Mike Lynch Named Interim Dean of Engineering School

On October 1, 1998, Dr. Michael Lynch became Interim Dean of the School of Engineering and will continue until a permanent dean is named. Before being named interim dean, Mike was in charge of the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He joined the faculty in 1976. In her announcement to the Tulane campus community of Mike's appointment, Provost Martha W. Gilland wrote: "As a faculty member, he excels in every arena. Mike has won several awards for teaching excellence. His research on dynamic systems and robotics, including the development of a Robotics and Control Laboratory at Tulane, has earned him the respect of his colleagues."

Dr. Lynch was born in Wyoming and grew up in Texas. He received his BS, MS, and PhD degrees in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His 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.

While playing the French horn in the MIT Concert Band, he met his wife, Kay, who played the clarinet. Kay is originally from Atlanta, Georgia, and is a systems engineer, having received her BS degree at MIT and her MS from Tulane. She is the Site Engineer for CAE Electronics at Avondale Shipyards, presently working on the control systems for a Navy ship being designed and built at Avondale. They share the same hobby: Mike having his private pilot's license with instrument rating and Kay having a student license.

Interim Dean Mike Lynch

History of Society of Tulane Engineers

In the spring of 1950, Murdock M. Snelling, Jr., a senior civil engineering student, paid a visit to Frank W. Macdonald and Col. Fred Cox to discuss with them the possibility of forming a Tulane engineering society. It was Mr. Murdock's idea that it should embrace all of the branches of engineering at Tulane. He felt that it would serve as a means of having the graduates meet each other occasionally and eventually aid the School of Engineering. Col. Fox and Mr. MacDonal encouraged him to proceed with his idea and a few weeks later the first meeting was held.

Mr. Snelling presided over the meeting and outlined the plan for forming the society. A large group of seniors, together with faculty members and a few graduates, attended the meeting and all were enthusiastic about the plan. A committee was organized consisting of Mr. Snelling and an engineer from each school of the College of Engineering, and after several meetings, the Articles of Association of the Society of Tulane Engineers were written.

From the files in the Dean's office containing minutes of meetings, it's been ascertained that the first official meeting was held on September 27, 1951. The purpose of the meeting was to have a larger group of engineers meet, discuss and approve the by-laws, and tentatively elect officers until the meeting of the general membership on Saturday morning of homecoming at Tulane, which is still the date for the annual STE Jazz Brunch and Meeting. After discussing the by-laws as written by the organizational committee, it was decided that more time was needed to study them and final vote of approval was delayed until the next meeting.

Mr. Snelling was being commissioned into the U.S. Army around this time and suggested that some of the officers be elected tentatively to keep the organization going. Of course, he was asked to serve as the first president, but had to decline because of his military obligations, and the following officers were elected: Earl T. Bellanger, President, Jules J. Rouquette, Secretary, Roland J. Broussard, Asst. Secretary, and F. W. Macdonald, Treasurer. A total of 19 people were present at this meeting.

The second meeting of the Society took place on October 4, 1951, and 20 people were in attendance. Because of the small number of people attending, President Bellanger raised the question of whether or not to continue the organization. After some discussion on the subject, the motion was proposed and carried to continue the organization and the Articles of Association were adopted.

On November 10, 1951, at the first annual meeting of the general membership, dues were established in the amount of $1.00 for the following year. Nominations were opened for the election [CONTINUED ON PAGE 6]
DEAN’S MESSAGE:

It is a time of transition at Tulane in the School and in the University. President Scott Cowen is leading the University through a strategic planning process that will prepare Tulane for the future.

Of course, we were disappointed in the departure of Dr. William Van Buskirk, Dean of the School of Engineering, on October 1, 1998, but we all wish him well in his new position as Provost and Senior Vice-President of Academic Affairs at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Since he left, I have been serving as Interim Dean of Engineering until a new dean takes over, probably in summer of 1999. A national search for a new dean is in progress. Professor Richard Hart, Chair of Biomedical Engineering, is Chair of the Search Committee.

Our students continue to be excellent. We enrolled another outstanding freshman class. Due to the quality of their education, our graduates are enjoying high demand in a strong job market.

Our physical facilities continue to improve. The renovated Stanley Thomas Hall was rededicated on October 16, 1998. It is a splendid facility that houses the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Renovation of the Civil Engineering Building is next. The building will be named in honor of Professor Walter Blessey, former Chair of the Department of Civil Engineering and a rare teacher who was influential in the lives of many alumni. We are in the last stages of a fund raising campaign described elsewhere in this issue.

Finally, I want to say that I have enjoyed working with Tulane Engineering faculty, staff, students, and alumni during this period of transition. This is a special group united by a long tradition of excellence. It is great to be a part of Tulane and to be a part of the future growth of the School of Engineering.

Paul Michael Lynch
Interim Dean of Engineering

REDEDICATION OF STANLEY THOMAS HALL — OCTOBER 16, 1998

Chairman of Board of Tulane Administrators, John Koerner, presents the Board Resolution naming the Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Bottoms Electronic Classroom to Dr. Bottom's sister, Dr. Joyce Mathison, and her husband, Dr. Jerrell Mathison.

(from left to right) Former Dean Bill Van Buskirk, John Koerner, Dr. Parviz Rastgoufard, Chair of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department, and Interim Dean Mike Lynch in renovated facilities prior to rededication.

Supporters respond enthusiastically to President Scott Cowen's comments during rededication ceremony.

Tulane’s President Scott Cowen greets longtime “engineering legend” Beth Hoffman at ceremony with Former Dean Van Buskirk looking on.
SOCIETY OF TULANE ENGINEERS SENIOR AWARDS BANQUET
HONORS OUTSTANDING GRADUATES

The Senior Awards Banquet for 1998 was held last spring on April 23, 1998, and numerous outstanding graduating seniors were honored. Awards were given for scholastic excellence with some geared to a special interest of the donors and some for activities in various professional societies. There were four seniors graduating with an average of 3.9 or better, and nine with averages between 3.8 and 3.899. The recipient of the STE “Samuel L. Sullivan, Jr. Student Award for Service and Scholarship” was Paul Ibert.

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. Don Gaver of the Department of Biomedical Engineering. The “Outstanding Staff Award” given by the students went to Laurie Orth, and Linda Miller was presented the “Engineering Student Council Advisor Award.”

(Civil Engineering Building to be Named for Walter Blessey)

The Civil Engineering Building, one of the four original buildings on Tulane’s uptown campus and home to generations of Tulane engineering students, will soon be named for venerable engineering professor, Walter E. Blessey, Sr. After receiving his Bachelor of Engineering degree from Tulane in Civil Engineering in 1940 and his master’s degree in the same field in 1943, Professor Blessey served on the faculty of the School for 41 years, 24 of those years as head of the Department of Civil Engineering.

The campaign to name the building for Blessey was initiated by his former student, Robert Englekirk (CE’59), an internationally renowned structural engineer. Noted among Englekirk’s many accomplishments is the structural engineering of the new Getty Museum in Brentwood, CA. Englekirk, the School of Engineering’s 1998 Outstanding Alumnus, credits Blessey for much of his success. “Many of my classmates will agree, Walter Blessey taught us how to think and gave us the tools needed to excel not only in the field of civil engineering, but in any professional endeavor we chose to undertake,” says Englekirk. Englekirk made a substantial contribution to initiate the campaign, which has since been matched by a number of former students and friends of the legendary professor.

The renovation of the engineering complex, which includes the Civil Engineering Building, has long been on the School’s table of needs. The renovation program, highlighted by the recent renovation and rededication of Stanley Thomas Hall, was the top priority of the School’s Centennial Campaign, engineering’s portion of the overall University campaign, Tulane for the New Century. The idea to name the building for Blessey created a heightened interest in the renovation and lent the momentum needed to move funding for the important project forward.

The decision to name the building for a faculty member hails from the tradition found in many Ivy League schools and is one that is especially appealing to those that have contributed to the project. Englekirk knew that many of his classmates shared his admiration for Blessey and that others from different classes would likely feel the same way. Moreover, it was important to Englekirk that many contribute so that the honor would be bestowed on Blessey and his legacy, rather than an individual donor or donors. A first-rate faculty and a commitment to teaching have long distinguished Tulane’s School of Engineering. The initiative to name the Civil Engineering Building after one of the School’s finest professors lauds this distinction and is a fine example of true philanthropy. These initial contributions to the ‘Blessey Campaign’ and those contributions previously committed to the renovation of the Civil Engineering Building have provided the anchor funding to allow the renovations to go forward. The School now has approximately 90% of the funds needed to renovate and name the building. Upgraded facilities are crucial for the engineering school to meet growing technological demands; to recruit and retain top students and faculty; and to meet new stringent criteria for accreditation. It is the hope of the School and those who have made this long awaited goal a reality that Tulane alumni and friends will augment these initial contributions and bring the School within 100% of the goal by June 30, 1999. Construction is tentatively scheduled for Fall, 1999, to be followed by a dedication ceremony open to all who wish to contribute and celebrate the rich history and tradition of excellence for which Tulane’s School of Engineering is known.
I would like to extend enthusiastic greetings to all Tulane engineers. There’s never been a more exciting time to be a part of the Tulane Engineering Alumni! Change and progress are everywhere.

In the Engineering School alone, we have had some significant changes take place. This past year, major renovations were completed on Stanley Thomas Hall (Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) and the building was rededicated last October. As many of you may know, Dean Van Buskirk resigned his position at Tulane and accepted a new position as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Dr. Michael Lynch is currently serving as interim dean while a nationwide search is being conducted for a replacement.

The University as a whole has seen some transition this year as well. We are now under the leadership of a dynamic new President, Scott Cowen, who comes to us from Case Western Reserve in Ohio. And I’m sure not many of you missed the fact that the Tulane football team went undefeated and took the Liberty Bowl Championship. Go Green Wave!

In the STE, we also strive to grow and progress forward. Our e-mail distribution list is complete and we look forward to communicating with you in the next few weeks. We would like to keep all members up to date on STE plans and activities. So, please do not hesitate to send me your e-mail address at rhg@pwrmtg.com, as this will be a valuable tool for communication. Also, don’t forget to check out our website at www.tulane.edu/~ste.

Our focus for the spring will be the Senior Awards Banquet, which the STE sponsors every year. The banquet will be held April 21 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm (location to be announced). I would like to encourage every member to become more involved in the STE. We need your input, so please contact me or other STE officers with your thoughts and ideas. Thank you for your support.

Rebekah Henson

**DEPARTMENT NEWS**

**Biomedical**

Dr. Kay C. Dee received the Biomedical Engineering Society's Young Investigator Award at the 1998 annual meeting of the Biomedical Engineering Society, on October 10, in Cleveland. The award was in recognition of her research on “Design and Function of Novel Osteoblast-adhesive Peptides for Chemical Modification of Biomaterials.”

Dr. Dee was one of 50 engineering educators from across the country participating in the American Society for Engineering Education National Effective Teaching Institute, an invitational workshop that took place in June 1998. She also was invited to attend the National Academy of Engineering's fourth annual symposium on Frontiers of Engineering in September 1998. The symposium is intended to foster cross-disciplinary thinking from the next generation of engineering leaders.

Dr. Dee was honored by her alma mater, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, by being asked to give the keynote speech at the institute’s 1998 convocation in November. She was unanimously chosen as a young alumna who is “exemplifying the qualities associated with the Rensselaer Founder’s Award: integrity, enthusiasm, concern for those around her, willingness to spend time and energy to make her community a better place for everyone.”

Dr. Richard Hart, chair of biomedical engineering, was elected into the College of Fellows of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. He was inducted at a ceremony during the institute’s annual meeting at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. in March.

Dr. Hart presented “Mechanical and Hormonal Mechanisms Influencing Skeletal Form” at a symposium on synthesis in biostatistics mechanics in Lyngby, Denmark in May 1998. He was also appointed as a member to both the national advisory board of the Veterans Administration Palo Alto Rehabilitation Research Center and an advisory committee to establish the Stanford Biomechanical Engineering Division.

Dr. Kirk Bundy presented “Toxicity Assays and Chemical Analysis Under Field Conditions” at the eighth annual meeting of the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry in Bordeaux, France, in April 1998.

Dr. Natalia A. Trayanova has recently received two research grants. The awards are “Cardiac Tissue in an Electric Field: A Study in Defibrillation” from the Louisiana Board of Regents through the Board of Regents Support Fund, and “Analysis of Electrode Configurations in a High-Resolution Model of Cardiac Defibrillation” from the American Heart Association, Louisiana Affiliate.

Dr. Marta L. Villarraga, visiting assistant professor of biomedical engineering, presented “Load Sharing in a Simplified Cervical Spine Vertebral Body Model under Compressive Loading” at the Biomedical Engineering Society's annual meeting in Cleveland in October 1998. Also with Ron C. Anderson, associate dean for undergraduate studies, Villarraga published a chapter entitled “Models of the Upper Cervical Spine” in the book *Frontiers in Head and Neck Trauma*.

Dr. Trayanova presented “Virtual Electrodes in Defibrillation” at the Cardiac Rhythm Management Laboratory, University of Alabama-Birmingham, in July, 1998 and “Termination of Reentrant Activations with Defibrillation Shocks” at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in September, 1998. In addition to the grants mentioned above, she has received two additional research grants. The first, “ICD Transvenous Lead Placement: An Active Bidomain Heart/Torso Simulation Study of Defibrillation Efficiency,” is from the National Science Foundation, and the second is a research agreement with Medtronic Inc.
Dr. Ronaldo Luna made two technical presentations: “CPT Data Management and Standards” for the National Research Council in Washington, D.C., and “Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering at Tulane” for the U.S. University Consortium of Geotechnical Engineering Re-search (USUCGER).

Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Dr. Bill Buckles and Dr. Cris Koutsougeras received a three-year award from the Department of Defense’s Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research for the study, “Processing Optical Information Using Neural Nets and Evoluntary Computation.”

Dr. Michael C. Larson has been awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of associate professor of mechanical engineering. He presented the paper, “Measurements of Sliding at an Interface Near an Impinging Fracture,” at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers’ International Engineering Congress in Anaheim, CA, in November. He was also elected to a two-year term as chairman of the Experimental Mechanics Committee for the Applied Mechanics Division of the ASME. Two other papers of Dr. Larson’s (co-authored by M. A. Verges and W. D. Keal) entitled: “Nondestructive Identification of Three-Dimensional Embedded Cracks in Finite Bodies by Inversion of Surface Displacements”, and “Inverse Method of Identification for Three Dimensional Subsurface Cracks in a Half-Space”, are to appear in Engineering Fracture Mechanics and in the International Journal of Fracture, respectively.

Dr. Fred Petry recently won a $100,000 grant from the Naval Research Lab: “Distributed Architecture Design Principles for Object-Oriented Spatial Databases and Application to Design of a Distributed Object Vector Format Product.”

Dr. Petry was appointed to the editorial board of the International Journal of Fuzzy Sets and Systems.

Mechanical
Effective October 1, 1998, Dr. Monte Mehrabadi became acting chair of the department. He replaced Dr. Mike Lynch, who became interim dean of the School.

Dr. Mehrabadi and Dr. Benjamin Loret (Institut de Mecanique de Grenoble, France) co-organized a three-session symposium on Computational Methods for Granular Materials at the 35th Annual Meeting of the Society of Engineering Science held at Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, on September 27-30, 1998.

Dr. Michael C. Larson has been awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of associate professor of mechanical engineering. He presented the paper, “Measurements of Sliding at an Interface Near an Impinging Fracture,” at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers’ International Engineering Congress in Anaheim, CA, in November. He was also elected to a two-year term as chairman of the Experimental Mechanics Committee for the Applied Mechanics Division of the ASME. Two other papers of Dr. Larson’s (co-authored by M. A. Verges and W. D. Keal) entitled: “Nondestructive Identification of Three-Dimensional Embedded Cracks in Finite Bodies by Inversion of Surface Displacements”, and “Inverse Method of Identification for Three Dimensional Subsurface Cracks in a Half-Space”, are to appear in Engineering Fracture Mechanics and in the International Journal of Fracture, respectively.

Stathis Michaelides, the Leo S. Weil Professor of Mechanical Engineering and associate dean of the School of Engineering, has been appointed to the editorial advisory board of the Journal of Non-Equilibrium Thermodynamics.

Dr. Michaelides has also been elected to a six-year term on the governing board of the International Society on Multiphase Flows. He is one of four representatives from the continents of North and South America.
of officers for the coming year, and Earl Bellanger was nominated to continue as president, but declined. James Ewin was nominated for president and was elected by unanimous vote.

The first project of the Society was to assist the College in a research project on pre-stressed concrete. This idea greatly stimulated the faculty in civil engineering and a number of engineers pursuing graduate work in the field got involved. Donations of money and material were solicited from various individuals and industry-related companies, and the project began in September of 1952. The Executive Committee agreed to pay Bob Boh and Bob Bruce $500 each for their graduate work on the project and plans were underway. After struggling to find funds to complete the project, it resulted in the construction of the loading frame behind the Civil Engineering Building.

Thus began your organization that is now almost 50 years old. During its existence, the STE has functioned to create and maintain a close liaison between the School of Engineering and all who are graduates. This close contact has enabled the Engineering Alumni to keep abreast of the developments in the School, to keep in touch with one another, and contribute a consolidated effort toward the improvement of the already high standards of the School.

The Society continues to sponsor the Senior Awards Banquet each spring (you will find an article on the Spring ’98 Banquet elsewhere in the newsletter), and the Jazz Brunch and Annual Meeting is held on the Saturday of Homecoming. This year’s Annual Meeting was held on October 17, 1998, at the City Energy Club. In the past this event has been on campus, but because of so many events being centered around the Superdome, the 100th anniversary of the Alumni Association, it was moved to the City Energy Club. This location seemed to please everyone in attendance, especially because it was within walking distance of the dome, and it was agreed that effort would be made to make this the permanent location.

Through the years the “Tulane Engineer” has kept you informed of the programs, projects and progress of your Society. Two issues are published annually and are designed to bring you the latest news of the engineering school and your fellow alumni. Your suggestions on ways that the Society may better aid the School will be especially appreciated. Communications should be directed to Barbara Hogue in the Engineering Dean’s Office. Your involvement is necessary to continue into the next millennium with this successful tool of communication for alumni. Annual dues of $20.00 guarantee the continuance of the newsletter and every graduate is encouraged to send in a check. Also, effort should be made to attend the Jazz Brunch and Annual Meeting. You’ll have a great time!!!

**SOCIETY OF TULANE ENGINEERS OFFICERS 1998-99**

President .......................... Rebekah A. Henson  
Vice-President ......................... Dave Shepherd  
Secretary ............................ Dave Endler  
Treasurer ............................ Rebekah A. Henson

Visit the STE Home Page at www.tulane.edu/~ste

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**BOH LECTURE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING HELD IN NOVEMBER**

The Catherine and Henry Boh Lecture in Civil Engineering was held in November with an enthusiastic audience of approximately two hundred persons. Dr. Charles Thornton, Chairman of Thornton-Tomasetti Engineers in New York City, presented an exciting lecture on the Twin Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, the world’s tallest buildings.

The biennial Boh Lecture was established in honor of Catherine and Henry Boh in 1986. Previous Boh Lectures have been presented by outstanding internationally-known civil engineers. Previous lectures were:

- **1989** Edward O. Pfirang, Executive Director, American Society of Civil Engineers, New York. “Quality in the Constructed Project”
- **1993** Robert H. Boh, Chairman of the Board, Tulane University, New Orleans. “The Beginnings of the School of Engineering”
- **1996** Klaus Ostenfeld, Director, COWI, Copenhagen. “The Strait of Gibraltar Crossing”

The Boh lecturer for the year 2000 has not been selected at this time, but will certainly be chosen to continue this outstanding tradition.

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**NEWS FROM THE DEAN’S OFFICE**

After six years with the School of Engineering as Centennial Director and Development Officer, Winnie Beuerman left on January 1, 1999, to assume the position of Director of Development at Metairie Park Country Day School. Winnie continues to be in touch with the office and has been working after hours to assist with a smooth transition. A search has been underway for her successor, and a new development officer for the School will soon be announced.

The cheerful voice answering the phone in the dean’s office these days is that of our new receptionist, Cathe Harding, who recently relocated from California.
A Tulane chemical engineer hopes to make cookies, crackers and French fries a little healthier. Peter Pintauro, professor of chemical engineering, with the assistance of chemical engineering student Weidon An and postdoctoral researcher Jin-Ki Hong, has devised a new process to manufacture partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, such as shortening and margarine, that are found in many popular processed foods. The new method reduces the amount of trans fatty acids, a particularly unhealthy fat usually found in high quantities in these products.

“When you want to make a margarine or some kind of shortening for baking purposes, you add hydrogen to a liquid oil,” Pintauro says. “In the traditional way to do this, you form trans fatty acids.”

Recent research published in the New England Journal of Medicine has found that trans fatty acids are harmful because they not only raise bad cholesterol, but also reduce good cholesterol. The Food and Drug Administration is close to requiring food companies to report the quantities of trans fatty acids on their labels, says an FDA spokesperson.

Shortly after English chemist William Normann invented the process in 1901, food manufacturers began using hydrogenation for a wide variety of products. Adding small amounts of hydrogen to oil keeps it fresher longer while adding more hydrogen turns liquid oil into a solid the consistency of butter.

Pintauro’s new process uses electricity to hydrogenate the oil, rather than oil manufacturers’ current techniques, which employ high temperature and high pressure.

“As a consequence, we don’t produce nearly as much of these undesirable trans fatty acids,” he says. “With this method, we think we can reduce the amount of trans fatty acids, which are as high as 30 to 40 percent in some of these processed foods, to 5 percent.”

So far, Pintauro has produced only a few cups of this oil on a small scale in his laboratory. The next step is to produce oils on a pilot scale, “something in between a laboratory-scale reactor like we have here at Tulane and very large reactors in a commercial plant,” Pintauro says.

Samples of the oils produced in Pintauro’s laboratory are currently at the U. S. Department of Agriculture’s National Center for Agriculture Utilization Research in Peoria, Ill. Researchers there are studying the oils’ chemical composition and structure to learn how they will behave when used in products such as margarine, shortening and frying oil, says Kathleen Warner, research leader of the Food Quality and Safety Research Group.

With FDA labeling in the future, “There is a big rush to find alternatives to the traditional method of hydrogenation,” Warner says, “which is the main way the food industry gets oils for products like margarine and frying oil.”

The next step for Warner’s lab is to do more performance tests on products made from the larger quantities of oils produced at the pilot reactor.

Preliminary taste tests at the USDA labs have shown the oils to have improved flavor and odor characteristics as compared to traditional oils, Pintauro says.

Tulane has filed both domestic and international patents on the process. Pintauro says he hopes commercial production of the oil will begin within the next two years.

(Reprinted from the August 1998 issue of Inside Tulane)
ENGINEERING WEEK —
A CELEBRATION OF ENGINEERING

Engineering Week, held March 14-20, 1999, was a time for all of the engineering disciplines to interact in events that tested the students' engineering abilities, physical prowess, and real world skills. The Engineering Student Council coordinated the week, and each of the engineering clubs sponsored an event. Events included a volleyball tournament sponsored by the ASME, the Engineering Olympics organized by IEEE, and a Scavenger Hunt coordinated by the AICHE. One of the main events was the design competition planned by the Tulane Engineering and Computer Science Honor Society. Teams of three to five students had to design a device that would destroy eggs placed on a miniaturized model of Tulane campus. On Monday, March 15, the ESC welcomed Mike Rabito, a Tulane alumni, who gave a very interesting speech on engineering and his job at Lockheed Martin.

A new addition this year was the Faculty Auction that involved students bidding on skills donated by the faculty and staff. The Crawfish Boil at the end of the week added “spice” to this year's event with crawfish, corn, potatoes, and green beverages in honor of St. Patrick (patron saint of engineers) being enjoyed by students, faculty and staff.

E-WEEK ACTIVITIES
School's Endowment Grows With New Gifts

Four new scholarships were established and a departmental endowment fund initiated in the School of Engineering during the past year: the Drueding Scholarship in Engineering, established with a $250,000 bequest from the Estates of Robert J. Drueding (CE’26) and his wife, Herminie Garsaud Drueding; the Vincent V. Uybarreta, M.D. (BME’94) Memorial Scholarship in Biomedical Engineering, established by his family; the Jared A. Siegel Memorial Scholarship; and the Joyous and William C. Van Buskirk Scholarship in Biomedical Engineering, established by the Engineering Board of Advisors, friends and colleagues of the dean, founder of the Department of Biomedical Engineering.

The first departmental endowment in the School was initiated by a bequest from the Estate of George Elmer May (EE/ME’26). The endowment, to which others can continue to give, will provide funds in perpetuity for faculty and student activities within the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

These gifts are indicative of a growing interest in endowment, which will be the focus of the engineering school over the next few years.
IN MEMORIAM

Harrie Wilson Backes, Jr. (ChE’42)
Louis Clarence Bisso (CE’36)
Isaac Russell "Ike" Foster, Jr. (E’50)
Anthony Gilbert Guell (ME/EE’34)
Warren H. Hoppmeyer (CE’48)
Frank Emil Johnson, Jr. (ME/EE’26)
J. George Jones, Jr. (non-grad’38)
Joseph A. LaCour, Jr. (ChE’47)
John Farnsworth Manson (CE’39)
Louis S. Miller (ME’49)
Henri J. Molaison (ChE’32)
Philip Joseph Napolitano (CE’64, MS’65)
Herbert O. O’Donnell (CE’43)
Tony R. Perkins (non-grad’60)
John Galbraith Pratt, Jr. (E’43)
Rodney August Roques (E’45)
Roger W. Schramm (E’71)
Ben Zion Segal (ME/EE’26)
John Benton Smallpage, Jr. (ME’48)
Robert Kenneth Smith (CE’49)
Arthur Dale Stancliff (CE’43)
Charles E. K. Strong (ChE’41)
John Y. Taylor (ME’43)
Robert K. Vaughn (ME’47)
Gustave Wormuth (non-grad’31)

Memorial donations to a general engineering scholarship are welcome.

HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

In 1994, the Centennial Celebration Committee established the Engineering Hall of Fame to honor Tulane engineers that have made significant contributions to the fields of engineering and science through the practice of engineering, technology, science, education, business, management, or government on a level of national or international importance.

Nominations for the current year are now being accepted and may be directed to the attention of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee in care of the Engineering Dean’s Office, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118. The deadline for entries is June 1, 1999. This year’s recipient(s) will be announced at Homecoming. Sponsors will be notified of the selection, and nominations of those not chosen will be kept on file for future consideration.

OFFSHORE PIONEERS HALL OF FAME RECIPIENTS HAVE TIES TO SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Three valuable contributors to the offshore oil and gas industry with Tulane connections were honored by the Offshore Energy Center on October 17, 1998, by being inducted into the Offshore Pioneers Hall of Fame. These outstanding men are: Jerome L. Goldman, a member of the Board of Advisors for the School; Alden J. "Doc" Laborde, a long-time friend; and Griff C. Lee (C’48), also a member of the Board of Advisors. The Hall of Fame is dedicated to focusing public awareness on the relevance of the enshrinees’ achievements in overcoming the most powerful forces of nature to provide clean, reliable, economic energy to fuel the future progress of mankind.

Trained in naval architecture, Jerome Goldman became a pioneer in many aspects of offshore design and engineering. After working with Chevron and other companies, he and Cdr. V. H. Friede created Friede and Goldman Ltd., which became an international leader in ship and offshore rig design. Mr. Goldman contributed to the design of the first jack-up rig in 1952, and continued his innovative work on jack-up rigs, submersibles, semisubmersibles and catamaran drillships.

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy and serving in World War II, "Doc" Laborde entered the offshore industry during the post-war boom in the Gulf of Mexico. By applying his naval training and experience to numerous practical engineering problems facing the emerging industry, he helped create the new technologies needed to drill offshore and founded the companies needed to implement those technologies. He is best known for the design and construction of "Mr. Charlie," one of the first submersible rigs, and the "Ocean Driller," one of the first semisubmersibles. He also organized ODECO, a leading company in mobile drilling, and with his brother, John, Tidewater Inc., a leader in offshore supply boats.

Griff Lee entered the offshore industry with a wave of expansion in the Gulf of Mexico in the late 1940’s, when the first permanent structures of any sort to be operated in the open sea were designed and constructed. Working for Exxon and later New Orleans-based J. Ray McDermott, he helped develop the first generation of fixed offshore platforms which were prefabricated onshore taken by barges to their sites, and then pinned to the ocean floor with piles. Since these first initiatives in the Gulf of Mexico, Mr. Lee has remained deeply involved in industry affairs, particularly in the creation of effective design standards through the standing committees of the American Petroleum Institute.

The nonprofit Offshore Energy Center is based in Houston, Texas, but tells the story of the diverse and complex offshore industry from a 28-year old jackup rig, Ocean Star, located less than an hour from downtown Houston. A state of the art museum, dedicated to the industry, evolved after much careful thought went into the planning of the center to make it responsive to both the general public and the industry.
1930's

Walter B. Moses, Jr. (E'38) and his wife, Jane, have moved back to New Orleans after 22 years in Diamondhead, MS. They've been married for 58 years!

Irvin J. Rome (BE'38) writes that he is still around and living in Gainesville, FL. He can be reached at AOL@teebouq.com.

1940's

Wilfred Hellmers Charbonnet (ChE'40) was awarded the Service Corps of Retired Executives Association Platinum Leadership Award for his volunteer counseling services to the small business community from 1984 through 1997. He was also recognized by the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chapter 130 for serving with distinction in the management of chapter affairs, as chapter chair and in other chapter offices.

Millard P. Snyder (CE'40) lives in Shreveport, LA and is still working parttime, mostly in stocks. His father, John Y. Snyder, Sr., graduated from Tulane in 1897. His brother, John Y. Snyder, Jr., also graduated from Tulane, and his sister, Elizabeth Snyder Lohman, graduated from Newcomb. His mother, Hattie O'Kelley Snyder, attended Newcomb for two years.

Alvin G. Gottschall (ME'43) reports that his recent book, "GROWING UP IN NEW ORLEANS," is available at the Tulane Book Store, or information on the book may be obtained through his internet address: http://www.sitcione.com/books/gottschall.

1950's

Myron A. Pessin (ME'50) retired after 39 years with NASA as chief engineer of the external tank project of the space shuttle. He is now with United Space Alliance, a company established by Lockheed-Martin and Boeing North American. He resides in Huntsville, AL.

Lawrence A. Smith, Jr. (ME '51) of Oxnard, CA wants fellow graduates to know that Stew Markham, a nongraduate of '51, died in January, 1997 in New York.

1960's

H. Wayne McDonald (CE'60) retired from Exxon Corporation's international marketing organization with 35 years of service. While there he coordinated/supervised marketing's international engineering's operations for distribution facilities.

Jerry J. Saacks (EE'62) has been named Chief Operating Officer of Oglethorpe Power Corporation.

James E. Scott, III (ME'63) is living and working in Manchester, England. He is on a 2-year assignment with Jacobs Engineering Group.

1970's

Rafael Negron Romano (CE'75/MCE'79) is currently a partner of Caribbean Development Group in San Juan, PR. If any of the Tulane engineers are in the area (especially class of 1975), please call him at (787)273-0302 or (787)250-0296.

1980's

John W. Giardina, Jr. (CE'80) has been promoted to Executive Vice President in Charge of Operations of Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. in New Orleans. He, his wife Christi (N'81) and his 2 daughters live in Gretna, LA.

Karen M. (Sikorski) Bridges (BME'86) was promoted to Major in the U.S. Air Force on July 1, 1998. She is stationed at Headquarters, U.S. Air Force Pentagon.

Dr. A. Roland Spedale, Jr. (BME'88) graduated from LSU New Orleans School of Medicine in May, 1998, and started his residency in internal medicine at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

Dr. Andrew Frederick (Drew) Clarke (BME'89) finished his residency in internal medicine at LSU School of Medicine in 1998. He entered practice with Westbank Primary Care in Westwego, LA. His wife, Beth, has two years to go in otolaryngology residency. They are still living in uptown New Orleans. He wants any old classmates visiting to give him a call.

1990's

Aline Craven Cowdrey (EE'78) lives in Jupiter, FL and is a home educator for 3 children. She and her husband had their 5th child, Matthew Paul Cowdrey, on October 20, 1997.

Oliver S. Delery, Jr. (CE'77) is currently serving as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Nokia Sugar Bowl.

J. Curtis Killinger (ME'91) is the New Venture Coordinator with Texaco Brazil. He writes that he's making good use of reservoir engineering, economics and deepwater expertise fostered at Tulane. He and his wife, Mary Elizabeth, live in Houston, Texas.
### Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 21, 1999</td>
<td>STE Senior Awards Banquet</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13, 1999</td>
<td>Emeritus Club Induction Luncheon</td>
<td>12 noon</td>
<td>Kendall Cram Room, Second Floor, University Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14, 1999</td>
<td>Emeritus Club Crawfish Boil</td>
<td>5 to 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Alumni House</td>
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<td>Commencement</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Superdome</td>
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<td>President’s Reception</td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Superdome Floor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School of Engineering Ceremony (Class of 1949 receiving diplomas)</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>NE Quad Room, Superdome</td>
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<td>50 Year Class Reunion</td>
<td>6 to 9 p.m.</td>
<td>Lindy Boggs Bldg. On Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15, 1999</td>
<td>50 Year Class Golf Tournament</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Bayou Oaks, City Park</td>
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(Class of 1949 will receive more information on the reunion and golf tournament from Barbara Hogue of the dean’s office (504/865-5764) or Bob Longmire, Class of 1949 Graduate. If you have questions, please give Barbara a call at the dean’s office. You can reach Bob Longmire at: bobmire@hal-pc.org.)