Simulator to observe the effect of a tornado.



An area of emphasis for the Iowa Alpha this year was working with other student groups and honor societies. Joint activities included the Pi Mile Run with Engineer's Week, Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) Kickoff Picnic and Resource Fair, Engineering Student Council Club Fest, WiSE Taking the Road Less Traveled, and the ISU Flying Cyclones Fly-in.

2018 National Awards:

2018 Tau Beta Pi Laureate



Amy Kurr, IA-A'18
cited for her achievements in athletics

2018 Distinguished Alumni



Gary D. Hoover, IA A '61
Retired Vice President, Tenaska. Inc.



Dr. James E. Halligan, IA A '62
Retired Oklahoma State Senator & Past President, Oklahoma State University

2018 McDonald Mentor



Dr. James C. Hill, CA G '67
IA-A Advisor & District 11 Director



Iowa Alpha becomes eighth chapter to exceed 8,000 members

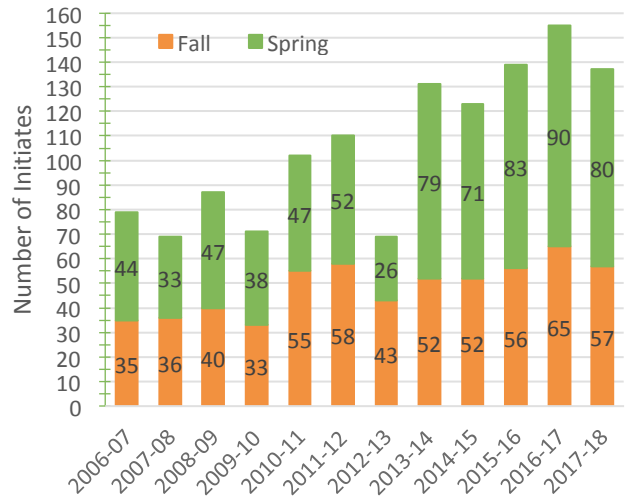
Membership in Iowa Alpha grew by 137 members in 2017-18 including 125 undergraduates, 8 graduate students and 4 Eminent Engineers. With the addition of these new members, the total Iowa Alpha membership reached 8,001.

In the 2017 Fall semester Iowa Alpha initiated 57 new members: 49 undergraduates, 4 graduate students and two Eminent Engineers. Mr. Tomas Gonzalez-Torres, Senior Lecturer, Aerospace Engineering and former NASA Flight Director at the Johnson Space Center was the Keynote speaker for the Tau Beta Pi Banquet.

Spring 2018 saw the initiation of 80 new members including: 76 undergraduates, two graduate students and two Eminent Engineers. Dr. Wendell Sander and his son Brian were the Keynote speakers for the Tau Beta Pi Banquet. Wendell was the 16th employee at Apple Inc. and both were long time Apple employees as well as founders of their own companies.

The Tau Beta Pi – Iowa Alpha Scholars program, now in its tenth year, continued to be an important source of new members. Over 70 percent of the first year engineering students (3 from each of the 8 departments) selected to participate in the Scholar’s Program each year have qualified for membership as juniors or seniors and 96 scholars (60 percent) have become members. As a result of success of the program the Chapter is currently undertaken a fund raising effort in cooperation with the Iowa State University Foundation to raise \$300,000 to endow the program. Thus far, generous donations and pledges from Iowa Alpha alumni have raised \$110,000 towards this goal.

Iowa-Alpha Initiation Classes



Iowa Alpha 2017-18 Eminent Engineers



Mr. Tomas Gonzalez-Torres, Senior Lecturer, Aerospace Engineering



Dr. Ashfaq A. Khokhar, Professor and Chair, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering



Dr. Wendell Sander, Retired, Distinguished Engineer, Scientist and Technologist, Apple Inc.



Mr. Brian Sander, Semi Retired, Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder, Pearl Automation Inc.

Further information about Iowa Alpha is available at: <https://iowaalpha.tbp.org/>

For those wishing to support the work of the Chapter, donations can be made to the ISU Foundation for either the Tau Beta Pi Endowment or the Tau Beta Pi Endowed Scholars Program at: <http://www.foundation.isstate.edu/TBP/>