

IMPACT



MESSAGE **from the Dean**

By now I'm sure the word is out—and if you haven't heard, an article later on in these pages has more of the details—Elizabeth and I will be returning to Fayetteville this summer, where I will become the dean of engineering at the University of Arkansas.

This has been a remarkable six years and I have been so proud to “wear the purple” as the dean of the Kansas State University College of Engineering. But I don't want this final column to be about the accomplishments and high points of my tenure. That record of success is undoubtedly due to efforts of our faculty, staff, students and alumni—the essence of K-State engineering—which will still be here after my departure.


Let's focus instead on where we're at today and where this fine institution is headed. I truly regret being unable to witness firsthand completion of the Phase IV addition to the engineering complex—a key component of meeting our UEIA goals to increase the number of engineering graduates in the state significantly by 2023. Yet I leave with total assurance this project and process will move forward to its successful conclusion.

We're now embarked on the crucial fundraising aspect of this venture and the leadership for this project will not waver in my absence. We have the full support of the K-State administration, including President Kirk Schulz and Provost April Mason. They, along with the soon-to-be-named interim dean and the soon-to-follow-after new dean, will work alongside our development team to lead in the effort to fund and build a facility that will physically anchor the northwest side of campus, as well academically anchor President Schulz' 2025 vision of Kansas State University being recognized as a top 50 research institution.

My departing petition to each of you—get behind this team. From the time the shovel breaks the ground next fall until a ribbon is cut in grand opening festivities, do your part toward this next great achievement of our college.

I'd like to close with this fitting line from the musical *Annie*: “How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.”

With complete certainty, I can say my time here at Kansas State has blessed me with this reality. I wish you all the very best. Keep up the good work and keep in touch.

John R. English
Dean of the College of Engineering



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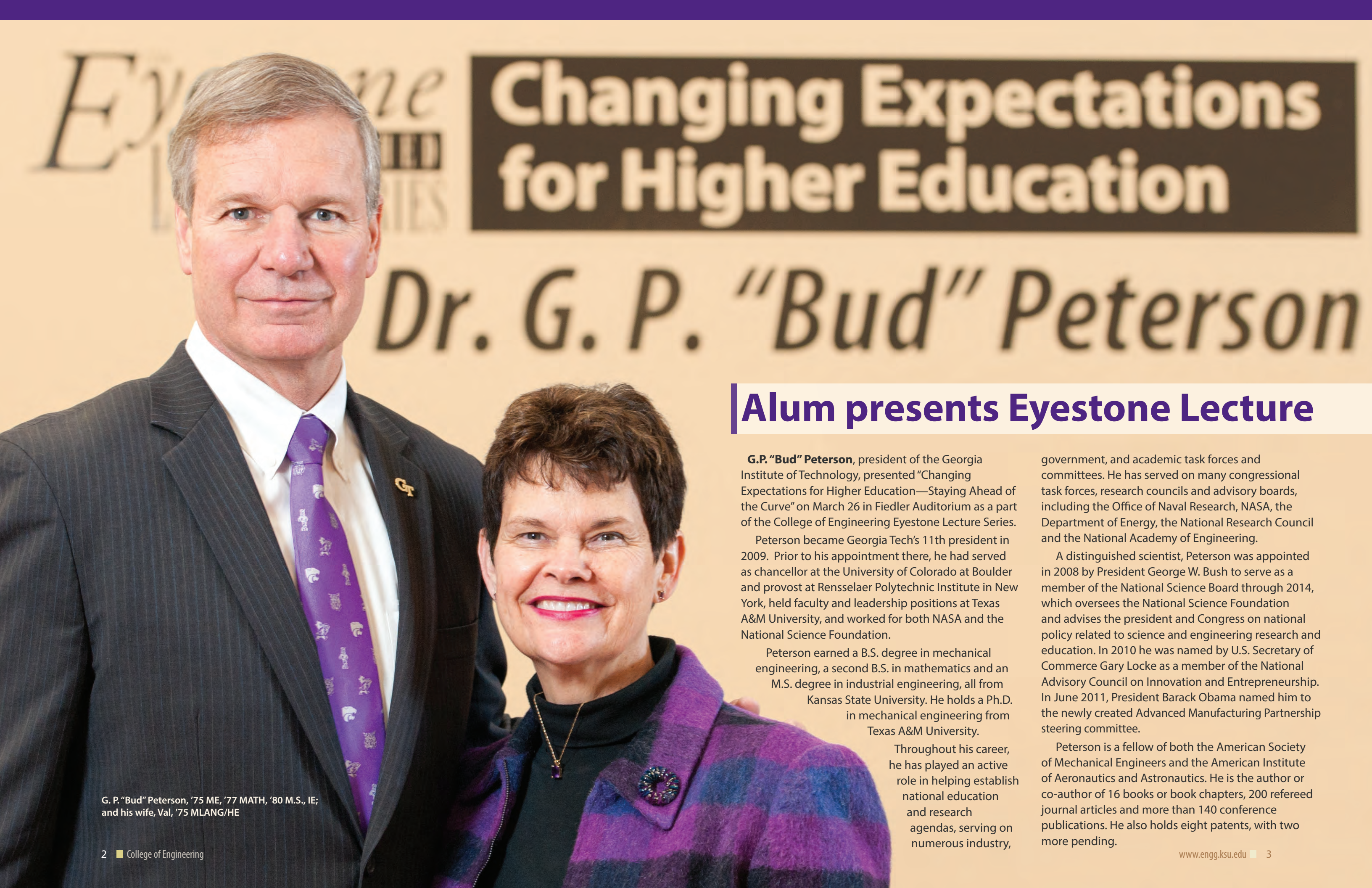
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KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

On the cover
“Wildcat Engineering—150 Years of Impact,” the title of the College of Engineering’s entry for the Wildcat March and a part of K-State’s 150th anniversary celebration. Sponsored by Jim, (CNSM, '84), and Laura Johnson, and designed by local artist Tracy Lebo, Wakefield, the fiber-glass statue is on display in Fiedler Library and will remain there until it is auctioned off in September. For further details on the decorated statues around campus and Manhattan, visit www.k-state.edu/150/wildcatmarch/



Changing Expectations for Higher Education

Dr. G. P. "Bud" Peterson

Alum presents Eyestone Lecture

G.P. "Bud" Peterson, president of the Georgia Institute of Technology, presented "Changing Expectations for Higher Education—Staying Ahead of the Curve" on March 26 in Fiedler Auditorium as a part of the College of Engineering Eyestone Lecture Series.

Peterson became Georgia Tech's 11th president in 2009. Prior to his appointment there, he had served as chancellor at the University of Colorado at Boulder and provost at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York, held faculty and leadership positions at Texas A&M University, and worked for both NASA and the National Science Foundation.

Peterson earned a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering, a second B.S. in mathematics and an M.S. degree in industrial engineering, all from Kansas State University. He holds a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Texas A&M University.

Throughout his career, he has played an active role in helping establish national education and research agendas, serving on numerous industry,

government, and academic task forces and committees. He has served on many congressional task forces, research councils and advisory boards, including the Office of Naval Research, NASA, the Department of Energy, the National Research Council and the National Academy of Engineering.

A distinguished scientist, Peterson was appointed in 2008 by President George W. Bush to serve as a member of the National Science Board through 2014, which oversees the National Science Foundation and advises the president and Congress on national policy related to science and engineering research and education. In 2010 he was named by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke as a member of the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship. In June 2011, President Barack Obama named him to the newly created Advanced Manufacturing Partnership steering committee.

Peterson is a fellow of both the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. He is the author or co-author of 16 books or book chapters, 200 refereed journal articles and more than 140 conference publications. He also holds eight patents, with two more pending.

G. P. "Bud" Peterson, '75 ME, '77 MATH, '80 M.S., IE; and his wife, Val, '75 MLANG/HE



Cindy Wallis-Lage: 2013 honoree

Flexibility—it's a career-defining attribute according to 2013 College of Engineering Alumni Fellow **Cindy Wallis-Lage**, a 1985 graduate in civil engineering.

"Be flexible in where you're willing to go and what you're willing to do when you start your career," Wallis-Lage told students during her campus visit Feb. 20-21.

"I had a strong work ethic that was further developed here in my engineering studies..."

—Wallis-Lage

"I was certain about what I wanted to do after graduation, but it's not what I ended up doing. By keeping an open mind, my career experience has been far better than if I'd stuck only to the plan."

That career path has led to her current position as president of Black & Veatch's global water business. Based in Kansas City, Mo., Wallis-Lage is an expert in water reuse and treatment, and leads and manages a work force

of more than 2,600 professionals worldwide. She also serves on both the executive committee and board of directors of Black & Veatch.

"I believe you can have either a planned career path or a life of fateful opportunities," Wallis-Lage said. "I told the students mine has been the latter. I had a strong work ethic that was further developed here in my engineer-

ing studies, and I set off to see where that combination would take me."

Her first job out of college was in Phoenix, Ariz. "I was faced with new people, a new job and a new world," she said. "But I was never asked to do anything I felt unprepared for. There were certainly things I had to learn, but the fundamentals and critical thinking skills I had honed in my undergraduate classes enabled me to

move through problems and situations, and do things right."

Wallis-Lage believes it is important for an engineering program to keep in touch with the industry it serves in order to stay relevant and properly prepare its students for the world outside. K-State engineering is very good at doing just that, she said, citing it as one of the reasons she has stayed connected to the college, including six years service on the civil engineering advisory council.

"Giving back, to me, means being involved at the level where I can help make sure the engineering school stays as strong as it was when I was here," she said. "I'm very proud of being a Wildcat. And I want others to be able to feel that way in the future."

The honor of being named an Alumni Fellow was unexpected, Wallis-Lage said. "If my story is an example or lesson in any way, it is that there is a lot of value and reward to this career path, if you stick with and complete your engineering education, and be flexible in where it takes you."

Schweitzer launches inaugural seminar series

Edmond O. Schweitzer III, founder and president of Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories Inc. and member of the National Academy of Engineering, delivered the inaugural address of the College of Engineering National Academy of Engineering Seminar Series Feb. 5, in Fiedler Auditorium.

Schweitzer's address, "Engineering a Path to Invention, Entrepreneurship and Management," highlighted his academic and career path leading to the founding of Schweitzer Engineering Labs, an employee-owned company serving the electric power industry worldwide.

Recognized as a pioneer in digital protection, Schweitzer was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering in 2002. He holds the grade of fellow of the IEEE, a title bestowed on less than one percent of institute members. IEEE is the world's largest technical professional organization.

He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in electrical engineering from Purdue University, as well as a doctorate from Washington State University. He served on the electrical engineering faculties of Ohio University and Washington State University, and in 1982 founded Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories Inc. to develop and manufacture digital protective relays and related products and services.

"We were honored to host Dr. Schweitzer as our inaugural speaker of the college's National Academy of Engineering Seminar Series," said Noel Schulz, associate dean for research and graduate programs in the College of Engineering.

"His prominence and expertise in the field of electrical power systems are exemplary of the membership of the National Academy of Engineering, and represent the importance

of bringing this caliber of speaker to campus in the midst of K-State 2025 —our undertaking of becoming a Top 50 public research university."



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

The National Academy of Engineering Seminar Series, established in 2013, is sponsored and funded by the College of Engineering office of research and graduate programs in an effort to bring academy members to campus to speak and meet with faculty and students.



Lecture highlights career opportunities

Wes Bush, chairman, chief executive officer and president of Northrop Grumman Corporation, made a public presentation March 14 in Fiedler Auditorium. He spoke on current and emerging research frontiers at Northrop Grumman as well as career opportunities for engineering graduates.



Bush was named chairman of Northrop Grumman Corporation in July 2011, named chief executive officer and president in January 2010, and elected to the company's board of directors in 2009. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"This was an exceptional opportunity to hear from a top official of one of the leading technical firms in the country," said John English, dean of engineering. "It was such an honor to have him visit the college and speak to faculty, staff and students."

Northrop Grumman is a leading global security company providing innovative systems, products and solutions in unmanned systems, cybersecurity, C4ISR, and logistics and modernization to government and commercial customers worldwide.

Seaton awards and banquet

SOCIETY



Hall of Fame

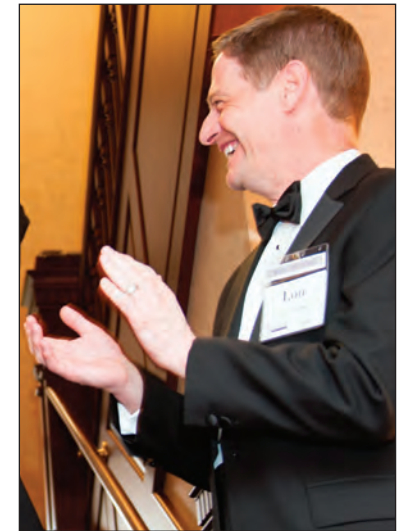
Mark Hutton, Candace Duncan, Tom Paulson

The College of Engineering Hall of Fame inducted three new members on April 6, the highest honor bestowed on its alumni by the college. Honorees were recognized for professional success and accomplishment, involvement with and support of the college, dedication to K-State, and professional and public service.

- James Michael Duncan, M.D.** (awarded posthumously), NE '74
Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Space Life Sciences Directorate, Johnson Space Center. Accepting for her late husband—Candace Duncan.
- Mark Hutton, CNSM '77**
Founder and CEO, Hutton Construction Corp.
- Tom Paulson, CE '73**
Retired vice president, Canadian capital projects, ConocoPhillips



Wayne Harms, left, CHE '76, and Lewis Von Thær, far right, EE '83, present Dean John English, center, with a customized "purple Razorback" spirit hat to send him on his way to Arkansas.



Professional Progress Award

Eleven alumni of the College of Engineering were honored at ceremonies on April 6 for professional career accomplishment during the first 20 years following their graduation.

Kevin Boehringer, ARE '93
Owner and principal
BSE Structural Engineers

Mahesh Bommareddy, M.S. CS '93
Director, product management
and marketing
Cisco

Tak-Kei Chan, EE '90, M.S. '92
Senior vice president and general
manager, global assembly and test
operations
International Rectifier

Cory Downing, ME '93, M.S. IEM '97
Vice president-engineering
Vortex Corp.

Natalie Gosch, CHE '98
Manager, flour milling facility
Cargill

Jon Halbgewachs, CE '97
Senior vice president and Kansas
operations manager
Kirkham Michael and Assoc., Inc.

Ryan McGuire, IE '92
Vice president of pricing
J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc.

John Miller, CMPEN '94
Chief technology officer
Accelerated Vision

Reggie Schoen, ME '95
Refinery superintendent
Cargill

Jennifer Vines, BAE '00
Middle East project services
area supervisor
ExxonMobil Development Co.

Parker Young, CNSM '94
Executive vice president and COO
Straub Construction Co.



From left—Cory Downing, Mahesh Bommareddy, Jon Halbgewachs, Ryan McGuire, Jennifer Vines, Parker Young, John Miller, Tak-Kei Chan, Reggie Schoen, Kevin Boehringer, Natalie Gosch

Triple anniversary celebration

"Tradition of Excellence," a weekend event April 19–20, saw faculty, staff and students of the department of biological and agricultural engineering host alumni and guests for a combined celebration of the 150th anniversary of Kansas State University, the 100-year anniversary of agricultural and biological engineering, and 50 years of the agricultural mechanics and technology management programs.

The weekend coincided with two other on-campus events—the 2013 Kansas American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers section meeting on Friday, April 19, and the College of Engineering Open House, April 19–20. A "Fill in the Trench" ceremony on Saturday marked the beginning of a 3,600-square-foot research lab renovation project for BAE, scheduled for completion in summer 2013.

Below, Joe Harner, department head of BAE, displays a plaque honoring the anniversary. He is surrounded by previous department heads, **left to right, Jim Koelliker, Stan Clark and Gary Clark**.

A barbeque and open microphone for sharing of alumni memories took place Friday evening, and on Saturday attendees gathered for a banquet and celebration of the department's contributions to the College of Engineering, Kansas State University and the field of agricultural engineering. Also recognized were more than 150 top-five placings of design teams, students papers, senior designs, honorary awards and other national accomplishments of BAE undergraduate and graduate students since 1977.



2013



Faculty promotions and tenure

College of Engineering faculty members receiving promotion and/or tenure for the 2012–2013 school year:

Assistant to Associate Professor with Tenure

Fred Hasler, ARE/CNS—indoor and outdoor lighting systems design, geothermal heat pump design

Kyle Riding, CE—concrete structure and pavement durability, early-age concrete structural behavior, concrete microstructure characterization/modeling, and novel cementitious systems

Associate to Full Professor

Hayder Rasheed, CE—structural engineering and computational mechanics with emphasis on stability and nonlinear analysis of fiber-reinforced composites and reinforced/prestressed concrete structures and materials

Caterina Scoglio, ECE—cascading failures, complex networks, computational epidemiology and network robustness

Bala Natarajan, ECE—communications theory, multi-carrier modulation and diversity combining, statistical signal processing and wireless systems

Shuting Lei, IMSE—machining of difficult-to-machine materials, laser-assisted machining of ceramics, femtosecond laser micromachining, numerical modeling of manufacturing processes and development of novel cutting tools

Dean English Arkansas bound

John English, dean of engineering, has accepted an offer to head the College of Engineering at the University of Arkansas beginning July 1.

English, the LeRoy C. and Aileen H. Paslay chair in engineering, was appointed dean here in April 2007.

"It has been an honor and privilege serving the college's faculty, students and constituents," English said. "I'm proud to have helped play a role in the college advancing its reputation of excellence in engineering education and research."

English has seen the college's engineering programs ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News & World Report—undergraduate, graduate and online graduate programs—and helped the university build the largest engineering school in Kansas.

He has been instrumental in helping the college rise to Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback's challenge for the state to graduate more skilled engineers. Engineering is the most popular major at Kansas State University, and the college graduates more engineering students annually than any other Kansas university and engineering school.

"John has been instrumental in elevating the reputation of the college through his ex-

traordinary leadership in shaping academic programs, recruiting distinguished faculty and promoting research," said Kansas State University President Kirk Schulz. "The vision he created for the college in 2008 is one that is congruent with Kansas State University's vision to be recognized as a Top 50 public research university by 2025."

Under English, the college has created partnerships with industry leaders such as BNSF, Garmin and Burns & McDonnell. It also has led the campus in fundraising, exceeding all units in 2009 and 2010.

Transition process in place

As this issue of *Impact* is prepared for printing, an update from K-State Provost April Mason regarding the hiring of a new dean is as follows:

A committee for selecting an internal interim dean convened on April 8 with the expectation of naming that person by mid-May. Also in April, the committee for hiring a new dean was established and charged with conducting a nationwide search for this position. It is the plan to have this person identified by late fall and in place by spring 2014.

University Engineering Initiative Act

Rising toward the future



Since the first drawing and applied mechanics classes were offered at K-State in 1884, the College of Engineering has grown and changed with the times. Seaton Hall was the first official home of engineering. Three buildings were added from 1978 to 2000—Durland, Rathbone and Fiedler Halls, and West Seaton was renovated in 2004 to accommodate the growth of the college. Classes are also currently held in Ward and Nichols Halls. The future engineering building will house an increasing number of students and faculty, and facilitate collaboration, hands-on learning and innovation with new research labs, teaching labs and classrooms.

Completion of Phase IV will set the standard for learning, outreach, research innovation and excellence in 87,000 square feet of new space on three levels, as well as 9,800 square feet of expansion to Rathbone Hall.

Your participation is vital as we continue to build a legacy for future generations of K-State engineering students.

Visit www.engg.ksu.edu/phaseiv or contact the engineering development office at (785) 532-7609 for more information.

Ceremonial groundbreaking for Phase IV of the engineering complex is set for Oct. 25, 2013.



Machine shops, circa 1890



Seaton Hall, 1921



West Seaton Hall, 1952



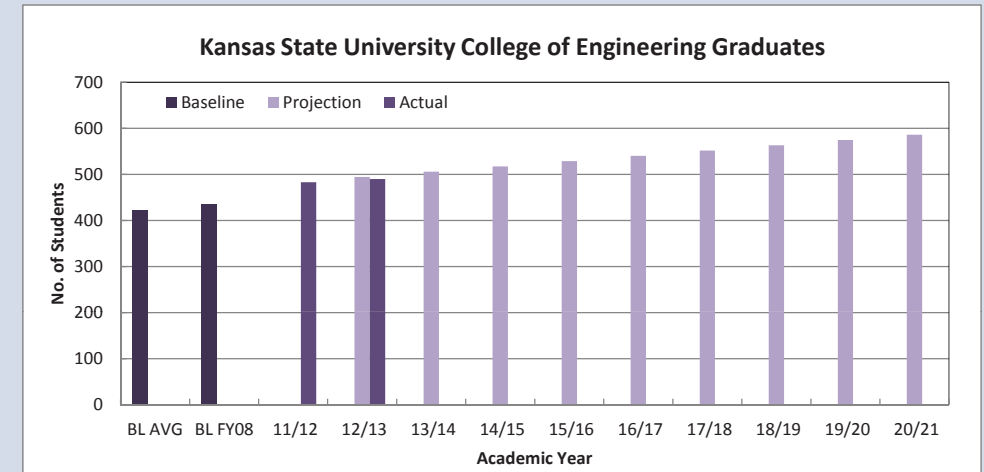
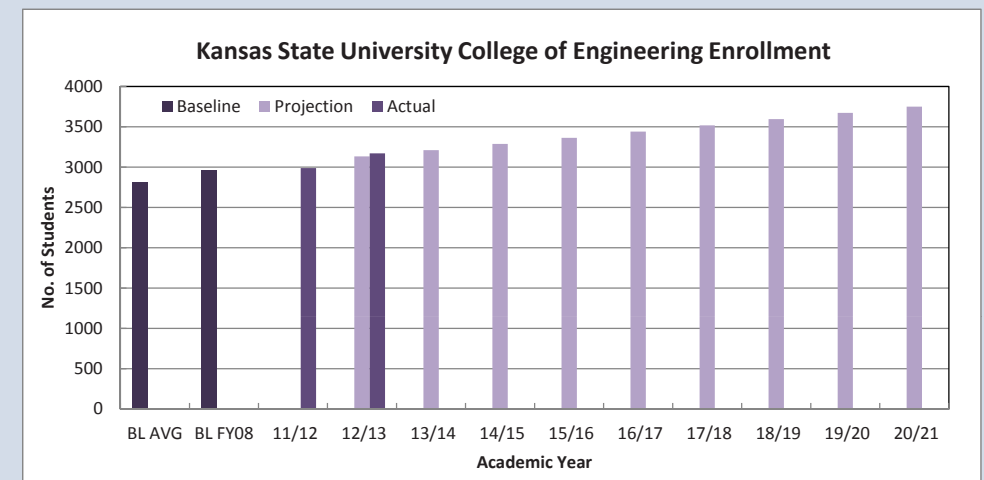
Durland Hall Phase II, 1981

The College of Engineering is working to advance the vision of Kansas State University becoming a top 50 public research university by 2025. To do this, the college has set strategic goals: recruit and retain high-quality students, provide outstanding faculty and technological facilities for the students, establish nationally recognized research programs, capitalize on connections with alumni and corporate partners to strengthen education and research, and prepare students and faculty for the changing global environment.

As the largest engineering program in the state of Kansas, the K-State College of Engineering is key to the success of the University Engineering Initiative Act (UEIA), which has a statewide goal to increase the number of engineering graduates by more than 50 percent over a 10-year period. With state support through UEIA funds and matching private dollars, enrollment and our infrastructure will continue to grow helping us to achieve our 2025 vision.

The charts, **below**, represent our current status in enrollment and graduation rates by academic year.

For more on UEIA, visit www.engg.ksu.edu/ueia



2013 ENGINEERING Open House

Empowering Students to Impact Our Future—the 2013 theme of Engineering Open House, April 19–20. Friday marked traditional activities of the parade, skits, lighting of the torch, and crowning of St. Pat and St. Patricia. Departmental tours and displays were opened to the public that afternoon, followed by refreshments and games for students, faculty and alumni. Saturday kicked off with the BAE pancake feed, and visitors of all ages enjoyed the showcased exhibits of departments, design teams and student organizations. Several industries hosted booths in the engineering complex atrium, with the addition of U.S. Army and ONEOK mobile display units parked outside for interactive participation.



2013 Open House Awards

Yellow Brick	ECE
Outstanding department	IMSE
Technical display	ECE
Curriculum display	CNSM
Limited class display	BAE
Freshman/sophomore display	ECE

Engineering Banquet Awards

- David and Virginia Braun Innovation Award
—Larissa Hall, BAE
- W. Leroy Culbertson/Steel Ring Leadership Scholarship
—Andrew Waldman, IMSE
- Clair A. Mauch/Steel Ring Advisor of the Year
—Ronaldo Maghirang, BAE



St. Pat and St. Patricia

- St. Patricia—Jessica Long, CHE
- St. Pat—Nathan Feldkamp, CIS

Future ENGINEERS?



noteworthy

ARE/CNS under new leadership



Ray Yunk has been named department head of architectural engineering and construction science in the College of Engineering.

He joined the ARE/CNS faculty in 2002, following a broad career in public and private industry in construction engineering. He is a licensed professional engineer in Colorado, a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accredited professional, and an ABET program evaluator.

Yunk holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in architectural engineering from Kansas State University. Previously the ARE

program coordinator, he has developed and taught multiple classes; serves on various committees at departmental, college and university levels; serves as an adviser to undergraduate student groups; and represents the department across the ARE/CNS industry and academic community.

He replaces Professor David Fritchen who has returned to an academic post within the ARE/CNS department, as well as serving as project manager for the College of Engineering and its involvement with the University Engineering Initiative Act.

Stokes named interim department head



Robert Stokes, professor of civil engineering and director of the University Transportation Center, was appointed interim department head of civil engineering in February, following the untimely death of Alok Bhandari who had previously held that position.

Stokes earned a B.S. in engineering from Antioch College, M.S. degrees in both civil engineering and community and regional planning from Ohio State University, and a Ph.D. in urban and regional science from Texas A&M University.

His research focuses on urban, rural and intercity transportation planning; highway design, planning and operations; traffic engineering; design and operation of turning lanes; traffic safety; and transit planning, design and operations.

The university will conduct a national search for a CE department head, with the plan to have the new person in place on or before the end of summer 2014.

Electrical engineering professors earn endowed appointments

The College of Engineering has recognized the accomplishments of two electrical and computer engineering professors with endowed appointments.

Anil Pahwa has been awarded the Logan-Fetterhoof Electrical and Computer Engineering Faculty of Distinction Chair. Pahwa's research focus includes computer methods for power systems, smart distribution systems, and distribution system planning and analysis.

He is currently conducting research funded by two separate National Science Foundation grants, one involving holonic multi-agent control of intelligent power distribution systems and the other dealing with effects of environmental factors on distribution system outages. Pahwa is a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), so honored for his contribution to power distribution system automation and restoration. He is also a recipient of the IEEE PES Douglas M. Staszkesy Distribution

Automation Award, Frankenhoff Outstanding Research Award, Eta Kappa Nu Distinguished Faculty Award, and the Power Engineering Education Committee Prize Paper Award. He is an active member of IEEE, serving as editor of IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, chair of the power and energy education committee, and vice chair of the power system planning and implementation committee. He is the general chair of the 45th North American Power Symposium to be held at Kansas State University in September 2013.

Pahwa received his Bachelor of Engineering from the Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India; his Master of Science from the University of Maine at Orono; and his doctorate from Texas A&M University, all in electrical engineering.



Bala Natarajan has been awarded the Clair N. Palmer and Sara M. Palmer Electrical Engineering Professorship. Natarajan's core expertise spans theoretical domains of statistical signal processing, stochastic and mathematical modeling, and optimization theory. He directs the wireless communications and information processing research group at K-State, which over the past decade has made significant contributions to the areas of wireless communications, sensor networks and signal processing in cyber physical systems, e.g., smart grid and biomedical systems.

Natarajan has more than 100 refereed research publications, has published a book and holds a patent on a customized spreading sequence design algorithm for code division multiple access systems. Two of his currently funded research projects

include a NASA EPSCoR grant involving biosensor networks and telecommunication subsystems for long-duration missions, EVA suits and robotic precursor scout missions; and a National Science Foundation grant involving the K-State student chapter of IEEE and its senior design projects to aid children with disabilities. Natarajan is a senior member of IEEE and has served in leadership roles of organizing and chairing tracks and sessions for numerous IEEE conferences, as well as on journal editorial boards in the signal processing and communications areas. He is a voting member of the IEEE technical committee on cognitive networks as well as the IEEE technical committee on wireless communications.

Natarajan received his Bachelor of Engineering from the Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India, and his doctorate from Colorado State University, both in electrical engineering.

ALUMNI Profiles

Recognitions

'39 **Gerald M. Boatwright** (ME), Mt. Dora, Fla., reports his career path: after graduation he worked 13 months for Phillips Petroleum Co., and then moved to Washington, D.C., and spent the next 34 years with the U.S. Navy, with an additional four years after retirement spent consulting there. He worked with turbine drivers to produce power and noted that computers arrived after his retirement. Also, he has now been retired more years than he worked, and his three children are all retired as well.

'43 **Wesley F. Buchele** (AGE), Ames, Iowa, enjoyed a 34-year career as a professor of agricultural engineering at Arkansas, Michigan State and Iowa State universities. His specialty was farm machinery design and he holds 23 patents. His work involved making hay into large round bales, and harvesting wheat, milo and corn with rotary threshing and separating cylinders that do not grind part of the grain and then throw part of it back on the ground. He is also a full-time author.

'65 **Warren Staley** (EE), Edina, Minn., was recognized with an honorary doctorate from Kansas State University at the graduate school commencement ceremonies May 17. He was also the guest speaker for the event. Staley joined Cargill Inc. in 1969, serving in various positions including president and chief operating officer, CEO and chairman of the board. Staley led the company to record performances until his retirement in 2007. He and his wife, Mary Lynn (ElemEd '65), have been major benefactors to Kansas State for various academic programs, scholarships and facilities improvements across campus. The honorary doctorate follows approval by the Kansas Board of Regents and is one of the highest honors the university can award.

'67 **Jim Schwing** (CE), Salt Lake City, Utah, vice president at CH2M HILL, a global full-service consulting, design, construction and operations firm, was named 2012 Engineer of the Year by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Utah. The honor recognizes his technical excellence and work on critical water infrastructure projects in Utah, as well as his ability to balance responsibilities of service to his fellow employees, the community and the engineering profession. He has been employed by CH2M HILL for 43 years.

'73 **Mohamed T. Abdel-Moneim** (AM), Naperville, Ill., retired from Lucent Technologies in 2003 and is now living in Egypt most of the year and visits the U.S. once a year.

'03 **Nicholas H. Jefferson** (CE), J.D., P.E., Topeka, Kan., has been named an associate in the law firm of Alderson, Alderson, Weiler, Conklin, Burghart & Crow, L.L.C. His practice will focus on the areas of intellectual property, oil and gas, environmental law and water law.

IMPACT

We are interested in following the career paths and accomplishments of our alumni, focusing on promotions, advancements, awards and honors, job changes and of course, retirements, as well as death notices. Please send your information in these categories to—

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Deaths

'50 **Harold Alan "Al" Coleman** (EE), Leawood, Kan., died Nov. 26, 2012. He was employed for 40 years with Mill Mutual Insurance Co., retiring in 1990 as vice president and regional manager. He collaborated with K-State to make the much shown film, "Safety is up to you," for use in the grain and feed mill industry. He is survived by his wife, Susan, who wrote: "Al loved K-State and was proud to have graduated EE. Thank you for being a part of his life."

'99 **Kristin Kay (Ecord) Cole** (CHE, M.S. CHE '00), passed away Jan. 28, 2013, in Little Elm, Texas. She worked for Dow Chemical and loved to mentor and recruit from K-State. She is survived by her husband, Ryan (CHE 2000) and their three sons: Luke, five; James, three; and Ethan, seven months.

From our readers

Dear Editor,

It was great sorrow to read in the fall *Impact* of Dr. Doris Grosh's passing. Dr. Grosh was a highly respected teacher and a warm and caring individual, mothering students when we needed it. Our 1973 (I believe that was the year) Institute of Industrial Engineers, student chapter, honored our chapter faculty sponsor, Dr. Doris Grosh, with a "Mother Hen Award" at our year-end cookout. I found the small blue glass hen-on-a-basket "award" at a jewelry shop on Poyntz and fellow IIE members thought it was spot-on. We felt Dr. Grosh did too when we presented it to her. It was a nice surprise to read in the *Impact* profile that the IE department recognized Dr. Grosh's caring for students and mothering ways at her retirement in 1990 with, once again, "Mother Hen Award" accolades. She was one of a kind.

— Robert Forrester, ET '75

Faculty

Alok Bhandari, 44, Manhattan, Kan., passed away Jan. 30, 2013, after a courageous battle against cancer.

Bhandari was the Dr. Robert Snell Alumni Professor and department head of civil engineering at Kansas State University. He also served as the founding director of the Urban Water Institute, Kansas State University-Olathe. He was a passionate teacher, dedicated administrator and prolific scholar.

A recipient of the National Science Foundation's CAREER award, the Kansas-Science to Achieve Results (K-STAR) First Award, and Virginia Tech Civil Engineering's Outstanding Young Alumni Achievement Award, his academic career was focused on research and teaching in environmental engineering. He authored or co-authored more than 100 publications.

He is survived by his wife, Nidhi Bhandari; their 10-year-old daughter, Mira; his parents, Tara C. and Sheela Bhandari; and his sister, Ila Sharma.

Memorial services were held Feb. 9, 2013, at the All Faiths Chapel at



Kansas State University. A reception followed in the Fiedler Hall Atrium.

Memorials have been established at the KSU Foundation for the Alok Bhandari Memorial Scholarship (www.found.ksu.edu/give/alok) and the Engineers4cancer Foundation (www.engineers4cancer.org), which is a non-profit charity started by his daughter Mira Bhandari to help provide assistance to the caregivers of cancer patients.

Student engineering group best in nation

K-State's Engineering Student Council and Leaders In Freshman Engineering, or LIFE, was named the best freshman council in the nation at the 2013 National Association of Engineering Student Councils Conference.

"There were two major reasons we were given this honor," said Ben Williams, CHE freshman, who attended the conference. "First, we have a unique structure that sets us apart from the other freshman councils, and second, we have a very defined mission. We exist for a real purpose—to raise retention rates in the College of Engineering."

Ryan Pachta, ME freshman, also attended the conference. Pachta and Williams were given the chance to present to the conference about how to run a successful freshman council.

"Since our structure is so different, everyone was really eager to ask questions," Pachta said. "There wasn't a single other council with a structure similar to ours, so I got to work with other universities across the nation to develop their own freshman councils."

The freshman group is coordinated through Engineering Student Council by Debbie Dolechek, ARE senior, and Dylan Hunter, CE sophomore.

"I was in LIFE as a participant last year when we completely restructured it," Hunter said. "It's been incredible to see how much difference the change has made."

"We've seen fantastic results this year with LIFE, and next year things will only get better," said Brendan Bishop, president-elect of the Engineering Student Council, who was also elected as regional recruitment coordinator for the national association while at the conference. "We have an awesome plan in the works and we look forward to developing the next generation of freshman engineers."

Notice of nondiscrimination

Kansas State University is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, or other nonmerit reasons, in admissions, educational programs or activities and employment (including employment of disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam Era), as required by applicable laws and regulations. Responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, has been delegated to Roberta Maldonado-Franzen, Interim Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University, 214 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506-0124, (Phone) 785-532-6220; (TTY) 785-532-4807. 68106-5/13-25,556

Engineering Career Fair and reception



The 35th annual Engineering Career Fair was held Feb. 12–13 in the K-State Student Union Ballroom. More than 145 employers and 330 representatives attended with the goal of hiring K-State students for career, internship and cooperative positions.

Participating companies included Bartlett & West Inc., Black & Veatch, BNSF, Burns & McDonnell, Cargill, Cerner, Garmin, Kansas City Power &

Light District, Perceptive Software, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Union Pacific and Westar Energy.

Above, Melissa Amaya-Colorado, INROADS, left, visits with Marisa Sotelo, freshman in IE, during a reception hosted by the Multicultural Engineering Program on Feb. 11, the evening before the career fair. Twenty-four company representatives gathered in the engineering complex atrium

for food and live entertainment, and meeting with students.

A number of companies also took part in Next Day Interviews on Feb. 13 and 14, which allowed students to interview on campus for positions.

The Engineering Career Fair is sponsored by the university's career and employment services, the College of Engineering and the Multicultural Engineering Program.