WALTER E. BLESSEY
nominee for ASCE
President-Elect

Walter E. Blessey, professor and head of the civil engineering department at Tulane University, has been designated as the official nominee for the post of President-Elect of the American Society of Civil Engineers. If, as expected, he is elected (he is unopposed), Professor Blessey will take office next fall during the Society's annual business meeting and convention in San Francisco. Following a year in the Society's second spot, he will succeed now-President-Elect William R. Gibbs as President of ASCE in October of 1978.

AL LEMLEY RETIRES

On June 30 Albert David Lemley's friends on the faculty and staff gathered at the Alumni House to honor him on the occasion of his retirement after more than 50 years on the staff. Chemical Engineering graduates since 1926 will remember Al as the mechanician, technician, laboratory jack-of-all-trades whose shop skills were available to help them with their senior and graduate projects. Al was always ready to lend a helping hand even though it meant working late into the evening or on week-ends and holidays. In recent years he developed skills as a glassblower and his services were in demand by the departments of Chemistry and Physics as well as by the Chemical Engineering Department.

FALL CLASS--LARGEST IN SCHOOL'S HISTORY

The 1977 incoming freshman class of 277 is the largest class in the School's history. In fact, it is almost equal to the School's total enrollment of 293 in 1961. The 277 figure represents an increase of 27 over the 1976 class. Even with the increase in numbers, the quality did not suffer. Average SAT scores were verbal 534 and math 628. These compare to averages of 528 and 615 for 1976. Almost 40 percent of the students are from Louisiana and 3 out of every 4 of those are from New Orleans. There are students from 33 states and 6 foreign countries. The number of women and minority students are up with numbers of 45 and 38, respectively. Many of these students first learned of Tulane's Engineering programs from a Tulane graduate. For this the School is grateful.
NEW DEPARTMENT HEADS

Chemical Engineering

Dr. Robert E. C. Weaver, Professor of Chemical Engineering, has been named Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering effective July 1, replacing Dr. Duane Bruley who has gone to Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. Dr. Weaver earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Tulane and his Ph.D. at Princeton University. Dr. Weaver's teaching, consulting, research, and publications activities, nationally and internationally, in various aspects of chemical engineering, environmental and resource management, economics, process evaluations, computer techniques, control engineering, and in medically-related areas are so impressive that there is no way to chronicle them here. An accomplished linguist, he has travelled extensively in Europe, and South and Central America and has had visiting professorships in Ecuador, West Germany and Norway. He has been active in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Dr. Weaver has served on the School of Engineering's faculty since 1953. For the past 4 years he has been chairman of the Engineering Management Program. A native of New Orleans, Dr. Weaver is married to the former Karen Coci and they have one son.

Mechanical Engineering

Edward H. Harris, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, was named Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering effective July 1. He replaced Dr. David Wieting who now devotes full-time to teaching and research. Professor Harris came to the Tulane faculty in 1954. A native of Alabama, he is a graduate in Civil Engineering and Electrical Engineering of the University of Alabama, earned a Master's degree from the Johns Hopkins University. He has done graduate work in Philosophy at Tulane University and summer study at several other universities.

Professor Harris, a registered professional engineer in Connecticut, Georgia, and Louisiana, has many years of professional and consulting experience for industry, legal firms and governmental agencies. He has been very active in the applied Mechanics Division of ASME and the Southeastern Conference on Theoretical and Applied Mechanics and the Tulane Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi.

Biomedical Engineering

Now A Department

On July 1 of this year Biomedical Engineering became a full-fledged department with Dr. William C. Van Buskirk as Head. This fall there are 76 students registered in the Biomedical curriculum; 11 graduated in May of 1977 and 17 should complete degree requirements in May of 1978. Two Masters degrees have been awarded and several students are working on advanced degrees.

The fourth floor of Stanley Thomas Hall is in the process of renovation for Biomedical Engineering. Office space for 5 faculty members and a research laboratory will soon be ready and plans are being made to provide later for classrooms and a teaching laboratory.

Dr. Van Buskirk, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering, has been on the faculty since 1970. A native of Utah, he is a graduate of the United States Military Academy and of Stanford University where he earned a Master of Science and Ph.D. His research interests are in biomechanics, specifically the Mechanics of the semicircular canals and constitutive relations of biological materials. He has been a principal investigator in research in this area as well as having been associated with projects conducted by members of the faculty of the School of Medicine.

STE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Tulane Engineer,

As you will note elsewhere in this issue, the annual meeting of your Society of Tulane Engineers will be held during Homecoming activities. I encourage attendance as an opportunity to see and talk with old friends among your classmates. In addition, several awards will be presented to graduates deserving of special recognition.

This year, while passing quickly, has been one of modest progress for your Society. The recent formation of a Student Chapter-STE will bring students and graduates together in more instances, while providing a preview of those goals of the Society prior to graduation.

The Senior Awards Banquet, hosted by STE, was another opportunity to see the results of faculty efforts, and at the same time, recognize an outstanding teacher.

The modest investment asked of engineering alumni via STE dues is truly worthwhile. Another fine vehicle for increasing your support is thru company matching fund programs. Along with the excellent support given the Tulane Engineering Foundation, engineering alumni have shown they care about quality education.

The School Administration, my fellow officers and the Society in general have provided a unique opportunity for me to observe that special regard held for Tulane. Thank you for the fine support!

Frank M. Denton
President
1976-77

The other members of the Biomedical faculty are Dr. Stephen Cowin, Dr. Allen Weinstein, Dr. Jerome Klawitter and Dr. Cedric Walker.
INTRODUCING NEW FACULTY

The School added three new faculty members this fall.

Lynn James Groome

Dr. Groome's appointment is as Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering. He is a graduate of Clemson University where he was awarded B.S. and M.S. degrees, and this year he was awarded the Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering by the University of Florida in Gainesville. Dr. Groome's research interests are in statistical thermodynamics and biological systems. He is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and of Phi Kappa Phi and Tau Beta Pi honor societies. His industrial experience was with Phillips Fibers in Greenville, South Carolina and summer research and study experience at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and at the University of Guelph in Ontario. He is the author or co-author of several papers which have been presented at professional meetings.

Cedric F. Walker

Dr. Walker has joined the engineering faculty as Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering. He comes to Tulane from Duke University where he served as a teaching assistant in physiological systems, electronics and freshman electrical engineering while acquiring a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering. His B.S. and M.S. degrees were earned at Stanford University in bio-engineering and Engineering science. Dr. Walker's research interests are in sensory feedback from prosthetic devices, applied neurophysiology and clinical instrumentation.

Sankar Chandra Das

Associate Professor of Civil Engineering, comes to the faculty from the South Dakota State University where he taught for the past 3 years.

Dr. Das' teaching assignments this fall are in graduate courses in structures and he is involved in a biomaterials research project which will use his expertise in finite elements.

JOHN KING MAYER LABORATORY DEDICATED

At a ceremony which took place on June 9, the John King Mayer Soil Mechanics Laboratory was officially dedicated. Many friends of Emeritus Professor Mayer gathered to honor him on this occasion. Dean Thompson presided over the program which included tributes to Professor Mayer by Dean Emeritus Lee Johnson, Dean John Martinez, and Professor Walter Blessey, a short history of the laboratory by Dr. Peter Lee and reminiscences of his years at Tulane and experiences in the soils laboratory by Professor Mayer.

A bronze plaque will soon mark the laboratory which has recently been renovated. Professor Mayer retired in 1973 after 41 years on the faculty of experimental and civil engineering.

Pictured above on the left is Frank Denton, President of the Society, presenting the Society's annual excellence in teaching award to Dr. Dan Vliet, Professor of Electrical Engineering. The presentation was made at the annual Senior Dinner and Awards Program in April.
ENGINEERING TIMESHARED COMPUTER SYSTEM

The Engineering School purchased a PDP11/45 computer system last spring. Since that time the system has been enhanced a great deal and now has 14 inactive terminals attached to it. The memory size of the machine is 124K 16-bit words and 3.6 million words of disk storage are available. A satellite PDP11/40 in the Chemical Engineering Laboratory is attached to the larger system and is used for process control and data acquisition experiments. An “intelligent” terminal in the Electrical Engineering Department is being equipped to perform automated signal processing experiments.

Approximately 300 undergraduate students will use the timesharing terminals during their academic year for course assignments and related computing needs.

Continuing Education

The following continuing education short courses are scheduled for the Fall:

Engineering Fundamentals
September 27 through Nov. 1
(Twice-weekly—evenings)

Practical Stress Analysis
November 10 and 11

Centrifugal Pump Fundamentals
November 14

For information about these courses, contact Dean Raymond Bailey at 865-4183, or write him care of the School of Engineering, New Orleans, La. 70118.

NEW BRIDGE?

The Engineering Student Body has gotten off to one of its fastest starts in history this year and has plans to go even faster. With school barely one week old, the Engineers have already sponsored a school-wide dance which turned out to be a smashing success.

The student chapter of the STE is meeting to finalize plans for Engineering Week which will be held the week of March 17. This year’s extravaganza should be the biggest in recent history and the chapter is looking for as much alumni participation and support as possible. Don’t be surprised if someone just happens to knock on your door looking for a speaker or an exhibit... be prepared. In fact, why not just call and offer your services. It could sure save a lot of time.

Last year, the students put snow on the Quad. This year they’re out to top even that. Rumors have been spreading that someday the Engineering Quad may have a bridge to ease the traffic congestion. MRBA are you listening?

The student chapter officers were elected in early September but, as of press time, their names were not available, so we’ll let you know in the next issue. The Student Body president for this year is Ricky Blum from New Orleans. He’s enrolled in Civil Engineering.

ANNUAL MEETING
Society of Tulane Engineers
TULANE HOMECOMING
Saturday, October 15, 1977
9:00 a.m.
Mechanical Engineering Building
Room 205
Complimentary
“Continental” Breakfast
Juice - Danish - Coffee
Please Plan Now to Attend

The Society of Tulane Engineers annually presents graduates from the School of Engineering with a certification of membership to the Society. This is something every graduate should be proud to own and display. For how to obtain your copy contact Dan W. McCarthy, Treasurer, at 865-4181.
STE
STUDENT CHAPTER
"JUBILATION!"

Plans for Engineering week are still a little sketchy but one thing that is definite is that the student chapter of STE has indeed engaged the services of "Jubilation!", one of New Orleans' finest bands, for the annual St. Pat's Dance.

Student reservations for this event are coming in, in record numbers, however the student chapter reserved nearly half of the ballroom for alumni. According to Ricky Blum, President of the Engineering Student Body, the students are going all out this year promoting school spirit. How about the alumni? Its really a great opportunity for them to meet the future engineers, and who could think of a better chance for a reunion, than at a dance with "Jubilation!"

Blum also adds, "Any help the alumni can give concerning Engineering Week would be greatly appreciated. Our theme this year is "Energy" and any exhibits or speakers would be more than welcome."

The Student Council office is presently selling raffle tickets on 1/2 case of Wild Turkey or Chevis (pick it). Plans are also in the works for new engineering T-shirts. Last year the "Love an Engineer" shirts sold over 30 dozen and the engineering caps sold over 200. Any information on these items can be obtained through the Engineering Student Council % Engineering Dean’s office.

Send checks payable to:

Tulane School of Engineering
Engineering Dean’s Office
Tulane University 70118

STE OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The election of the Society of Tulane Engineers officers for 1977-78 will be conducted at the Society’s Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 15, 1977. The following candidates have been nominated by the Nominating Committee:

President......................... Thomas L. Jackson CE '70
1st Vice President............... Roy A. Perrin, Jr. ME '61
2nd Vice President............... David C. Miner EE '70
Secretary......................... John Holtgreve CE '70
Assistant Secretary............ Ashton B. Avegno, Jr. CE '72
Treasurer......................... Dr. Dan W. McCarthy ChE '72
Assistant Treasurer............. Ronald P. Cressy CE '52
Director of Publication
Chairman....................... George C. Kleinpeter, Jr. CE '70
Director & Historian............. Clay Louis ChE '61

Remember the St. Pat’s Dance?

Bring Back the Good Old Days with "JUBILATION!"

Friday, February 24, 1978

Alumni-$10.00 per Couple donation

Make your reservations now!

Tickets will be mailed on January 20, 1978. If possible, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Alumni will be provided with a special reserved section and reserved tables upon request.
Annual Meeting
Of The Society

The Society’s annual meeting will be held on Saturday morning, October 15th, in Room 205, Mechanical Engineering Building. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. with a continental breakfast. Frank Denton will preside over a program which will have as highlights presentation of the Harold A. Levey award for professional achievement within 10 years of graduation and announcement of the School’s outstanding alumnus for 1977. The officers of your Society, Dean Thompson, and the faculty and staff of the School of Engineering urge you to come and hear about your School’s progress and programs for the future. Come and meet old friends again.

Please call 865-6105, the Dean’s Office, to indicate your intention to attend.

SOCIETY OF TULANE ENGINEERS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
September 1, 1977

Cash on hand - March 1, 1977 .................. $1,121.17
Dues Collected .................................. 1,785.00
Donations ........................................... 4,379.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS ................................... $7,285.17

Printing Expenses .................. $1,842.11
Awards ........................................... 42.30
Dinner ............................................. 689.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .................. $2,573.41

BALANCE CASH ON HAND .................. $4,711.76

SOCIETY OF TULANE ENGINEERS
Tulane University Alumni House
6319 Willow Street
New Orleans, La. 70118

While on the subject of dollars, I would like to point out that dues are paid by about 600 of the approximately 4,000 members each year for the past several years. As you can see from the Treasurer's Report, this provides us with about $1,800.00 of income which about pays for the annual operating expenses of the STE. In addition, an average of about $7.00 per dues-paying member is received in donations which has enabled us for the last few years to make contributions of about $3,000.00 per year to the School. Checking this on your slide rule, you will see this averages, “including both dues and donations”, about $1.54 per member while our basic dues are $3.00 per member. Your School has not forgotten you and evidences this, even during this period of historic growth, by insisting upon maintaining its traditional reputation of excellence in the engineering circles which further enhances the value of your degree. Let us not forget Tulane. If you have not already done so, send in your dues, and those of you who can, and that includes most of us, even in this period of spiraling inflation, include a $5.00, $10.00 or more donation. Stand proud of your degree and the institution it represents.

Ronald P. Cressy
Treasurer