INTRODUCING THE NEW DEAN - HUGH A. THOMPSON

Dr. Hugh A. Thompson, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Tulane University, became the tenth Dean of the School of Engineering on July 1, 1976. He succeeds Dr. Samuel Hulbert who became President of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, Indiana, on September 1.

The 41-year-old new dean, well known to the Mechanical Engineering graduates of the past few years, is nationally recognized for his research and contributions in the field of the mechanical design of electrical power transmission and distribution equipment and the effects of extreme winds on structures. He has also served as a consultant to a number of national and international corporations, primarily in the area of vibrations analyses of proposed and existing heat exchangers for gas plant service.

Dean Thompson came to Tulane in 1960 with a Bachelor of Science degree earned at Auburn. In Tulane's graduate program he earned both Master's and Ph.D. degrees while holding teaching and research assistantships, and accepted a position as a full-time member of the Mechanical Engineering faculty after the Ph.D. was awarded in 1964.

The new dean has contributed in the past few years to the growth of Tulane's School of Engineering in the strengthening of its academic programs and in its research activities. He played a major role in developing goals plans for the School and procedures for enhancing quality education for the increasing larger numbers of students entering the School of Engineering yearly. He co-initiated the School's "Early Bird" Program which provides opportunities for practicing engineers in local industries to earn a Master's degree by attending early morning and late afternoon classes.

Dean Thompson has chaired numerous committees in the School of Engineering including a committee to revise curricula to adjust to a new unit credit system and to unify course offerings in all departments through

Sullivan Appointed Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies

as reported in the Spring issue of the Tulane Engineer.

Dr. Sullivan is no stranger to many of you. He has served with distinction on the faculty of the Tulane Chemical Engineering Department since 1961. A native of Texas, he holds the B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Chemical Engineering from Texas A & M University, having completed his work at that institution in 1963. His accomplishments were recognized at A & M by election to the honorary societies Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, and Sigma Xi, and the award of the Texas A & M Opportunity Award Scholarship, the Dow Undergraduate Fellowship, the Texas Eastman Fellowship and the Dow Graduate Fellowship. After his ap-

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued on Page 3)
Annual Meeting of The Society

The Annual Meeting is scheduled as always as part of the Homecoming activities of the University. The meeting this year will be on Homecoming Day, Saturday, October 16, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 205 of the Mechanical Engineering Building.

The business portion of the meeting will be preceded by a "Continental Breakfast" of juice, danish rolls, and coffee.

Honored guests at the meeting will be the Engineering School’s Alumnus of the Year, and of course our new Deans, Dr. Hugh Thompson and Dr. Sam Sullivan. The business of the meeting will include the election of next year’s Society of Tulane Engineers officers.

The officers of the Society and Dean Thompson urge you to come and hear about your School’s plans for the immediate future; to meet old friends and to make new ones.

Fund Raising Campaign Launched

In early July, the School launched a major fund raising campaign for the purpose of renovating its undergraduate laboratory facilities. The goal of this campaign is slightly in excess of $500,000.

This drive has been launched to accomplish two purposes. First, the outstandingly well qualified Tulane students deserve an equally outstanding undergraduate laboratory experience. This has become increasingly difficult to deliver because of obsolescence and crowded facilities. Second, the School must prepare for a period of increasing competition if its present share of the market is to be maintained while increasing the caliber of its students. It must be noted in this connection that the School has not followed the national market, rather having consistently outperformed the market in the last decade and being only mildly influenced by fluctuations. Renovation of our laboratories may further insulate the School from market swings.

For the last fifteen years, capital funds have not been available for undergraduate laboratories. In the last ten years, the undergraduate enrollment and market penetration of the School have doubled without quality loss in average freshmen SAT math and verbal rankings. One result of this expansion was that limited classroom space and faculty numbers forced denial of admission to qualified applicants this past August. Another result is that obsolescence and expanded enrollment now demand renovation and expansion of our laboratories.

Additionally, birth rates in the United States declined steadily after 1957. Beginning this year, universities throughout the nation will face for the foreseeable future a new problem: declining pools of eighteen year olds from which to draw freshmen classes. In the Spring of 1978 it appears that the country will produce Chemical Engineering graduates in a quantity equal to twice the number which the job market customarily absorbs. Further delays by the federal government in the implementation of a comprehensive national energy plan may constrain demand for chemical engineers below the expanding supply level. Also in the Spring of 1978 the School may test definitively the job market for Biomedical Engineers by graduating its first large class. The depth of this market has been a source of continuing national debate. It also seems clear that tuition will continue to rise at its present rate for several years. These market considerations indicate the onset of increasingly severe competition for gifted undergraduate students, and the possibility of another of the exaggerated periodic swings of freshmen away from engineering careers because of adverse publicity about employment opportunities in the profession.

In April, the Board of Advisors of the Engineering School proposed to the University administration to raise from industrial sources half of the estimated $500,000 need in two years time if the University would match their efforts. This proposal was accepted by President Hackney. The Tulane Engineering Foundation provides the vehicle coordinating the efforts of the Board and the Dean of Engineering. The Board and Foundation have pledged $60,000 to the accomplishment of the renovation. More than $20,000 worth of surplus equipment has already been donated, primarily by E.I. du Pont, Shell Oil Company and the Lord Corporation. Solicitations in excess of $250,000 have been tendered on behalf of the Engineering Foundation to prospective industrial contributors.

Engineering alumni may participate in this drive by supporting the solicitations of the Foundation with their employers, by encouraging donations of suitable surplus equipment, and by continuing their gifts to the Alumni Fund. The present capacity enrollments of the School seem to assure operations with substantial financial surpluses for this year and next, permitting alumni contributions to be dedicated for acquisition of laboratory equipment. Engineering alumni gifts have recently averaged $60,000 a year.

The first tangible influences of this campaign on program quality will be felt in January when two laboratory renovations are scheduled for completion.

Thompson....

(Continued from Page 1)

most of the sophomore year. He is the author of many articles and research papers, primarily in the area of electrical utilities operations and assisted in developing an electrical energy profile of the State of Louisiana through 1985, including investment options, fuel requirements and costs of electricity.

He has served as course director of numerous environmental courses for fall-out shelters in the Gulf Coast area and has acted as consultant on studies dealing with various kinds of heat exchangers and thermal systems.

Dean Thompson is a member of many professional and honor societies and is the recipient of numerous awards, including three Atomic Energy Commission special fellowships in nuclear science. He is a member of the Louisiana Engineering Society and a registered professional engineer in the State of Louisiana. The Senior Mechanical Engineering Class of 1975 selected him as the recipient of the teaching excellence award.

Commenting on plans for the School, Dean Thompson has stated that the principal focus at the beginning of his tenure will be on increasing capital funds for the School, with emphasis on improving laboratories for undergraduate instruction. (See his article on this major project elsewhere in this issue.)

Dean Thompson was born in Chattanooga but moved to Birmingham prior to attending Auburn. He is married to the former Miss Barbara Britt of Beaumont, Texas. They are the parents of a son, Jonathan, who is 10.
Dear Tulane Engineer:

Since we last communicated a number of changes have occurred in our School of Engineering. Dr. Hugh Thompson has assumed his new duties as Dean, and Dr. Sam Sullivan has succeeded Dean Martinez as Associate Dean for Undergraduate and Continuing Studies. Enrollment this fall is at a record level with approximately 750 undergraduates, and financial support for the laboratory renovation program continues to grow. In this regard your response to our appeal last spring for increased contributions to STE has been really tremendous. Paid membership increased by 13% to 651, and the number of donors rose to 446 from 338 in 1975, a substantial 32% increase. Total donations amounted to $3716, and while we failed to reach our $6000 goal, we have made significant progress in that direction. These contributions will be donated to the Engineering School for meeting the most pressing financial needs. Your cooperation and enthusiastic response are greatly appreciated.

As you will recall, one of our major projects for 1975-76 was the establishment of an award to recognize teaching excellence. The first recipient was Emeritus Dean Lee H. Johnson, an exemplary teacher who served as Dean of the School from 1930 to 1972 and is presently W.R. Irby Professor of Engineering. The engraved plaque was presented to a surprised Dean Johnson at the Senior Awards Banquet last April. In a letter to STE Dean Johnson expressed "my deep, heartfelt appreciation of the wonderful honor that you paid me." Also, a special award consisting of a silver tray was presented to Mrs. Beth P. Hoffman as a token of gratitude for her many years of service to the Tulane School of Engineering and to STE.

Our Annual Homecoming Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 A.M. on October 16 in Room 205 of the Mechanical Engineering Building. The continental breakfast format will be followed again this year. Dean Thompson will present the Levy Award and also give us a brief status report on the school. Our special guest will be Engineering’s Outstanding Alumnus for 1976. Please make an extra effort to attend this meeting, renew old acquaintances, and pledge your continued support to Dean Thompson and the faculty. Election of officers for 1976-77 will also be held during a short business meeting.

On behalf of all the STE officers, I want to thank you for a highly successful year, and encourage your continued participation in alumni activities of the School of Engineering.

Sincerely,
George A. Swan, III
President
1975-76

Fall Enrollment Up

After years of intensive recruiting to insure freshman classes of moderate proportions, suddenly the students are here in force—255 straight-from-high-school freshmen, and 50 new students who have transferred from other universities, from junior colleges, from other divisions of the University.

Classrooms are overflowing with good students. There has been no compromise in quality for numbers; it appears that the qualifications of the entering class will be slightly better than previous years.

Last year’s large freshman class and the low attrition have swelled the upperclass rolls. Total enrollment for the Fall, with final results not in, appears to be about 740, compared with last year’s figure of 650 in the Fall. In addition, more than 215 students are enrolled in the Graduate Division of the School—up by 40 students.

New Drafting Tables—Gift to CE Department

In response to an expression of need by Professor Walter Blessiey, two alumni of Civil Engineering, Bill Fleming (CE’55) and Ed Morphy (CE’49), have conducted a fund drive that has resulted in 36 magnificent new desks for the senior Civil Engineering drafting room. These replace desks that were not only inadequate in number but in very bad condition after many years of use.

The new desks just recently installed in the refurbished room on the third floor of Stanley Thomas Hall that was once the library of the School of Architecture, were locally designed and built at a cost of $350 each. Each desk is being individually sponsored by a local firm, or an alumnus of the School, and a brass plate naming the sponsor will be attached to each desk.

The faculty and students of the Department of Civil Engineering and the administrative officers of the School are deeply grateful for this most timely gift.
Memorial Scholarship Fund Established

During July, in a presentation ceremony held in the Plimsoll Club of the International Trade Mart, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Spaar of San Antonio executed a unitrust agreement with the University. This agreement establishes the William and Catherine Spaar Memorial Scholarship Fund which will eventually provide scholarships for approximately six graduate students a year in Civil Engineering, as well as equipment and improvements in support of the operations of the Civil Engineering Department.

Mr. Spaar is a 1922 graduate of the Tulane Civil Engineering Department. He is retired from the United States Corps of Engineers. He also developed, writes, and edits the nationally syndicated column entitled, "The Monday Morning Quarterback" which ranks with considerable precision all college and professional football teams throughout the season. This precision is accomplished on the basis of readily accessible information on team scores, and without the aid of electronic computers, a considerable analytical feat.

Their gift will provide future engineers with the opportunity to obtain advanced training in Civil Engineering in the Tulane tradition. It has also provided an ancillary benefit. When a man with more than fifty years of professional experience expresses in such a substantial way his appreciation for an undergraduate experience, the ultimate aims of engineering education are reaffirmed. The present faculty, if they are to emulate their predecessors in the School, will construct in an atmosphere which can be remembered with warmth and joy an educational foundation capable of supporting the career demands of a lifetime. By their significant and generous gift, the Spaares have not only provided advanced training for future generations of engineers, but they have also focused the attention of the School upon essential purposes.

Taps For The Summer Survey Camp

Several generations of Tulane Civil Engineering graduates will greet with mixed emotions the news that the Summer of 1976 saw the demise of the Summer Survey Camp. The tents have been dismantled and put away for good and the permanent buildings removed. The wood of May (or June) on the old Gayden Plantation at Gurley, Louisiana will not again echo with the shouts and laughter of Tulane student surveying parties trudging over the rough terrain with their transits and levels—usually with good cheer but sometimes with bad temper when the rains came and the mud and the mosquitoes and the chiggers (red bugs to the Southerners) seemed too much to bear. But after a day of hard work, there was the hearty country cooking, the comradery, the baseball games and the horseshoe pitching, and the sense of accomplishment that made the participants return to New Orleans—or to their varied summer pursuits—with a feeling that two weeks had been well spent.

Changing emphasis in the profession and rising costs of operating the camp caused the Civil Engineering faculty to re-evaluate the priorities and the camp was eliminated from the curriculum.

The many Civil Engineering students who experienced this wonderful interlude in their education will be forever indebted to Professor Donald Derickson, who founded the camp just after World War I; to Professor Frederick Fox and his wife, Lorena, to Professor Frank Maconald, who continued its rich tradition; and Professor Walter E. Blessey, whose determination kept the camp alive until the end.

Special recognition should also be given to Mr. and Mrs. George Gayden of Gurley, Louisiana, whose superb hospitality throughout the years is sincerely appreciated, and to Mr. Gayden Derickson, son of Professor Donald Derickson, who continued the interests of his father by generously continuing to make available the camp facilities.

KAISER GIFT

Pictured above with Dean Thompson [center] are Mr. Irwin Weidig and Mr. Norman Schinetsky of Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Company. The occasion was the presentation of a gift of $3000 from Kaiser for scholarships.

Awards for Excellence in Teaching

Shown above is Dean Emeritus Lee Johnson receiving the first Society of Tulane Engineers Excellence in Teaching Award, with a congratulatory handshake from George Swan, President of the Society. This well-deserved award, a plaque, was presented at the Annual Senior Dinner-Awards Program in April. Dean Johnson has remained on the faculty as the W.R. Irby Professor of Engineering, teaching freshman engineering mathematics.

Awarded at the same program were two other teaching excellence awards: the IEEE Award for Teaching Excellence in Electrical Engineering to Mr. Paul Duvoisin, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering, and the ASME Pi Tau Sigma Award for teaching Excellence in Mechanical Engineering to Dr. Harold H. Segin, Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

PAY STE DUES TODAY

Perhaps you have forgotten, or are one of those who have not been a dues paying member in the past. Please join us in assisting the Engineering School.

Yearly dues: $3.00
Additional contributions most welcomed.

Send to:
Society of Tulane Engineers
% Ronald P. Cressy, Treasurer
840 Union Street
New Orleans, La. 70112
NEW FACULTY - FALL '76

This Fall there are several new faces on the faculty. The largest enrollment in the history of the School, new assignments at the administrative level within the School, and resignations of two members of the faculty have resulted in five new appointments — three in Chemical Engineering, one in Electrical Engineering (with Computer and Information Systems teaching assignments) and one in Mechanical Engineering.

Dr. Neil L. Book,
Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering. Indiana native, with B.S. degree from the University of Missouri (Rolla), and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from University of Colorado. Dr. Book comes to Tulane immediately following his Ph.D. studies at the University of Colorado where he served as a teaching assistant. His principal interests are in energy-related areas, environmental and ecological modeling, plant and process design and economics.

Dr. James M. Henry,
Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering. Dr. Henry comes to Tulane from the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration where he served as Chemical Research Engineer and Project Manager. A native of Houston, Texas, Dr. Henry received B.A. and B.S. in Chemical Engineering degrees from Rice University and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Princeton University. He has also had post-doctoral work at Yale. He is the author of numerous publications resulting from his research on the fields of energy conservation, fuel processing, and environmental aspects of energy utilization.

Dr. Paul M. Lynch,
Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Lynch was born and raised in Texas but went to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for his college education, earning there the Science Bachelor, Science Master and Ph.D. degrees in Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Lynch's professional interests are in the fields of dynamic system modeling and control, automation, and computer-aided design; and business and economics. He is a member of A.S.M.E., Tau Beta Pi, and Pi Tau Sigma.

Dr. Danny W. McCarthy,
Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering. New Orleans born and bred, Tulane alumnus with three degrees—B.S. in Chemical Engineering, M.S., and Doctor of Engineering. Dr. McCarthy joined the faculty on January 1. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Louisiana, and member of several professional societies, and has research and consulting experience in dynamic modelling and simulation of plant growth, dynamic population modelling.

Dr. Stanley A. Zwick,
Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering. A Californian, Dr. Zwick is a physicist, scientific programmer, dynamicist and aeronautical engineer with more than 15 years of computer experience. For the past few years he has worked in Aerospace engineering, his latest assignment being with Bell Aerospace Company at Michoud. He is the author of numerous articles and research reports in the areas of plasma physics and electrodynamics, dynamics and stress, aerodynamics, fluid mechanics and heat transfer, computer systems and applications programming. Dr. Zwick earned his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Physics and Math at the California Institute of Technology. His teaching assignments will be in the Computer and Information Systems Program. A member of the Association for Computing Machinery, American Physical Society and Society for Sigma Xi.

NEWS BRIEFS

Dr. Dale von Rosenberg, Professor of Chemical Engineering, has left Tulane to accept a Professorship at the University of Tulsa.

Professor Edward H. Harris of the Department of Mechanical Engineering is on sabbatical leave for the Fall Semester. He will devote his time to the study of ethics as it applies to the engineering profession.

Dean John Martinez, E'46, has settled into his new post of Dean of Admissions of the University. He retains his affiliation with the School of Engineering as Professor of Mechanical Engineering (non-teaching).

The many alumni friends of Dean Emeritus Lee Johnson will be interested to hear of his marriage in August to Kitty O'Malley, well-known New Orleans artist.

Dr. Henry Hrubec of Mechanical Engineering is one of 27 educators from around the world who have been invited by UNESCO to participate in an international conference on the impact of the scientific and technological revolution on society and the social sciences in Prague, Czechoslovakia from September 4-10.

Short Course Offerings

Refresher Course in Engineering Fundamentals
September 28 - November 2
Tuesday and Thursday Evenings
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Computer Applications in Reinforced Concrete
Session I.
Oct. 14-Nov. 18
7:30-10:00 p.m.—Thursdays
Session II.
Dec. 15,16,17
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Polymeric Coatings for Corrosion Control
November 4 and 5
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in any of these should contact Associate Dean Ray Bailey, School of Engineering, Tulane University, or by Telephone at 865-4183.
SOCIETY OF TULANE ENGINEERS
Financial Statement

Cash on hand - March 1, 1976 .................. $414.83
Dues collected .................................. 1,955.00
Donations ..................................... 3,925.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS ............................ $6,294.83

Printing Expenses ............................. 1,449.89
Senior Awards Dinner 4/22/76 ............... 562.29
Awards ...................................... 203.09

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS ........... $2,215.27

BALANCE, CASH ON HAND ................. $4,079.56

Ronald P. Cressy
Treasurer

---

ANNUAL MEETING
Society of Tulane Engineers
TULANE HOMECOMING

Saturday, October 16, 1976
9:00 a.m.
Mechanical Engineering Building
Room 205

Complimentary
"Continental" Breakfast
Juice - Danish Rolls - Coffee

Please Plan Now To Attend

THE TULANE ENGINEER

Published by the Society of TULANE ENGINEERS, whose officers are:

President ......................... George A. Swan, III ChE'69
1st Vice President ............ Frank M. Denton CE'59
2nd Vice President .......... Thomas L. Jackson CE'70
Secretary ......................... David C. Miner EE'70
Assistant Secretary .......... George C. Kleinpeter, Jr. CE'70
Treasurer ......................... Ronald P. Cressy CE'52
Assistant Treasurer ........... Ashton B. Avegno, Jr. CE '72
Director & Publication
Chairman... Sam T. Burguieres, Jr. CE '70
Director & Historian .......... Roy A. Perrin, Jr. ME'61

STE Officer Nominations

The election of the Society of Tulane Engineers officers for 1976-77 will be conducted at the Society's Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 16, 1976. The following candidates have been nominated by the Nominating Committee:

President ......................... Frank M. Denton - CE '59
1st Vice President ............ Thomas L. Jackson - CE '70
2nd Vice President .......... Roy A. Perrin, Jr. ME '61
Secretary ......................... David C. Miner - EE '70
Assistant Secretary .......... Sam T. Burguieres, Jr. CE '70
Treasurer ......................... Ronald P. Cressy - CE '52
Assistant Treasurer .......... Danny W. McCarthy - ChE '72
Director and Publications
Chairman .................... George C. Kleinpeter, Jr. CE '70
Director and Historian ... Ashton B. Avegno, Jr. CE '72