WALTER BLESSEY, CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT NATIONAL SOCIETY

At the Zone II caucus meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, Professor Walter Blessey, Civil Engineering Department Head, was nominated by the Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers for the position of President-Elect of the National Society for the year 1977-1978. The official nominee will be decided at the meeting of the National Committee at their April 23rd meeting in Dallas.

All Tulane Civil Engineering Alumni are urged to contact their local ASCE District directors whose names can be found in the official register or on page 7 of this newsletter, and ask that they support Walter’s candidacy.

1976 OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

Waldemar S. Nelson

The criteria set by the Tulane Alumni Association for selection of an outstanding alumnus are noteworthy competence in his profession and continuing interest and service to the University and to his School. The alumnus selected for the award in 1976 and honored at the annual meeting of the Society last October and at the Homecoming meeting of the Tulane Alumni Association was Waldemar Stanley Nelson, Class of 1936.

A native New Orleanian, he was educated in the public school system before attending Tulane where he earned his degree in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. After graduation he spent three years in the field on construction projects in Indiana, Texas and Louisiana before returning to New Orleans. With the exception of a wartime stint with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers designing and supervising construction of Army cantonments, airfields and training installations, he has been a consulting engineer with his own firm, involved in engineering design and construction projects. He is a registered professional in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering in 27 states.

His professional memberships (and in many of these groups he has held office) include the Louisiana Engineering Society, the National Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the Engineers Club of New Orleans, Society of Military Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Public Works Association and the Louisiana State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers.

He has been honored by election to Tau Beta Pi and Pi Tau Sigma and was awarded the Distinguished Service Award of the National Council of Engineering Examiners.

Waldemar has worked tirelessly for Tulane and for the School of En-

(Continued on page 2)
Dr. Milton Bolles - Levey Award For 1976

Pictured above (left) with Dean Hugh Thompson is the 1976 recipient of the Harold A. Levey Award—Dr. Milton M. Bolles, Manufacturing Manager for Milltron Division of Deering-Milliken at LaGrange, Georgia. The Harold Levey Award is presented annually at the Homecoming Meeting of the Society of Tulane Engineers to recognize outstanding achievement of a Tulane Engineering alumnus during the 10 year period following graduation.

Dr. Bolles is a three-time graduate of our School of Engineering: Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, 1962, Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, 1964 and Ph.D. in 1967.

He joined Deering-Milliken in 1966 as a research engineer and in the past ten years has served as Department Manager of the Design Engineering Department, Production Manager for the Bonded Carpet Division, Plant Superintendent of the Elm City Plant, and of the Live Oak Plant, both in LaGrange. The Live Oak Plant was designed as the most modern and highly automated plant of its type in the world. Dr. Bolles was responsible for planning, construction, installation and startup of the plant, one of the features of which was a new machine which dyed carpet by using a series of jets controlled by a minicomputer.

In 1975 Dr. Bolles was appointed to his present assignment as manufacturing manager for the Milltron carpet dying machines which are licensed world wide. Installations are complete or in progress in England, Canada, Denmark, Belgium, Holland and New Zealand.

Dr. Bolles was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and was brought up in Chicago where his primary and secondary education was attained. He is married to the former Claudette Capron and they make their home in LaGrange.

Annual Senior Dinner And Awards Program April 21st.

The Society will again host the annual dinner honoring the May graduates of the School of Engineering. Frank Denton, President of the Society, will serve as Master of Ceremonies at the dinner, a feature attraction of which will be presentation of various awards and medals to members of the graduating class. In addition to the senior awards, several faculty awards will be made — including the second annual Society of Tulane Engineer’s Excellence in Teaching Award.

Any member of the Society who wishes to attend this dinner to honor the graduating class may do so by calling 865-6105 for a reservation. The date is Thursday, April 21; the time, 6:30 p.m. and the place, the Ballroom of the University Center. Reservations must be made by April 19. Cost of this dinner will be $6.00.

Laboratory Renovation Program On Schedule

In the last issue of the Tulane Engineer, a fund raising campaign was announced for the purpose of renovating undergraduate laboratories of the School. Beginning in early July, the campaign was started to ameliorate the combined effects of enrollment growth, obsolescence, wear and decay. Its goal is in excess of $500,000. This article reports on the progress made during the last six months on this project.

(Continued on page 3)
During this academic year, the School will invest at least $160,000 in its undergraduate laboratory facilities. Funding for this effort has come from the School's Board of Advisors, Tulane Engineering Foundation funds, the University, and the Society of Tulane Engineers, as well as E.I. du Pont de Nemours, General Electric Foundation, Western Electric Fund, New Orleans Public Service, Inc. and Gulf Oil Foundation.

Purchase orders have already been placed for approximately $100,000 worth of equipment and space renovation. New equipment has been delivered and installed for use this semester in the Soils and Materials Laboratories, and in the computing facilities of the School.

The Soil Mechanics Laboratory has undergone a thorough overhaul. When improvements to the space are completed by the Physical Plant Department, this laboratory will be a showplace of the Civil Engineering Department, providing students with far greater insight into one of the most difficult engineering problems of the Gulf Coast.

Both sophomores and juniors in Mechanical Engineering have an opportunity to examine the effect of heat treatment and chemical composition on grain structure and strength of metal alloys in their new Materials Laboratory. Students examining the micro-hardness of a single crystal are shown in the accompanying photograph.

The computing capability of the School has also been expanded by the acquisition of a new PDP 11/45 machine. This is a preparatory step in a plan to make interactive, time-shared computing terminals available to students for use in their advanced engineering courses. These plans include computer-aided graphics and design, on-time process control, microcomputer applications, and other applications of computer technology to undergraduate engineering education.

Plans for a number of other renovations have been formulated and await the necessary funding and manpower for their implementation.

Because of the support and assistance of many people and organizations the program proceeds on schedule, enhancing the quality of the educational programs at Tulane.

STE President’s Message

Dear Tulane Engineer,

Once again, the Society of Tulane Engineers will sponsor the Annual Senior Awards Banquet. Your attendance would indicate our continuing support of the Engineering School. Mark your calendar now for Thursday, April 21, at 6:30 p.m. Cost is $6 per person and reservations can be made through the Dean's office (865-6105) until April 19.

You will note from several articles in this issue some measure of STE's activity. The STE Student Chapter is now a functioning organization with ambitious plans. The funds contributed to STE have been put to good use as indicated by the laboratory renovations and improvements. Certainly these projects are worthy of our membership. To support those efforts, you can assist by increasing monetary support of the Society. Remember, voluntary contributions beyond the minimal $5 dues is credited in your name to the Alumni Fund.

STE, of course, has full discretion in the use of those funds. At the last Homecoming meeting, we were able to present Dean Thompson with a record $3000 contribution.

Should you have any questions regarding STE activities, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Very truly yours,

SOCIETY OF TULANE ENGINEERS

Frank M. Denton
President, 1976-77

STE Student Chapter Founded

The Fall of 1976 found a group of very energetic students in the School of Engineering putting their heads together to determine how they could better promote a closer relationship between themselves, the faculty and the alumni. The outcome of this work was a meeting with faculty members, the Dean of the School and the executive committee of the STE. The articles of association for the student chapter were drawn up and approved by the STE executive committee, and the chapter was founded on December 7, 1976.

The officers of the student chapter for the 1976-77 year are the following:

President - Oliver Delery, Jr., CE
First Vice President - Al Foley, ME
Second Vice Pres. - Paul Gary, EE
Secty-Treasurer - Judy Kron, ChE
Assistant Treasurer - Ricky Blum, CE

The student chapter has set for its goals this year such activities as the reinstatement of the St. Pat's election and dance which was held Friday, March 18th and expanded activities for engineers' week. This year’s program included displays of engineering projects, seminars and many other activities.
Having Trouble Finding GOOD Engineering Personnel?

With the inauguration of a new President in Washington, our economy will be feeling the effect of new federal programs for capital expenditures. This is always good news for Engineers.

On the other hand, it sometimes leaves many employers with a problem of staffing new projects with additional engineering personnel. A student employee during the summer months and part-time during school can be the source of excellent work during his education at Tulane, but can also become an excellent engineer following graduation. How else can an engineering employer hire a new engineering graduate that knows exactly what needs to be done on his first day on the job and at the same time help his school in the process.

Many of our students must take jobs doing menial tasks during their school years. What better training or employment situation could be found with a student doing work paralleling his engineering courses.

This year the STE and the student chapter are beginning a regular program of working together to place Tulane ENGINEERING students in ENGINEERING jobs during their school years. The appeal to all alumni employing engineers in all fields is being made to help with this program.

If you can help in this program or desire to discuss any of the details of hiring student help, please write or contact:

Thomas L. Jackson, Vice President
Burk and Associates, Incorporated
4176 Canal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119
504 486-5901

Now you can do your part to help your school and help yourself at the same time.

Letter To Alumni From The Board Of Advisors
Tulane School Of Engineering
Progress of Fund-Raising

Pictured above is Mr. L. L. Keller, Department Chief of Personnel of Western Electric Company's office in New Orleans, presenting a check from his company to Dean Hugh Thompson and Professor James Cronovich, Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering. The gift is intended for the purchase of a digital LCR meter for use in the Electrical Engineering laboratories.

The main activity is to raise $250,000.00 that would be matched by the university for a total of $500,000.00 over a 3-year period to improve the laboratories. The Board of Advisors has raised $41,616.00 so far with additional pledges for 1977 and 1978 of $9,000.00. Friends of the Engineering School raised $7,300.00 which includes the $3,000 contributed by STE to the Engineering Foundation. Fund-raising efforts are continuing and it looks like another $46,000.00 has been raised by Dean Thompson and the university development people.

By the end of this semester there will be about $168,000.00 committed to renovations of the laboratories.

The next Board of Advisors meeting will be Friday, May 13, 1977, (day before Commencement) with a luncheon and meeting in the afternoon.

Shepard F. Perrin, President
Board of Advisors

At STE's last annual meeting, Dr. George Swan, outgoing President, presented a $3,000.00 check from the Society to Dean Hugh Thompson for the Tulane Engineering Foundation to assist in the School's laboratory equipment acquisition program.

Enrollment Trends In The School Of Engineering

During the last decade, the School has undergone a period of substantial growth in enrollment. In 1967 the total number of undergraduate students was about 380; this is to be compared with a count of 755 in the Fall of 1976. Such growth does not solely reflect a national trend in engineering enrollments. Fig. 1 contains a graph of the Tulane undergraduate enrollment expressed as a percentage of the national total. There is almost a twofold increase in the penetration of this market, with a demonstration of steady growth even though this time period contains the national
disturbance of enrollments due to aerospace cutbacks.

Such growth has been achieved without reduction in the traditional quality of Tulane undergraduates. In 1966, the average scores of freshmen in Tulane Engineering was in the 89th percentile ranking in mathematics and in the 78th percentile in verbal competency on the SAT examinations. Today the rankings are in the 90th and 78th percentiles on math and verbal, respectively.

One of the more profound changes has been in the number of women enrolled in our programs. Fig. 2 shows a graph of the number of women students. Their substantial presence in the School has exacted a beneficial and civilizing influence on many of our activities. Even though this phenomena occurs throughout the nation, for some unknown reason the Tulane School has an enrollment of women about twice as large on a percentage basis as the national average.

Because of this growth, your School presently operates near the capacity of its physical plant. Last Fall it was necessary to close admissions early in August in order not to exceed capacity. The campaign for renovation of laboratory facilities is another response to growth. Concerning the outlook for the coming year, applications for admission are running about 13% ahead of the number received at the same time last year. It appears that these academic qualifications of the applicant pool are also slightly better than in past years.

**Proposed Changes In Articles Of Association**

The Executive Committee of the STE, during the course of assisting in establishment of our Student Chapter, has become aware of changes that should be made in the Articles of Association of the Society of Tulane Engineers. These proposed changes will be presented for acceptance by the General Membership in the fall at the Homecoming meeting.

**Short Course Program**

For this and the previous two years, the School has conducted a program of intensive short courses. These courses have one, two or three day durations and serve one of two principal functions. They provide either a concentrated review of fundamental material or an elaboration of a newly developing field of technology. Such courses have been staffed either internally with Tulane faculty or, alternatively, externally with a team of experts assembled from across the country.

The program has been quite successful having drawn students not only from the United States, but also from Canada and Latin America. In its first year, the program produced six courses. During this year's operation, it appears that more than twenty courses will be offered, reflecting an increasing commitment on the part of the School's faculty to this kind of activity.

Such a program has many advantages for the School of Engineering. It provides an avenue for service and feedback from industrially based engineers, an opportunity for faculty to keep abreast of new technological developments, and a source of added revenue to supplement operational budgets and extend the laboratory renovation project. It appears that this activity will continue its growth in the coming years.

Still scheduled to come this (Continued on page 6)
Short Course Programs
(Continued from page 5)

Spring in this program are the following courses:

April 22 - "Design and Construction of Supported Excavation: Sheet Pile Structures and Slurry Wall Systems" (Dr. Peter Lee, Course Director)

May 2 - "Centrifugal Pump Fundamentals" (Professor Chester Peyronnin, Course Director)

May 23-27 - "Compliance with O.S.H.A. Noise Criteria" (Professor C. J. Sperry, Course Director).

For further information about these or future courses, contact Associate Dean Raymond V. Bailey, of the School of Engineering who is Director of the short course program.

At Last -- Senior Room
For The EE's!

This month will see the attainment of a dream of Electrical Engineering seniors for many years -- that of a classroom of their own. With the arrival of 24 new tables, desks, Room 221, Mechanical Engineering Building, will become a home away from home for this year's class and those to come.

The purchase of desks and chairs for this room has been made possible by using some of the proceeds of the continuing education program of the school.

This same program, to which members of the faculty contribute many hours of their time, above their normal teaching loads, has also enabled the School to renovate and supply chairs and desks for several other rooms in the engineering complex.

STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

"Students Put Snow on Engineering Quad!"

Impossible? Not for the Engineering Student body. With the tremendous cooperation of the Dean's office, the student council loaded the front of the Mechanical Engineering Quad with 10 tons of artificial snow in order to show that Engineers can solve problems even mother nature has trouble with.

Snow was easy, it was the problem of apathy that was the hardest to lick, but it has been done. Beginning with an all new Engineering Intramural program, the Student Council was able to instill a sense of "class unity" which has been noticeably lacking in recent years.

That, however, was only just the beginning. With the organization of a student chapter of The Society of Tulane Engineers and the expansion of Engineering week, students began to enjoy Engineering School.

And, for the first time in years, the rest of the University is realizing that there is an Engineering School.

In fact, most are realizing that the Engineers are having more fun in school than anyone in A & S.

The fun has come in many different forms, but basically through functions such as the resurrected "St. Pat's Dance" which has become the Engineering Formal, the STE Student Chapter's Color TV raffle and the volleyball tournament and picnic held during Engineering week.

Don't worry, though, the academic standards of the school are also on the rise. In fact, fourteen students have been named to the "Who's Who in American Colleges & Universities" publication for this year.

If this all seems incredible to you, why not stop by the School sometime and see for yourself. Don't be surprised, however, to find a few hundred students in "Love an Engineer" T-shirts and wearing grey and white striped Engineer caps; it's the new tradition. And it's the basis for another, far greater move, that towards the concept of "Pride in Engineering".

Levey Award
Nominations Solicited

As described in another article elsewhere in this issue, the Harold Levey Medal is awarded annually, at the Homecoming Meeting of the Society of Tulane Engineers for outstanding achievement of an alumnus no more than 10 years out of college. (The 10 year period can be counted from the Ph.D. or Doctor of Engineering -- or from the Masters or Bachelor's degree). The Committee on Honors and Awards of the School of Engineering would be pleased to receive nominations for this award. If you know any alumnus whose accomplishments merit consideration for this award, please forward the information to Dean Hugh Thompson of the School of Engineering by August 1.

In this same vein, the Tulanian requests items for inclusion in the "Names in the News" section. Why not blow your own horn and send information about your honors, appointments, promotions, etc. to Mr. James Llamas, Editor of the Tulanian?

NEWS BRIEFS

At the School's annual Commencement Program on Saturday, May 14, 100 Bachelor degrees, 10 Masters degrees and 2 Doctorates will be awarded. This will be the largest number of engineering degrees awarded at a commencement in the past 25 years.

Dr. Jerome Klawitter, Jr. and Allan Weinstein of the Biomedical Engineering Program are in charge of arrangements for the annual meeting of the Society for Biomatertials, of which Tulane is one of the sponsors, in mid-April. The meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Dr. Paul Duvoisin, B.S.E.E., 1956, was selected by the membership of Tulane's Chapter of Eta (Continued on page 7)
News Briefs (Continued from page 6)

Kappa Nu, honorary Electrical Engineering Fraternity, to receive its first excellence in teaching award.

**********

Dr. Henry Hrubecky and Professor Chester Peyronnin (B.S. ME, 1947) both of the Mechanical Engineering Department, have been awarded sabbatical leaves for one semester of the 1977-78 session. Professor Hrubecky will be on leave for the Fall Semester and Professor Peyronnin in the Spring of 1978.

**********

Discussions are underway to arrange a cooperative program between Tulane and various Brazilian universities. This program could involve engineering faculty from the Brazilian universities coming to Tulane for study at the doctorate level and for members of Tulane’s engineering faculty going to Brazil to advise on curricula, physical facilities and other areas involved in upgrading the higher education system of the country.

**********

Work has been completed on another classroom on the third floor of Stanley Thomas Hall. Renovation has involved new sheetrock, lowered ceilings, new lighting, new flooring, an electrically operated projection screen, painting and airconditioning by window units. This room is another in the renovation project embarked on the last couple of years after Architecture moved to a building of its own.

(Continued on page 8)

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**ASCE BOARD OF DIRECTION 1976-1977**

**REGIONAL AREA [SECTION]**

**By District, Directors & Phone Numbers**

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<thead>
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<th>District 1-Metropolitan</th>
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<td><strong>District 17-Colorado</strong></td>
<td><strong>Colorado</strong>; Iowa; Nebraska; South Dakota; Wyoming Virgil G. Mead</td>
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SOCIETY OF TULANE ENGINEERS

Financial Statement
March 1, 1977

Cash on hand - Sept. 1, 1976. ........................................ $4,079.56
Dues Collected - 1976 & 1977 ....................................... 204.00
Donations - 1976 .......................................................... 529.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS ................................................................ $4,812.56

Tulane School of Engineering Foundation ....................... $3,000.00
Printing Expenses ......................................................... 639.39
Engineers Club, 1977 Dues ............................................. 50.00
Bank Charges ............................................................... 2.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS ............................................... $3,611.39

BALANCE CASH ON HAND ........................................... $1,211.17

Ronald P. Cressy
Treasurer

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Dr. Henry Hrubecky, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, has been asked by Aurelio Pecci, President of the Club of Rome, to become a working member of the Club with the U.S. Association based in Washington, D.C.

Its purposes are to foster interdependent components — economic, political, natural, and social — that make up the global system in which we all live; to bring that new understanding to the attention of policy makers and the public worldwide; and in this way to promote new policy initiatives and action.

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

THE TULANE ENGINEER

Published by the Society of
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STE OFFICERS

OFFICERS OF STE 1976-1977, LEFT TO RIGHT: Frank Denton, Pres-
ident; George C. Kleinpeter, Jr., Publications Chairman; Ronald
Cressy, Treasurer; Sam Burguiere, Jr., Assistant Secretary; Thomas
L. Jackson, 1st Vice President; Danny W. McCarthy, Assistant
Treasurer.

CORRECTION

On the front page of the last issue of the Tulane Engineer (Fall, 1976), the printer inadvertently switched the pictures of new Dean Hugh Thompson and Assistant Dean Sam Sullivan. The error was not caught until after printing and addressing. Due to shortage of time before the Fall meeting of the Society, the issue had to be mailed with the error. Apologies to the deans.

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