General Engineering Alumni Meet the Challenge!

by Renée Mullen

The response to the anonymous $100,000 challenge matching gift from a fellow General Engineering alumnus has been tremendous. As you may recall from the last newsletter, the goals for this challenge were to increase the total number of GE alumni who support the department and to encourage current supporters to increase their support. To date, alumni contributions for the past fiscal year (July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000) have exceeded those for the preceding fiscal year (July 1, 1998 through June, 1999) by a ratio of nearly 3:1, increasing from $77,609 to $230,883. The number of GE alumni who have contributed to various departmental funds has roughly doubled in comparison with last year, increasing from 87 to 172 individuals. And the number of first-time contributors has increased from 11 for the same time period one year ago to 70. Thanks so much to everyone who has responded and helped us to meet this goal! The funds are being put to good use in the form of scholarships and fellowships for students, as well as for faculty and facilities support.

### Final Status of the $100,000 Matching Challenge Gift

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<td>% of GE alumni donating</td>
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From Harry Cook

Alumni! Alumni! Alumni!

How important are you to the students and faculty of the General Engineering Department? Let me count the ways:

- The idea for the college’s Technology Entrepreneur Center came from a GE alumnus, Marvin Smollar ’68, during his Engineer in Residence visit during the spring semester 1999. The startup of this very exciting new program is described starting on page 1.
- The Engineer in Residence program was the brainchild of another alumnus, Tom Prickett. Prickett was the inaugural Engineer in Residence. A total of nine alumni have served as Engineers in Residence, several of them each semester. This program has been very successful in having the students and faculty to learn firsthand about the excitement and wide variety of opportunities in the workplace for our graduates.
- Bill Chittenden and Lou Friedrich, two GE alumni, are members of Dean Schowalter’s Board of Visitors. This eminent body meets every fall. Their role is to advise the dean on matters of strategic importance to the college. At the 1999 meeting, Dean Schowalter asked me to review the mission and scope of the General Engineering Department with the board and Raymond Price to review his concept for the Technology Entrepreneur Center with them. Price and I received excellent, supportive feedback from the board regarding the direction of the department and the scope of the center.
- Over one-half of our current 342 capstone design course projects have GE alumni as lead sponsors within their companies. Let me remind you that our senior design teams have won 92 Lincoln Arc Welding Awards since 1968, 48 in the last six years alone. Many of you were on an award-winning team!
- During the past year, alumni have endowed three scholarships for deserving GE undergraduates, bringing the total number of scholarships endowed by alumni to nine.
- A total of 172 alumni have invested in this department during this 1999-2000 academic year. Their names are listed in this newsletter to recognize them. Another GE alumnus is matching these gifts up to $100,000.

I could keep counting the many ways in which you help us, but I believe the above list is sufficient to show the many ways in which you support us. I hope it also illustrates to you that we actively seek your opinions and counsel, listen, take your advice to heart, and act on it. Your continued support for the department is deeply appreciated, whether in the form of your financial support, personal time and talents, or professional guidance. You are key to the future of our General Engineering students today and tomorrow.
Technology Entrepreneur Center

continued from page 1

center is to support technology entrepreneurs in the development and growth of new businesses. Through education, the center will prepare students to start and grow businesses. Through a network of support, the center will surround technology entrepreneurs with a success environment that includes business services, experienced advisors, and willing investors.

The goal of the center is not to educate engineers “about entrepreneurship,” rather it is to prepare engineers to start and grow companies. The undergraduate entrepreneurial engineering education will balance course work with experiential learning and will encourage students to explore, learn, use, and commit to entrepreneurship as they choose. (See chart on page 4.) Specifically, the center will provide an entrepreneurs’ forum, feasibility plan and opportunity assessment course, business plan workshop (using FastTrac materials), entrepreneurial internships, competitions, student organizations, entrepreneurial senior design projects, and advice and counsel from experienced alumni.

The education plan of the center: explore, learn, apply, commit.

Explore. The Center’s education plan will use seminars, speakers, and workshops to generate interest and to get students engaged with entrepreneurs. Students should have contact with successful entrepreneurs because by seeing and visiting with individuals who have started and run businesses, students realize that they could do something “like that.” Alumni entrepreneurs will speak in class sessions, evening discussion groups, and other events sponsored by the center, a department, or a student organization. Visiting entrepreneurs will also provide valuable experience and useful insights.

Learn. In addition to courses like feasibility and opportunity assessment and the business plan workshop, the center’s education plan will provide six Web-based courses to supplement the business knowledge that undergraduate entrepreneurial engineers need. Possible content areas for these courses include business strategy, marketing, financing, high growth, building an awesome organization, managing me—the entrepreneur, intellectual property, and supply chain management.

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Apply. Senior design projects offer an excellent opportunity to integrate the center’s application component into an already well established part of the engineering curriculum. Although several departments within the College of Engineering have senior design projects, the General Engineering Department and the Technology Management Program would have senior design projects focused on potential business opportunities. If students have taken the feasibility class, they will have some of the skills to prepare a business feasibility study for a potential client. Several of our alumni have stated that they are willing to explore sponsoring such senior design projects both in terms of dollars and ideas.

Commit. Obviously, it will be a student’s decision to committing to entrepreneurship. The goal of the center is to offer the support and infrastructure needed to make students’ commitments worthwhile to themselves, the university, and the community.

Support for Business Development

Building a new business venture depends on several requirements. Typically, the first step is that an entrepreneur comes forward with some technology. If the center is going to be useful, it will need to support the entrepreneur in areas beyond the original technology, such as getting the marketing expertise, creating the structure and plan to move the business ahead, and providing the support necessary to be successful.

The center will play an important role by providing guidance for the business plan and experience for the structure. The Enterprise Network (TEN, in Cupertino, California) has identified and documented a series of stages that they use to guide the development of businesses that participate in their incubator and support network. We will build on their materials as we define the guidelines for each level of development and determine how to guide businesses through that process. Although significant support comes from full-time members of the center, the bulk of support and coaching will come from the broader network developed and sustained as part of the center.

Entrepreneurs will want to become associated with the center because it will increase the probability of their venture being successful. The information, structure, support, advice, critique, and rigor provided by the various elements of the center should increase significantly the number of projects that become successful businesses.

Education

whereas support similar to that envisioned for the center increases the success rate to 80 percent (The Enterprise Network).

Key Partnerships

Partnerships are the lifeblood of the Center. Without links to the outside world, the College of Engineering alone would not be able to sustain the center. If we create successful partnerships—in which the partners feel that they are getting significant value—then the center will survive and thrive. Potential partners who are asked to participate will have proven success in their field and will have the desire to invest in the future, thereby creating the next generation of entrepreneurs.

The Center’s Network of Partners will guide and use the center. The center needs to have a very active, vibrant group of people committed to vitalizing the UIUC College of Engineering’s entrepreneurial spirit. The Network of Partners, who will interact with students, faculty members, and each other, will meet this need. All entrepreneurs were assisted by
others at various points in their careers and are very willing to 
“give back” to the entrepreneurial 
community. The center will benefit 
most from those entrepreneurs who 
will offer advice or counsel and 
who will teach students how to run 
the entrepreneurial rapids. The 
Network of Partners’ desire to see 
ideas in their early form, help 
nurture and shape those ideas, 
evaluate them, and, when appropri-
ate, fund them or recommend 
funding, will play an important 
role in strengthening the entrepreneurial 
spirit at the Center.

The initial focus of the network is 
to encourage and support potential 
entrepreneurs. However, as poten-
tial entrepreneurs progress, they 
will begin to explore how to develop 
their own companies and will 
want to have more structured and 
rigorous support.

Business Advisors, Technical Experts, and Entrepreneur Advisors

Many alumni have expressed a 
need to contribute to the university 
and students. The Network of 
Partners provides an opportunity to 
do just that. The Network of 
Friends and Alumni will be built 
with alumni from around the country who have the means, the 
desire, and the capability to be 
actively involved with students and 
faculty as they work to start busi-
nesses. There will be two types of 
advisors: business and technical 
advisors and entrepreneurial 
advisors. Business and technical advisors provide knowledge and experience in everything from how to get started to insights into specific industries and business areas. Business advisors and technical advisors can come from many different companies and have different career experiences. They 
may provide ideas and resources on 
how to get things done—proto-
types, contract work, vendors, and 
other resources. They would begin 
to coach the management team, to 
identify strengths and weakness, 
and to suggest ways to compensate 
for any weaknesses.

Entrepreneurial advisors will be 
focused on how to get the company 
started and growing effectively. 
They may provide some general 
business and technical advice, but 
they will have more direct experience in starting and growing 
companies.

Benefits of being an advisor include working with bright, 
energetic, talented people—those people who recognize the value of 
their advice and are willing to listen 
and understand, although they may not always act on the advice. The 
university and the Technology 
Entrepreneur Center will provide a 
platform for advisors to use their 
skills and to contribute and be 
recognized. It is expected that the 
excitement about being involved 
with a startup company will be 
contagious and the advisors often 
will become enthusiastic supporters 
of the enterprise. Finally, when the 
contributions are sufficient, advis-
ors may be asked to continue with 
the organizations as advisors, board 
members, or in some other formal 
position.

A very important reward for 
many will be to help make a 
significant difference at the University of Illinois. When we are 
successful at accelerating the 
development of new ventures, 
alumni will see a significant return 
on their investment of time, energy, 
and money in making the university 
stronger and more influential.

If you are interested in the 
Technology Entrepreneur Center or 
would like more information, 
contact Professor Ray Price at 
price1@uiuc.edu.

Professor Reis 
Elected as Chair

Professor Henrique Reis has been elected to serve as chairman of the 
Research Council of the American 
Society for Nondestructive Testing 
(ASNT). He was also elected to 
serve as a member of the Board of 
Directors of ASNT. He served as 
the general chairman of the ASNT 
Spring Conference, held March 27– 
31, in Birmingham, Alabama. As 
part of this conference, Reis also 
organized a special set of papers on 
nondestructive testing applied to 
the railroad industry. The 42 papers 
were peer reviewed and published in book form as part of the “Topics 
on Nondestructive Evaluation” 
(TONE) book series; Reis will be the 
technical editor.

Reis is currently working on 
noise abatement of pavements; he 
and his graduate students devel-
oped a methodology to tailor the 
microstructure of the pavement 
material to maximize noise abate-
ment as a function of the traffic. He 
is also developing methodologies to 
be used on manufacturing process 
monitoring and quality control of 
miniature parts.

Every spring, Reis continues to 
teach his course Fundamentals of 
Nondestructive Evaluation, which 
is required for students who choose 
to have nondestructive testing and 
evaluation (NDT&E) as their field of 
concentration. General Engineering 
is one of a very few curricula in 
which students can graduate with a 
specialization in nondestructive 
testing. Typically, design curricula 
in ABET-accredited institutions 
across the nation are devoid of 
nondestructive testing and evalua-
tion material. This makes the 
students who choose nondestructive 
testing as their field of concentra-
tion in General Engineering at 
UIUC unique and competitive in 
industry, where there is a shortness 
of NDT&E professionals.
New Conference Room for Transportation Building

Things are changing in the Transportation Building. We now have a new conference room to use for industry meetings, alumni visits, and small gatherings, to name just a few examples. Room 215 (formerly the student lounge) has been repainted, carpeted, and renovated to function as a conference room for the department. The student lounge was moved across the hall to a larger room vacated by the GTE Telecommunications Lab (which moved upstairs to double its space and capacity). The new student lounge includes a computer station so that students can conveniently check their email, a local-use telephone, and added space for studying or lounging.

We are in the process of soliciting funding (corporate or individual) for a new conference table and chairs and designing a floor plan to accommodate a small work station for simple beverage/food service. It is our goal to equip the room to facilitate a broad range of presentations, Internet access, and distance participation/collaboration for meetings.

Next time you are in town, please stop by and take a look. If you or your company would be interested in scheduling a recruiting or interviewing session in the conference room or sponsoring the table and/or chairs, please contact Angie Dimit at 217-333-0140 or m-dimit@uiuc.edu.

Mentor Program Gets a Technological Kick

The GE Mentor Program has implemented a new email distribution tool that will enable students and alumni mentors to more easily form meaningful mentoring relationships. Both students and mentors will have access to a single email address that will forward messages sent to that address to the list of students and mentors participating in the program. “Since real mentoring relationships are formed out of common interests and personal rapport, we feel it is important to bring the two groups together rather than assign single mentor-student relationships,” said Fred Jewell, GE Alumni Board director.

With this solution, any student will have email access to wide-ranging experiences and interests of participating alumni. Once an appropriate connection is made between mentor and student, one-on-one mentoring can take place. “This will make our mentoring program more dynamic, more like a network,” said Ethan Franklin, GE Alumni Board member.

Alumni and students interested in the mentoring program and the email distribution tool should contact Angie Dimit at 217-333-0140, or better yet, send her an email at m-dimit@uiuc.edu.

Dear Angie—

I would like to thank you for directing the Student-Alumni Mentoring program within the department. Last year, I applied for this program and was paired up with Commander Tom Taylor (BSGE ’81), a naval aviator commanding a strike-fighter squadron (VFA-113) based in my home state of California. In mid-October I had the opportunity to meet Tom as he and his brother Dave (also a naval aviator and General Engineer) flew into Champaign for Homecoming. After lengthy discussion and fellowship, I finally realized what I wanted my career to be. His insights and encouragement have illuminated the path to reaching my goal. Not only has he been helpful for the years to come, but also his family has been supportive in a direct and timely manner. He and his brother have made a strong effort in finding me a summer internship with the Navy despite having their own duties to fulfill. Their mother has even offered a room for the summer if I were to work in the Chicago area. I have not been paired up with a single mentor, but an entire family. I hope that my experience is a testament to the success of this program. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Carter
As I conclude this first year as president of the GE Alumni Board, let me tell you that it has been even more rewarding and enjoyable than I had imagined. I had looked forward to the experience with optimism and excitement, but the "real thing" has been more fulfilling than expected. I am extremely proud of our alumni for pulling together to invest $$$$ in the department this past year and look forward to your continued and increased support. This past year has been extraordinary.

I shared my vision for the Alumni and Industry Advisory Board with the members of the board in December, and I would like to share it with you as well because you are an integral part. My vision is that the board becomes an active and dynamic resource for the department. I'm looking for us to expand our advisory role into an active membership, which increases the overall alumni involvement. Additionally, it is my hope that by our own actions, we demonstrate the value of the alumni association to the membership and to the student body.

The board took on the challenge and created the following working subcommittees:

Alumni Mentor Program:
Fred Jewell, chair
frederick.w.jewell@ac.com

Center for Entrepreneurial Engineering:
Dick Reynolds, chair
dickrey@an.com

Development:
Jerry Dobrovolsky, chair
217-356-5446

Engineer in Residence:
Tom Prickett, chair
217-356-0615

Gamma Epsilon Representative:
Jim D'Orazio, chair
james.d.orazio@grubb-ellis.com

Working with Industrial Sponsored Research at Undergraduate and Graduate Levels:
Rolly Ruhl, chair
r-ruhl1@uiuc.edu

What I'd like to do is extend that same challenge to you to become active within the General Engineering Alumni Association. Your first reactions might be "I'm not near the campus" or "I don't have the time." Let me offer the following thoughts.

Participation in the mentoring program does not necessitate proximity to the campus nor does it require an inordinate amount of time. What it does take is a desire to help, an ability to listen, and the commitment to follow through. The use of email and phone calls breaks down most logistical issues, and surprisingly enough, given our broad demographics, there may be a student from your own area looking for a mentor. As far as time is concerned, none of the students whom I have mentored have put any drain on my time. But if you are still concerned, there is no rule that says that you can't team up with another GE alum and share the rewards of mentoring a student.

Subcommittee involvement can also be accomplished on your timetable and right in your home or office via the Internet or phone. Please feel free to contact Angie or me or even better, contact the individual chairpersons if you have any comments or ideas.

If you can conveniently make a trip to the campus or your business puts you in the CU area on a periodic basis, please consider involvement with the board or with GE 291, TQE, or the Engineer in Residence program. I will only speak for myself: In the two days that I spent with the students on campus, not only was it self-energizing but it also positively influenced my focus when I went back to the big city.

Again from a personal perspective, an additional bonus that has come with my increased involvement has been the growth of my personal and professional network. Don't sell this benefit short. Given the changing business culture and ever-expanding job requirements, think how nice it would be to become able to call someone outside of your "box" and ask, "what do you know about..." or "do you know anybody who could help me with..." or "are you aware of any studies or research being conducted in the area of...?"

When I have used the GE alumni network, I've been able to increase my technical awareness, to utilize an untapped network for evaluating professional referrals, and to uncover career opportunities for family members, business associates, and other GE alumni.

I encourage you to get in touch with Angie Dimit, any of the board members, or me. Think about participating in a local alumni reception event or coming to Champaign for the Fall Alumni Reunion and Engineering Tent Party. Stop in anytime for a few minutes to chat or for a tour around the Transportation Building; you are always welcome. I am confident that you will be pleased that you did.

— Jim D'Orazio
STUDENT NEWS

General Engineers Recognized by College

Stanley H. Pierce Award

The Pierce Award is presented annually to one student and one faculty member in the College of Engineering who are selected as having done the most to develop empathetic student-faculty cooperation in any department. Karen Shea was the 2000 student recipient of the Stanley H. Pierce Award. Shea has been a major catalyst in generating outstanding cooperation and relationships between students and faculty within General Engineering. Shea has worked alongside faculty in the missions of teaching, research, and service. She has been a lab assistant in Mfg. E. 210, GE 103, and GE 100. She served as a teaching assistant in Eng 100 and as a research assistant under Professor Wayne Davis in summer 1999. Her interest in Davis’s research grew out of a GE 226 class, which he taught. Her work ethic, commitment, dependability, and leadership have set a new standard for students working in these roles.

Shea has been on the student recruitment team helping Professor Pleck on numerous occasions meeting with and leading departmental tours for prospective students and families. She worked with Angie Dimit, coordinator of Student and Alumni Relations, to coordinate the new Peer Mentoring Program and a program in which GE students made phone calls to prospective students to answer questions and welcome them to the department. It is clear that she has taken the initiative to seek out opportunities to work with a number of faculty members and to be involved in diverse areas. Her contributions and personal efforts have been key to the success and effectiveness of these projects and to the cohesiveness of the student population.

Shea’s most notable contributions have been made in her role as president of Gamma Epsilon honorary society. She introduced the induction of faculty members into Gamma Epsilon as honorary members, she invited new faculty members to the first meeting of the year so that they could meet and interact with students, and she reinstated the IM-A-GE student-faculty lunches at which small groups of students invite a faculty member to lunch at the Illini Union. Under Shea’s leadership, there was a record turnout at the annual Gamma Epsilon Student-Faculty Fall Picnic, the society developed T-shirts highlighting the department, she surveyed the faculty to see what the society could do to promote the department, instituted a new program that promotes undergraduate research by matching interested students with faculty, and started a peer-advising program as well. Shea graduated in May 2000 and is currently working for Deloitte and Touche.

Knights of St. Pat Award

Three of the eleven 2000 Knights of St. Pat were from General Engineering. The tradition of celebrating St. Pat’s Day on engineering campuses began in 1903 at the University of Missouri, Columbia. The University of Illinois holds its first knighting ceremony during Engineering Open House in 1950. Selection is done through nomination of juniors and seniors who exhibit scholarship and have been active in student activities. The Knight of St. Pat award is one of the highest honors received by an engineering student. Below are excerpts from the Knight of St. Pat’s Ball Program.

Kelly Birdwell, a senior in General Engineering, is also working toward an International Minor in French Studies. She is originally from Wheaton, Illinois, and is looking forward to employment somewhere warm and sunny after graduation in December 2000. Her secondary field of concentration is human factors/ergonomic design.

Birdwell’s major contribution to the College of Engineering has been through the Engineering Employment Expo. Her initial involvement with Engineering Council began by serving on the Expo Committee in 1998, and she continued by chairing the committee in 1999. Birdwell has remained involved with Engineering Council as the present Social Chair. Before the elections, Birdwell was informed that she was “perfect” for this position because of her love for laughter and general craziness.

The Society of Women Engineers Team Tech group has allowed Birdwell to use her technical skills by helping design products with Motorola. She participated in 1998 and 1999 and presented their project at SWE Nationals 1999. She
interned last summer at the Ford Motor Company Stamping Plant in the Manufacturing Engineering Department. Birdwell enjoys causing mischief with her friends, running, reading, and the outdoors. She also enjoys traveling, an interest sparked after studying in Nancy, France, during summer 1998.

Jonathan Dolle is a fourth-year senior (on a five-year plan) double-majoring in General Engineering and Philosophy. He grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, and has spent two summers studying abroad in Ensenada, Mexico, and Khaka, Bangladesh. Within the College of Engineering, Dolle has been most actively involved as an engineering learning assistant, in which role he has been privileged to work with some of the most enthusiastic and dynamic engineers on campus.

After teaching several sections, Dolle became acting co-director of the Engineering 100 Program for spring and fall 1999. He has recently started working for Professor Ray Price as a research assistant on a course entitled Engineering Emotional Intelligence. South of Green, he has been active in a variety of service and community organizations, including Volunteer Illini Projects, in which he has mentored a Champaign county youth, and Alternative Spring Break, in which he has been enthusiastically involved as a participant, site facilitator, and planning board member. For the past two years, Dolle has also served on the University YMCA Board of Governors. After graduation, he plans on continuing to experiment—current possibilities include law school, grad school, AmeriCorps, or the Peace Corps.

Catherine Marton's activities are numerous. Some activities include serving as president of her social sorority, Chi Omega; president of the University of Illinois Competing Mock Trial Team, co-founder of the General Engineering Mentor Program, academic affairs chair for Illinois Student Government, and president of the Engineering Freshman Committee. She has had summer internships with Procter & Gamble, Gammerler Corporation, and Platinum Technology. She will start her full-time employment with Cisco Systems in Chicago, Illinois.

Departmental Awards

Alumni Award for the Outstanding Student in General Engineering The award was established to recognize GE students who excel not only in their scholarship but also in leadership and citizenship.

Jonathan Dolle's leadership positions have included student president of the University YMCA, new directions chair and program co-chair of Alternative Spring Break, publicity coordinator for Volunteer Illini Projects, and facilitator for First Year Impact, a leadership program coordinated by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. He has been program director for Engineering 100 and an engineering learning assistant, a research assistant with Professor Price, the Sevems Chair for the College of Engineering and in Business and Technology Strategy.

Dolle was selected as 1 of only 10 university students nationwide to travel abroad for a week inspecting factory conditions as a Nike factory monitor. He received the University YMCA Distinguished Service Award. He has been a Chancellor's Scholar and was awarded the Knight of St. Pat this year. He was also selected as a "Community Hero" for his community leadership and volunteer work in 1996. Dolle will complete a BS in General Engineering and a BA in philosophy with an international minor in Latin American and Caribbean studies in May 2001. He has studied at North South University in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and at Centro de Ensenanza Tecnica y Superior in Ensenada, Mexico.

Otto Sr. and Mildred Capek Scholarship
Heloise Wang (continued holder 1999–2000)

William A. Chittenden Award Presented to an outstanding master of science graduate in General Engineering.

Joel Krauska was single-handedly responsible for all aspects of the design and implementation of the GTE Telecommunications Lab in the Department of General Engineering. The laboratory course that he designed as a part of his MSGE thesis is one of the most popular courses in the curriculum. Krauska is currently a network engineer with GTE Internetworking.

continued on next page
Departmental Awards

continued

**Mary Chow Scholarship** ■ Presented to the outstanding female General Engineering student based solely on academic merit during the freshman year.

Jenna Ingelson

**Jerry S. Dobrovolny Award** ■ Presented to a senior who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and academic scholarship.

Kelly Duddy has been active in the Naval Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (NROTC) as a midshipman, squad leader, and rifle carrier in the color guard, and she helped to organize the Midshipman Orientation Program. While serving as president of Engineering Advocates, she designed the presentation that was used in high schools and recruited members for these presentations. As vice-president of Gamma Epsilon, Duddy has been responsible for coordinating both annual awards banquets, organizing a fundraiser for a local elementary school, and organizing the first peer-advising program for the department. Additionally, she has served as a lab assistant for GE 100 and GE 103 for five years. Duddy worked as a student assistant to Assistant Dean Susan Linnemeyer in the Women in Engineering Program, was a member of the Engineering Expo Committee, and held numerous positions with the Society of Women Engineers. She was chosen to represent the University of Illinois at the Women in Science and Engineering National Conference.

She has been a research assistant in the Decisions Systems Laboratory and has received National Science Foundation support for work at the Center for Biofilm Engineering, in Bozeman, Montana, where she carried out original research regarding the efficiency of removal of organic carbon in two biofilm reactors. She was asked to present her research on several occasions. Duddy has been on the Dean’s List for four semesters and received the General Motors Scholarship for 1998 and 1999 and the Andersen Consulting Outstanding Student Award in 1999. She has volunteered as a high school physics tutor, participated in Alternative Spring Break, and is a member of the Red Bison Program.

**Edward S. Fraser Award** ■ Presented to the outstanding senior based on academic accomplishments.

Dan Fueser graduated in May with a near-perfect grade point average of 3.99 and has accepted a position as trading assistant with Chicago Trading Company. He was an intern trading assistant last summer with the primary responsibility to use hand signals to give and receive messages regarding levels of implied volatility and theoretical edge to traders in the options pit. He was also responsible for quantitatively accessing and managing the risk associated with the options traded by the company. Before that, Fueser was a quality control engineering intern for Fellowes Manufacturing. He has served as a volunteer with Special Olympics and the Dupage County Convalescent Center (for eight years) and has been a volunteer tutor. He has been honored with membership in Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Lambda Delta, Gamma Epsilon, and Tau Beta Pi honor societies. He has been on the College of Engineering Dean’s List every semester and recognized in the National Dean’s List every year.

**General Engineering Distinguished Service Award**

This is the first-year that this award has been presented. It was created by the Awards Committee and was designed to recognize one or two students for exceptional dedication, commitment, and personal contributions specifically within the Department of General Engineering. The award recipients have made a significant, positive impact on the quality of the undergraduate experience over the past years and for future generations of General Engineering students. The names of the recipients of this award are kept confidential until the presentation. The award includes a Larry Kanfer print of the Alma Mater and a lifetime membership in the Alumni Association.

As chair of General Engineering Placement System, Lou Inenido has taken this organization and its service to the department to a new level of excellence. He has developed Jobapalooza into a substantial event involving numerous alumni presentations and mock interviews. He has brought the committee together to compile the Résumé Book and the new, online GEPS capabilities. Students can now access job announcements online at their convenience, and corporations specifically looking for General Engineers can not only post their positions but can also browse through the online résumé book of our students. Thanks to his efforts, General Engineering students have a direct link to corporations and increased alumni networking to facilitate their job placement. Communication between undergraduates and alumni has skyrocketed. Inenido is pursuing his graduate degree in the department.

As president of Gamma Epsilon, Karen Shea has made a significant, positive difference in the lives of General Engineering students and
faculty through the reinstatement of the IM-A-GE luncheons for students and faculty, promoting undergraduate research, and the induction of faculty members into Gamma Epsilon as honorary members. Her unending enthusiasm and commitment has established a healthy, cooperative environment of open communication that will affect both students and faculty for years to come.

Shea was co-developer of the new peer mentoring program for undergraduates in General Engineering and was key to the success of the program in its first year. She has tirelessly coordinated department-wide activities that include the fall and spring picnics and Gamma Epsilon community service projects. She has worked as a research assistant, lab assistant, teaching assistant, and engineering learning assistant. Shea has accepted a position with Deloitte and Touche.

General Engineering Service Awards
Presented to students based on individual level of service and personal contribution to the Department of General Engineering. Each class receives a unique token of appreciation.

Seniors (graduating Dec '99, May '00, or August '00)
Nissa Ali
Gretchen Hosty
Brian Opyd
Katie Marton
Jason Czapka
Stacey Garcia
Lori Kaiser

Juniors (graduating Dec '00, May '01, or August '01)
Katie Mullen
Andy Collado
Lindsay Krussow
Sara Koehler
Ryan Jacobs
Erin Sullivan
Henry Hahn

Sophomores (graduating Dec '01, May '02, or August '02)
Valerie Funk
Jen Moose
Joanna Jenne

Freshmen (graduating Dec '02, May '03, or August '03)
Mike Rubin

Randoph P. Hoelscher Award
Presented to a junior who has achieved exceptional scholarship, leadership, and cultural breadth.

Jeremy Schreck is pursuing an international engineering minor in Latin American and Caribbean Studies. He lived in Brazil for a year taking university-level classes, and he assisted a master's student in collecting data for his thesis on bird populations in the Atlantic rain forest. He received the Brazilian Geographic Society's Medal of Ecology. He has tutored classes in English as a second language and is active with Luso-Brazilian Coffee Hour, a group which practices speaking Portuguese. Schreck has been active in ISGE, Gamma Epsilon, and Illini Life.

Robert A. Jewett Award
Presented to junior students with outstanding leadership qualities.

Kelly Birdwell has been active in Engineering Council on the Social Affairs Committee and as vice-president of Corporate Relations in 1998–99. In these positions, she worked as liaison between Engineering Council and the Engineering Expo Committee, organizing the Dean's fall picnic and the Knights of St. Pat ball and serving as emcee for the ball. As chair of Engineering Expo this year and facilities/banquet chair the previous year, Birdwell successfully coordinated one of the most visible corporate programs for the college. She led the Society of Women Engineers’ team tech to a first place award at Engineering Open House in both 1998 and 1999 and went on to represent the University at the SWE National Conference as a member of the Boeing Team Tech Competition. Birdwell interned
Departmental Awards

continued

with Ford Motor Company Stamping Plant and participated in a six-week intensive French program in Nancy, France. Through this international program, she had the opportunity to work closely with a professor in mechanics of materials and present oral and written reports in French. On campus, she has been involved in Alternative Spring Break and intramural bowling; she has been an I-Guide and a member of the University Concert Band. This year, she has been honored as a knight of St. Pat and received an Andersen Consulting Outstanding Student Award. Her secondary field of concentration is human factors/ergonomic design.

Bern O. Larson Awards

In October 1973, Larson received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the UIUC Civil Engineering Department in recognition of his contributions to engineering education and to the profession, and “especially [for] his implementation of outstanding student team project courses.” The Larson Award is for excellence in GE 342 project design.

First Place
Team Members: Kevin D. Bollman
David M. Hinkle
Leo A. Wrigley
Faculty Advisor: Henrique Reis
Sponsor: Bodine Electric Co.

Second Place
Team Members: Jung H. Hur
Robert D. Shin
Jason W. Smith
Mark L. Williamson
Faculty Advisor: David E. Goldberg
Sponsor: Motorola

Mildred Mattux and Lisle Abbott Rose Award[1] Presented to two juniors based on outstanding academic accomplishment, extracurricular activities, and cultural breadth.

Sarah Quoss is a junior with a secondary field of concentration in engineering administration and marketing. She studied abroad in Argentina during the summer of 1999. She is pursuing an international minor in Latin American and Caribbean studies. She has been active in the Illinois Society of General Engineers, Society of Women Engineers, and Engineering Advocates. Her honorary societies include Gamma Epsilon, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Lambda Delta, and Golden Key. She has been active in International Illini, Student Senate Caucus, Illini Pride, Greek Intervarsity, Alternative Spring Break, Engineering Speaker’s Bureau, Rotorior, Orgullia Latina America, and Delta Zeta Sorority. She has been on the Dean’s List several semesters.

Mike Maschek is a junior with a second field of concentration in business systems integration and consulting. He has been active with the Illinois Society of General Engineers as an Executive Board Member and Society of Business and Management Engineers. Maschek has served as co-captain of intramural soccer and is section leader for the Marching Illini (national award-winning) Drum-line. He served as committee chair for the Allen Hall New Student Orientation and was selected to be a participant in the First Year Impact Program, coordinated by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Maschek is pursuing a minor in technology and management and was a part of the Caterpillar Senior Project this past spring. He has received the General Engineering Scholar Award for his academic achievements, has been on the Dean’s List since 1997, and has been a James Scholar since 1997. He is a member of Tau Beta Pi, Gamma Epsilon, Golden Key, and Phi Kappa Phi.

Herbert J. Sprengel Award[1] Presented for the best design project by a junior.

Kevin Coonan’s winning balsa structure featured a double-web I-beam supported by two single-web columns. It achieved the highest capacity:weight ratio in all sections of GE 232 last year, according to Professor Edward Kuznetsov.


Evelyn Arroyo

Donald W. White Scholarship[1] To encourage dedicated sophomore and junior students in General Engineering to pursue careers in the field of construction.

Stephen Meyer’s main area of interest in construction is site development. He has worked in topographic surveying, inspection, construction layout, traffic studies, and computer-aided design. He also has experience in equipment operation, maintenance, carpentry, and construction through various jobs, volunteer work, and work on the family farm. He has an excellent academic record and a strong interest in a construction career.

Bryan Quigley’s main interest is in structural design and construction. He is completing a course in steel design this semester and plans to take reinforced concrete design, along with other construction courses, during the next two semesters. Quigley also has an excellent academic record.
Francesco Bullo married Lily M. Kaplan on July 30, 2000, in a small ceremony in Palos Verdes Estates, California.

Scott Burns received a three-year, quarter-million dollar NSF grant for his research and studies in the area of structural analysis and design.

Narayana Aluru received an NSF CAREER award in August 1999.

Louis Wozniak was recipient of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Power Engineering Society’s Prize Paper Award of the Energy Development and Power Generation Committee for the 1995 publication, *Efficiency-Based Optimal Control of Hydrogenerators*, co-authored by graduate student Phil Schniter (MS ECE, ’93). The award was presented at the 1999 summer meeting of the PES in Edmonton. Wozniak, a Fellow of the Institute, was the recipient of prize paper awards in 1990 and 1993. He is presently serving a three-year term as editor of the IEEE Transactions on Energy Conversion.

Rolly Ruhl recently completed his third assignment for the Area Defense Council, USAFE/31FW, at Aviano Air Base, Italy. Ruhl and Associates was retained to review the work of an eminent accident reconstructionist from Germany (hired by the prosecution) and found it to be unimpeachable. The trial made headlines in the military newspaper, *Stars and Stripes*.

The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) accepted a paper entitled *Fluid Load Analysis Within the Static Roll Model* by graduate student Ericka Southcombe, BSGE ‘96, and Professors Ruhl and Kuznetsov. The paper will be presented at the 2000 SAE International Truck and Bus Meeting and Exposition.


SAE has accepted a paper written by Ruhl and Michael Gladstone of the law firm Mays and Valentine entitled *The Barring of an Accident Reconstruction Expert Under Kumho/Daubert*.

Ruhl, Southcombe, and Balasa attended a full-scale testing in Germany in May 2000 in concert with the German consortium ibB.

Mark Strauss will attend full-scale testing of car-truck impacts in Hungary in November 2000.

Henrique Reis has been named a Fellow in the American Society for Nondestructive Testing, Inc.

Francesco Bullo (center) with students at the graduate program reception and prospectus, held twice each year at the Grainger Library. Current graduate students enjoy this informal time with faculty members, and undergraduate General Engineers attend to learn more about the MGE program.
Mems Technology

Meshless Numerical Methods Simplify Device Design and Analysis

by James Kloeppel

University of Illinois engineers have designed numerical techniques that can help analyze MEMS devices and assist in the development of better computer simulation systems. New techniques are needed because makers of microelectromechanical systems need efficient and robust simulation tools to investigate design alternatives. Since most MEMS devices are geometrically complicated and electromechanically coupled, the development of such simulation tools is no small task.

"Typical computer-aided design systems require the generation of an elaborate mesh to perform computational analysis," said Narayana Aluru, a UI professor of General Engineering and a researcher in the university’s Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology. "The mesh consists of many thousands of small, interconnected elements, upon which the specific equations are solved."

But generating such a mesh for a complicated, three-dimensional microdevice with mixed energy domains—including mechanical, electrical, optical, magnetic and thermal—can be too time consuming and computationally expensive for practical use, Aluru said. "To develop fast and reliable CAD systems for MEMS, advances are needed that minimize the time spent on mesh generation." Aluru and graduate student Gang Li have developed meshless numerical methods that provide simple and fast alternatives to traditional mesh-based techniques. Instead of generating a complicated, interconnected mesh, the researchers perform computational analysis on points randomly sprinkled across the domain of the microdevice. Connectivity information among the scattered points is not required. "Because the points don’t need to talk to one another, the cost and complexity of mesh generation is eliminated," Aluru said. "This greatly simplifies the making of efficient CAD tools for MEMS use."

Meshless methods also avoid the difficulties of mesh distortion in problems involving large surface deformations and make it much easier to interface two or more energy domains. "For example, to analyze a MEMS device that has coupled elastic and electrostatic energy domains, we need to generate both a volume mesh for the elastic analysis and a surface mesh for the electrostatic analysis," Aluru said. "With traditional techniques, these two meshes must be compatible or we can’t interpolate solutions from one to the other."

When a microfluidic energy domain is also encountered, such as in the design of MEMS-based accelerometers, three different meshes are required, with corresponding complications, Aluru said. "Meshless methods can easily interpolate not only between random points in a domain, but between different domains as well, significantly reducing both time and expense."

Aluru and Li presented their latest meshless simulation techniques at the International Congress of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics held Aug. 27-Sept. 2 in Chicago.

James Kloeppel is a physical science editor at the UI’s News Bureau.

GEPS Goes Online for Students and Alumni

General Engineering Placement System (GEPS) is now coordinating placement networking online for General Engineering students and alumni. The GEPS Résumé Book is available for viewing so that our recruiting companies can review the résumés of our students and contact them directly. Job postings are listed for students and alumni to view so that they can contact the company directly. Additionally, there are links to other career placement resources available to students and alumni, including Engineering Career Services and the UI Alumni Association Career Center. This Web site was developed by Mike Rubin, a freshman member of the GEPS Committee.

There are numerous companies that contact us each month looking for General Engineers—our current graduating class and our alumni who have a few years of experience. We hope that this new online service will make it easier for students to find opportunities for internships, co-ops, and full-time positions. We believe that our recruiting companies will enjoy the convenience of immediate access to the résumés of our students and alumni and the ability to post their job openings directly on the Web site.

We will, of course, continue to produce a small number of paper copies of the Résumé Book and the GEPS Handbook and make these available by traditional mail services. The online resources, though, will be continuously updated and therefore, we believe, more beneficial to students, alumni, and industry.

During the 1999-2000 academic year, GEPS advertised more than 300 full-time, co-op, summer, and internship opportunities to General Engineering students. Check it out at www.ge.uiuc.edu <Placement Resources>
Faculty Obituaries

Robert A. Jewett, professor of General Engineering from 1953 to 1976, passed away on March 24, 2000, in Lakeland, Florida, at the age of 89. He is survived by his brother, Richard, and his son, Tom, who is on the faculty of California State University, Long Beach.

Robert Jewett held a BS in architectural engineering from the University of Nebraska and an MS in civil engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology.

In 1953 he came to General Engineering as an instructor. He rose through the ranks to become a professor in the fall of 1968. Before coming to Illinois, he had worked as an engineer in industry for nearly 20 years. He also taught engineering drawing at Florida Southern College for nine years and algebra and physics in high school in Bartow, Florida for four years. In 1941 he worked as cartographer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He was employed as a structural design engineer for the Hoppers Co. and later the Dravo Corp. While at Dravo, he taught a draftsman apprentice program covering engineering graphics, math, mechanics, strength of materials, and piping. He was at Dravo for eight and one-half years just before coming to the University of Illinois.

While here, he was active far beyond his traditional classroom duties—pioneering the use of instructional television, advising many student groups, and even playing in a band. In 1972, he received the Illinois Award for “exceptional contribution to the engineering profession” from the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers. He taught engineering graphics, history of engineering, and the project design course. He was extremely well liked by the students and was the faculty advisor to the student branch of ISPE. In the 5- and 10-year follow-up studies conducted by the College of Engineering of its graduates, Jewett was always listed for his influence in their technical, professional, and personal development.

After retirement, he and his wife, Mary Lee, moved to Lakeland, Florida. There he focused on family, church, and community activities, especially within the Florida Presbyterian Homes, where they lived. He organized a handbell choir, played the piano for chapel services, and even dusted off his T-square, triangle, and slide rule to assist in safety and construction planning. In 1996, Jewett established a scholarship in his name that annually recognizes a General Engineering student for outstanding leadership abilities.

Herbert J. Sprengel, professor of General Engineering from 1968 through 1978, passed away on May 19, 2000, in Palm Harbor, Florida. He held a BS in physics in from the University of Illinois. Before coming to General Engineering, he had a distinguished career in engineering in the development and manufacture of x-ray equipment. He had served as a design engineer, quality control supervisor, and manufacturing engineering supervisor. Sprengel taught at the Illinois Institute of Technology during the Second World War, as well as working with General Electric. In 1946 he went to Continental X-Ray Corporation in Chicago, where he started as factory manager and rose to secretary-treasurer and manager of manufacturing and engineering. In 1951, he returned to General Electric Corporation.

His background served the department in project design courses as well as working with freshmen in GE 103 and GE 104. Upon his retirement in 1978, he established the Herbert J. Sprengel Award. This award was established originally to recognize the outstanding freshman design in either GE 103 or GE 104. In 1983, however, the award was changed to recognize the best engineering design analysis for an outstanding GE 232 balsa wood design.
Jobapalooza 2000 Features GE Alumni

Jobapalooza is a one-day workshop designed to prepare students for the interviewing and job search process. On February 5, five General Engineering alumni spent the day with GE students giving workshops and conducting mock interviews and résumé critiques. All 26 half-hour interview slots were filled and approximately 30 students attended workshops, which included:

- Teamwork & Networking: Skills for Personal and Career Development, Deanne Kolath ’95 and Chris Walter, Price Waterhouse Coopers
- The Dos and Don’ts of Interviewing, Nate Roberts ’97, Andersen Consulting
- Discussing Your Qualities as a GE, Aaron Walz ’98, Strata Decision Technology
- How Recent Graduates Fit into Today’s Consulting Market, Chris Daniel ’97, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young

All participants came together to enjoy a Papa Del’s lunch highlighted by an informal keynote presentation entitled “Continuing the Dialogue” by Jim D’Orazio ’75, president of the Alumni and Industry Advisory Board. Jobapalooza is sponsored by funds from Procter and Gamble and generous donations from “friends” of GEPS, which is one of three student organizations in General Engineering.

Undergrad students enjoying pizza at the kickoff event for the peer mentoring program in General Engineering.
General Engineering Alumni Mentor Program

Mentor Application

Please complete this form and fax to 217-244-5705

or mail to:
Angie Dimit
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of General Engineering
104 Transportation Building
104 South Mathews Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

or submit online at www.ge.uiuc.edu
<alumni information>

Name: ________________________________

Company: ____________________________

Company address: ______________________

Company city, state, zip code: __________

Company phone number: ________________

Company fax number: __________________

Email address: _________________________

Home address: _________________________

Home city, state, zip code: _____________

Home phone number: __________________

Graduation year: _______ Secondary field: ____________________

Other degrees/universities: ________________________________

What is/are the general practice area(s) of your company? ______________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

What is/are your area(s) of expertise? ______________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

What are your hobbies and interests? ______________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Do you have any questions or suggestions? __________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
1999 Lincoln Arc Welding Awards

The James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation offers annual awards to recognize and reward achievement by engineering and technology students in solving design, engineering, or arc welding fabrication problems. The five criteria used to select the winners are originality or ingenuity, feasibility, results achieved or expected, engineering competence, and clarity of the presentation.

Since the Department of General Engineering first entered this national competition in 1968, 92 senior design projects have been recognized with the prestigious award. The number of these awards that have been bestowed on GE senior design projects is a testimonial to the high quality of work that can be found through this business-education partnership. Congratulations to all of the winners. Listed below are the awards, titles of the winning projects, student team members, and project advisor in 1998.

Merit Awards

Title of Project: Warehouse Layout Optimization
Team: Nathan Kennedy, Joseph Lambert, James Lutgen
Faculty Advisor: Ramavarapu S. Sreenivas
Sponsor: Plastipak, Champaign, Illinois

Title of Project: Gearmotor Noise Test and Evaluation
Team: Kevin Bollman, David Hinkle, Leo Wrigley
Faculty Advisor: Henrique Reis
Sponsor: Bodine Electric Co., Chicago, Illinois

Title of Project: Redesign of Spray Profile Test Operation
Team: Mew Lee Chung, Christy Claus, Kevin Keller, Michael Stock
Faculty Advisor: Henrique Reis
Sponsor: Spraying Systems, Carol Stream, Illinois

Bronze Award

Title of Project: Economic Insulation Choice for a Warehouse
Team: Shane Cisco, Gina Woloszyn, Joseph Wolums
Faculty Advisor: Ramavarapu S. Sreenivas
Sponsor: Anheuser-Busch, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri

Gold Award

Title of Project: Golf Swing Tracking System
Team: Algis Baliunas, David Leder, Michael Lee
Faculty Advisor: James V. Carnahan
Sponsor: Soundlinks, Marco Island, Florida

GE 342 Projects

It is well known that General Engineering offers an engineering education with a unique orientation toward real-world problem-solving that can be found at only a few other engineering schools across the country and no other curriculum on this campus. One of our keys to successfully educating engineers is our partnership with industry, as evidenced by our senior design project course. We pioneer in this regard. Our program served as the model for a national accreditation board mandate of senior design activity as a requirement for all baccalaureate engineering degree programs. GE students have won 40% or more of all the major national awards for senior project design in the last three years. This all translates to our graduates landing excellent jobs and salaries and our maintaining one of the top placement rates in the College of Engineering.

Senior projects can be a great way to leverage your efforts or those of your people. The student team can focus on a specific goal for a short period and stay in close communication with you if you are responsive and use the senior project voice mail system. On average, the “bang for your buck” is hard to beat these days. Call Professor Carnahan or Professor Hall at 217-333-9623 if you would like more information or would like to participate. A list of our fall 1999 and spring 2000 projects are listed below.

Fall 1999

Design of Impact Testing Apparatus
Project Advisor: Thomas F. Conry
Company Sponsor: Flex-N-Gate Corporation
Company Contacts: Dave Kirkolis, Tony M. Carr (BSGE ’90, MSGE ’92)

Redesign of MgO Handling System
Project Advisor: Henrique Reis
Company Sponsor: General Electric Company
Company Contact: Sean Gaughan

Traceability of Lot Identification
Project Advisor: Narayan R. Aluru
Company Sponsor: Ingersoll Cutting Tool Co.
Company Contact: Mike Diehl

Design of Waste Handling System
Project Advisor: Roland Ruhl, Mark Strauss
Company Sponsor: The Heil Company
Company Contact: Bill Nehrkorn

Solar Gain Compensation of Temperature Sensor
Project Advisor: Rayadurgam Srikant
Company Sponsor: Time-O-Matic
Company Contacts: Jeff Koebrich, Lou Reik
Evaluation of Manufacturing Approach
Project Advisor: Ramavarapu S. Sreenivas
Company Sponsor: Venture Precision Machining
Company Contact: David Graham

Automation of a Sealing Operation
Project Advisor: Manssour Moeinzadeh
Company Sponsor: Watlow Gordon
Company Contacts: Mark R. Lehmann, Alan Harnacke

Spring 2000
Economic Analysis of Product Handling
Project Advisor: Wayne J. Davis
Company Sponsor: Anheuser-Busch, Inc.
Company Contact: Mike Brunetto (BSGE '77)

Alternatives to Porcelain Stovetops and Grates
Project Advisor: Narayana R. Aluru
Company Sponsor: Atwood Mobile Products
Company Contact: John Scime

Maintenance Program to Improve Productivity
Project Advisor: David E. Goldberg
Company Sponsor: Concentric, Inc.
Company Contact: Martin Bradford, Peter Moran

Gear Housing Bracket Redesign
Project Advisor: Edward N. Kuznetsov
Company Sponsor: Cummins Engine Co.
Company Contacts: Tom Stover, Kris Bare

Inventory Measurement
Project Advisor: Thomas F. Conry
Company Sponsor: Diemasters Manufacturing, Inc.
Company Contacts: Paul Rimington (BSGE '67), John Bloss

Design/Build of Impact Testing Apparatus
Project Advisors: Roland Ruhl, Mark Strauss
Company Sponsor: Flex-N-Gate Corporation
Company Contacts: Dave Kirkolis, Tony M. Carr (BSGE '90, MSGE '92)

Alternative Applications for a Printing Process
Project Advisor: David E. Goldberg
Company Sponsor: Graphic Solutions, Inc.
Company Contacts: Suzanne Zaccione, Bob Zaccione

Improvement of Durability and Ergonomics for Packaging
Project Advisor: Manssour Moeinzadeh
Company Sponsor: Holm Industries, Inc.
Company Contact: Jim Clarke

Cellular Phone Energy Usage
Project Advisor: Wayne J. Davis
Company Sponsor: Motorola Advanced Technology Center
Company Contacts: Tom Tirpak (BSGE '87, MSGE '89), Ion V. Nicolaescu

Life Cycle Cost Comparison for Mg vs. Plastic Cellular Phone Housings
Project Advisor: Deborah L. Thurston
Company Sponsor: Motorola Advanced Technology Center
Company Contacts: Tom Tirpak, (BSGE '87, MSGE '89), Aroon V. Tungare, Jad Rasul

Veneer Knife Reconditioning
Project Advisor: Henrique Reis
Company Sponsor: National Knife & Supply
Company Contact: Stephen S. Wolff (BSGE '74)

Durable Labeling of Product Line
Project Advisor: Manssour Moeinzadeh
Company Sponsor: Parker Hannifin Corporation
Company Contacts: James Wilson, Rafael Toledo, Chip Gammel

Wind Load Capacity of Lighting Poles
Project Advisor: W. Brent Hall
Company Sponsor: Sternberg Vintage Lighting
Company Contacts: Dan Radochonski, Kerry Evans

Power Cord Reel
Project Advisor: Scott A. Burns
Company Sponsor: Teleonix, Inc.
Company Contacts: Paul C. Burke, Russell L. Richter
Welcome to the University of Illinois Alumni Association.

Your membership is helping build an even greater University Alumni network. We hope you will become involved in the Association’s many activities and take advantage of the growing number of exclusive member benefits.

President

Loren R. Taylor

Please clip and mail this application along with your check or credit card authorization to University of Illinois Alumni Association, 1401 West Green Street, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

University of Illinois Alumni Association

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: ____________________________ Degree/Year: ______________________________

Social Security Number: ____________________________ Address: ____________________________

City, State, Zip: ____________________________ Home Phone: ____________________________

Fax: ____________________________ e-mail: ____________________________

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□ American Express □ Mastercard □ Visa

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Signature: ____________________________

*Joint members can receive publications at the same address who receive one copy of each issue of the alumni magazine and Association, college and department mailings.

If you have selected a joint membership, please provide the following information for the joint member.

Joint member name: ____________________________ Social Security Number: ____________________________

University of Illinois graduate? □ No □ Yes Relationship to member (optional) ____________________________

Name on Diploma (if different than above) ____________________________

Logo Design Contest for General Engineering

One of the fall semester TQE teams coordinated a logo design contest for General Engineering, citing that the department has lacked a logo since its origination. The following designs were voted as the top two favorites by the team and presented to students and faculty for voting. Entries were solicited from throughout the department as well as the School of Art and Design.

We welcome alumni feedback. Please submit your opinions or preferences to m-dimit@uiuc.edu using the entry numbers for identification. We may or may not use any of these particular logo designs for official correspondence or marketing purposes. Thanks!

Department of General Engineering
University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
Two New Scholarships Announced

Mary Chow Scholarship

Professor Weichien Chow has established a scholarship in honor of his late wife, Mary Chow. Professor Chow is a former faculty member in the Department of General Engineering. The Mary Chow Scholarship was awarded for the first time at the spring 2000 awards banquet to Jenna Ingelson, an outstanding female student in General Engineering based on academic accomplishments during the freshman year.

Mary Chow received her BS in agricultural economics from the University of Nanking, China, an MA in cultural studies from Governors State College in Illinois, and an MA in library science from Rosary College, Illinois. Mrs. Chow was employed at the University of Illinois as an agricultural economist with the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics and as a librarian in the Asian Library. She tremendously enjoyed her involvement with students and firmly believed in the value of an advanced education.

Professor Chow completed a BS in mechanical engineering at the Lester Institute of Technology, China, and both an MS and PhD in mechanical engineering at the University of Wisconsin before spending 30 years working in industry as a design engineer. He joined the faculty of the Department of General Engineering in 1978, where he stayed until his retirement in 1991. The Chows have four sons.

Marshall W. Tudor General Engineering Scholarship

Marshall W. Tudor ’57 and his wife, Anne, have established the Marshall W. Tudor General Engineering Scholarship Fund, which will support four, four-year scholarships. The first Tudor Scholarship, which is based on academic merit and financial need and is renewable for four years, was presented to an incoming freshman at the Spring 2000 Awards Banquet. Subsequent first-time Tudor Scholarships will be awarded to incoming freshmen in the years 2001, 2002, and 2003.

Marshall W. Tudor graduated from the University of Illinois with a BS in General Engineering in 1957. He went to work for 3M Corporation in St. Paul Minnesota immediately upon graduation and retired as vice president and general manager of the Tape Manufacturing Division in 1992. During this time, he spent six years on assignment in their European Corporate Headquarters.

Marshall and Anne Tudor have established several scholarships at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and have a genuine interest in supporting undergraduates in their educational endeavors. The Tudors have four children and now enjoy several grandchildren in their retirement. They reside in Minnesota and Arizona.

Scholarships like the ones mentioned above create many opportunities and add to the prestige of our academic program. A fully endowed scholarship provides the student recipient with at least $1,000 per year toward educational expenses. Named endowments honor both beneficiaries and those for whom the endowment is named. It is a direct way for graduates of General Engineering to invest in the next generation of General Engineers. If you have questions about opportunities to support our students, programs, and needs, telephone Renée Mullen at 217-244-7716 or Angie Dimit at 217-333-0140.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office recognizes GE Degree

After review of information that was submitted in September 2000, the Office of Enrollment and Discipline of the United States Patent and Trademark Office will once again accept a bachelor’s degree in General Engineering as proof that an individual has the scientific and technical training equivalent to that received in other accepted engineering curricula.

This change in policy is the result of the determination and persistence of Prof. Michael Pleck, associate head of the Department of General Engineering, and Roscoe Pershing, associate dean of academic programs in the College of Engineering. Considering the large number of General Engineers who go on to practice intellectual property law, this is a significant accomplishment.

For some time now, an individual awarded a degree in General Engineering had to endure a laborious procedure to show and establish that he or she possessed scientific and technical training equivalent to that received in other accepted engineering curricula. This included producing individual course descriptions and curriculum documentation from the time the student was enrolled.

Unfortunately, this change will not be reflected in the recently published General Requirements Bulletin for admission to the examination for registration to practice in patent cases before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The next bulletin will reflect the change. We have been assured, however, that staff is being trained to accept the official transcript from UIUC showing that the applicant was awarded a bachelor’s degree in General Engineering as proof that the individual has the required scientific and technical training.
Alumni in the Classroom

This year’s volunteer efforts from General Engineering alumni have been incredible. Many of the alumni listed here have interacted with the students during both semesters, fall and spring. All of the guest speakers in the spring semester syllabus of GE 291—Life Skills and Leadership, were GE alumni.

Alumni who made presentations to GE students:

Chris Daniel ’97, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young
Dan Donahoe ’77 / ’79, Compaq
Meggan Duffy ’95, Marshall, O’Toole, Gerstein, Murray & Borun
Ryan Geister ’96, Trane
Deanne Kolath ’75, Price Waterhouse Coopers
Nathan Roberts ’97, Andersen Consulting
Scott Vifquain ’95, Kurt Salmon & Associates
Aaron Walz ’98, Strata Decision Technology

If you are interested in participating in any of the following opportunities, please email Angie Dimit at m-dimit@uiuc.edu or call her at 217-333-0140.

GE 291 Senior Seminar: Leadership and Life Skills

GE 291 is a course designed to expose our seniors to real-world issues to better prepare them for entering the workforce. We would like to maximize their exposure to the diverse career accomplishments of our General Engineering alumni. Past topics have included presentations on life experiences and professional opportunities, engineering ethics, entrepreneurship, marketing yourself and your ideas, dealing with attorneys, persuasion and negotiation, money management, and what to look for in a job offer. If you are interested in being a guest speaker for GE 291 or need additional information, please email Angie Dimit at m-dimit@uiuc.edu.
Engineer in Residence

The Engineer in Residence program was established with a gift from Thomas A. Prickett, 1997–99 president of the General Engineering Alumni and Industry Advisory Board. Having spoken to our GE 291 students for several years, Prickett understands how quickly one hour goes by! He wanted to give alumni and students more of a chance to interact and discuss issues on a personal level, especially questions that might be related to the presentation and careers.

The Engineer in Residence program includes:

- Spending approximately 24 hours on campus,
- Speaking to our GE 291 class,
- Staying “in residence” for an afternoon or morning or both for individual appointments in a private office,
- Enjoying informal time with our students eating pizza in the early evening, and
- Receiving a $250 honorarium to assist with travel and lodging expenses.

If you are interested, please email Angie Dimit at m-dir-it@uiuc.edu.

Engineers in Residence:

Mark Benton ’74, Methode Electronics
Mike Brunetto ’77, Anheuser-Busch
Jeff Morris ’70, Telephone Products, Inc.
Gary Newston ’57, Chrysler (retired)
Jim D’Orazio ’75, Grubb & Ellis
Tom Prickett ’57, Thomas A. Prickett & Associates
Dick Reynolds ’53/’58, Sundstrand (retired)
Roger Stein ’81, Wallenstein & Wagner, Ltd.
Marvin Smollar ’68, Delray Financial Group
GE ALUMNI UPDATES

'48 John M. Hauck founded Tubular Steel in 1953. The company buys carbony, alloy, and stainless steel pipe, tubing, and bar products from around the world. Hauck's son, John C. Hauck, is president and chief executive of TSI, the holding company that owns Tubular Steel. John M. Hauck is chairman. The two Haucks are the only family members active in the business, but the family still owns TSI.

'56 Arlie O. Boswell was honored at a banquet in Lake Geneva in June 1999 for his 50 years as a member of the Illinois State Bar Association. Boswell was a combat infantryman in Europe during WWII. After earning his law degree, he returned to Harrisburg to set up a general law practice. However, Boswell was recalled to military service in 1950, when fighting in Korea escalated. Following this, he spent 25 years in Chicago as a patent lawyer. In the late 1970s, Boswell was selected as an associate circuit judge, retiring from the bench in 1993 as a full circuit judge.

'72 Steve Swearingen is a candidate for Ford County Board. He worked in Chicago for three years in the environmental area before returning home to farm with his father. He served last year on the local parents and grade school advisory councils and on the building committee to build a junior high in Gibson City. He served several years on the soil and water conservation district board and as president of Heritage Foundation Seeds. He also worked on the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund ECO enhanced pension issue that the county board was instrumental in having rescinded at the state level.

UI Foundation Honors GE Alumnus Donald W. White at Annual Meeting

Donald W. and Dorothy B. White of Wheaton, Illinois were honored at the 1999 UI Foundation Annual Meeting for their generous support of the Department of General Engineering and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Their seven-figure commitment to the White Endowment Fund will support faculty, the Senior Design Project course, the Donald W. White Scholarship for undergraduates, and seminars and lectures in values, ethics, the connections between business and engineering, and other related topics. Additionally, the White Fund will support educational programs for the Spurlock Museum of World Cultures and fund the Dorothy Berkey White Awards for Excellence in Humanities Teaching. Donald White received his BS in General Engineering in 1950 and Dorothy received her bachelor's degree in science and letters in 1947. He retired as an executive in commercial and industrial construction in the Chicago area. The Whites regularly attend the GE spring awards banquet, where they have a chance to meet and get to know their scholarship recipients.

College Fellowships Honor GE Alumnus Roy J. Carver

The College of Engineering has received a $2 million gift for endowed fellowships from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust of Muscatine, Iowa. Roy J. Carver, who received his bachelor's degree in General Engineering in 1934, founded Carver Pump Co. and moved to Muscatine in 1942, where he established Carver Foundry Products. While visiting Europe in 1956, Carver saw unusual-looking retreaded tires on a car. The next year, he purchased the rights to a method of top-capping tires and founded Bandag Inc., which now is the world's largest producer of tire-retread materials and equipment.

Carver won a UI Alumni Achievement Award in 1974, and in 1977 the College of Engineering gave him its Alumni Honor Award for Distinguished Service. After his death in 1981, a foundation was established to honor his name. The Carver Trust has invested more than $1.6 million in research funds for pioneering initiatives in medical and scientific research on the Urbana campus. The first Carver Fellows will be named in fall 2000. A committee appointed by the Dean has established criteria for awarding the fellowships, which are stipends awarded to graduate students. These fellowships will be available to graduate students throughout the College of Engineering.

We are proud of Carver, whose professional accomplishments provide a real-world example of the empowerment of a General Engineering degree, a curriculum that has integrated engineering and business principles since 1921, the original charter of the department.
General Engineers in the News

Apropos Technology, Inc., recently announced its IPO. Kevin Kerns, BSGE '81, joined the company in 1996 as director and has served as chief executive officer since 1998. From 1989 to 1995, he established and led a strategic software consulting firm, Mandalay Associates, based in Dallas, Texas. From 1983–89, Kerns held a number of executive management positions with a computer-aided-engineering software company, CASE Technology, Inc. He was elected CEO and president of CASE Technology, Inc., in 1985 and remained in that position until the business was acquired by Teradyne, Inc., in 1987.

Apropos Technology, Inc., develops, markets, and supports multimedia customer-interaction centers using patented customer-interaction management software and high-quality support services. The Apropos solution enables the real-time management of multimedia customer interactions, including traditional voice interaction, email, and Web-based forms of communications.

Sharon Walcott, BSGE '89, tracks technology equities as vice president of the equity strategy team of Duff & Phelps Investment Management Co. She joined Duff & Phelps from William Blair & Co., a Chicago-based investment bank, where she had been a research analyst since 1995, specializing in large- and mid-cap communications and technology companies. During an additional four years with Peterson Consulting Ltd. Partnership, she advanced to executive consultant with expertise in construction and U.S. defense contractors and suppliers. Duff & Phelps Investment Management manages more than $14 billion in assets for corporate retirement, Taft-Hartley, public agencies, and endowment and charitable funds.


Kaitlin Duck Sherwood, MSGE '96, has developed the ag highly successful Web site, A Beginner's Guide to Effective Email, and is currently completing a new book, Overcome email overload: Get through your electronic mail faster. Check out her accomplishments at http://www.webfoot.com/ducky/home.html.

David Cushing, BSGE '88, has been appointed central region vice president for Focal Communications Corp., a leading national communications provider. He is responsible for leading corporate sales, customer care, and field operations in Focal's newly formed central region, which includes the Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Miami, and St. Louis markets. He will be based in Detroit. Cushing served as general manager for Focal's Cleveland and Detroit markets. In 1998 he was the director of product development and business analysis in Focal's corporate office. Before joining Focal in 1997, he held a variety of management positions at WorldCom and GTE Corporation.

Focal Communications Corp. is a rapidly growing national communications provider offering innovative data, voice, and colocation services to large corporations, Internet service providers, and value-added resellers across the United States.

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General Engineers in the News

continued

Steve Stubitz, BSGE ’79, MSGE ’82, has been named vice president of consulting and research for Participate.com, a provider of online community management services. He will lead the company’s fast-growing strategy and research teams, helping clients achieve top- and bottom-line results through strategic planning of online communities. Stubitz has nineteen years of business consulting experience, including six years at Keane Consulting Group, an e-business and information technology consulting firm based in Boston. Before joining Keane, Stubitz worked for the IBM Consulting Group for more than ten years.

Participate.com is a management service provider, or MSP, that enables successful e-business strategies by offering integrated management solutions for online communities.

(left to right) Richard Schaulin, GTE; Mike Kruger, GTE; Professor Ramavarapu S. Srikant; Henry Chow, GE graduate student; Brian Cunningham, BSGE ’98, visit the new location for the GTE Telecommunications Laboratory. The expanded lab space will enable the department to double class enrollment from 24 to 48 students.

The Admissions Process

by Angie Dimit

One issue for UI alumni that has been spotlighted recently is that of admission to UIUC. Having spent 11 years with the Campus Visitors Center and Admissions and Records, I feel compelled to offer you whatever assistance I can if you have children or grandchildren approaching college age. I am committed to being proactive in providing outreach to GE alumni to assist you in making a sound, informed decision when it comes to applying to UIUC. As long as you understand that no one is guaranteed admission and that the academic qualifications of your son or daughter are the primary deciding factors for admission, we can work in partnership through this process. The “effort” must be made before the application is sent.

First of all, it is important to know that all applicants for admission must meet minimal academic coursework requirements, which are frequently established by the state for public institutions. These requirements should
be discussed in the middle-school years as you and your child consider high school coursework and whether your child is college-bound. Your first resource for this information is your high school guidance office, but you can also obtain it from any state university in Illinois. If you think that going out of state for a college education is an option for your family, gather information from other universities across the country as well. I think it goes without saying that four years of math, four years of English, four years of a foreign language, two years of a lab science, and two years of social studies is a good foundation—probably more than necessary for some institutions. This information is readily available on the UIUC admissions Web site at http://www.oar.uiuc.edu/prospective/ugrad/require.html.

The following four factors are considered for admission at UIUC.

**Academic preparation.** As I mentioned, this refers to the courses students take in high school to prepare for college. The coursework is clearly defined, and these requirements are nonnegotiable unless a high school doesn’t offer what is listed.

**Academic performance at a national level.** This is an assessment of how well a student performs compared with other college-bound students nationwide. Either the ACT or the SAT composite score is used at UIUC. The highest composite score received will be the score used in the final decision. Test scores are not averaged. The College of Engineering may also consider the student’s math subscore. UIUC does not use achievement tests in the decision.

**Academic performance at the local level.** This is an assessment of how well the student performs in the classroom. The student’s high school percentile ranking (HSPR) is used. This university has found that using HSPR has been a more stable indicator of a student’s true abilities than the grade-point average. Some schools don’t give student rankings, so one must be estimated by the U of I Office of Admissions and Records. The Admissions staff is very familiar with high schools in Illinois and what curricula are offered. A student’s academic accomplishments are considered relative to the opportunities available in that high school. (For example, I attended a small school with no advanced placement courses. The fact that I had no advanced placement credit on my transcript would not be held against me because those courses were not available to me.) The admissions staff looks at every course a student has taken, the grades in that course, and the level of academic preparation included in that course. Because out-of-state recruiting has increased over the past five years, Admissions has a great deal of information about the curricula in high schools across the country. Nevertheless, if you are applying from out of state, some additional background information may be needed from your high school.

**Personal statement.** The personal statement allows a student to communicate to the admissions committee information that cannot be interpreted through the preceding three factors. The statement is used only to assist the committee in making an admission decision, not a denial. No student will be denied admission until the statement has been read. The personal statement is not an essay and is not used as an essay might be at another institution. Instead, it is considered an autobiography: an opportunity to

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**Scott D. Palmer** and Teresa Lyons were recently married at Calvary Baptist Church in Danville. He is employed by NACCO Materials Handling Group in Danville. She is employed as a flight attendant for American Trans Airline. After a wedding trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania, the couple resides in Bismarck.

**'84 Joseph A. Kann** was featured in the *Milwaukee Business Journal*. As vice president of global business development at Rockwell Automation, his job is to accelerate the global growth of Rockwell by working on strategies for development and by working on mergers and acquisitions. Kann lives with his wife and two daughters in Racine and spends his down time fishing and golfing with his family.

**David Lukens** recently returned to the United States after seven years of working overseas. He has accepted a position in his company, ABB Alstom Power, Inc., in St. Louis.

**'85 Kaan Rasim Aydog** is general coordinator of one of the largest industrial groups in Turkey. He held the position of secretary general of Istanbul Gold Exchange (1995–1998) and was also named chief economic advisor for the prime minister of Turkey (since 1997). He is married to Esin, a lawyer, and has a 10-year-old son, Oguzhan.

Paul N. Garey left Andersen Consulting as an associate partner in March in order to start as the CTO of a new dot.com, Guidance Resource.com, focused on business-to-business employee support services including health, wellness, legal, and financial guidance.

(continued on next page)
The Admissions Process

continue

explain, for example, any special circumstances or inconsistencies on the transcript and to reveal leadership activities, especially related to the area of study. The application for admission gives specific guidance about what is included in the statement. It is considered an integral part of the application. You can view an application at http://www.oar.uiuc.edu/prospective/ugrad/apply.html

Basic Points to Remember

These four factors are weighed together. If a student has a perfect ACT score but terrible grades, chances are that, unless there is something significant on the personal statement, the student’s opportunity for admission will be considered “high risk.” Conversely, perhaps a student is #1 in the class but has a very low ACT score; the admissions committee would look for a valid reason for this inconsistency. None of the four factors is considered alone; the application is considered as a whole by the committee.

Applications are read by human beings. This seems to come as a surprise to many people. As I pointed out earlier, if there is something written on the personal statement, it is read by a member of the admissions staff, and no student can be denied admission until the personal statement has been reviewed. That way, if a student has an explanation for an “inconsistency,” it can be noted and considered.

There are going to be strong students who are denied admission. I believe that most admissions professionals would agree that many of the students who cannot be admitted would potentially succeed at this university. The issue is demand and space. The university cannot admit more students than we have classroom space and faculty to teach. To do so would be unethical, counterproductive, and unfair to students, faculty, and taxpayers. The competition is stiff in some areas and realistic in others. The situations change as the job markets change; they are volatile. Students and parents must do the groundwork and apply to a college or department that has a program that your student is genuinely interested in and to which he or she has a realistic chance of being admitted. Understand that each college at UIUC has established specific admission criteria to best meet the priorities of the program. For example, many programs in Fine and Applied Arts require an audition but the academic parameters might be less competitive.

How Do You Choose?

Look at professions. Seek out information that tells you what types of education lead to those professions. Each college and many departments offer this type of information on their Web sites. They list the companies that recruit their students, the types of jobs that their students are getting, and sometimes the salaries. I would put little emphasis on the salaries at this point.

Visit the campus. Surveys have shown that the primary factor in college choice is the chance to meet and get to know students on that campus. Go through an admissions presentation and tour. I don’t care how many times you have been on campus for football games, basketball games, or other events, do it. This allows your son or daughter to meet face to face with a tour guide, who will hopefully be able to give insight not available
elsewhere. This will also give you information-gathering experience to use on other campus visits. Make an appointment with the college or department. This will give you details about the curriculum, academic support, and placement information.

I guess the last thing that I would offer is a piece of advice, something that I too will have to remember in a few years when my two sons are ready for the college selection process: attempt to make this a family process, but give the student some independence. I would want my sons to choose UIUC because of the value, quality of education, and leadership opportunities, not just because my husband and I are alumni.

If I can be of any assistance to you, please let me know. We can assist you in such things as scheduling a visit to campus and locating resources. Please visit our prospective student Web site at www.ge.uiuc.edu <Prospective Student Information>. This will give you ideas about what to look for at other institutions, too.

 Angie Dimit is alumni and student relations coordinator for General Engineering.

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**ALUMNI NEWS**

**General Engineering Distinguished Alumni**

**Gamma Epsilon Distinguished Alumnus Award**

Marvin Smollar received his BS in General Engineering and his BS in Liberal Arts and Sciences in 1968. He went on to complete his juris doctor in 1972 at Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C. While a student in General Engineering, he was active in Gamma Epsilon and Omicron Delta Kappa, a national scholastic and service honorary. He received the Illinois Alumni Association Award for outstanding senior in the class, the Marcus-Phillips Award for outstanding senior in General Engineering, and was a Knight of St. Pat. His career began at the Naval Ship Engineering Center in Washington, D.C., where he was engineer of auxiliary systems. He moved on to become patent examiner for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C., and then served as federal law clerk in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. He spent the next five years in the Chicago area as an attorney specializing in intellectual property litigation.

For the past twenty years, he has been CEO, founder, and president of multiple toy-manufacturing and marketing companies and, currently of Kingsland Development Company, Inc., and Delray Financial Group, Inc., in Delray Beach, Florida.

Among his numerous professional and civic associations, he is a member of the General Engineering Alumni and Industry Advisory Board and the Entrepreneurial Engineering Center Advisory Board, as well as the National Society of Arts and Letters, the DeHoernle Alzheimer Pavilion, and the Boca Raton Museum of Art. He has also served as an Engineer in Residence for the past two years. Smollar resides in Delray Beach, Florida. He and his wife have two sons.

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Alumni Events

Fall Alumni Reunion and Engineering Tent Party

More than 125 General Engineering alumni and their guests, faculty members, and seniors attended the GE Fall Alumni Reunion and Engineering Tent Party on September 15 and 16. Reunion activities included tours of the Transportation Building and Grainger Library, walking tours of the engineering campus, admissions presentations (of interest to those with college-age children) and campus tours. A BBQ dinner on the North Patio of TB rounded out Friday evening. Saturday’s fun centered around the COE Tent Party held before the Illini Football Game.

The fall Alumni Reunion has become a tradition! The fall 2001 GE Alumni Reunion is Friday, September 14, 2001. Plan to attend next year. Reunion invitations will be mailed in June to all GE alumni. If you have any questions, call or email Angie Dimit at 217-333-0140 or m-dimit@uiuc.edu. Information is also available at www.ge.uiuc.edu <alumni information>.

(left to right) Kathryn Davis ’74, Jim D’Orazio ’75, Christina Kautzman ’94 at the Fall Alumni Reunion.

Chicago Area Alumni Reception

Approximately 30 GE alumni enjoyed the Chicago area alumni reception held on Wednesday, October 4, 2000, at the Hyatt Regency of Oak Brook. Department Head Harry Cook and several faculty members traveled up to Chicago to “catch up” with alumni. The evening included lots of prizes and great food and conversation. Professor Ray Price, Severns Chair, gave an update on the progress of the Technology Entrepreneur Center, Harry Cook shared some remarks about the latest news in the department, and Angie Dimit encouraged alumni to get involved and stay connected through opportunities like the Alumni Mentor Program, Engineer in Residence, and various alumni events. The Chicago area alumni reception is traditionally held immediately following one of three GE 342 industry partner presentations in the fall.

(left to right) Dorothy White, Conrad White BSGE ’50, Edna Mae McCarthy, and Michael McCarthy BSGE ’49 at the Chicago Area Reception.

(left to right) Harry Cook, Jerry Dobrovolsky and Tom Conry at the Fall Alumni Reunion.
From Your Alumni Relations Coordinator

What an exciting time it has been for the Alumni Office in General Engineering. It is tremendously rewarding to work in a department where alumni genuinely want to be involved and give something back because they feel so positive about their education and how it has supported them in their professional endeavors. Thank you! For my article in this newsletter, I have chosen to share some assorted observations with you.

It has been encouraging to see the response for the alumni reunion. This year’s attendance was double that of last year, and we are already planning for next year. We look forward to seeing you back on campus. This will be a tradition for General Engineering, so if you can’t make it one year, keep it in mind for future years.

Additionally, GE alumni have invested more than $230,000 in the department this year. This is a 197% increase over last year. These funds have enabled the department to make major progress in numerous areas that directly affect students. One achievement is that we were able to fund the General Engineering Scholars Awards and establish the new GE Service Awards. These scholarships and awards are supported totally by our annual alumni contributions, so your continued support is greatly appreciated. Whatever the level of your gift, I want you to know that we are using it to better serve our students. Please be sure to read about our awards elsewhere in this newsletter.

One of the most interesting parts of my job is that I work with corporate relations and placement for our students. It is amazing to me that the founders of this department in 1921 had the vision to know the importance of integrating engineering and business principles. As I meet with recruiters and university/corporate relations representatives, I find that our students are well positioned for success in today’s employment arena. The interdisciplinary and comprehensive nature of the curriculum, combined with the strong project and industry-based focus, is highly desirable in today’s market. Employers are looking for engineering graduates who are articulate, who understand how to be a team member and a team leader, and who have the problem-solving experience to offer enterprising solutions to real-world challenges. Our General Engineering curriculum provides a solid foundation in these areas with a high degree of hands-on industry exposure. General engineers understand how they fit into the entire process, the “whole” of the organization, and can participate constructively with the marketing, finance, and customer service functions of the corporation.

Another interesting part of my job is that I work with student recruitment and alumni relations. Prospective students and families are impressed to hear that our alumni are so involved and invested in the best interests of current students in General Engineering, from the Alumni Mentor Program, to the General Engineering Placement System, to the Engineer in Residence Program.

Thank you for your exceptional support. We have achieved much, and we have high expectations for the upcoming year. I know that you will continue to be an integral part of our success.

— Angie Dimit

89 The South Carolina Sea Grant Extension Program has hired Miles D. Phillips to serve as a coastal recreation and tourism specialist. Before joining the sea grant program, he worked as an environmental engineer for five years and also as an environmental education project leader for Fundacion Natura in Ecuador.

The Motorola Science Advisory Board inducted Thomas M. Tirpak as an associate member in recognition of creative and innovative technical contributions in the areas of equipment, line, and factory optimization and decision support systems. About 1.5% of Motorola’s technical personnel are invited to be associate members.


Ev Nafpliotis-Coleman and Mike Coleman announce the birth of their first child, Diana Anastasia. Diana was born on December 11, 1998. The father is second vice president in auditing at the Northern Trust Company in Chicago. The mother is a quality assurance analyst at Silvon Software in Westmont. The family resides in Warrenville.

Andrew W. Jajernik and Becky A. Walz were married at the Wheatland Salem United Methodist Church in Naperville in November 1999.

Julie Upp er was promoted to senior engineer with Exxon Chemical Company. She was assigned as project control engineer to the Singapore Chemical Complex Project, which is scheduled to start-up by year-end 2000.
Spiro J. Deligiannis was relocated to the Pacific South Divisional Office in Hong Kong of United Airlines in September 1999. Responsibilities include strategic planning, market development, and route profitability for a geographic area covering greater China (China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong), India, southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

Lisa Dullum married Olav Lund-Mikkelsen on September 25, 1999, in Columbus, Indiana. Stephanie Swinski (MSGE '91), Christopher Hoyle (BSGE '88), and Christine Timko (BSGE '92) attended. The bride graduated with an MBA from UCLA in June 1999 and currently works as a product marketing manager for Hewlett-Packard.


John R. Kerr and Kristine F. Young were married June 12, 1999, at the home of the bride's mother in South Berwick, Massachusetts. The bride is employed by Liberty Mutual Insurance in Portsmouth; the groom is employed by Andover Controls Corp. in Andover, Massachusetts. The couple resides in Newmarket.

Jason A. Struthers was named electromechanical vice president of sales & marketing for Cleveland-based Parker Hannifin Corporation. He and his wife, Amye, announce the arrival of Abigail Ruch, born May 30, 1999. They live in Medina, Ohio.

Please indicate:
- Include above information in Alumni Updates of the GE Alumni Newsletter.
- Do not include above information in the next GE Alumni Newsletter.

I am interested in receiving information about the following:
- GE Alumni Mentoring Program
- Senior Design Project 342
- General Engineering Placement Service (for students)
- GE 291 and TQE
- Engineer in Residence

Return Alumni Update Form to Angie Dimit:
FAX 217-244-5705
OR 117 Transportation Bldg.
104 South Mathews Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801
OR online at www.ge.uiuc.edu/alumni_information>

Thank you.
The National Space Society presented the Space Pioneer Award for Education to the Float’n Illini Team, advised and supported by General Engineering. This prestigious honor recognizes exceptional public outreach in relation to their participation in NASA’s Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program. The Float’n Illini was co-organized by General Engineering alumna Kendra Lynch ’99. Although she graduated, Professor Henrique Reis continues as the faculty advisor to the Float’n Illini, and General Engineering continues to support the team with dedicated office space in the Transportation Building and assorted resources. The following is an excerpt from the presentation that was made in May 2000 at the national meeting.

In 1998 two University of Illinois students, Kendra Lynch ’99 and Jennifer Jones, discovered the NASA Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program. This program, funded by NASA and administered by the Texas Space Grant Consortium, takes teams of undergraduate students aloft in a KC-135A aircraft to study the effects of microgravity on various scientific experiments. The KC-135A (a.k.a. comet) maneuvers through a series of about 40 steep climbs and descents, providing passengers and their experiments about 25 seconds of weightlessness, and about an equal time of twice the force of gravity, on each parabola. Teams of up to four students and a professional journalist fly aboard the aircraft to conduct experiments while a supervising professor and a student ground team support their flying counterparts.

Lynch and Jones contacted technical advisor Scott MacLaren through their National Space Society Chapter at the UI, and in only two months, recruited the 98-99 Float’n Illini Team, including Reis as faculty advisor. The students designed a fluids experiment to test oil injection into water under weightless conditions. Their proposal was accepted by NASA, and the students built the hardware after school and on weekends in just two months. They raised enough money from sponsors to cover their travel to Houston. The team was interviewed by local print and television media, and after the flight, they shared their experiences with elementary, middle, and high school students as well as adults at conferences. Their flight was the cover story for the September/October issue of Ad Astra magazine.

Several members of the team graduated in 1999. The returning members built upon the first year’s success to recruit another fluids team and also form a new team to do a sonochemistry experiment. Sonochemistry is the use of ultrasound to create tiny bubbles whose sudden collapse drives chemical reactions. Both proposals were accepted by NASA. The fluids team has seven members and the sonochemistry team eight members.

The Float’n Illini are devoted to fueling the interest and knowledge of space among people of all ages. Their educational outreach plan was directed towards their faculty and students as well as to their local community. Not only did the students go out and give presentations about their flight experience, they also shared their enthusiasm and knowledge about space exploration with students from kindergarten through college. The students used slide shows, demonstrations, booth displays, and videos to encourage students to pursue their dreams of exploring space. They tailored their presentations for the various age levels—using Toys in Space for the youngest groups, and discussing the details of fluid physics in microgravity with college classes and faculty. From Girl Scouts to children who were just learning English, the message was clear: there are exciting opportunities in space.

Even though the Float’n Illini have been in existence only two years, their educational activities made such a difference that they were recently recognized with an award from the Student Affairs Office at the UI for exceptional leadership, substantial contribution to the campus, and outstanding and innovative service within the local community.

The students also sought out and encouraged contacts with local and national media, who helped spread the students’ educational message to a wider audience. Besides coverage in Ad Astra magazine last fall, they were interviewed for Illinois television and radio shows and written about in the Chicago Tribune. The Float’n Illini’s booth at Engineering Open House was singled out for coverage on the local CBS affiliate. They created an extensive presence on the Internet at: www.uiuc.edu/ro/floatn, which continues to reach people all over the world. Team members continue to visit local elementary, middle, and high school classes to talk about everything from bubbles to black holes.

The National Space Society is proud to count such exceptional students among our members and applauds their outreach initiatives and accomplishments with the Space Pioneer Award for Education.
News from the Alumni and Industry Advisory Board

Three new members were welcomed to the General Engineering Alumni and Industry Advisory Board at its winter meeting:

Marianne Dickerson ’82, director, New Business Development, R. R. Donnelley, Chicago, Illinois

Marvin Smollar ’68, president, Delray Capital Corporation, Delray Beach, Florida

Kenneth Woods ’63, president, D. L. Woods Construction Incorporated, Zionsville, Indiana

Special certificates were presented to board members who had served as Engineer in Residence during the spring and fall 1999 semesters: Michael Brunetto, Jim D’Orazio, Jeff Morris, Tom Prickett, Dick Reynolds, Marvin Smollar, and Roger Stein. Prickett was presented with the Alumni Association Orange & Blue Award for his outstanding leadership and exceptional dedication over the past two years as president of the board.

The meeting was followed by a holiday reception in the new conference room.

At the spring meeting, members of the board discussed the development of new subcommittees to facilitate more personal involvement. Board President Jim D’Orazio encouraged all board members to participate on a subcommittee and recommended that email/teleconferencing be the primary vehicle for subcommittee communication.

Anyone interested in serving on the Alumni and Industry Advisory Board is welcome to submit his/her name for consideration to Angie Dimit at m-dimit@uiuc.edu.

Department of General Engineering
Constituent Alumni and Industry Advisory Board
Officers 2000–2001

President
James D’Orazio ’75
Grubb & Ellis Management Services, Inc.
James.dorazio@grubb-ellis.com

First Vice President
Daniel Krueger ’87
Andersen Consulting
Daniel.p.krueger@ac.com

Second Vice President
Gerald Pine ’69, MSGE ’70
Gas Research Institute
Gpine@dsl.telenocity.com

Alumni Directors
Tom Prickett ’60 (ex-officio)
Thomas A. Prickett & Associates
217-384-0615

Mary Beth Burke ’87
Marybeth.burke@inl.com

Fred Jewell ’87 MSGE ’89
Andersen Consulting
Frederick.w.jewell@ac.com

Alumni Association Constituent Representative
Dick Reynolds ’53, MS ’58
Dickreyn@aol.com

Fall Department Picnic

Carolyn Beck, Horique Reis, and Jim Lacke.

Randy Elkins and Peggy Hills.
Dear Alumni,

Each year, the General Engineering Placement System requests the assistance of our GE alumni in finding internship and full-time employment for general engineers. We would appreciate any information you could provide regarding the status of hiring at your company. In the competitive job market of today, you can think of GEPS as a means of free advertising. Below is a survey about your company and GE hires. The responses we receive from our survey are distributed to all GE students through a handbook, electronic mail, a bulletin board, and our Web page.

After completing the survey, you may send it traditionally through the mail to the address below, fax it to us at 217-244-5705, or email the information using \[\text{INENDINO@UIUC.EDU}].

We thank you for your time and consideration for assisting GEPS with job placement for our GE students, and look forward to working with you. Very soon this will be online.

GEPS
117 Transportation Bldg.
104 South Mathews Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801

| General Engineering Alumni Name | .......................................................... |
| Year of Graduation | .......................................................... |
| Name of Firm | .......................................................... |

**Check one:**
- [ ] My firm is currently hiring.
- [ ] My firm is not actively hiring but will review the résumés of qualified applicants.
- [ ] My firm is not hiring at this time.
- [ ] Other

**Positions available:**
- [ ] Engineering design
- [ ] Technical sales
- [ ] Manufacturing
- [ ] Consulting
- [ ] Other

**Summer positions: check one:**
- [ ] My firm is hiring engineering students for the summer.
- [ ] My firm is not hiring engineering students for the summer.
- [ ] Other

**GE 342, Senior Design Course: check all that apply:**
- [ ] I would like to receive an information packet about the Senior Design Course.
- [ ] I would like to receive a call about project sponsorship.
- [ ] Other

**Alumni–student programs: check one:**
- [ ] I would like to be involved in the alumni–student mentor program.
- [ ] I would like to be involved in presentations for GE 291.
- [ ] I would like to be involved in other projects/programs bringing together alumni and students.

**Contact Person for job openings:**

| Name | .......................................................... |
| Company | .......................................................... |
| Address | .......................................................... |
| Telephone | .......................................................... |
| Fax | .......................................................... |
| Email | .......................................................... |

Attributes/training that you are seeking for successful engineers in your firm:  

| .......................................................... |
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David W. Hyten joined the prestigious Crown Council of Dentistry. With this group, he raised $6,000 for St. Jude’s Hospital through the Smiles for Life program. After his first year in business, he was nominated for Mississippi Valley Business of the Year by SIUE School of Business.

Anne Marsan received her Ph.D. in mechanical engineering in April 1999 from the University of Michigan. She is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering at the University of Notre Dame.

Joshua Kundert was named a winner of the Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies competition and began doctoral work this fall. The one-year fellowship award includes payment of all tuition and fees and a $14,500 stipend.

James S. Pluta and Rebecca Magee were married at the Laurel United Methodist Church in Springfield, Illinois, in May 2000.

J. Ryan Smith and April E. Calhoun were recently married at Pleasant Grove Bible Chapel in Danville. He is employed by NACCO as a design engineer; she is employed by Lauhoff Grain Co. After a honeymoon cruise to Key West, Florida, the couple resides in Bismarck.

Jill A. Tucker and Robert J. DeNardo were married on June 17, 2000, in Chicago. She is a manager with Andersen Consulting, and he is a systems engineer with Texas Instruments. The couple resides in Glen Ellyn.

Christopher K. Wyatt graduated from the SIU School of Medicine on May 22, 1999. He planned to enter an internal medicine residency at Keiser Air Force Base in Mississippi. He will begin his practice of medicine in the U.S. Air Force, where he holds the rank of Captain.

Harry A. Johns, 100, died April 23, 1999, at his home in Morrison. Following high school, Johns volunteered for service in the Army for WWI and saw action in France and Germany. He had been employed with the Kroehler Manufacturing Co. and retired as plant manager in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1959.

Russell G. Henry, 94, died May 1, 1999, at his residence in Peoria. An employee of Caterpillar for 41 years, he retired as plant manager in the plant engineering department in 1970. For many years, he helped lay out many subdivisions in the Peoria area.

William I. Julian, 94, died January 6, 2000, at Naples, Florida. Julian resided in Champaign for 46 years. He was active in the Salvation Army and at First Presbyterian Church and was a long-term adviser for Delta Upsilon. His interests included hunting and playing golf.

Maurice L. Hamilton passed away in 1997.

Robert E. Baumberger, 88, died October 27, 1999, at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, where he had resided for the last 16 years. Baumberger worked on engineering projects in Greenville before going to Cincinnati for two years of city management training. He served as city manager in four cities and ended his career as an advisor and consultant in Ethiopia, Iran, and Saudi Arabia.

Melville C. Lindsten passed away July 30, 1999, at the age of 84. He worked for 36 years for Bodine Electric Co. as sales manager.

Robert E. Diemer, 81, died on December 25, 1999, at Livingston Manor, rural Pontiac. He served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1945. Mr. Diemer had owned and operated Allis Chalmers Implement business in Pontiac for 18 years. He also operated a grain elevator in Reddick and later farmed. He was an avid fisherman.

Gerald E. Cornwell, 69, of Quincy, died on January 18, 2000, in Blessing Hospital. Mr. Cornwell served in the U.S. Navy from 1951 to 1954 and farmed in Ursa Township for many years. He was a collector of Oliver tractor memorabilia, antique farm toys, and American Indian artifacts.

Max L. Whitman, 64, died May 26, 2000, at Glenbrook Hospital, Glenview. Whitman had been employed by the Illinois Department of Transportation. In 1960, he became village engineer and traffic engineer for Oak Park. In 1966, he was appointed director of public works at Winnetka, where he worked for 27 years. He was a member and past president of the Winnetka Rotary Club and an elder at First Presbyterian Church of Wilmette.

John R. Funkhouser, 63, died April 27, 1999, at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana. Funkhouser was employed as an engineer with the UI Operation and Maintenance Division and Magnavox and Xerox corporations. He helped design the earliest copiers.

Mark D. McFee, 40, died July 22, 1999, at his home in Collinsville. McFee was a mechanical engineer with G.E. Magnum Technologies in Fairview Heights. He was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene.
Alex Coleman (center) presented "The Future of Telecommunications: Mr. Spock was Right" at the 2000 GTE Lecture Series Seminar. This biennial event is made possible with a five-year grant from the GTE Foundation (now VERIZON).

The mission of the Department of General Engineering is to:

- prepare students with innovative engineering, design, problem solving, and business skills needed to develop and bring to market competitive products and services for the benefit of society;
- develop the character, self-reliance, leadership, and entrepreneurial skills of our students through a high degree of choice, involvement, and responsibility for their education;
- engage in leading-edge interdisciplinary research and service to industry, the state, and the country;
- provide high-quality state-of-the-art courses of service to the college, the university, and the community at large.

'96 Julie Heedum and Pete Monacella were married on August 14, 1999. He is a management information systems specialist at Cap Gemini Ernst & Young in Chicago, and she is a systems engineer at Motorola in Rolling Meadows. The couple lives in Palatine.

David A. Kahley and Jennifer L. Roling were married on March 6, 1999, at Saint Anthony of Padua Church in Rockford. The bride is a law student at John Marshall Law School in Chicago. The groom is employed as a sales engineer with Frontier Communications in Chicago. The couple resides in Chicago.

'97 Aimee Frake and Michael L. Lutz were married in June 2000. She is currently an engineering manager with Fluid Dynamics in Boulder, Colorado.

'98 William L. Parker, Jr. and Sherry L. Swofford are planning a September 30, 2000, wedding at St. Philomena Catholic Church in Monticello. The bride is a case manager for Catholic Social Service foster care program in Champaign. The groom is an engineer for the Illinois Department of Transportation at Paris, Illinois.

'99 Kevin D. Bollman and Kelly M. Buescher were married on August 7, 1999, at St. Henry's Church in Belleville. He is a sales engineer with Control Solutions in Lombard, Illinois.

Shane D. Cieso and Sarah E. Stanfield were married September 11, 1999, at St. Mary Immaculate Catholic Church. She is employed by CDW Government, Inc., and he is employed by Andersen Consulting. Following a honeymoon to Las Cabos, Mexico, the couple lives in Buffalo Grove.

Brent A. Clark and Rachel J. Stauffer were married July 26, 1997, at Harvest Time Bible Church, Rock Falls. She employed at Provena Covenant Medical Center. He is enrolled the University of Illinois Department of General Engineering master's program. Following a wedding trip to Burlington, Vermont, the couple resides in Urbana.
Calendar of Events

Monday, December 11, 2000
9:00–11:00 a.m.—Senior Design final presentations
12:00–1:00 p.m.—Luncheon
1:00–4:00 p.m.—Alumni and Industry Advisory Board meeting
4:30 p.m.—Holiday Reception in Transportation Building

Mark your calendar for next year!

Tuesday, April 10, 2001
Spring Awards Banquet

Friday, September 14, 2001
GE Alumni Reunion

Saturday, September 15, 2001
Engineering Tent Party

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