New Dean Envisions Bigger, Better School of Engineering

It was supposed to be a house-hunting trip, but the new dean of the School of Engineering also had other things in mind during his visit to New Orleans in January, like squeezing in a meeting with the school’s executive committee.

“I want to hit the ground running,” explains Nicholas J. Altiero. “I want to make sure I know the faculty, know the School of Engineering’s strengths, know its weaknesses and know where people want to take it.”

Altiero, chair of the department of materials science and mechanics at Michigan State University, was named the new dean of the School of Engineering on Dec. 17 1999. The Ohio native, who began his new position June 1, replaces interim dean Michael Lynch.

According to Altiero, it was Tulane’s reputation for research that attracted his attention. “If it had not been a Carnegie Research I school, I probably would not have been interested,” Altiero says. “The fact that it was Research I was very attractive to me.”

Altiero, 52, was first approached about the position by the executive search firm Korn/Ferry in August 1999. As he began to do his homework, Altiero says the quality of the school’s faculty

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 10]
A Message from the Dean

This is a wonderful time to be named the Dean of Engineering at Tulane. Under the leadership of President Scott Cowen, the university has articulated a clear vision for its future and the School of Engineering plays a central role in that vision. I believe that we can look forward to substantial growth in the School of Engineering over the next five to ten years and I am delighted to have been chosen to lead that effort.

Why does the School of Engineering need to grow? Certainly there is much about Tulane Engineering that we do not want to change. We continue to attract the very best undergraduate students to our programs (this year’s freshman class is no exception) and we provide our undergraduate students with a stimulating learning environment in which they receive the personal attention of our outstanding faculty from their freshman year through their senior capstone experience. The Tulane School of Engineering is, however, a bit too small. At present, we have 52 full-time faculty members and the schools of engineering with which we are directly competing for international recognition (as well as for undergraduate and graduate students) all have on the order of 80 faculty members. At our present size, it is very difficult for us to maintain the high level of research productivity expected of a school of engineering at a prestigious AAU institution such as Tulane, particularly since there is the expectation that all of our faculty be deeply committed to undergraduate education.

I strongly believe that the Tulane School of Engineering needs to be larger and more research intensive. And the research that we do must range from the basic research that lays the foundation for long-term innovation to very applied research that is of more immediate value to industry and the community. In this way, we will not only greatly enhance the international reputation of Tulane Engineering; we will also broaden and enrich the real-world experiences that we can provide to both our undergraduate and graduate students.

To achieve this vision for the Tulane School of Engineering, we will need the strong support of you, our alumni, friends, and corporate partners. In my first few months as dean, I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you and I have been invigorated by your enthusiasm and your deep commitment to Tulane Engineering. I am confident that together we can take Tulane Engineering to new heights.

Nicholas J. Altiero
Dean of Engineering

Engineering Week Festivities

Engineering Week was held the week of March 13, 2000 concluding on Friday, St. Patrick’s Day, with the annual crawfish boil. During the week several competitions were held by various organizations. The design competition sponsored by Tulane Engineering and Computer Science Honor Scholar Society was held immediately prior to the crawfish boil. The goal of this competition was to design an egg-launching devise with focus on height, distance, and accuracy. Four teams entered this competition and the winning team was Tze Tang and Junyong Pak.
I would like to take a moment to update you on the direction and activities of our society. With the recently held and very successful 1st Annual Tulane Engineering Forum and our Annual Homecoming Jazz Brunch there is much to report.

During the past year we have worked to amend our bylaws to make them more reflective of our activities in 2000. What we have done is to establish several new working committees to carry out the activities of the organization. They are as follows:

- Publications and Website Committee — addressing our communication needs,
- Honors Committee — responsible for awards and special recognition of alumni and students,
- Career Recruitment Committee — responding to the employment/career needs of both students and alumni,
- Social Events Committee — organizing recreational, cultural and other non-engineering activities, and
- Technical Programming Committee — responsible for organizing our Annual Engineering Forum.

We feel as though these new committees will enable us to better serve the membership needs that we have heard. We are actively seeking members who want to be active on these committees. As they are new, we are staffing up now. I encourage all of you to consider giving us some time out of your busy schedules. This is an excellent way to proactively reinvest in and continue to build the value of our Tulane School of Engineering degrees. Below you will find the contact names and numbers of our officers.

During our Jazz Brunch annual meeting (of which you’ll read more in the next issue) we elected our officers for the 2000 - 2001 year. Joining me on the Executive Committee are Dave Kang (Secretary), Robert Kahl (Treasurer) and David Gereighty (Vice-President). We are looking forward to revitalizing STE and welcome any and all ideas that you might have.

Dean Nick Altiero sees STE as the group best suited to “rally” our 7,800 plus members that are scattered around the globe. Our aim is to work closely with Dean Altiero and the staff of the School of Engineering to do just that. We want you to help us help the School of Engineering reach the ambitious goals that have been set by President Scott Cowen and Dean Altiero. Do not be a stranger!!

Thomas P. “Tommy” Meehan

2000-2001 Society of Tulane Engineers Officers

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Engineering a Scholarship  
Providing in the Present and Past for the Future

There is a good chance that you were either a scholarship recipient at Tulane, or that you studied with someone who was a recipient of someone else’s generosity and foresight. Scholarships don’t just happen: they are created with concern for the future. Often, they are created with thanksgiving for the past.

Recent Engineering Scholarships

In 1995 Leon Klein (BS EE 40) made a financial pledge to fund a scholarship for future Engineering students. Mr. Klein said he made his gift in “grateful appreciation for the financial scholarship and outstanding education” he received at Tulane. On May 20, 1999 the Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund expressed their gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Klein for making this endowed fund possible. Income from this endowed fund will be used to provide scholarship support to deserving students in need of financial assistance in the School of Engineering.

While at Tulane Mr. Klein was active in Tau Beta Pi and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Tulane Student Branch. Thank you Mr. Klein, for giving scholarship support to deserving students in need of financial assistance in the School of Engineering.

The Thomas S. Booksh Memorial Scholarship Fund - Endowed was given by the estate of his wife, Marie L. Booksh. Mr. Booksh graduated in 1927 with a concentration in civil engineering and worked for Texaco. He died in 1986.

Vincent V. UyBarreta Scholarship was established in memory of Vincent UyBarreta, M.D. who received his BS in 1994 in biomedical engineering. Dr. UyBarreta continued at Tulane graduating from the Medical School in 1998 having concentrated in surgery.

Do you have a child or grandchild who is a future student in Engineering? The Shepard Francis Perrin Scholarship in Engineering was created with your child in mind. This scholarship provides financial assistance to a student who is the child or grandchild of any Tulane or Newcomb graduate. The scholarship was established through the generosity of Mrs. Shepard F. Perrin and Shepard Francis Perrin, III. It honors the three generations of Perrins who graduated from Tulane’s School of Engineering.
Class of 1950 Returns to Campus

On May 20, the Class of 1950 returned to the campus to receive new diplomas in honor of the 50th anniversary of their graduation from Tulane School of Engineering. At a unified ceremony held at the Louisiana Superdome that morning, President Scott Cowen recognized the 50-year class. Later that day at the individual ceremony of the engineering school they were presented their new diplomas by Thomas P. Meehan (ChE ’83). Mr. Meehan serves as the School of Engineering’s representative to the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

On the evening of May 19 the class enjoyed a reunion gathering in the lobby of the Lindy Boggs Engineering Building. In addition to reconnecting with old friends, alumni and guests enjoyed cocktails, a buffet dinner and dancing to the music of Harry Connick, Sr. and his band.
Student Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers Receives Accolade

The President of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Dr. Delon Hampton, recently notified the Tulane University Student Chapter of ASCE that a Certificate of Commendation had been awarded to the chapter for its outstanding activities during 1999. Credit for the chapter’s success belongs to the officers, led by last year’s chapter president Hung Chang, and an incredibly enthusiastic group of students. Among its accomplishments, the chapter was cited for:

- participation in national competitions in both civil and environmental engineering, including the steel bridge competition,
- establishing a strong mentoring program which includes students and industry participants,
- developing a recycling program,
- designing a playground for children,
- participating in the Tulane University intramural program (softball, volleyball, and basketball), and
- mounting a series of teambuilding events within the chapter.

In responding to the award, this year’s president, Aurora Luscher, commented, “The best is yet to come.”

Tulane School of Engineering is the Lead Organizer of Major International Conference

The 4th International Conference on Multiphase Flows (ICMF-2001) will take place at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans, LA, May 27 through June 1, 2001. The conference takes place every three years and its venue rotates between Asia-Australia, Europe-Africa and America. It is the major research conference in the field of multiphase flows, which includes particulate flows, gas-liquid flows (e.g. in petrochemicals) and nuclear thermohydraulics. Professor Efstatios Michaelides, associate dean of the School of Engineering, is the conference chair.

In addition to approximately 500 presentations from 46 countries, there will be 4 plenary lectures (nuclear thermohydraulics, particulate flows, droplet flows and computer simulation methods) 16 keynote lectures and 5 panels (experimental methods, modeling, aerosols and pollution, environmental flows and issues on nuclear energy). More than 1000 scientists and engineers from all continents are expected to attend this conference. (Conference details may be found at http://boss.me.tulane.edu/icmf2001/ or http://www.tulane.edu/icmf2001).
School of Engineering Initiates Forum

The School of Engineering had hoped for 150 participants to make the first Tulane Engineering Forum a success. It ended up attracting more than 200.

“21st-Century Engineering Issues: Information Technology and Environmental Engineering,” a joint presentation of Tulane and the School of Engineering, took place at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside on Sept. 22. Engineering dean Nicholas Altiero attributes much of its success to a unique program that hit on two of engineering’s hottest topics.

“In information technology and environmental engineering we were able to not only find two topics that are incredibly timely, but we were also able to find cross-cutting themes between the topics,” Altiero explains.

Kenneth M. Ford delivered the plenary address, “Enabling the Future: Information Technology in Space Exploration.” Ford is director of the Institute for Human and Machine Cognition at the University of West Florida.

In addition to morning and afternoon breakout sessions, James F. McNulty, president and chief executive officer of Pasadena, Calif.-based Parsons Corp., delivered the luncheon presentation “Building Infrastructure, Protecting the Environment and Managing Risk in the Dot-Com Era.” Following McNulty’s presentation, consultant Harry Freeman delivered an address on the relationship of engineering and sustainability. Freeman, editor of Industrial Pollution Prevention Handbook, is a senior research associate with the Urban Waste Management and Research Center at the University of New Orleans and serves as a senior fellow to the Institute of Public Affairs at the University of South Carolina.

Altiero says the forum provided a great opportunity for engineers to learn from experts about important issues in technology and how those issues affect the world. He hopes the event, as the Freeman School’s popular Tulane Business Forum does, will grow into a major networking event for local and regional engineering professionals. Engineers in attendance were able to earn six professional development hours.

“The response to this inaugural forum far exceeded our expectations and every indication is that those in attendance found it to be well worth their time,” Altiero says. “You’ll be seeing more of this type of activity from Tulane’s School of Engineering in the future.”

Forum patron Carl E. Woodward Inc. gave financial support to the conference, along with sponsors including Chaffee & Associates Inc., Entergy Corp., Laitemorp Corp., the National Cryptologic Museum Foundation, Parsons Brinckerhoff and URS Corp.

(Reprinted from the November 1, 2000 issue of Inside Tulane, article by Mark Miester)

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A Note from the Dean’s Office

To those of you who responded to the Tulane Engineering General Alumni Survey, we say, “thank you!” This survey has helped us meet criteria for accreditation through the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology that is so vital to the growth and reputation of the School of Engineering.

In the next issue of the newsletter, the Palm Pilot winner will be announced. Stay tuned!
Biomedical

The National Academy of Engineering is featuring Dr. Kay C Dee as part of the Celebration of Women in Engineering (http://www.nae.edu/cwe). The academy initiated the celebration to recognize women who are making outstanding contributions to the field of engineering and who serve as role models for women in engineering. Dr. Dee was nationally elected to serve on the Board of Directors and the Council of the Society for Biomaterials.

In local news, Dr. Dee was featured as one of the “Power Generation 2000” by New Orleans City Business, following her listing as one of “40 Under 40” People to Watch in the New Orleans Weekly Gambit, and one of “20 People to Watch” in New Orleans Magazine, 1999.

Dr. Dee was awarded a Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award from the National Science Foundation for her work on “Controlling Cell-Biomaterial Interactions.” The four-year grant, aimed at young faculty members actively engaged in research and education, is one of NSF’s most competitive and prestigious awards.

Dr. Donald Gaver received a grant from the National Science Foundation for his research on “Lining Fluid Flow and Surfactant Transport During the Unsteady Opening of Pulmonary Airways and Alveoli.” He also received a grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents Support Fund for his proposal, “Integrating Laboratory Experiences into Research and Learning.”

Dr. Paul Nunez recently returned from a two-year leave/sabbatical at the Brain Sciences Institute in Melbourne, Australia. His invited target article, “Toward a Quantitative Description of Large Scale Neocortical Dynamic Function and EEG” appears in the June issue of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, together with commentary by 18 neuroscientists and Nunez’s response to this commentary, “Neocortical Dynamic Theory Should be as Possible, but not Simpler.” Tulane graduate student Brett Wingeier (BS ’96) is currently completing his Ph.D. research in Australia and will soon begin work at the Brain Sciences Institute in a postdoctoral position funded by an Australian Research Council grant awarded to Professor Nunez.

The International Society for the Study of the Lumber Spine awarded Dr. J-K. Francis Suh its 1999 Volvo Award on Lowback Pain Research. Dr. Suh has received a National Science Foundation Biomedical Research Grant Award in the amount of $263,464 for a period of three years, title: “Biphasic Poroviscoelastic Behaviors of Articular Cartilage.” Last October he was an invited lecturer at the 12th International Congress of Mechanical Engineers, University ITESM in Monterrey, Mexico.

Dr. Natalia Trayanova has received a grant from the National Institute of Health for her research on “Cardiac Tissue Structure in the Defibrillation Process.” Also, she was invited to give the following seminars: (1) Workshop on Computer Simulation and Experimental Assessment of Electrical Cardiac Function, Lausanne, Switzerland, (2) Workshop on Mapping and Control of Complex Arrhythmia, Montreal, Canada, and (3) Living State Physics Group, Department of Physics, Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Trayanova attended the North American Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology in Washington, D.C. in May, and the World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering in Chicago in July. She received a second-place award for her poster, “Virtual Electrode Polarization in Ventricular Arrhythmias and Device Therapy, held in Israel in March.

Dr. Cedric Walker received the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Inc., New Orleans Section’s Freitag Award for Technical Achievements. He is also a recipient of the IEEE’s Third Millennium Medal, presented in Chicago at the World Congress on Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics, where he served as Technical Program Chair for the Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society.

Chemical

Dr. Daniel De Kee was a speaker at the opening ceremony of the XIIth International Congress on Rheology in Cambridge, U.K. where he presented work on bubble dynamics. In addition, he was a featured speaker at the conference banquet. Dr. Kee is now past chair of the International Committee on Rheology for the period 2000 - 2004.

Dr. Daniel J. Lack received a grant totaling $288,000 for three years from the National Science Foundation entitled “Molecular Simulation of Disordered Materials under Stress.” In September, Dr. Lack presented a chemical engineering department seminar at Princeton University.

Dr. Brian S. Mitchell received an SBIR Phase Zero grant from the Louisiana Technology Transfer Office to support submission of an NSF/STTR proposal with Fiberamics, LLC in Madison, WI.

Dr. Kyriacos Papadopoulos, department chair, has received a new research grant from the National Science Foundation to study “Capillary Video-Microscopy on the Release of Water-Soluble Drugs from Double Emulsion Globules into Giant Liposomes.”

Civil and Environmental

Dr. Reda Bakeer has been elected to serve as president of the New Orleans Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) beginning in 2001.

Dr. Robert N. Bruce, Jr. was selected by the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board for the Fulbright Scholar award in Hungary during the 2000-2001 academic year. It is his third Fulbright award, having previously conducted research in Belgium (1955) and Burma (1979).

Dr. Jack Grubbs has been appointed Associate Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and chair of the Undergraduate Education Council. He will continue as chair of the department until a replacement is named.

Dr. Laura J. Steinberg recently returned from Istanbul, Turkey, where she was involved in field research related to the devastating 1999 earthquake. The research is funded by the National Science Foundation and includes a study of the environmental impacts of the earthquake. Of particular interest are the effects of the earthquake on hazardous materials stored at industrial facilities. Implications will be drawn for risk management planning in the United States and Turkey.

Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Dr. Bill Buckles and Raj Sharman, assistant professor in the Freeman School of Business, presented “Introduction to Data Mining: Concepts, Practices and Research” at the 14th International Symposium on Aerospace/Defense Sensing, Simulation and Controls in Orlando, Florida this spring.

Arturo Hernandez, visiting assistant professor of computer science, presented “Ant Colony System for the Design of Combinatorial Logic Circuits” at the International Conference on Evolvable Systems at Edinburgh, Scotland, last
Society of Tulane Engineers
Senior Awards Banquet
Honors Outstanding Graduates

The Senior Awards Banquet for 2000 was held on April 26 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and numerous graduating seniors were honored. Presenting awards given for scholastic excellence and for activities in various professional societies were Rebekah Henson Kraus, president of the Society of Tulane Engineers, and Interim Dean Mike Lynch. Four seniors graduated with an average of 3.9 or better and seven graduated with averages between 3.8 and 3.899. The recipient of the STE “Samuel L. Sullivan, Jr. Student Award for Service and Scholarship” was Gretchen Thompson. Faculty awards were also presented from student chapters of various engineering societies. This year’s recipient of the STE “Lee H. Johnson Award for Teaching Excellence” was Dr. Natalia A. Trayanova of the department of biomedical engineering. The “Outstanding Staff Award” given by the students went to Laurie Orth.

Tulane’s School of Engineering continues to host more fellowships than any other school or college in Louisiana thanks to a special program established by the Louisiana Board of Regents. The BOR Fellowship program provides four years of tuition and research opportunities for between five and six doctoral engineering students each year. Over the past five years these fellowships have brought 25 top scholars to Tulane (and nine more are scheduled to come in the next two years) for a total of $2.4 million in fellowship funding according to Stathis Michaelides, associate dean of the School of Engineering.

The fellowship is open only to graduate students with a 3.3 or higher GPA and a GRE score of 1250 or above. “This means they are in the top 10 percent of their peers nationwide. They form an elite group,” Michaelides says. Tulane’s Board of Regents Fellows are engaged in study in all five departments of the school: biomedical, chemical, mechanical, civil and environmental, and electrical engineering as well as computer science.

The students come from all parts of the country and represent a diverse cross-section. “We have a very good percentage of women in this program and a good number of minority students as well,” Michaelides says.

An envelope is attached to this newsletter for your convenience in mailing your 2001 dues.

REMEMBER:
Mail them in soon!!!

April, Dr. Hernandez’ “Use of Evolutionary Techniques to Automate the Design of Combinational Circuits” was published in the June 2000 issue of the journal Smart Engineering System Design. Drs. Fred Petry and Bill Buckles presented “Scene Interpretation Using Semantic Nets and Evolutionary Computation” at the European Workshop on Evolutionary Computation in Image Analysis and Signal Processing at Edinburgh, Scotland, in April. Their article received the Best Paper Award at the event.

Mechanical

On July 1, 2000, Dean Nicholas Altiero began a two-year term as chair of the Board of Directors of the Engineering Research Council of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE). Along with this appointment comes an automatic seat on the ASEE Board of Directors. Also serving on the 19-member ASEE Board of Directors is Dr. Jack Grubbs, chair of the civil and environmental engineering department, making two of the 19 members of the current ASEE Board from Tulane.

Dr. Michael Larson has returned from a yearlong sabbatical leave. He spent six months in Redondo Beach, CA, collaborating with researchers at TRW, Inc. in designing microelectronics for advanced communications satellites. In March, he and alumna Andrew Johnston (ME ’96, MS ’97) were awarded a U.S. patent for Method and Apparatus for Peeling Crawfish, US6042465. Professor Larson was recently awarded a research grant from the National Science Foundation to investigate the mechanical reliability of surface mount electronic packages.

Dr. Asher Rubenstein was awarded a NASA-Glenn Research Center Summer Faculty Fellowship last summer. Dr. David Sailor gave an invited keynote address at the 11th International Conference on Global Warming in Boston last April. Together with his student Daniel Rohli, (BS ’97, MS ’99) Dr. Sailor was awarded U.S. Patent #6053203: Mechanically-driven pulsating flow valve for heat and mass transfer enhancement. Mr. Rohli is now an engineer with Entergy.

Dr. Sailor received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to improve atmospheric modeling in support of EPA’s investigation into the potential to mitigate urban air quality problems and energy consumption associated with the urban heat-island effect.

Through the cooperative efforts of Drs. Sailor, Fernando Figueroa, Stathis Michaelides, and Asher Rubenstein the Louisiana Board of Regents will provide funding for a major upgrade to undergraduate lab facilities within the department.

Dr. Robert G. Watts was invited to Purdue University to give the prestigious “George Hawkins Memorial Lecture.” In addition, Dr. Watts was invited to Cornell University to give the inaugural lecture for their semester-long series on energy and the environment. He recently participated in a panel on Energy and the Environment at the Dixie Lee Ray Symposium in Washington, D.C.
Each year the National Science Foundation allows universities to submit only two grant proposals to acquire new equipment under its Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) program. In 1999, the NSF funded both of Tulane's proposals.

After an internal competition among Tulane's research departments, the university chose two proposals from the chemical engineering department to submit to the MRI program. Brian Mitchell, associate professor of chemical engineering, and Vijay John, professor of chemical engineering, were the principal writers of the proposals. Mitchell requested a 200-kilo electron voltage scanning transmission electron microscope (STEM). John submitted a proposal for the upgrading of an existing nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) instrument. The NMR is now up and running and the STEM will be operational in December.

Procuring better research equipment has a ripple effect at the university, John says. “If you have a good instrument, you get high-quality data, so your publications are high-quality publications, which means you publish in better journals and the researchers get better publications,” he says. “That allows them to write more competitive proposals for funding and get more research funds, which helps in educating undergraduate and graduate students.”

Researchers already are planning projects using the new instruments. Mitchell, along with other researchers at the university, plans to use the STEM to study the chemical makeup and molecular structures of compounds such as metals or volcanic rocks.

“This instrument will allow us to analyze chemically what our materials are composed of and how the atoms are distributed in materials, because we can get very high magnifications, almost to the point of seeing individual bonds between atoms,” Mitchell says. “That's something we couldn't do before.”

Mitchell says faculty members in other departments also will use this instrument in research ranging from developing new, more efficient methods for processing petroleum to studying the chemical evolution of Mexican volcanoes.

John says the NMR will help Tulane researchers understand the behavior of individual molecules of certain compounds. He says one project planned for this instrument involves observing a substance change from a watery composition into a gel state.

“If you get a fluid that goes from a low viscosity to a high viscosity very rapidly,” John says, “this may have applications in brakes.”

Both John and Mitchell are quick to point out that although the chemical engineering department procured the equipment, any Tulane department can use the instruments that will reside in the Coordinated Instrumentation Facility (CIF) on campus. This facility houses the university's shared research equipment in a centralized location.

“When you write these proposals, you have to explain to the reviewers where it is going to be housed and who'll use it,” John says. “A facility like the CIF is a very powerful argument saying it is not just for chemical engineering, it is university wide.”

The MRI grants are partially matched by funds from Tulane. For the STEM, the NSF granted $303,000 while Tulane paid $230,000, and for the NMR, the MRI granted $230,000, while Tulane covered $90,000.

The fact that students also will use the instruments shows how high-powered research equipment can be valuable as teaching aids, John says.

“The CIF makes it a policy that students work with the operators who teach the students how to operate the machines and run samples,” John says. “They don't have to go scrambling around campus to different buildings asking, ‘Can I use your machine?’ They just go straight up to the CIF.”

When they learned the NSF funded both proposals, other members of the chemical engineering department were elated, says Mitchell. In the entire United States, the MRI awarded only six such grants. Of these, Tulane received two. Rather than attribute this good fortune to luck, however, Mitchell credits the strength of Tulane's research programs. “The odds are certainly not in favor of both of the proposals being funded,” Mitchell says. “You make your own luck. I think it's indicative of the excellence of research here.”

(Reprinted from the November 1, 1999 issue of Inside Tulane, article by Jason Eness)
and students impressed him, but one thing stuck out. "The School of Engineering is too small for a Research I university," he says. "In order to compete with other Research I colleges in engineering, it ought to be bigger than it is. So I thought, if the university is committed to making engineering a larger player in the research role of the university, this might be a great opportunity to build a program at a very prestigious school."

When Altiere stepped aboard in June, he brought with him a number of ambitious goals, among them increasing the number of the faculty by approximately 20 percent in the next three to five years, expanding the size of the undergraduate and graduate programs, and boosting external research funding by $5 million. He hopes also to introduce a new practice-oriented master's of engineering degree in response to the growing number of professional engineers interested in additional, non-research-oriented instruction.

Altiere joined the faculty of Michigan State University in 1974 as an assistant professor in the department of metallurgy, mechanics and materials science. He was promoted to associate professor in 1979 and full professor in 1986. In 1990, he became associate dean for research and graduate studies in Michigan State's College of Engineering, a position he held until 1998, when he became chairman of the materials science and mechanics department.

A native of Youngstown, Ohio, Altiere earned a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Notre Dame in 1969. He attended graduate school at the University of Michigan, where he earned a master of science and engineering in aerospace engineering and a master of arts in mathematics. In 1974, he earned his doctorate in aerospace engineering from UM.

In 1981, Altiere was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to the Politecnico di Milano in Milan, Italy, and in 1982 he was an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at the University of Technology of North Rhine Westphalia in Germany. He received the State of Michigan Teaching Excellence Award in 1991 and Michigan State University Vice Provost's Lifelong Education Award in 1996.

Altiere's hiring capped an unusually lengthy search process. Michael Lynch, professor of mechanical engineering, has served as interim dean since August 1998, when former dean William Van Buskirk left Tulane to become provost of the New Jersey Institute of Technology. In June 1999, following a seven-month search, the School of Engineering made an offer to a candidate, but the two sides were unable to reach an agreement. The search was then reopened and new candidates solicited.

"An important point to make is that we didn't settle for anybody," says Rich Hart, professor of biomedical engineering and chair of the search committee. "Nick was not in the original pool of applicants. It took us longer than we would have liked, but I think the process worked. He's going to be a fabulous dean."

Altiere is joined in New Orleans by his wife, Amy, and his daughter, Elizabeth, an undergraduate at the University of Michigan.

(Reprinted from the February 15, 2000 issue of Inside Tulane, article by Mark Miester)

Alumni News

Please send news items and change of addresses to: Barbara Hogue, c/o Dean's Office, School of Engineering, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118; email: bhogue@tulane.edu; Fax: (504) 862-8747; Phone: (504) 865-5764.

1940's

Edward R. Estes, Jr., P.E. (CE '45), emeritus professor of civil engineering technology at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA and technical consultant to the National Association of Architectural Metal Manufacturers, has been given a 2000 American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Award of Merit from Committee F16 on Fasteners.

Luther H. Waller (ME '48) has retired after a career of engineering sales management with the TRANE Company and also as a real estate lawyer. Now residing in Montgomery, Alabama, he enjoys foreign travel and sailing from the British Virgin Islands.

1950's

Roger K. Battle (ME '55), President, The Battle Group, reports, "living high" at 7500 feet elevation at Lake Tahoe.

In February of this year, New Orleans Regional Transit Authority appointed Frank M. Denton (CE '59) to the position of Deputy General Manager of Capital Projects. Among major infrastructure projects being managed is the S157 million re-introduction of streetcar service to the Canal Street corridor in New Orleans and the $93 million effort to add a Desire Streetcar Line along the Rampart Street/St. Claude Avenue corridor.

Robert E. Rood (EE '57) accepted an early retirement offer from Electronic Data Systems effective October 1, 2000. He is now working as an independent consultant.

1960's

The Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association presented Rear Admiral Noah H. Long, Jr. (CE '65), Civil Engineer Corps, United States Navy Reserve (Retired), the Distinguished Service Award for the year 2000 at its annual meeting held in Washington, D.C. Admiral Long retired from the Navy in 1996 and is now President of Rosser International, Inc., the nationally known architectural and engineering company based in Atlanta, Georgia. Admiral Long and his wife Marilyn live in Sandy Springs, Georgia.

Randy Nichols (CE '67), President of Consee Solutions, a TeleHubLink Company and a Professor at George Washington University School for Engineering and Applied Science, has published his fourth title on INFOSEC and Cryptography. The text of this book is used for six classes at GWU along with Nichols' ICSA Guide to Cryptography.

Dr. Peter D. Prevett (EE '60) is proud to announce that his son, Todd H. Prevett (B'90), is now practicing law with him, having recently become a partner in the law firm of Prevett Prevett, L.L.P. Dr. Prevett had been practicing law as a sole-practitioner since 1991.

Aquarion President and Chief Executive Officer Richard K. Schmidt (CE '66, MS '67) has been appointed President and CEO of Kelda Group Inc., the newly formed US holding company for Kelda Group plc. of Leeds, England. Aquarion became a subsidiary of Kelda Group plc when Kelda acquired Aquarion in January 2000. Mr. Schmidt
continues in his capacity as Aquarion President and CEO.

1970's
In December 1999, Bellsouth Cellular Corp. announced that Stephen M. Blust, P.E. (EE ’73), Director of Technology Strategy and Standards, was appointed chairman of a newly created international group overseeing recommendations and development of third-generation (3G) wireless communications networks. The new development group is called Working Party 8F (WP8F) and falls within Study Group 8 of the International Telecommunication Union Radio-communication Sector. WP8F is a follow-on to ITU-R Task Group 8/1, which previously held primary responsibility for development of the IMT-2000 worldwide 3G standard and completed its activities in November 1999.

John McCaha (EE’70) became president of Entergy Operations, Inc. in March 2000. In this position he has responsibility for all four Entergy regulated nuclear plants.

Michael W. Edwards (CE ’79) and his wife, Barbara, have been married for 18 years. They have three daughters, ages 15, 12 and 9. He is a project engineer for Klingner & Associates, a multi-discipline architecture and engineering firm in west central Illinois.

Robert P. “Bob” Laclede, Jr. (E ’74) was promoted to vice president and general manager, government and education division by Ingram Micro Inc., the world’s largest wholesale provider of technology products and services. The April announcement included news that Laclede’s position had been expanded from his duties as vice president and general manager of Ingram Micro’s premium south commercial division. He brings to his new position more than 25 years experience in the government sales and distribution sector.

1980’s
Eugene J. Boyle (CP E ’87) has been appointed Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer and a member of the Board of Directors of Steroids Inhibitors International, Inc.

Randolph W. Hubbell (CS ’85) has been appointed Vice President of Sales for Envend, Inc.

Advantast Communications Inc., a leading worldwide business information company, announced in April the appointment of Jean-Marc Levy (CS ’83) as President and CEO of its Advantast.com subsidiary.

Melanie Marchand (ChE ’84) owns her own business. Sisters in Shape (SIS), in Philadelphia, PA. The goal of SIS is to help African-American women improve the quality of their lives through the Big Four: proper nutrition, body shaping or weight training, cardiovascular conditioning, and flexibility.

Bryan C. Reuter (ME ’85) has become a member of the New Orleans law firm of Stanley Flanagan, L.L.C.

Arthur Vincent Ross (CS ’88) and Shelley Ann Toufousse were married on March 11, 2000 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

David B. Sharpe (EE ’85), a shareholder in the New Orleans law firm of Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard, has been appointed to Tulane Law School’s adjunct faculty. This coming spring, he will again be co-teaching the course at Tulane Law School in “Tugs & Towage” law with Charles E. Lugenbuhl.

D. Christopher “Chris” Ward (ChE ’87) and his wife, Peggy, have returned from a 3-year stay in Le Mans, France during which he worked for the European division of Pechiney Plastic Packaging. They are now living in Appleton, Wisconsin where he is working at Pechiney’s North American Flexilex Packaging R & D Center. He completed his Ph.D. in chemical engineering at the University of Pennsylvania.

1990’s
Robert Louis Heath, Jr. (EnvE ’96) and Shannon Christine Praher were married on June 17 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Joel Winston Hill (CP E ’98) and Stephanie Ann Furtado were married in the spring of 2000 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Katherine Mary Kleinpeter (CE ’99) and Dr. Sidney Heider Raymond were married on May 27, 2000 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Katherine is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Kleinpeter. (CE ’70, MS ’74) and the sister of Karen Kleinpeter Cerie (CS ’82).

Ridgely Shane Pittman (EnvE ’99) and Adam Michael Myers were married in May in Metairie, Louisiana.

J. Cressend Schönberg (PhD EnvE ’94) is president of Health Safety and Environmental Consultants in Luling, LA. He recently retired from Union Carbide Corporation after 28 years of service.

Alan Conrad Schroeder (BME ’93) and Elizabeth Ann LeBlanc were married on January 15, 2000 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Diane Stalapy (CP E ’95) and Alex Schmidt (EE ’96, MS ’97) relocated together to Austin, TX from Silicon Valley (San Jose/San Francisco, CA). Diane works for Cirrus Logic and Alex works for Motorola.

David Matthew Stein (EE ’98) and Erin Alissa Berger were married on June 23 in Harahan, Louisiana.

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**In Memoriam**

William Scherrer Bergeron (ME’50)

Milton M. Bolles (ME ’62, MS ’64, PhD ’67)

Arthur H. Brook (ME ’38)

Joseph Saul Cohen (ME/EE ’22)

Randall D. Coll (ChE ’50)

James T. Dwyer, Jr. (ChE ’41)

Joseph B. Eustis, Sr. (ChE ’34)

Clinton B. Exby (EE ’57)

James A. Frosch (EE ’56, MS ’59)

Richmond B. Galbreath, Sr. (ChE ’50)

Marx Isaacs (ChE ’29)

Ernest W. Jones (ME ’39)

Guy F. LeMieux (CE ’56)

Harvey J. Martin (EE ’51)

Efrain A. Molina (MS ’63 EE)

Ashton J. Pecquet (ChE ’50)

William R. Pedersen (ChE ’75)

Edward A. Rodrigue (ME/EE ’33)

Gayle Schneidau, Jr. (ME ’39)

Charles B. Thorn, Jr. (ChE ’35)

Memorial donations are welcome.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 25, 2001</td>
<td>STE Senior Awards Banquet</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Kendall Cram Room University Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17, 2001</td>
<td>Emeritus Club Crawfish Boil</td>
<td>5 to 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Alumni House (Class of 1951 honored)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18, 2001</td>
<td>Emeritus Club Induction Luncheon</td>
<td>12 noon</td>
<td>Kendall Cram Room University Center</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Class of 1951 Reunion</td>
<td>6 to 9 p.m.</td>
<td>Lindy Boggs Building On Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 19, 2001</td>
<td>Unified Commencement</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Louisiana Superdome</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Engineering Commencement</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>(location to be announced)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 21, 2001</td>
<td>Tulane Engineering Forum</td>
<td></td>
<td>New Orleans Hilton</td>
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(The Class of 1951 will receive more information on the reunion in early spring from the dean's office. If you have questions, please call Barbara Hogue at (504) 865-5764.)