

## From the Dean's Desk



Dr. Wayne Davis

As I reflect on the college's accomplishments during the last year and look forward, I can't help but be excited about the future of engineering. Our college has grown substantially over the last several years in both size and quality. The preliminary information available as I write this message is that the number of freshmen entering directly into our Freshman Engage program is approximately 413 students for this semester. This is 30% larger than last year's Engage enrollment and clearly a high for the last ten years. The average math ACT of these students is 30.0 and 30% of our new students are in the Chancellor's Honors program. Our freshman to sophomore retention rate of the students who enter directly into our Engage program is also at an all time high of 82% overall and 89.5% for the honors students. All of our honors students and many of the other students are committed to an international experience during their degree program at UTK, and we are working closely with our faculty, universities across the globe and our corporate partners to help facilitate these experiences.

Our graduates are also making a difference within the state, the nation and around the world. One indication of this impact

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## College of Engineering Moves Forward with New Building Projects

Progress on the college's building construction and renovation projects is going well with most on schedule, according to Dr. Bill Dunne, COE dean for research and technology.

The Min H. Kao Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Building, on the corner of Estabrook Drive and Cumberland Avenue, is expected to be substantially finished in August 2011. The contractors will conclude final work in September of that year and then officially hand the building over to the university and the College of Engineering.

"The exterior is nearly completed on the west and north sides," Dunne said. "Work on the interior of the building is ongoing. In some areas, including the classroom annex, the inside projects have made substantial progress, but in others we are on schedule but at the stage of precursor mechanical and electrical work."

Dunne expects the exterior work on the north and west side of the building will be completed close to the beginning of the fall semester so that Middle Way Drive can be reopened for traffic.

The college's other new facility, the John Tickle Building, is on track for construction to begin in December of this year. The entire building design was submitted to the State Fire Marshal for review Aug. 30, so construction plans are being finalized.

"We're hoping that the building will be completed in Aug. of 2012," Dunne commented. "I know that sounds like a short period of time, but we've been assured that it can happen."

As for the Joint Institute for Advanced Materials (JIAM) facility on the university's new Cherokee Campus, site preparation is in progress and Dunne anticipates that construction will begin in late 2010 or very early 2011.



The Min H. Kao Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Building



The John Tickle Engineering Building



The Joint Institute for Advanced Materials (JIAM) facility

"The JIAM building is a more complicated project," Dunne said. "The mechanical and construction documents are going forward, and this project is likely going to be completed in late 2012 as well."

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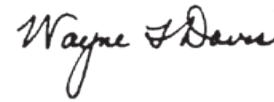
## Dean's Desk *continued from page 1*

is the fact that our 23,400 alumni are located in all 50 states and 64 countries. We are pleased that 50 percent have stayed within the state, providing a stable workforce for the state's economic and technological development, but we are also proud that our graduates are making an impact across the globe. If you have ideas about how to enhance our student international experience, please let us know at [coe@utk.edu](mailto:coe@utk.edu).

The college's strategic plan to grow to meet both the interest of new students at the undergraduate and graduate levels as well as to meet the need for engineers in the workforce does not come

without its challenges. While the college's enrollment has grown by 18 percent and 37 percent, respectively, at the undergraduate and doctoral levels over the last six years, the number of faculty remained relatively constant until last year. Through the success of programs such as the UT/ORNL Governor's Chair program and other opportunity hires, we have been able to increase the faculty size by about 10 percent over the last year and half, and we are implementing plans to continue this growth over the next several years. We are grateful to the state, the Board of Trustees, our Board of Advisors, the university

and our alumni and friends who have helped us in many ways to plan for and meet the challenges presented by a growing student body. We are confident that we will be able to continue to provide a quality educational experience to the future engineers who are needed to improve the world in which we live.



## Building Projects *continued from page 1*

Current plans are for several COE researchers and faculty members to have space in the JIAM building.

The college will do a series of chessboard moves with a number of departments as the new structures are completed and ready for occupancy. The Department of Electrical Engineering and

Computer Science will move from locations in Ferris and Claxton Halls to the new Min H. Kao Building. The Department of Materials Science will move to the former EECS offices on the fourth floor of Ferris plus the lower three floors of the building, while the Jerry E. Stoneking Engage Freshman Engineering Program, the Advising Office and the Engineering Diversity Program office will be relocated to the fourth and fifth floors in Ferris.

Once the Tickle building is completed, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering will move into the new facility from locations in Perkins, Estabrook and Berry Halls, freeing up considerable space in Perkins. The Department of Industrial and Information Engineering will also relocate to the Tickle Building from East Stadium Hall. Dunne also plans to move two of the college's research centers, The Center for Materials Processing and the Reliability and Maintainability Center, to Perkins Hall.

The situation with Estabrook is more problematic, Dunne added. Although the building is the second oldest on campus, it was built without a single foundation and is in fact several structures linked together.

"We're hoping we can return Estabrook to the university once we have relocated all of our personnel in offices and labs that are currently housed in that building," Dunne said. "At that point, UT administrators would make a decision on what to do with the building. Estabrook's proximity to the football stadium is one issue as well as difficulties meeting fire code regulations in such an old and complex building."

In addition to freeing up space in Ferris and Perkins Hall, 8-10,000 square feet in the Science and Engineering Research Facility will also become available when the Min H. Kao Building is completed.

Once the new buildings are completed and the former materials science space is open in

Dougherty, the biomedical engineering faculty will move back from Perkins Hall to be in closer proximity to the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Biomedical Engineering Department (MABE) main offices on the fourth floor of that building. Direct renovations related to the damage from a fire that broke out in Dougherty a few years were completed in April 2010. The second phase of the renovation to upgrade life safety systems is currently in progress.

Dougherty may also be the recipient of a \$1.8 million National Science Foundation (NSF) grant that will fund the construction of state-of-the-art research labs in the facility. COE nuclear engineering professor Dr. Wes Hines led efforts to put the grant together, with assistance from Dr. Bamin Khomami, professor and head of the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering (CBE), and Dr. Bill Hamel, professor and head of the MABE department. Dunne said the indications are hopeful that the COE will receive the grant, which is expected to be announced in October 2010.

Another space that will eventually be available to the college is Senter Hall, formerly the White Avenue Biology Annex. The building is undergoing an internal renovation from a teaching science laboratory to a research wet lab facility. Current plans are to complete the renovation by April 2011, and it will provide laboratory space similar to that available in SERF. The building is shared space between the COE and the College of Arts and Sciences; however, tenants can only stay in Senter for up to two years, so that it acts as surge space for new hires and new programs prior to their being located in other permanent facilities.

"The next few years will bring us a lot of opportunity to expand and to enhance both our teaching and research missions with these new spaces," Dunne said. "We've just got to stay focused and organized to get everything completed."

## COE Appoints Two New Governor's Chairs



Dr. William Weber

Dr. William Weber, an authority in the interaction between radiation and materials, has been named the eighth University of Tennessee-Oak Ridge National Laboratory Governor's Chair.

Weber will serve in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at UT Knoxville and in ORNL's Materials Science and Technology Division.

He was previously a laboratory fellow and team leader at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), where he served as a researcher since 1977.

For more than three decades, Weber has researched the complicated interactions between radiation and ceramic materials. He uses both direct measurement of materials and extremely powerful computer simulations to examine how radiation affects ceramics. The research has broad applications, touching areas from nuclear energy to environmental remediation, and even space exploration.

Weber has been a particularly prolific researcher, and has published more research than all but one scientist in the more than 45-year history of PNNL. Weber is the editor or co-editor of five conference proceedings, and the author or co-author of more than 320 journal articles, seven book chapters, 108 peer-reviewed conference papers and 53 technical reports.

Weber has spent his entire career with PNNL, where he also served until recently as chair of the PNNL Council of Fellows, chair of the PNNL Publication Advisory Committee and manager of the PNNL Laboratory Fellows Initiative. He received his bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, and his master's degree and doctorate, both in nuclear engineering, from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.



Dr. Brian Wirth

The university has also named Dr. Brian Wirth, an authority in the ways materials behave in extreme environments, as the ninth University of Tennessee-Oak Ridge National Laboratory Governor's Chair.

Wirth was previously an associate professor at the University of California, Berkeley, which he joined in 2002 following several years as a materials scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Wirth leads a number of research projects funded by various U.S. Department of Energy offices to investigate the performance of nuclear fuels and structural materials in nuclear environments. The research is planned to lead to improved prediction of the longevity of nuclear reactor components and ultimately the development of high-performance, radiation resistant materials for advanced nuclear fission and fusion energy applications.

Wirth will serve in the Department of Nuclear Engineering in the COE and in ORNL's Computer Science and Mathematics Division as the Governor's Chair for Computational Nuclear Engineering.

Wirth's research plays a key role in America's future now that nuclear power is once again considered a viable energy source. New policies are being created to ensure existing nuclear power plants are upgraded and operating at close to full capacity, and other initiatives are in the works in order to include nuclear power as a part of the energy production effort. Wirth's research ensures this is done safely and efficiently.

As a Governor's Chair, Wirth will have the opportunity to further his research by taking advantage of the exceptional resources and expertise available at both UT Knoxville and ORNL. Among those resources is DOE's first energy innovation hub, the Consortium for

Advanced Simulation of Light Water Reactors, recently awarded to a multi-institutional partnership led by ORNL.

Wirth's preeminent research has been published in more than 100 peer-reviewed papers in archival journals and conference proceedings, which have been cited more than 1,400 times. His research is currently funded by several offices within the U.S. Department of Energy (Office of Nuclear Energy, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, Office of Fusion Energy Sciences), the National Science Foundation and the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office within the Department of Homeland Security.

Wirth received a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1992 and his doctorate in mechanical engineering from the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 1998, where he was a Department of Energy Nuclear Engineering Graduate Fellow.

The UT-ORNL Governor's Chair program is designed to attract exceptionally accomplished researchers from around the world to boost joint research efforts that position the partnership as a leader in the fields of biological science, computational science, advanced materials and neutron science.

Funded by the state of Tennessee and ORNL, the program attracts top scientists to broaden and enhance the unique research partnership that exists between the state's flagship university and the nation's largest multi-program laboratory.

Other UT-ORNL Governor's Chairs include:

Jeremy Smith, Governor's Chair in Computational Biology, appointed in 2006.

Howard Hall, Governor's Chair in Global Nuclear Security, appointed in 2009.

Frank Loeffler, Governor's Chair in Environmental Microbiology, appointed in 2010.

Alexei Sokolov, Governor's Chair in Polymer Science, appointed in 2009.

Yilu Liu, Governor's Chair in Power Electronics, appointed in 2009.

Thomas Zawodzinski, Governor's Chair in Electrical Energy Storage, appointed in 2009.

Robert Williams, Governor's Chair in Genetics and Biomedics at the UT Health Science Center and ORNL, appointed in 2009.

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## COE Welcomes Eight New Faculty Members



Dr. Cong Trinh

These professors have joined the college this fall:

**Dr. Cong Trinh** is an assistant professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. Trinh's research areas include inverse metabolic engineering and systems biology; metabolic flux quantification; cell physiology and advanced fermentation; and bioremediation. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Trinh will join the CBE faculty in January 2011.

The Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science has added four new faculty members. **Dr. Judy Day**, an assistant professor, received her Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Day's research areas include mathematical models of the immune response to various insults and application of engineering control algorithms to ODE models of the inflammatory response to test potential therapies to correct immune response dysfunction. **Dr. Gong Gu**, also an assistant professor, has 13 U.S. patents on organic semiconductor devices, display technologies and circuit design. He received his Ph.D. from Princeton University. **Dr. Nicole Nelson's** research areas encompass mixed signal VLSI circuit design particularly applied to bio-sensors and imaging; exploring the application of information theory to study trade-offs in circuit design; microfabrication and development of devices. The new assistant professor in EECS received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. **Dr. Jinyuan (Stella) Sun**, an assistant professor, received her Ph.D. from the University of Florida. Sun's areas of expertise include security and privacy in wired/wireless networks and systems, wireless communications and computer networks.



Dr. Judy Day

The Department of Materials Science and Engineering welcomes **Dr. Yanwen Zhang**. She received her Ph.D. from Lund University, Sweden, and her research areas include interactions of charged particles with materials, detection and characterization of charged particles including ion-solid, electron-solid and photon-solid interaction.

The Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Biomedical Engineering welcomes **Dr. Matthew Mench**, professor and Condra Chair. Mench received his Ph.D. from the Pennsylvania State University and has two United States patents and one international patent issued, three additional U.S. patent applications currently being reviewed and three invention disclosures also under review. Mench's primary research area is fuel cells.



Dr. Gong Gu

**Dr. Bethany Goldblum** has joined the Department of Nuclear Engineering as an assistant professor. Goldblum's Ph.D. was awarded at the University of California, Berkeley, where she was a Clare Booth Luce Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow. She was also a member of the Project on Nuclear Issues Scholar at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C., and served as a technical associate in physics and advanced technologies at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, Calif.



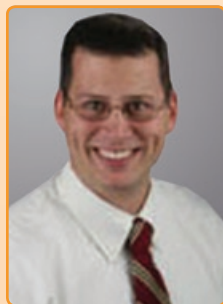
Dr. Nicole Nelson



Dr. Jinyuan (Stella) Sun



Dr. Yanwen Zhang



Dr. Matthew Mench



Dr. Bethany Goldblum

## Pharr Receives Inaugural MRS Innovation in Materials Characterization Award

**Dr. George Pharr**, McKamey Professor and Head of the Department of Materials Science (MSE), and **Warren C. Oliver** of Nanomechanics in Oak Ridge, Tenn., have been honored with the inaugural MRS Innovation in materials Characterization Award for their joint work on nanoindentation. Pharr and Oliver were cited for "seminal contributions to the development of the instrumentation and analysis methods of nanoindentation for characterizing the mechanical properties of materials at the micro-and nanometer length scales." Oliver received his Bachelor of Science degree in materials science from the University of Tennessee and is the son of the late Dr. Ben Oliver, a long-time faculty member in the MSE department. The award was presented to Pharr and Oliver at the 2010 Materials Research Society Spring Meeting in San Francisco.



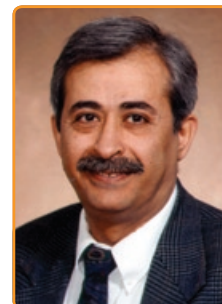
Dr. George Pharr

## MABE Professors Win NASA Award

**Dr. Jay Frankel** and **Dr. Majid Keyhani**, both professors in the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Biomedical Engineering, have received a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) EPSCOR Award for 2010. The funding was awarded for "Patented Heating Rate Sensor and Analytic Tools for Prediction of Surface Heat Flux and Temperature of TPS via In-Depth Sensor Data".



Dr. Jay Frankel



Dr. Majid Keyhani

## Dr. Stephen Paddison, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Dr. Stephen Paddison, an associate professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering (CBE), is passionate about polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cell research.

"Proton exchange or polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cells (PEMFCs) are applicable as power supplies for a range of devices, including portable electronics, vehicular power, or stationary power for small buildings. Essentially these fuel cells will be used to directly charge energy storage devices including batteries," said Paddison. "My group is essentially interested in the materials used in PEMFCs, with a specific focus of the material properties at a fundamental, that is, molecular-level." The majority of his research involves the simulation of the structure and function of materials.

Paddison received his bachelor's in chemical physics and a Ph.D. (1996) in physical/theoretical chemistry from the University of Calgary, Canada.

"When I finished my Ph.D., I chose to do a fellowship in a completely new area of research, and it really came as an opportunity to do something different than what I had done in the past," commented Paddison. The post-doctoral fellowship and later staff position with the Materials Science Division at Los Alamos National Laboratory led Paddison into experimental and theoretical investigations

of sulfonic acid based polymer electrolyte membranes.

Paddison then spent three years as an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Materials science at the University of Alabama in Huntsville before taking a position at the University of Tennessee in August 2007.

"Mostly what attracted me to the University of Tennessee was the proximity to Oak Ridge. I had spent eight years in Los Alamos National Lab, and was well acquainted with what could be done in a national lab with all their 'toys,'" explained Paddison.

In the classroom, Paddison hopes to instill a level of enthusiasm in graduate and undergraduate students.

"I don't want to make anything more difficult than it is, but I don't want my students to be afraid to tackle the difficult topics," Paddison said. His professional achievements mimic his classroom mentality as he too has tackled obstacles for the success of new discoveries in fuel cell research.

"We are extremely fortunate to have attracted Stephen to our program at the University of Tennessee. Not only is he a great scholar but also an excellent citizen of the CBE community," said Dr. Bamin Khomami, professor and head of the CBE department.

Paddison received a 2010 COE Research Fellow Award. The award was established to recognize and reward superior research. For Paddison, the award reflects his exceptional record of fuel cell research activity and efforts that clearly contribute to the mission of the college. He has dedicated more than 14 years to advancing the structure-function relationships in fuel cell materials.

Looking to the future of fuel cell research in his department, Paddison said, "My own aspiration for the department is to bring excellence in terms of research and scholarship, and therefore training of students and young researchers." The majority of his research in the field involves international collaboration with such institutions as the University of Cambridge and the Max Planck Institute, Stuttgart. "I want to bring an awareness of this department to the international community," added Paddison.

Paddison's high expectations and forward-looking philosophy for the CBE department hinges on his central statement that "if you want a good product, then you've got to hold the light, and you have to demand and require a high but achievable standard."

Outside of the classroom, Paddison enjoys spending time with his family- wife Joan, daughter Kassandra, 11, and son Cooper, 10. He is very involved in his children's musical activities. Cooper plays the violin with the youth orchestra, and Kassandra studies the piano.



Dr. Stephen Paddison stands in front of the Kraken, one of the world's fastest supercomputers, at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

## College of Engineering Salutes Excellence at 2010 Faculty and Staff Awards Dinner



COE Dean Wayne Davis (right) presents the Nathan W. Dougherty Award to Dr. John Prados (left) at the 2010 Faculty & Staff Awards Dinner

The University of Tennessee College of Engineering held its annual Faculty and Staff Awards Dinner on Thursday, April 22, 2009, at the Knoxville Convention Center. Award winners, COE administrators and staff and their guests enjoyed a reception, dinner and awards program. This year, members of the college's Board of Advisors and their guests also attended the dinner. COE Dean Wayne Davis and Associate Dean for Research and Technology Bill Dunne served as emcees for the event.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Nathan W. Dougherty Award to Dr. John Prados, professor emeritus in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

Prados is a former Vice President and University Professor Emeritus at UT, where he has served for more than 50 years, beginning as a graduate assistant in 1953. He was a full-time professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering for 13 years, and for the next 20 years he held several administrative positions, including Associate Dean of Engineering, Dean of Admissions and Records, Acting Chancellor of the Knoxville and Martin campuses, Acting Director of Energy Conversion Programs at the University of Tennessee Space Institute and, from 1973 through 1988, he was the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the statewide University of Tennessee system.

He returned to the Department of Chemical Engineering in 1989 and from 1990-93 he was the department head. He served as the Senior Education Associate in the Engineering Directorate of the National Science Foundation from 1994 through 1997. Prados has been a consultant to industry, government and more than 30 universities and state education agencies in the United States and abroad.

In 2009, Prados received the Benjamin Garver Lamme Award from ASEE. Established in 1928, the honor recognizes excellence in teaching, contributions to research and technical literature

and achievements that advance the profession of engineering college administration. Prados was recognized for 50 years of combined service to the University of Tennessee, ASEE, ABET, NSF and to the nation and the world for his leadership in engineering education reform and innovation.

After the award presentation to Prados, Dr. Bamin Khomami, professor and head of the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, announced the establishment of the John W. Prados Professorship in his department. The professorship was created by Malcolm Colditz (BS/ChE '58) and additionally supported by J. Michael Stone (BS/ChE '63), both of whom are former students of Dr. Prados.

Additional awards presented during the evening included:

**Outstanding Support Staff Award:** Julia Elkins, Administrative Services Assistant, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Kristin England, Communications Specialist, Nuclear Engineering

**Outstanding Faculty Advisor:** Dr. J. Wallace Mayo, Instructor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

**Allen & Hoshall Engineering Faculty Award:** Dr. Michael Berry, Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

**Moses E. and Mayme Brooks Distinguished Professor Award:** Dr. Leon Tolbert, Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

**Leon and Nancy Cole Superior Teaching Award:** Dr. John Landes, Professor, Mechanical, Aerospace and Biomedical Engineering

**Charles Edward Ferris Faculty Award:** Dr. Carl McHargue, Professor, Materials Science and Engineering and Director, Center for Materials Processing

### 2010 Teaching Fellow Awards:

- Dr. Richard Bennett, Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Director, Jerry E. Stoneking Engage Program
- Dr. James Plank, Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Dr. Rupy Sawhney, Professor, Industrial and Information Engineering

### 2010 Research Fellow Awards:

- Dr. Joshua Fu, Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Dr. Yanfei Gao, Assistant Professor, Materials Science and Engineering
- Dr. Bin Hu, Associate Professor, Materials Science and Engineering
- Dr. Jian Huang, Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

- Dr. J. Wesley Hines, Professor, Nuclear Engineering
- Dr. Stephen Paddison, Associate Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
- Dr. Xiaorui Wang, Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science



College-wide awardees at the 2010 Faculty and Staff Awards dinner: (left to right) Dr. Carl McHargue, Dr. J. Wallace Mayo, Dr. Michael Berry and Dr. John Landes with Dean Davis



Julia Elkins (left) receives her Outstanding Support Staff Award from Dr. Davis



Kristin England (left) also received an Outstanding Support Staff Award at the event



Dean Davis (right) presented three Teaching Fellow Awards at the awards dinner to Richard Bennett, James Plank and Rupy Sawhney.

## UT-ORNL Collaborate on New Graduate Program



Dr. Bill Dunne (right) confers with Shelly Lohmann (left) about the new graduate programs offered by the university.

The University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) are offering two joint graduate programs. They are the Distinguished Graduate Fellowship and an Energy Science and Engineering (ESE) program. The two programs are administered through the Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Education (CIRE).

"These two programs constitute a new level of collaboration between ORNL, a Department of Energy facility, and the University of Tennessee Knoxville, that will create the opportunity to recruit very high caliber graduate students," said Dr. Bill Dunne, associate dean of research and technology for COE.

Graduate students for these programs will collaborate with the faculty from the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, and Engineering as well as research staff at ORNL. They will determine the curriculum and work primarily as teachers, researchers and mentors for the admitted students.

One cycle of recruiting has already been completed for the Distinguished Graduate Fellowship program. The students enrolled for fall semester were chosen from Michigan University,

Louisiana State University and the University of Tennessee Knoxville.

"There is a preference for U.S. citizens, but we do not exclude international students, said Shelly Lohmann, manager of University and Fellowship Recruiting Programs for ORNL. "We did a great job making this program attractive the first year out, and recruited very good, choice students."

The Fellowship program derived from the idea that the UTK-ORNL partnership paired with a strong stipend would be alluring to high quality prospects that would not normally apply to UTK and cannot apply to ORNL because ORNL does not grant degrees. Students who meet the requirements will receive a \$30,000 stipend for their fellowship.

"We anticipate this program to be very competitive," commented Lohmann.

The Fellowship is a five-year program with a carrying capacity of 60 doctoral students, and focuses on material sciences engineering, computational engineering and nuclear science engineering. Students in the Fellowship program will spend the majority of their time at ORNL. Some students will have the opportunity to participate in both the Fellowship program and the ESE program.

The ESE program is the larger initiative with a carrying capacity of 300 doctoral students. Governor Phil Bredesen provided \$6.2 million of one-time funds to establish this program.

"The governor's vision was to create a unique graduate program that would be a means of growing the next round of manufacturing, service and intellectual industry development for the state of Tennessee in fields related to alternative energy technologies," said Dunne. "Ideally these students would stay in this ORNL-UTK nexus after completing the program and potentially grow an expertise that would become nationally and internationally recognized."

Students involved in the graduate programs will obtain valuable experience that supports an array of professional objectives. The platform for these educational endeavors is state-of-the-art facilities at ORNL combined with globally recognized guidance in science and engineering research between UTK and ORNL. Students will also gain exposure to other national labs, universities, and industries.

"This is a new level of relationship that is premised on the concept of success for both organizations and the students," explained Dunne.

## New leaders Take the Helm in Diversity, Professional Practice Programs



Todd Reeves

The Engineering Professional Practice Office and the Engineering Diversity Programs Office in the College of Engineering have both undergone changes in leadership this year.

In January, Todd Reeves was named as the new director of Engineering Professional Practice, replacing Walter Odom, who left the university to accept a position as Director of Recruiting and Retention with Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Va.

Reeves served for 21 years in private industry, where he focused on new product development, team leadership and customer relationship management.

Reeves' most recent position was with Emerson, working for the Knoxville-based Machinery Health Management business as a senior staff engineer and product manager. In this role, he focused on the creation and global market launch of new machinery condition monitoring products for the process industries. Prior to that, Reeves worked for General Dynamics Electric Boat division in Groton, Conn., as a sound and vibration design engineer, where he assessed the acoustic acceptability of nuclear submarine propulsion plant systems.

Since moving to Knoxville in 1991, Reeves has been an active member of the Knoxville community, leading and participating in various civic organizations. He holds seven patents in the area of machine condition monitoring, and has been a conference speaker while also publishing



COE Dean Wayne Davis (right) greets James Pippin (left) at his surprise retirement reception on May 7, 2010.

20 articles and presentations in various conference proceedings and trade journals.

Reeves has a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering, a Master of Science in mechanical engineering and a Master of Business Administration from Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tenn.

Reeves changed the name of the program from the Office of Professional Practice to Engineering Professional Practice in order to make the official name more descriptive and to align better with other COE department names.

"The adjustment in the name of our program helps to minimize confusion that the old name created," Reeves said. "Having the word 'engineering' in our name clearly identifies the group of students that we support and gives employers a clearer idea of what we represent."

Reeves is excited about the opportunities for the Engineering Professional Practice program, which is the second oldest cooperative education initiative in the Southeast, established in 1926. The program combines classroom learning with educationally relevant, productive work experience in a field related to students' academic and career goals.

"We want to build on the tradition of excellence that has been established," Reeves commented. "A lot of good things have happened previously, and we have an excellent staff. I want to see more student participation and also to grow our

employer base. We're planning to increase our communications efforts with students so they will be more aware of the opportunities that are available with co-op positions and internships."

Reeves also hopes to enhance the program's relationships with faculty and departments as well as the UT Career Services Office.

"I see our office as a place to serve not only co-op students and interns, but also as a resource for students to find out how exactly to go to work—how to prepare from a professional standpoint for that first job."

Reeves, along with staffers Joyce Reed, Suzanne Sawicki and Yvette Hayward, plans to continue to work with students to provide real world job opportunities during their years of academic study.

"Our role is putting opportunities together," Reeves added. "This is a great program—work experience is so important to employers and it's a win-win situation for both students and companies."

In the Engineering Diversity Programs Office, longtime director James Pippin retired on June 30. A reception was held on May 7 at the University Welcome Center to honor Pippin. At the event, the establishment of the James Pippin Pre-College Endowment in the COE was announced. The fund was created by a small group of engineering alumni who joined together for this honorary gift to thank Pippin for his



Former students present James Pippin with a plaque recognizing the establishment of the James Pippin Pre-College Program Endowment.

many years of service to University of Tennessee minority engineering students. Anyone interested in contributing to this ongoing endowment should contact Nathan Zipper in the Engineering Development Office at (865) 974-0323 or via e-mail at [nzipper@utk.edu](mailto:nzipper@utk.edu).

On May 3, Travis Griffin was named as the new director of Engineering Diversity Programs. Griffin comes to the university from Oklahoma State University where he served as the coordinator for the Multicultural Engineering Program. In this role, Griffin focused on recruiting, advising and retaining students for the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology. He also developed, implemented and managed special programs targeted to underrepresented groups and a multicultural awareness program for the college. Prior to this position, Griffin was the outreach coordinator at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) within the College of Science and Technology, in which he mentored students and helped them pursue graduate degrees and career opportunities.

Griffin received his bachelor's degree in software engineering from Mississippi State University in 2004 and his master's degree in higher education from USM in 2005.

Griffin is an active member, leader and advisor within the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and National Association of Multicultural Engineering Program Advocates and has received numerous recognitions and

honors including the NSBE Alumni Extension (AE) National Leadership 2006 award and the Region 3 NSBE AE Dedication 2006 award.

"It is an honor to succeed the legacy of James Pippin," Griffin said. "This position is a dream come true for me, and I plan to follow the vision that has already been established for the diversity programs."

Griffin defines his plans for the future in these words: outreach, recruitment and retention.

"We are planning to enhance our outreach to African-Americans, Native Americans and Hispanics," Griffin commented. "We also want to provide more outreach to women as an underrepresented group in engineering. We want the student organizations such as NSBE, the Society of Hispanic Engineers and the Society of Women Engineers to help us with these efforts. In terms of academics, preparation is critical for students to succeed in the engineering program. We are using initiatives such as the Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (TLSAMP) and our Summer Bridge programs to help them acclimate to the requirements to succeed in engineering. In terms of retention, we provide monthly professional and academic development sessions to help the students excel in the program."

For more than three decades, more than 900 minority students have graduated from the UT Knoxville College of Engineering, due in large part to the diversity programs' efforts in



Travis Griffin

recruiting, retaining and graduating African-American, Hispanic and Native American engineering students. Since 1978, UT Knoxville has consistently ranked among the top 50 universities and colleges in the nation for graduation rates of African-American engineering students. The college's initial outreach to underrepresented students began in 1973 with the establishment of the Minority Engineering Scholarship Program, which was renamed the Diversity Engineering Scholarship Program (DESP) in 1999. The DESP program is currently under the auspices of the Engineering Professional Practice Office.

Both Reeves and Griffin plan to work together to meet the goals for their respective programs.

"Travis and I have agreed that we want to take a fresh look at DESP and see if we can make it even more beneficial for students," Reeves said.

Griffin agreed. "The system that has developed within the DESP is great for retention," he said. "The professional experience that it provides is outstanding. We also want to make sure that academic excellence is the key to the program."

For more information on the Engineering Professional Practice Office, visit: <http://www.coop.utk.edu/>

For more information on the Engineering Diversity Programs Office, visit: <http://www.engr.utk.edu/diversity/>

## College of Engineering and Eastman Continue Productive Relationship

The University of Tennessee College of Engineering (COE) and Eastman Chemical Company, founded in 1920, a global chemical company that manufactures and markets a broad portfolio of chemicals, fibers and plastics, have enjoyed a strong and mutually beneficial relationship for many years. The company is based in Kingsport, Tenn.

"Eastman and the university have a strong corporate partnership which encompasses research partnerships, community outreach programs and a number of advisory boards and councils," said Norris Sneed, Senior Vice President for Manufacturing Support and Chief Administrative Officer for Eastman. "In addition, Eastman has more than 300 UT alumni working in various roles from entry level positions to an executive team member. The strong commitment from both Eastman and the university enables both parties to be innovative, develop breakthrough technologies and provide an avenue to develop outstanding leaders."

One example of this long-term partnership is the capstone design class for chemical engineering students, which has been facilitated by Dr. Charles Moore in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering (CBE) for more than 20 years.

"The Capstone Design Program is an opportunity for five to 10 senior chemical engineering students from UT to work on a process control issue for Eastman in exchange for class credit. The program is directed by Dr. Moore and is coordinated at Eastman through the company's Advanced Controls Technology group. Over the years, Eastman has hired more than two dozen students who were part of the Capstone Design Program," Sneed commented. "For Eastman, the program offers various benefits. It provides Eastman with an academic approach to process control issues, along with the opportunity for technical studies of our processes to find solutions to current day problems. The program also offers an opportunity for Eastman's Advanced Controls Technology group members to gain experience in instructing and learning from students. Additionally, it is a chance to promote our company among potential engineering recruits, and it further supports our relationship with the University of Tennessee and the College of Engineering."



The students also receive the benefit of adding an industrial component to their undergraduate curriculum. The course provides a team approach to solving problems. The students gain experience in delivering presentations to an audience of industrial professionals, and it allows them an opportunity to apply their academic studies to "real world" problems. They also get the experience of visiting an industrial plant site and seeing chemical process equipment firsthand, along with the opportunity to talk with Eastman's process operators.

The chemical company also sponsors the Eastman Leadership Seminars through the university's Office of Career Services. This program helps students to prepare for future careers in all concentrations, not just engineering. Leaders from Eastman interact with students in an open and relaxed environment to discuss real world topics, current issues and leadership styles. The program also provides opportunities for participants to engage with students from different concentrations and backgrounds.

"The intent of this program is to provide student participants with skills that enable them to

become better communicators and leaders. Our hope is that this initiative will give students the confidence and professionalism required to excel in a competitive workforce," Sneed said. "The program provides Eastman with many benefits as well. A valuable take away the company gains from the program is information about what the current generation values. It provides Eastman with insights into what these students are looking for in a future employer. Participation in this program also allows Eastman an opportunity to showcase the quality of its leadership and the value placed upon employees at our company. Lastly, it's an excellent opportunity for us to identify potential hires early on in our recruiting process."

Eastman recently provided the engineering college with \$1 million to establish a new Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Fellowship in the CBE department.

"Our goal for this position is to help enable the university to attract the brightest students into the graduate program and provide adequate funding for the selected individuals to be successful," Sneed commented. "The funding also shows Eastman's commitment to UT, specifically the College of Engineering."

Sneed adds that, although Eastman was not immune to the current difficult economic climate and did evaluate multiple cost cutting measures and made some very tough business decisions, the company is also dedicated to making sure that decisions on reducing short-term costs do not jeopardize long-term growth goals.

"Our initiatives with UT support many of our future growth endeavors," Sneed said.

Sneed said that Eastman looks forward to continuing its relationship with both the university and the COE, and is confident that his company will continue to progress in the future.

"Our company is committed to growth and we are well-positioned for growth," Sneed said. "We will continue to build on our core businesses while also pursuing new growth opportunities in emerging global markets. Our vision is to be an outperforming chemical company by delivering growth for our employees, customers, owners and communities. We expect Eastman to be a larger company than it is today, with a broader global footprint."

## COE Collaborates with College of Business Administration to Offer Courses Focused on Engineers' Needs

The University of Tennessee College of Engineering (COE) and College of Business Administration (CBA) are collaborating to provide business education opportunities to UT engineering graduates. Leading this effort and guiding the business curriculum is Chuck Parke, a 1985 graduate of UT's College of Engineering. Parke's last management position before joining the CBA faculty was vice president of operations of Whirlpool Corporation.

"My UT engineering degree armed me with the strong, technical foundation to advance my engineering career," said Parke. "However, as I moved up the organizational ladder, it became apparent that I needed to better understand my organization from a strategic and leadership perspective."

Parke earned his MBA (through the University of Tennessee Executive MBA program) in 2003.

"Earning my MBA allowed me to understand my organization through the eyes of leadership – both financially and strategically. After I retired from Whirlpool, I joined the college to develop and teach courses that specifically addressed the needs of engineers and manufacturing leaders."

For nearly 40 years, the college's Center for Executive Education (CEE) has offered non-degree, short courses and executive-level MBA programs for working professionals to enhance the technical expertise of engineers. It began in 1970 when CEE developed the Engineer/Scientist as a Manager program for Tennessee Industry Week, a collaborative program in which both the engineering and business colleges were involved. CEE's Executive Development Program began in 1972 through the encouragement and financial support of the organizations that contributed to the college's first major endowment campaign. In the 1980s, CEE aligned itself with Dr. W. Edwards Deming, the father of quality improvement initiatives, to establish itself as a world-class leader in quality and process improvement education; the center grew as did its initiative to engage with organizations in those areas through applied research and field implementation support.

CEE continued its leadership role through the 1990s by offering globally ranked programs in lean enterprise and supply chain management/logistics that continue to be delivered by internationally renowned faculty.

"We see a lot of engineers in our lean, process improvement, supply chain management and performance-based logistics (PBL) programs," said Bric Wheeler, program director. "The percentage is especially high in our custom PBL programs. We are about to do supply chain management

programs for the organizations around the Kennedy Space Center—where engineers are everywhere!"

CEE's focus on designing courses specifically for engineers and technical professionals continues to strengthen.

"We conducted extensive research with manufacturing site leaders who told us what they needed to better lead their organizations and advance in their careers," continued Parke. "We believe that manufacturing will continue to be a core component of American industry, and we will continue to invest in it."

As a result of this research, four new engineer-focused courses in the areas of business and leadership are being offered:

- **Leadership Success for Manufacturing Site Leaders:** developed to provide manufacturing site leaders with the solid strategic-level leadership skills and broadened functional business skills necessary to successfully lead a manufacturing facility
- **Communication Strategies for Technical Professionals: Leveraging Your Technical Expertise:** for junior to mid-level engineers, scientists and other technical professionals who wish to strengthen their communication skills across the organization
- **Leadership Tools for Manufacturing Management:** offering practical solutions to the unique leadership challenges faced by current and "high-potential" manufacturing managers
- **Managing In a Technical Environment:** for engineers, scientists and other technical professionals responsible for managing technical employees

For engineering graduates who are interested in earning their executive-level MBA to build their overall leadership and strategic skills, the Center for Executive Education offers five unique MBA degree options, three of which count numerous engineers among their alumni.

UT's one-year Aerospace & Defense MBA program provides a business education to aerospace and defense professionals focused on the unique challenges and aspects of that industry. Approximately 50 percent of its graduates hold technical undergraduate or graduate degrees.

Jeff Babione, chief engineer for Lockheed Martin's F-22 Raptor program, holds a B.S. in engineering



from Virginia Tech and an M.S. in engineering from Washington University. He completed the UT Aerospace & Defense MBA program in 2008.

"Although I was already an experienced engineer in a successful career, I knew that I needed an MBA education," said Babione. "I needed to understand how engineering decisions impacted the company's profitability and sustainability. Engineers typically don't get a lot of exposure to the business side of things, but it was clear to me that in order to advance, in order to make better decisions, I needed to understand that side of the business."

The one-year Executive MBA program and 16-month, weekend-format, Professional MBA program both count a significant number of engineers as alumni. Approximately 20 percent of their graduates are engineers who understand the importance of building their business skills. A 16-month Global Supply Chain Executive MBA is being offered beginning first quarter in 2012.

UT's Professional MBA program offered Bill Fulghum, a UT graduate with a master's degree in civil engineering, an opportunity to gain a new perspective on managing his engineering firm.

Fulghum was able to study companies such as Toyota while learning from fellow students.

"The sharing of knowledge was invaluable to me," Fulghum said.

Whether it is building business skills through non-degree programs or building strategic-level business competency through an MBA program, COE graduates have many opportunities to enhance their excellent technical backgrounds with a solid foundation of business knowledge.

For additional information on any of these programs, please visit <http://TheCenter.utk.edu> or contact Rhonda Barton at either 865-974-1626 or [rbarton@utk.edu](mailto:rbarton@utk.edu).

## COE Spring 2010 Commencement



Dr. Wayne Davis (left) and Raja Jubran (right)

The College of Engineering Spring 2010 commencement ceremony took place on Wednesday, May 12, with more than 240 engineering graduates participating in the event. A group of approximately 2,000 parents, friends and relatives attended the graduation, which took place in Thompson-Boling Arena on the UT-Knoxville campus at 11:30 a.m.

Dr. Wayne Davis, dean of engineering, led the academic procession that signaled the beginning of the ceremony. The procession included associate deans, department heads and faculty representatives. Dr. Susan Martin, UTK Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor, and Dr. Brad Fenwick, UTK Vice Chancellor for Research, also attended the ceremony.

Mr. Raja Jubran (BS/CE '81), founder, Chief Executive Officer, and 50 percent stockholder of the Denark Construction Company, Inc., was the commencement speaker. Jubran has led the management team of the general contracting and engineering company since its incorporation in 1985. A former member of the college's Board of Advisors and the recipient of the 2004 Nathan W. Dougherty Award for outstanding achievements in engineering, Jubran reminded graduates to thank everyone who helped them along the way—parents, community, alumni and faculty. He also offered five suggestions for a successful future: be a leader; stand up for what you believe in; make the right choices; take care of your family; and take care of your community and give back to it.

The college's top students were also recognized: Zachary Taylor Dixon, aerospace engineering; Mark Edward May, chemical engineering; and Timothy Richard Wentz, computer engineering. Daniel Stephen Smith was recognized as the winner of a Society of American Military Engineers Award. This Society ROTC Award of Merit is a national award given only to 20 ROTC Air Force cadets by central military service board.



Seven COE graduates were officially commissioned in the U.S. Airforce and U.S. Army



Several graduates from the College of Engineering 2010 Class

The event also featured a military ceremony, where Lt. Colonel Michael S. Angle, a professor of aerospace studies at UT, officially commissioned seven COE graduates into the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army. The new second lieutenants are Brittany Starr Arnold, Andrew Zane Jackson, Garrett Anthony Karnowski, Sharon King, Christopher Michael Riley, Daniel Stephen Smith and Benjamin Stephen Yeager.

In recent years, the university's colleges have been conferring diplomas during smaller, more individualized graduation events.

## COE Departments Ranked by U.S. News and World Report

For the first time, all academic departments based in the College of Engineering have a graduate degree program nationally ranked by the U.S. News and World Report, and the nuclear engineering graduate program is in the top 10. College of Engineering Dean Wayne Davis said the college's latest rankings will help recruit highly qualified candidates for the college's graduate programs.

"Recruiting is also being enhanced by the recently established UT Knoxville-ORNL Graduate Fellowship Program, a new program designed to attract top graduate students in science and engineering, and the fact that our nuclear engineering program is one of the best in the country will be a definite asset in attracting high-caliber candidates to UT," Davis said.

UT's College of Engineering's overall graduate program was ranked 73rd nationally out of 198 public and private colleges and 44th among public universities.

**College of Engineering programs ranked nationally:**

- Aerospace Engineering is ranked 43rd
- Chemical Engineering is ranked 68th
- Civil Engineering is ranked 58th
- Computer Science is ranked 61st
- Industrial Engineering is ranked 54th
- Electrical Engineering is ranked 66th
- Material Science Engineering is ranked 55th
- Mechanical Engineering is ranked 67th
- Nuclear Engineering is ranked 9th

Each year, U.S. News ranks graduate programs in the areas of business, education, engineering, law and medicine. These rankings are based on expert perception (40%) about the program quality and quantitative metrics (60%) that measure the level of a school's faculty, research and students. Indicator and perception data come from surveys of more than 1,500 programs and some 12,400 academics and other professionals that were conducted the previous year.

## A Productive Legacy

Birthdays and presents go together, but for Spike Tickle (BS/IE '87) the best celebration of all came when he made a gift to the University of Tennessee on his 43rd birthday.

Tickle's gift designated half of the funds for the College of Arts and Sciences with the other portion donated to the College of Engineering (COE). The gift will be used to establish Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fellowships in both colleges.

"The timing worked out beautifully really," Tickle said. "I can't ever recall feeling as excited or thrilled on any birthday as when we were able to establish the Spike Tickle STEM fellowships. I had an overwhelming sense of accomplishment, contribution and pride in UT, my family and in our country that day. It just became the perfect present to myself."

Tickle was born in Knoxville, but his family lived in Ohio and for a while in Green Bay, Wis. before moving back to his parent's hometown of Bristol, Tenn. Tickle attended elementary schools in Bristol and Tennessee High School and Northwestern Military Prep Academy in secondary school. He was interested in attending Annapolis and pursuing a military career, but got sidetracked by a quarter at UT.

"I went to UT to stay up to speed in calculus, English, chemistry and biology while pursuing an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, but after a short time at UT I knew that I was in the right place," Tickle commented.

Tickle's father, COE alumnus John Tickle, received a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering in 1965, and Tickle had an initial interest in engineering. He also enjoyed math, but began his academic career at UT majoring in biology with the intention of going through the pre-med curriculum. He eventually decided that an engineering major provided more options for his future career path.

Tickle enjoyed his years at the university, and still treasures the memories.



Spike Tickle

"When I received my first grade report in the mail with a 4.0, that was pretty sweet," Tickle recalled. "I really enjoyed my times as a brother in the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Phi Delta Theta was a big part of my years at UT. And how about that 1986 Sugar Bowl when UT sacked Testaverde about 20 times and Darryl Dickey completed every pass that he threw—what a great trip to New Orleans. I remember talking to John Ward in the hotel lobby almost every night."

After graduation, Tickle worked for Shell Chemical Company for 10 years, traveling and living all over the U.S. in cities including Denver, St. Louis, Chicago and Atlanta. In 1996, he attended the University of North Carolina, where he received an MBA degree.

Tickle moved back to Bristol in 1998 to join his family's business, Strongwell Corporation, a manufacturer of reinforced polymer composites and pre-cast polymer concrete.

Although Tickle is a relatively young alumnus, he encourages his fellow UT graduates not to wait to contribute to the university.

"I think a lot of the younger alumni don't realize what is possible when you give to UT," Tickle said. "I believe that nothing will propel our society and our nation further than an investment in our children's education. Secondly, UT has the potential and roadmap to be one of the top research universities in the country. Our partnership with ORNL is unparalleled. The quality of life and business environment in East Tennessee is unsurpassed. All we have to do is to invest and work at reaching our goals every day. I know that Chancellor Jimmy Cheek, our leadership and our professors and alumni want the best and that's what we should strive for all of the time."

John Tickle and his wife Ann have set a high standard for giving by contributing to two university buildings. They were instrumental in providing for the construction of the John and Ann Tickle Small Animal Hospital expansion within the College of Veterinary Medicine, which was opened in the spring of 2008. The John Tickle also provided significant support for the new John D. Tickle Engineering Building, which will begin construction on Neyland Drive in November 2010. The facility will house the

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Department of Industrial and Information Engineering.

"It is very humbling and inspiring to see our family name on two campus buildings," Tickle commented. "I have to say, my father really sets a fast pace! We all have to try to do the right thing every day in our lives."

Tickle's wife, Lisa, is a UT graduate, and they have two children—Jack, who is 8 years old, and 16-month-old Josie.

Tickle hopes his gift will inspire others to give to the university.

"I knew that when I gave the gift, I was doing the right thing and that I would have a productive legacy," Tickle said.

## 1950s

**Joe Purkey** (BS/ME '58) published *Ace Sleuth*, *Private Eye* and *Mirandized*. The fictional novels include legal plots along with Knoxville landmarks. Purkey resides in Knoxville, Tenn.

## 1960s



Nancy Cole

**Nancy Cole** (BS/MetE, '63), COE Board Member and the current vice-president of the American Welding Society (AWS) will assume the office of AWS president in 2013. She resides in Fernandina Beach, Fla.

## 1970s



Charles (Chad) Holliday Jr.

**Charles (Chad) O. Holliday Jr.** (BS/IN '70), retired board chairman and CEO of DuPont, will chair a National Research Council panel on research universities. He was named to the National Academy of Engineering in 2004 for "leadership in DuPont's

transformation to sustainable growth through biotechnology, high-performance materials, improved safety, and consumer protection." He resides in Nashville, Tenn.

**Charles L. McEntyre** (MS/EnvE '76) was recognized by the National Society of Professional Engineers as a top 10 finalist for the "Federal Engineer of the Year." He resides in Whitwell, Tenn.

## 1980s



David J. Soukup

**David J. Soukup** (MS/IE '81), managing director for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), has been named the 2010 Outstanding Professional Engineer in Education Award by the New York State Society of Professional Engineers. He resides in Sunnyside, N.Y.



Jerry Stump

**Gerald Stump** (BS/CE '82), executive VP and chief operating officer of Wilbur Smith Associates, has been elected chairman of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee (ACEC). ACEC represents approximately

5,500 independent engineering companies throughout the United States. He resides in Franklin, Tenn.

**Robert C. Wunderlich** (BS/CE '82) was elected vice president of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. He resides in Plano, Texas.

**Thomas A. Bach** (BS/CE '83) has been named to the Board of Directors of JETS, one of the nation's leading nonprofit educational organizations. He is the Utility Systems Engineer for the Water and Sewer Authority of Cabarrus County and is the Community Outreach Committee Chair for the Professional Engineers of North Carolina (PENC). He resides in Concord, N.C.

**Todd Knuckey** (BS/CE '84, MS/CE '97) was named vice chair for the Airport Consultants Council's Legislative and Regulatory Committee. He resides in Springfield, Ill.

**Garrett Lee Skrobot** (BS/EE '88) is a NASA mission manager. He resides in Cocoa, Fla.

## 1990s

**Krishna M. Sadasivam** (BS/EE '95) published *The PC Weenies: Robootus Maximus*. He resides in Knoxville, Tenn.

## 2000s



Emily Ashworth

**Emily Ashworth** (MS/IE '00), VP and CIO for American Water, has been named one of the 2010 Premier 100 IT Leaders by *Computer World* magazine. She resides in Oviedo, Fla.

## Memorials

**Mario G. Zervigon** (MS/EE '31) died on June 22, 1997. He lived in New Orleans, La.

**Herman E. Goddard** (BS/ME '33) died April 19, 2006. He lived in Greeneville, Tenn.

**Franklin S. Chance** (BS/CE '37) died February 19, 2010. He was a resident of Bulverde, Texas.

**Claude A. Fetzer** (BS/CE '43) died May 12, 2001. He lived in Glen Allen, Va.

**Thomas Hagler** (BS/CE '43) died April 6, 2010. He lived in Arlington, Va.

**Mary Poter Fain Owen** (BA/ME '46) died October 27, 2008. She was a resident of Murphy, N.C.

**Alonzo Worley Beasley** (BS/ChE '47, MS/ChE '48) died February 27, 2010. He lived in Spartanburg, S.C.

**Abernathy Graham** (BS/CE '48) died on June 28, 2010. He lived in Englewood, Pa.

**Wilbur (Mac) C. McMahan** (BA/EE '48) died June 17, 2010. He lived in Nashville, Tenn.

**Leon Lindsay Parris** (BA/CE '48) died March 21, 2010. He was a resident of Oak Ridge, Tenn.

**William M. McCampbell** (BS/EE '50) died March 31, 2010. He lived in Huntsville, Ala.

**Howard R. Winn** (BS/ME '48) died May 30, 2006. He lived in Memphis, Tenn.

**Paul E. Overcast** (BS/IE '52) died February 7, 2010. He lived in Loxahatchee, Fla.

**Ralph Kent Phillipy, Sr.** (BS/ME '54) died June 13, 2010. He was a resident of Memphis, Tenn.

**Alvin (Al) Earl Brown** (BS/IE '58) died March 27, 2010. He was a resident of Woodstock, Ga.

**Dr. Peter Jordan Vasiliadis** (BA/CE '58) died March 22, 2010. He lived in Gainesville, Fla.

**Billy G. Stinson** (BS/CE '58) died July 17, 2009. He lived in Bolivar, Tenn.

**Beryl Hugh Parks** (BA/ChE '61) died January 21, 2010. He lived in Lexington, S.C.

**Marion R. Smith** (BA/EE '61) died July 30, 2009. He was a resident of Burlington, N.C.

**Ralph C. Boles** (BS/NE '66) died August 13, 2009. He lived in Huntsville, Ala.

**Samuel D. Gross** (BS/ChE '67, BS/MetE '48) died February 26, 2009. He was a resident of Florence, Ala.

**James (Jim) Howard Corley, Jr.** (BS/ME '67) died March 10, 2010. He lived in Kingston, Tenn.

**William (Bill) George Swann** (BS/ME '68) died on July 5, 2010. He lived in Morristown, Tenn.

**Robert L. Koger** (MS/EngAdmin '76) died November 8, 2009. He lived in Tullahoma, Tenn.

**William (Bill) A. Pitman** (BS/ChE '77) died June 29, 2010. He was a resident of Maryville, Tenn.

**Dr. Samuel R. Pate** (MS/ME '65, PhD/AE '77) died December 7, 2009. He lived in Tullahoma, Tenn.

**Col. Brian L. Webster** (BS/AE '79) died June 21, 2010. He lived in Lancaster, Pa.

**Robert Graham Campbell** (MS/CE '80) died March 25, 2010. He was a resident of Knoxville, Tenn.

**Phillip E. Krantz** (BS/IE '87) died December 10, 2009. He lived in Albany, N.Y.

**Peter Chiennan Yih** (MS/EE '91) died August 24, 2009. He was a resident of Park City, Utah.

## Lisa Bird Wins Send Roses Award



Lisa Bird (left) receives the Send Roses Award from Bruce Delaney (right) and is congratulated by COE Associate Dean Bill Dunne (center).

Engineering Advisor Lisa Bird received the university's Send Roses Award on June 18, 2010. Each month, the Positive Recognition Committee selects an employee who demonstrates outstanding courtesy and customer service. Bird received a framed certificate, three roses, a gift certificate for the UT Book and Supply Store and a reserved parking spot on campus for one month. The award is given to the employee who demonstrates outstanding courtesy and customer service skills. Customers are defined as students, parents, co-workers, faculty, staff, alumni and the general public. Consideration is also given to job performance, work behaviors, initiative and relationship with associates and other customers.

## COE First African American NE Graduate Named Vice Chairman



Jessie Hill Roberson, newly named vice Chairman of the Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, (right) pictured with NE department head Dr. Lee Dodds (left) during a 2006 visit to the UT campus.

Jesse Hill Roberson (BS/NE '81), the first African-American female student in nuclear engineering at the University of Tennessee, has been named vice chairman of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. Roberson's nomination as a board member was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in March, and her designation as vice chairman came on June 24 from President Barack Obama. Hill has been employed in several senior management positions during her career, including Exelon Vice-President, DNFSB Director, Department of Energy Assistant Secretary and CH2M HILL President (Nuclear Business Group).

## Dr. Ron Nutt Receives IEEE Award

Dr. Ron Nutt (BS/EE '61, MS/EE '62, Ph.D./EE '69) was the co-recipient, along with Dr. David W. Townsend, of the 2010 IEEE Medal for Innovations in Healthcare Technology for the design, commercial development and clinical implementation of the hybrid PET/CT scanners. Nutt was one of the founders of CTI Imaging Systems, which was purchased by Siemens, and is currently the chairman of the Board of Advanced Biomarker Technologies in Knoxville. Townsend is pioneer of three-dimensional PET and its required reconstruction algorithms. The two collaborated on the development of the hybrid scanners, with Nutt working to build the first prototype as well as designing the first commercial version. Nutt and Townsend received the award at

the 2010 IEEE Honors Ceremony on Saturday, June 26 in Quebec, Canada.



Dr. Ron Nutt

## COE Graduate Wins 2010 Award of Excellence



John Hillman stands below the 30-foot span of the first HCB-built bridge in Colorado while a locomotive pulls loaded cars across it.

John R. Hillman (BS/CEE '86) was recently granted the *Engineering News-Records* 2010 Award of Excellence for his patented invention of the Hybrid Composite Beam (HCB), which consists of a corrosion-resistant fiberglass box containing self-consolidated concrete, steel strands and low-density foam. The HCB is lighter than conventional beams and has been used in three bridges since 2007. Hillman and his partner, Mike Zicko, run HC Bridge Company LLC that is the patent assignee and supplies HCBs to industry. *Engineering News-Record* provides the news, analysis, commentary and data that construction industry professionals need to do their jobs more effectively. Its products include a weekly magazine with more than 70,000 paid subscribers, a Web site with more than 90,000 unique visitors a month and a series of in-person events. The target audience includes contractors, project owners, engineers, architects, government regulators and industry suppliers around the world.

**A Great Time to be an Engineer**



Dorothy Bryson

*"It's a great time to be an engineer because there are so many problems to be solved."* Joe Robertson ('78 CE)

Just the other day I told a development colleague across campus about a few of the exciting and timely programs in Engineering. "Wow!" she exclaimed with not a little awe, "What wonderful stories you have to tell." Yes, exactly! When I took the assignment to become chief fundraiser for the College of Engineering in February 2008, my commitment was to stay for 12 to 18 months, hire the staff, and help launch the Campaign for Tennessee.

This liberal arts graduate with the English/French/Music background seemed a temporary fit at best (or so my bosses and even I thought). But here I am, "interim" no longer, and very happy about it. Let me tell you why.

The people. Now I was duly warned when I moved to Perkins Hall: engineers are quiet and introverted. Be prepared to do most of the talking (not a problem for me). Huh! Not on your life! You are among the most articulate advocates I have ever met. The entire spectrum of engineering is exciting to you and you have conveyed that enthusiasm to me. Sometimes I haven't understood the intricacies of the science, but I have never missed its relevance.

The challenges. Before working directly in this college I didn't realize the extent to which engineering touches every aspect of my life. From the chemicals in my makeup to the recyclable materials on the roads I drive to the computer programs I cannot live without to the energy I depend on to cool my house, engineers and computer scientists are behind the progress we've made and the futures we anticipate.

The methodology. Okay, this may actually be my favorite thing about engineers. You approach everything – including your philanthropy – with a direct logic that is so refreshing. You tell it like it is and you want real data. I discovered that engineers are inherently generous. Even as this economy has hurt the timing of some major gifts, you are willing to plan with us for the future.

I am not telling you anything you don't know about engineering, but maybe you don't know how much we need you. Private philanthropy is no longer a luxury for public universities. As state budgets are confronted with mandates that pull dollars, education gets media attention but less funding.

It may seem as though my staff and I ask all the time – and we do! That's our job, and you wouldn't think we were very good at it if we didn't ask you directly for support. But the reason we ask is because of the influence your support has on the future. Your gifts help this college teach the unique problem-solving approach of engineering. Your gifts educate engineers who will continue your excitement. They will become field engineers, they will teach and do research at major institutions around the world, they will create companies and rebuild the economy, they will head major corporations. You did.

A donation envelope is inserted in this newsletter's fold, or if it's missing, call us at 865-974-2779, or find us on the Web at [www.engr.utk.edu](http://www.engr.utk.edu). Contact us to learn more about the Dean's Circle and the immediate impact of annual giving, the sustaining power of an endowment, the income options of charitable trusts and gift annuities, or the compelling legacy of a bequest.

What a great time to be an engineer. What a great time to give.

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**THE CAMPAIGN FOR TENNESSEE**

A SPIRIT • A VISION • A PLAN

**Cultivating Knowledge for a Competitive Edge**

As of August 2010 the College of Engineering has secured more than **\$54 million** or 72 percent toward our campaign goal of **\$75 million**. Opportunities to join this effort continue through December 2011.

**Leadership Annual Giving Calendar Year 2009**

Both the Campaign for Tennessee and our new annual giving emphasis are counted on the calendar year. To keep totals consistent, we do the same here.

Gifts to the College Fund for Engineering and seven parallel funds in each of the departments are recognized as annual gifts. In most colleges at UTK, only the College Fund is designated for annual giving, but Dean Wayne Davis firmly believes that strengthening both department support and college-wide support are important.

**Engineering Annual Giving Total 2009 \$371,855.**

Listed here are those who gave to Engineering at Leadership Levels:

*\*Indicates that part or all of their gift went to the College Fund for Engineering. Others supported one or more of the designated departmental funds.*

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- Dr. Kenneth Kihm
- Estate of George Schoolfield II\*
- John and Ann Tickle, Sr.\*

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**Fiscal Year 2010 Donors July 2, 2009 – June 30, 2010**

Evidence that engineering education is important can be found in every name listed here. In the midst of economic challenges – the like of which have not been seen for decades – you have given generously. The impact of these gifts is felt each day, and to each one of you we say thank you.

**Outright gifts**

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## Transportation Academy Introduces 7th and 8th Grade Girls to Careers in Science

Story by Tammy Enix and Lissa Gay

Middle school-aged girls had an opportunity to crash remote-controlled cars, get behind the wheel of a driving simulator, examine debris leftover from a wreck and take electric bikes out for a spin during the UT Center for Transportation Research's (CTR) Transportation Academy 2010, which was held on the UT-Knoxville campus the week of June 14-18.

The summer academy introduced rising 7th and 8th grade girls to the world of transportation and the wide range of career possibilities open to young women. Each day included a different transportation focus: teamwork; planes, trains and automobiles; freight and logistics; transportation safety; and international transportation. The goal of the event is to get the girls interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and to think of transportation as a career option. Behind each activity is a lesson.

"It's a weeklong academy to get girls introduced into transportation-related careers using math and science," explained Deanna Flinchum, CTR research director. "We've pulled females that are in the profession now to work with the girls, and I think that shows them that, yes, it is possible to come into this field."

"I've been having a lot of fun. This whole experience has been great," participant Isabelle Defreese said. "I definitely want to do it again next year. I have learned a lot."

"I had no idea there were so many women," said participant Rachel Ryan. "They are doing a great job. This is normally a man's job."

The girls came to the academy not knowing much about the interesting jobs in the world

of transportation and the driving force women have in it — but now they know and realize the world is open to them, too.

"This has been a lot of fun. I have learned a lot. I am definitely going to consider some of the jobs they have shown me," Ryan said.

"Our hope is that each girl leaves the academy knowing that transportation is fun," said Jerry Everett, research director for CTR and academy organizer. "Even though the path to a career in transportation or another technical field is challenging, it is an achievable goal."

Female transportation professionals, academics and students showed the girls what it is like to be a flight instructor, a marketing and logistics professor, traffic safety engineer, transportation researcher or a transportation planner.

Special activities included a ride on "The Convincer," which simulates what it's like to be in a car crash; tour of a traffic signal lab; a lesson in the dangers of distracted driving from behind the wheel of a driving simulator; and an insider's look at the intricate planning for campus parking and traffic flow for UT Knoxville football games.

The girls learned the lesson of wearing a seatbelt by meeting "The Convincer."

"They said it was to convince you to wear a seatbelt," participant Keylee Troutt said. "So you can feel the impact and that was just at 5 mph, and it hurt really bad when you lifted up. So that was to make you think if you were going way faster how it would feel if you got in a car wreck."

The academy's home base is the UT Conference Center Building, but activities took the participants to the Life Development



Center ropes course in Anderson County, the Tennessee Department of Transportation's (TDOT) command center and traffic monitoring station in East Knoxville, the flight training school followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of McGhee Tyson Airport, a trip on a rail car, the UT Knoxville driving simulator lab in the basement of Perkins Hall and Neyland Stadium.

The academy is made possible through a partnership with Knox County Schools and a U.S. Department of Transportation grant named after Garrett Morgan, an African-American engineer who invented the first traffic signal and serves as the inspiration for the U.S. DOT program that encourages students to pursue careers in transportation.

It is organized and sponsored by the CTR and the Southeastern Transportation Center. UT Knoxville is also a sponsor. For more information on the academy, visit <http://stc.utk.edu/transportationacademy/>.

The CTR was created in 1970 to foster and facilitate interdisciplinary research, public service and outreach in the field of transportation at UT Knoxville. For more information about the CTR, visit <http://ctr.utk.edu/>.

### Calendar

#### Fall 2010

Classes Begin .....	Aug 18
Labor Day .....	Sept 6
Fall Break .....	Oct 7-8
Thanksgiving .....	Nov 25-26
Classes End .....	Nov 30
Exams .....	Dec 2-3, 6-9
Graduate Hooding .....	Dec 10
Commencement .....	Dec 11

#### Spring 2011

Classes Begin .....	Jan 12
MLK Holiday .....	Jan 17
1 <sup>st</sup> Session Ends .....	Mar 2
2 <sup>nd</sup> Session Begins .....	Mar 3
Spring Break .....	Mar 14-18
Spring Recess .....	April 22
Classes End .....	April 29
Exams .....	May 3-6, 9-10
Commencement .....	May 11-13

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## College of Engineering Alumni barbeque Homecoming 2010

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville College of Engineering invites you to **"Homecoming 2010 – Rocky Top the Rebels"** and the Annual Alumni Barbeque On the Hill catered by Dead End BBQ, co-owned by UTK Engineering Alumnus Robert Nutt

**Saturday, November 13th, 2010**

*3 hours prior to the Tennessee vs. Ole Miss game*

Join us for a barbeque lunch, catered by Dead End BBQ; exhibits and demonstrations; and reunions with former classmates and faculty! Register today and be a part of the tradition!

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