

Impact

Kansas State University

College of Engineering breaks ground for Fiedler Hall and Library



Alice Fiedler prepares to cut the ribbon as Gov. Bill Graves lends a hand as Dean Terry King and KSU President Jon Wefald look on.

By Mike Dorcey

Intermittent rain did not dampen the spirits who gathered Oct. 2 to celebrate the beginning of construction of Fiedler Hall and Library, the third phase of the Durland-Rathbone-Fiedler complex that makes up the heart of the college of engineering's facilities at Kansas State University.

Rather than the traditional ground breaking, dignitaries and guests opted for a ribbon cutting at the west wall of the atrium in Rathbone Hall where the new building will link to the rest of the complex through a hallway.

Among the guest speakers were Kansas Gov. Bill Graves; Jon Wefald, president of K-State; Jason Lacey, president of the KSU Engineering Student Council; Alice Fiedler, the guest of honor; and Donald E. Rathbone, dean emeritus of engineering.

In opening the ceremonies, Terry King, the dean of engineering, told the 300 people gathered that the new building would provide the atmosphere for "learning-based, holistic education for engineering students" and "help change the way engineering students are educated. It will be a first-class teaching and learning environment."

Graves reminded those present of the generosity of those who make improvements like Fiedler Hall possible.

"The most important role we celebrate today is that of our benefactors," Graves said. "It is through the thoughtfulness of people like Alice Fiedler that we do see a difference in our students. Every student on this
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K-STATE
ENGINEERING

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Winter 1998

College names three to Hall of Fame

The Kansas State University College of Engineering inducted three new members into the Hall of Fame on Oct. 2, 1998.

The new inductees were Richard W. Corbin (ChE '59), a retired manager of security with Exxon Corporation; Timothy G. Taylor (ChE '75), the worldwide polyethylene general manager of the plastics division for Phillips Petroleum Company; and Robert B. Thorn (CE '50), the managing partner of Finney and Turnispeed, Transportation and Civil Engineering, L.L.P.

Corbin spent his entire career with the Exxon Corporation, beginning at Exxon's Refining and



Corbin

Chemical complex at Baton Rouge, La., with assignments in New York, Houston, Baytown, Texas. He had numerous engineering and management positions including manager of corporate planning and operations

manager assignments for Exxon Company U.S.A. in its headquarters' refining and supply departments and at the Baytown refinery.

He is currently president of the Hudson Forest Homeowners Association in Houston. He received the college's Distinguished Service Award in 1994. He retired from Exxon in July 1996.

Taylor began his career working for Eastman Chemical in Texas, where he worked in research and manufacturing. In 1980, he joined the planning department in the plastics division of Phillips. In 1993, he was named president of Phillips Pipeline Company. In 1995, he returned to chemicals and plastics as manager of global ventures where he developed petrochemical projects in Asia and the Middle East.



Taylor

Taylor currently serves on the board of directors for the Society of the Plastics Industry and is chairman of Phillips Petroleum Singapore Chemicals. He also serves on the K-State Engineering Advisory Council. He received the college's Distinguished Service Award in 1995.

Thorn joined the firm of Finney and Turnispeed after graduation. Since joining, he has been a partner, sole proprietor and is now a managing partner of the Topeka firm. Since he joined the firm, it has designed 13 bridges over the Kansas River.



Thorn

Thorn is a fellow and life member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He is a member and chair of the Board of Health of Topeka and Shawnee County. He is on the civil engineering advisory board and received the college's Distinguished Service Award in 1997.

Message from the dean



As 1998 draws to a close, we can look back on a tremendously productive year at K-State Engineering. During this year, the 147 faculty members of the college advised and taught 2,570 undergraduate and 414 graduate students in 372 courses. We graduated 375 students with B.S., 117 with M.S., and 23 with Ph.D. degrees. Our faculty conducted research with expenditures of over \$11 million and garnered support for 131 new research projects. On top of all of these "routine" activities, we initiated a \$10 million scholarship campaign, began a \$2 million dollar campaign to buy equipment for our newest addition Fiedler Hall, started a major program for training faculty members in "learning"-based education, and began implementing directives outlined in Designing Engineering Education for the 21st Century. (<http://www.engg.ksu.edu/administration/21stCentury.html>) What a year!

Next year looks perhaps even busier with a number of activities and projects that will have a huge impact on the college of engineering. Later in 1999, we will undergo a review by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology or ABET, which has established entirely new accreditation measures. (See story on page 5). Another major challenge will be implementation of strategies to achieve our stated goals. To measure our progress in implementing the vision described in Designing Engineering Education for the 21st Century, the college has enumerated measurable performance objectives intended to provide guidance in focusing our efforts.

Let me give you a preview of a few of our targets:

- Provide opportunities for academic success such that at least 25 percent of baccalaureate degrees are awarded to women and 8 percent to minorities.
- Involve 100 percent of undergraduates in:
 - participation in interdisciplinary teams and/or in student competitions,
 - significant professional experience prior to graduation, and
 - participation in professional societies.
- Grow extramurally supported expenditures at a real, annual rate of 20 percent.
- Involve 25 percent of all graduates in international experience in the form of internships, exchange programs, or study abroad.
- Maintain currency of all faculty members in their disciplines through engineering practice. Involve at least 60 percent of faculty members in recent and active interaction with industry or comparable activities.

I think you will agree that our goals are ambitious but extremely worthwhile. As always we need the help of our alumni and friends to continue a program of excellence in engineering education and scholarship. This help comes in many forms: advice from the perspective of successful engineering practitioners and industry regarding the relevance of our programs; strong connections between our faculty and students on campus and the various industries you represent; and your leadership in the form of service and financial support. Through your generous donations we are able to provide numerous and enhanced opportunities for our students. We are very, very appreciative!

All of us at K-State Engineering wish you the very best for the coming year!

TS King
Terry S. King, Dean

College lists members of Dean's Leadership Society for FY '98

The following alumni and friends have supported the college through gifts during the past fiscal year (July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998).

Dean's Leadership Society donors are those alumni and friends who make gifts of \$1,000 or more annually to programs in the college of engineering. These donors contribute their personal financial support, as well as time and talents, to making the college a top-notch engineering school.

Donors in the Engineers' Club makes gifts of between \$500 and \$999.

We make every attempt to compile an accurate list of donors. If you feel there is an error, accept our apology and bring it to our attention.

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Eugene and Barbara Thorson
Norm and Cheri Tsiguloff
Gary Turnquist
Jeffrey Vander Laan
Clifford Wilson
Steven Wilson
Chih-Hang Wu
Gary Wurdeman
David Yardley
Robert Zrubek
* Deceased in FY 1998

College breaks ground for Fiedler Hall and Library

(Continued from page 1)

"That genius will be symbolized forever in this hall and library."

Student Council President Jason Lacey viewed the ground breaking as a challenge.

Addressing Fiedler, he said, "I am talking about undertaking a challenge that you, Mrs. Fiedler, are giving us today—to the faculty to teach more than ever before, to the students to learn more about engineering than ever before—a challenge to develop one of the greatest resources this university, this state and this nation has: knowledge.

"We thank you for three things: your great generosity, your trust in us and for this challenge for the future. We hope this ground breaking of knowledge will happen every day from here on."

In her comments, Fiedler, who donated \$5.3 million of the \$12 million cost of the building, thanked her husband for making her gift possible. She told the guests that her husband has always felt a gratitude for the education he had received and an obligation to repay it somehow.

"At the time of his death, we still hadn't decided what to do," she said. "Someone suggested I talk to (then) Dean Don Rathbone because everything he did was state-of-the-art. I will always be grateful to Don for his help."

Rathbone thanked Fiedler again for her generosity, saying, "This is a tremendous gift. It will have an impact on students for decades to come. Our facilities are good. With Fiedler Hall, they will be excellent."

Fiedler Hall and Library will contain about 75,000 useable square feet on three floors, which will be similar in size to Durland Hall, the first phase of the complex.

The department of civil engineering will occupy 65 percent of the new space, which it will use for laboratory, office and learning facilities.

On the main floor, Fiedler Auditorium will seat 130 and Fiedler Library will contain over 5,000 square feet. These main rooms will be high tech, containing state-of-the-art multimedia capabilities in the auditorium and two computing labs attached to the library.

Nearby the library will be two rooms devoted to distance learning and modern computer facilities. The main floor will contain a number of team interaction rooms to facilitate group projects and learning.

Down one floor, on the lower level, various research



More than 300 guests, faculty, staff and students crowded into the atrium of Rathbone Hall to watch the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

and testing laboratories will be located, including a modeling geographic information systems lab.

Two floors above that, on the second floor, approximately 25 administrative offices will be arranged around the outside of the building. On the inside of the second floor, there will be geotechnical and environmental labs. The addition will bring the total square footage of laboratory, classroom, and office space in the three halls in the Engineering Complex—Durland, Rathbone and Fiedler—to 275,000 useable square feet.



Kansas Gov. Bill Graves, right, and Don Rathbone, former dean of engineering, thank Alice Fiedler for her contributions to K-State and Kansas.

College seeks support for new facilities in Fiedler Hall

Though the K-State College of Engineering has secured the primary funding for Fiedler Hall and Library, it continues to seek support for facilities within the structure.

"We are looking for an additional \$2 million in support to fully realize the potential of the civil engineering facilities in the complex," King said. "We're asking prominent corporations, foundations and individuals to join this once in a lifetime investment in K-State's future."

The college is receiving the support of its alumni in this effort.

"When reflecting on past decades of civil engineering progress in Kansas and the region, one recognizes the influence and expertise of the faculty and alumni of the K-State civil engineering program," said John Bailey (CE '70), principal, Professional Engineering Consultants, Wichita, Kans. "To continue this legacy of successful and noteworthy contributions, the civil engineering department needs our support in its move to Fiedler Hall."

The proposed facilities will provide a significant resource to thousands of engineering students and professionals at pivotal times in their educational careers, according to King.

"These enhancements will allow us to strengthen our curriculum and better prepare our students for the challenges of the next century," he said.

ABET to set new standard for 2000 and beyond

By Mike Dorcey

K-State's College of Engineering is stepping up to meet new, higher educational standards that will be the gauge for engineering education in at least the early years of the new century.

The Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) is challenging institutions like K-State's College of Engineering to adopt new standards for educating students in the next century, standards it calls Engineering Criteria 2000.

"Engineering Criteria 2000 is really a guide for continuous improvement," said Richard Gallagher, associate dean of engineering for academics and administration.

"Identifying educational objectives, program outcomes and assessment processes are becoming major parts of the ABET process," he said. "We have to regularly ask ourselves, 'How do you know they (students) are prepared?' It's going to be quite different."

Under Engineering Criteria 2000, colleges of engineering like K-State's will have not only to make sure they are offering the highest level of technical education and professional preparation possible, but also "demonstrate how criteria and educational objectives are being met," according to ABET's own statement of its philosophy.

Making this somewhat more challenging is the fact that ABET is modifying some of its technical requirements by providing more flexibility in order to allow "institutions and programs to define their mission and objectives to meet the needs of their constituencies, thereby enabling program differentiation."

In other words, ABET will not provide a handy checklist that schools can use to prepare for accreditation visits. Faculty, with input from their constituencies, will have to define their own program objectives and assessment processes consistent with ABET's criteria and then demonstrate that they are achieving those objectives.

This will require a lot of work.

"It's not a trivial task to put all this together and to recognize the importance of what students learn versus what professors teach," Gallagher said as he pointed to a six-inch stack of folders already piling up on his desk.

Over time, students should notice some new emphases in their courses, according to Gallagher.

"The ability to apply what they have learned will become more significant," he said, "and there will be additional emphases on working in multidisciplinary teams desiring lifelong learning and communicating effectively."

So far ABET has assessed five institutions under its new Engineering Criteria 2000. Twelve more will undergo assessment this

fall. K-State and several others will pass under the ABET microscope in the fall of 1999.

"We will apply for an accreditation visit in January," Gallagher said. "Preparation of the program reports will be completed by mid-June. The ABET evaluation team will probably make its visit in the October time frame. ABET's final decision regarding program accreditation will be made in the summer of 2000."

If K-State's program passes ABET's scrutiny, they will be accredited by the organization for six years. During that time, the college will emphasize continuous assessment.

"Currently, all of our programs are accredited with ABET, except CIS (computer and information sciences) and CNS (construction science), which have their own accreditation agencies," Gallagher said. "Our goal, of course, is to maintain the high quality of our programs and receive full accreditation."

College of Engineering defines teaching objectives

K-State Engineering defines its own goals for undergraduates. During a meeting of the college's ABET committee, members received a final copy of the college's curricular objectives, as follows:

- Graduates will be proficient in the use of the basic sciences and engineering sciences, be able to formulate problems, analyze, synthesize and develop appropriate engineering solutions.
- Graduates will recognize and appreciate the importance of intensive laboratory and experimental environments which focus on problem solving and engineering design.
- Graduate will be able to work in a team environment with interdisciplinary (lateral) and disciplinary (vertical) depth.
- Graduate will be able to communicate effectively among peers as well as with diverse groups, including non-engineers.
- Graduates will be able to integrate engineering practice into the social, economic and political arenas.
- Graduates will possess sensitivity in interpersonal relationships, multicultural understandings and the ability to interact on a professional/ethical basis at the national and international levels.
- Graduates will be motivated to continue to expand their knowledge base for career-long learning.

NSF funds non-contact sensing lab at KSU

The National Science Foundation through its Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, or EPSCoR, has awarded a two-year \$500,000 grant to the non-contact measurement and sensing research group in the College of Engineering at Kansas State University.

The National Science Foundation funding will be used primarily to enhance the precision measurement and diagnostics laboratory. This lab is an outgrowth of collaboration among engineering research faculty associated with the Advanced Manufacturing Institute.

Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation and Kansas State University are contributing \$100,000 and \$50,000 respectively to support this expansion.

Non-contact sensing technologies are used widely in industrial processing for quality control feedback and diagnostics. Research in the lab will focus on four areas of importance to today's manufacturers: laser sensors and optics, acoustic sensors and signal processing, computer vision and image processing, and radiation sensors and sources.

An interdisciplinary group of faculty from electrical, nuclear, mechanical and industrial engineering are involved in the laboratory. They are Sameer Madanshetty, principal investigator, and co-investigators Terry Beck, John Devore, Hui Meng, Gale Simons and John Wu.

According to Beck, gear profile inspection, high precision surface structure diagnosis, non-contact evaluation of nodules in cast iron, and non-contact inspection of printed circuit board plating thickness are a few of the real-life applications for new sensing technologies. Thus far, the research group has done studies for two Kansas manufacturers related to detecting casting defects and measuring surface topology.

Farhad Azadivar, Advanced Manufacturing Institute director, said the original collaboration focused specific engineering strengths at K-State on behalf of Kansas industry.

"With this NSF funding, the lab will be doing research that pushes the boundaries of science and technology, and, at the same time, it also will be creating technologies that are useful right now to industry. Our goal is to gain national prominence in the field of non-contact sensing within the next few years.

"In Kansas, more than 80 percent of companies are small to medium size," Azadivar said. "They are competitive nationally and internationally, and many of them occupy niche markets. Creating new sensors that perform well under industrial settings, and then transferring the technologies to Kansas businesses will leverage their competitiveness."

1946

Dale R. Carver (CE, MSAppMech, '50), has a small book of poetry in its third printing. "Before the Veterans Die" is based on his experiences during the Battle of the Bulge. 742 Druid Circle, Baton Rouge, La. 70808.

1948

Roland W. Case (ME) retired from Caterpillar Inc. in 1983 after more than 35 years of service. He and his wife, Lila, have three sons. All three attended K-State and the two oldest received engineering degrees. The third transferred to the University of Illinois. They have five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They enjoy playing golf and traveling.

1951

Richard D. Lowe (ARE) retired in August 1997. He was a founder of Case, Lowe & Hart Inc. Architects/Engineers. The company specialized in large food processing plants. 1863 28th St., Ogden, Utah. 84403.

1955

Bryce Miller (IE) has been a member of the board of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) for five years. NAMI's goals are to help improve services and reduce stigma. 2548 Belle Ave., Topeka, Kan. 66614.

Russell Schoof (AgE) and his wife, Jeanette (Kee) Schoof, will be teaching at the China Geo-Science University in Wuhan for a year that began Sept. 1. JKKEOK@aol.com

Dr. John A. Weese (ME) was the recipient of the 1997 Fellow of ABET Award. ABET is the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals who have given sustained quality service to the engineering profession and to engineering education. He is the coordinator for engineering accreditation at Texas A&M University.

1956

Monroe L. Funk (CE) retired March 6 as director of airport engineering and planning for the Wichita Airport Authority. He held this position for 17 years. His previous employment included the Oblinger-Smith Corporation for six years and Kansas State University assistant professor of civil engineering for 13 years.

1959

Elmer Witte (EE), Garden Grove, Calif., program manager for special purpose small satellites, has retired from the Aerospace Corp. He was responsible for the building, launch and operation of eight special purpose small satellites place into orbit between November 1986 and his retirement. He is continuing activities as a consultant for the organization.

1960

Michael (IE, MSIE '62) and Jeanette (Garinger) (MT '59) Prewett are working toward retirement in their metering equipment business, Michael Engineering Ltd., and enjoying eight grandchildren in Mount Pleasant, Mich.

1961

Julie G. Bond (CE), Bolivar, Mo., retired in April after working 37 years for the Missouri Department of Transportation, 30 years as a resident engineer.

1963

Richard W. Wellman (EE) retired in April 1996 from E.I. DuPont in Seaford, Del. He and his wife, Joy, moved back to Kansas. Their new address is 1515 N. First, Baldwin City, Kan. 66006.

1964

Chester Nachtigal (ME), is now at his own company, which designs and manufactures standard and custom-engineered conveyor belt scales. In 1991 he published a handbook on instrumentation and control. He was recently awarded a patent on a belt scale. He received his Ph.D. in ME from MIT in 1969. 6810 31st Ave. NE, Seattle, Wash. 98115.

1972

James V. Hall (CE) has been named as the director of remediation and construction services for Tetra Tech Inc. Tetra Tech Inc., headquartered in Pasadena,



Calif. is one of the top 25 environmental firms in the nation. Mr. Hall, headquartered in Houston, oversees nationwide environmentally related construction, operations and maintenance projects for the company. Hallj@ttnus.com

Donald E. Richards (ME) has been promoted to professor of mechanical engineering at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Ind., where he has been a faculty member since 1988. For the last five years, he has served as team leader for a new eight-course sophomore engineering curriculum. He recently co-authored the sixth edition of "Thermodynamics," McGraw-Hill, 1998. His wife, Martha, is an attorney practicing family law. They have two daughters, Abigail and Emma. donald.e.richards@rose-hulman.edu

1977

Randall Sylvester (CE) has accepted a position as EDMS (electronic management systems) implementation leader for North America within Conoco oil company, a subsidiary of the Dupont Company. The EDMS is an Internet-based system for delivery of company documents. sylverb@fullnet.net

1979

Gary R. Haglund (EE) and his wife, Denise, and their four children have moved to the San Francisco Bay area. Gary accepted a three-year residency with the University of California Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He will be assisting in the construction of the National Ignition Facility (NIF), a 192-beam inertial confinement fusion (ICF) laser. When it's completed in 2003, NIF will be the world's largest laser. haglundl@llnl.gov.

1981

Robert L. Clewell (ME) was promoted to manager of engineering projects at Allied Signal Inc. in Kansas City, Mo. in February. 1354 E. Meadow Lane, Olathe, Kan. 66062.

Jack F. Higginbotham (NE, MSNE '83, Ph.D. '87), Corvallis, Ore., has been appointed associate dean of the graduate school of Oregon State University. He will retain his academic position with the nuclear engineering department and will serve as the acting director of the OSU TRIGIA reactor facility until a new director is selected. higginjf@rc.orst.edu

1982

E. James B. Verill (CE) is a senior engineer with the M.H. Kellogg Company. He received the 10-year service award. He is currently serving in the Skikoa, Algeria, Sonotrach Glik Revamp Project.

1984

Todd A. Bednar (CNS) is the chief estimator for the Riley Contracting Group in Cary, N.C., a medium sized general contractor specializing in renovating and small projects. 6889 Rawls Church Rd., Fuquay-Varina, N.C. 27526.

1985

Kerry W. Habiger (EE) has accepted a position as a technical staff member with Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in Los Alamos, N.M. He will be working as part of the research team for the Los Alamos Neutron Scattering Center. He began his employment in August. LANL is a Department of Energy facility operated by the University of California. 900 Green Acres Ln., Bosque Farms, NM 87068.

1986

Todd M. Postier (IE) and his wife, Janet, are proud to announce the birth of Garrett Thomas on June 23, 1998. He is welcomed home by his brother, Brandon (3). Todd has been working for the Defense Contract Management Command in Wichita as an industrial/manufacturing engineer since 1991.

Martin Wesemann (ME) completed his executive MBA from the Vanderbilt University Owen Graduate School of Management in May 1998. He and his wife, Natalie, also welcomed their third son in May. Lucas joins his brothers, Max (6) and Jake (3). Martin will be working for Nashville Wire Inc. He will hold the position of commercial products division general manager. wesemann@gateway.net

1987

Martha Diane Smith House (ME) and her husband, Ted, St. Charles, Mo., announced the birth of their third child, Daniel William, Feb. 23. She is a project engineer on a space station program with Boeing in St. Louis.

1989

Rick Kanemasu (EE) is a senior manager in Andersen Consulting's strategic services group. He received his MBA from Duke University in 1993. He married Carol Rhodes from Huntsville, Ala. in 1997. They have lived in Atlanta since 1990.

Robert Marshall (EE) was married in June to Shelley. He has been an electrical engineer with Black & Veatch for eight years. MarshNotes@aol.com

Amy (Hurst) Rosewicz (CE) and her husband, Phil Rosewicz (CE '87, B.S. Geol '87, MSCE '92) are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Katherine "Kate" Rose Rosewicz on Aug. 15.

1990

Kristin (Siebs) Campbell (IE) and her husband, Dennis, announce the birth of their first daughter, Claire Richelle. She was born on Oct. 14, 1997. Kristin is a manufacturing engineer with John Deere Harvester Works. She works in East Moline, Ill. kdcamp@netins.net

Peter B. Crooks (EE) and his wife, Julie, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Jacob Brian, on March 4, 1998. Peter is a licensed professional engineer with Morrow Engineering Inc. in Wichita. ThreeCrooks@juno.com

Shelli R. (Letellier) Dennis (ChE) was married to John R. Dennis on Feb. 7. In June, Shelli received her Ph.D. in bioengineering while her husband, John, received his Ph.D. in physics, both from the University of Washington.

1991

David Hammes (EE) and his wife, Tarese are proud to announce the birth of their son, Colten Michael, on June 25. David recently took a process control design engineer position at Mac Equipment in Sabetha, Kan. after five years as an ASIC test engineer at Texas Instruments.

Terry Hon (EE) is now a senior RF engineer at Samsung Telecommunications in Richardson, Texas, designing CDMA base station transceivers. He and his wife, Michelle, have two children; Anthony Tyler (6) and Levi Ryan (3 months). thon@airmail.net

Patrick Prendergast (AE) and his wife, Theresa, are proud to announce the birth of their second child. Kathryn Elizabeth (Kadie) was born on June 25. She is welcomed home by Tanner Joseph (2).

Brian E. Ruby (IE) recently took a job with The Sabre Group. He was hired as a consultant II working with the strategic services group. The group works as an internal consulting group as well as an external consulting group with other information technology or airline businesses. Strategic services deals with business process re-engineering and organizational development issues. Brian also started his second term as vice president of membership for the Fort Worth IIE chapter. Brian_Ruby@sabre.com

Kimberly A. (Billones) Sullivan (ARE), Houston, recently accepted a position with Smith Seckman Reid Inc. in Houston. She also recently received her PE license. kald@mci2000.com

1992

Brian A. Kramer (ARE) and his wife, Jennifer, are

proud to announce the birth of their son, Galen Staton, on April 6. Brian obtained his Minnesota professional engineer registration in January. He is an engineer with the City of Minneapolis Lands and Buildings Department. bakjak@juno.com

1993

Donovan J. Eck (CNS), Lawrence, Kan., recently accepted the position of telecommunications engineer for the University of Kansas. He was previously the construction coordinator for North Kansas City (Mo.) Hospital. deck@ukans.edu

Jomari S. Torres Colon (NE), Ponce, Puerto Rico, received a doctor of medicine degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee on May 16. She was honored at commencement with the Rick Wargow Memorial Award. She is serving a pediatrics residency in the National Capital Military Medical Education Consortium Program in Washington, D.C.

1995

Luis Rene Contreras (Ph.D. IE), El Paso, Texas, is now head of the Technological Studies Center at the Institute of Engineering and Technology at the Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez, Juarez, Mexico. lcontrer@uacj.mx

1996

Dan Mills (CNS), Overland Park, Kan., married Stacy Heinz on June 27. Stacy will graduate in

December from K-State with a degree in dietetics and nutrition. Dan is a project engineer with Kitchell CEM.

1997

Chad Seuser (EE) and his wife, Stephanie, are proud to announce the birth of their first child. Zane Gavin was born on May 6. He weighed 8 pounds, 14.9 ounces and was 21 inches long. Chad is an electronic hardware designer for John Deere in Waterloo, Iowa. SeuserChadW@Waterloo.deere.com

Deaths

1937

C. Fred Samp (ME), College Station, Texas, died Feb. 20, 1998. Following graduation, he was employed as a plant engineer for Kansas Gas and Electric at its power plant near his home in McCune. He served in World War II as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy and was released to inactive duty at the close of the war as a lieutenant commander, U.S. Naval Reserve. From 1947 to 1987, he made his home in Sugar Land, Texas, (Houston area) where he was self-employed as a manufacturers' agent of industrial machinery. In 1987 he retired to College Station. He is survived by his wife Marie.

1947

William A. Swim (EE) died Feb. 6, 1998. While at K-State, he was a member of Eta Kappa and Sigma

Tau. He retired at age 54 from General Electric to build a cabin in the Rocky Mountains so he could climb and hike with his wife, Virginia, who survives him along with his son, Steven, daughter, Claudia Duncan and six grandchildren.

1952

Harold L. Rutherford (CE) died on Aug. 2, 1998.

1958

George L. Sayre (EE) died Feb. 7, 1998 in Monument, Colo. at the age of 67. For over 20 years he was employed by Ball Aerospace System Division in Boulder and served as director of advanced business development. He was owner of the consulting firm of Sayre & Associates. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary, two daughters, five grandchildren and two sisters.

1959

John H. Cooley (CE) died Jan. 1, 1997, in Jefferson City, Mo. He was retired from the Missouri Highway and Transportation Department.

1963

Donald T. Buck (EE), Eugene, Ore., died June 1, 1998.

Kansas ASAE section honors two KSU profs

By Angie Rupert

Two Kansas State University faculty members, Mark Schrock, professor of biological and agricultural engineering, and Randal Taylor, associate professor of extension engineering, machinery systems, were honored by the American Society of Agricultural Engineer's Kansas chapter Oct. 23.

The Kansas chapter recognized Schrock as

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"Engineer of the Year" and Taylor as "Young Engineer of the Year" at its annual meeting. Each received an inscribed plaque. One person in each category is chosen on the basis of contributions to society and to the profession.

Schrock joined the K-State faculty in 1973 as an assistant professor and was promoted to full professor in 1991. He has served as a visiting lecturer at the Luoyang Institute of Technology, and an extension agricultural engineer at K-State. He has received many honors and awards including outstanding teacher in the department of agricultural engineering in 1991 and 1994, and outstanding adviser in the department of agricultural engineering in 1993. Schrock has been a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers since 1972.

Taylor has been a member of K-State faculty since 1989. He has served as chairman of the power and machinery technical committee, adviser of the agricultural technology management club, co-chair of the agricultural engineering social committee and has assisted many other committees and teams on campus. He has been an active member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers since 1987. He has served as vice chairman of publicity, vice chairman of the farm machinery management committee, chairman of the farm machinery management committee, as well as a member of several other committees in the organization.

The award for Engineer of the Year is open to any member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. The Young Engineer of the Year award is open only to those members under 40 years old.

"It's unusual to bring both awards back to campus," Schrock said, "but I'm happy about it."

What's new with you?

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COLLEGE BRIEFS

KSU student chapter of AGC is best

K-State's student chapter of the Associated General Contractors received the 1997-98 Outstanding Student Chapter Award from the Associated General Contractors of America.

The award, in recognition of the chapter's community activities, was presented Sept. 25 in Charlotte, N.C., at the mid-year meeting of the Associated General Contractors of America. More than 150 student chapters in 45 states were eligible for the honor.

K-State has received the Outstanding Student Chapter Award more times than any other school, said David R. Fritchen, associate professor of construction science and management and the chapter's faculty advise. This earned the university's construction science and management program praise at the mid-year meeting as one of the most outstanding construction education programs in the country.

Membership in K-State's AGC student chapter totals about 80 percent of the 250 students enrolled in K-State's construction science and management program, Fritchen said.

"AGC's Outstanding Student Chapter contest is conducted annually in an effort to recognize the student chapter that demonstrates exceptional programs to enhance the professional development of its members, and to stress the AGC motto, 'Skill, Integrity, Responsibility.' The K-State student chapter exemplified that motto," Fritchen said.

"Our student chapter volunteer activities are aimed at the professional development of our members and are designed to instill the standards of integrity and responsibility through construction-related and non-construction related activities and projects of benefit to the community," he said.

IMSE team places second in national competition

Three Kansas State University students placed second as a team in the fourth annual IIE/Systems Modeling Student Simulation Competition in Banff, Canada.

The aim of the simulation contest was to have students work as an engineering team to develop working solutions to a real-world case study problem.

The problem the K-State team dealt with was a moderate-sized airport and the transportation to the airport's rental-car system.

"We needed to determine the number and the size of the vans used for transporting passengers and then the number of workers needed as drivers and at the rental desk," Berens said.

More than 30 teams entered the competition, and only five finalists were chosen. At the finals, each of the teams were given additional factors to accommodate to ensure the simulation was the authentic work of the students, Berens said.

Buller wins national chemical engineering scholarship

Laura Buller, senior, was one of 15 chemical engineering students nationwide chosen to receive the \$1,000 Donald F. and Mildred Topp Othmer National Scholarship from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

While at K-State, Laura has served as president and treasurer of the Engineering Student Council, as secretary of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and as an engineering ambassador. She has also participated in the Chimes junior honorary, Tau Beta Pi engineering honorary and Phi Eta Sigma honorary.

College appoints two department heads

The college of engineering appointed two new department heads as it prepared for the 1998-1999 school year.

J. Garth Thompson accepted the position of head of the department of mechanical and nuclear engineering at Kansas State University, effective Aug. 10. He had been the interim head since Byron Jones vacated the position upon his appointment as associate dean for research and graduate programs in the fall of 1997.

Stevin H. Gehrke became head of chemical engineering July 9. He steps into the position of L. T. Fan, who retired in June.

Thompson has been the acting head of the department since the fall of 1997 when Byron Jones gave up the position to become the associate dean for research and head of the engineering experiment station. This is Thompson's second turn as head of mechanical engineering. He came to K-State to fill the same position in 1971 and held it until 1974. He was director of the college's Center for Research in Computer-Controlled Automation from its inception until 1989. The center later evolved into the Advanced Manufacturing Institute.

Prior to coming to K-State, Thompson was an assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Texas, Austin. He earned his bachelor's degree at Brigham Young University in 1960 and joined the Spacecraft Attitude Controls Group of TRW Corp. as an engineer. He was also an instructor at Purdue University, where he earned both his master's and doctoral degrees in mechanical engineering in 1962 and 1967, respectively.

During his tenure at K-State, Thompson has participated in 39 research grants and contracts worth more than \$3.75 million. He has won numerous teaching awards and other honors. He was a NASA-ASEE (National Aeronautics and Space Administration-American Society of Engineering Educators) summer faculty fellow in aeronautics and space research at the NASA Langley Research Center, Va., in 1995 and 1997.

Gehrke joined the K-State faculty as a full professor and will hold the Tom H. Barrett University Faculty Chair.

Gehrke came to K-State from the University of Cincinnati, where he was an associate professor of chemical engineering and a member of the Polymer Research Center. He has been a visiting professor at South Dakota State University and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and served as a consultant to a number of companies, including 3M, Procter & Gamble and B.F. Goodrich.

He received his bachelor's degree at K-State in 1980 and his master's in 1983 and doctorate in 1986, both from the University of Minnesota. All of his degrees are in chemical engineering.

Gehrke is an internationally recognized expert on synthesis and applications of hydrogels and has nearly 50 refereed or reviewed publications and patents. He also serves on the editorial boards of two professional journals.



Thompson



Gehrke

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