Commencement 2005 started out early morning on May 21 with pomp and circumstance at the unified commencement at the Superdome that included jazz, second lining, balloons and much more. The “show” moved to the uptown campus later in the day where McAlister Auditorium served as the venue for the school of engineering diploma ceremony.

Samuel F. Hulbert, our 2005 Hall of Fame inductee and former dean of the school of engineering, served as keynote speaker for the 2005 engineering diploma ceremony. The crowd enthusiastically welcomed back former Dean Hulbert, who served as dean for only three years but his impact on the school was great. Under his leadership two new programs were added, biomedical engineering and computer science. He campaigned for more female enrollment in engineering and during his tenure we became one of the nation’s leaders in female enrollment. He left Tulane to become president of the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, where he served for 28 years.

Other speakers included this year’s valedictorians, Sebastian Xavier Robertson Herbert, a computer engineering and computer science major from Nacogdoches, Texas, and William Reino Winter, a biomedical engineering major from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

David Kanger (CE’95, MS’96), president of the Society of Tulane Engineers welcomed the 2005 class into the global ranks of Tulane Alumni and honored the Class of 1955 by presenting them with 50-year diplomas.

The 50-year class was busy with activities for two days prior to the commencement ceremony. On Thursday they were welcomed by alumni affairs at a seafood feast at a lakefront restaurant and on Friday at noon they were formally inducted into the Emeritus Club.

Class agents Black Chaffe and Jim Boone arranged the reunion get-together for Friday night and Black and Nancy opened up their lovely uptown home for this well attended event.
If the students didn’t get enough kisses during Engineering Week 2005, kudos were plentiful for the well-orchestrated E-Week activities that carried the theme, “Kiss Me, I’m an Engineer.” Under the leadership of the Engineering Student Council (ESC), the week sparked enthusiasm among engineering students, faculty, professionals and the Tulane community.

Dr. Donna-Bea Tillman (E’85) served as the keynote speaker and spoke on the topic, “Why good drugs go bad – Designing drugs and medical devices for quality.”

She is the Director of the Office of Device Evaluation at the Food and Drug Administration.

The ever-popular TURBO competition sponsored by Tulane Engineering and Computer Science Honors Society (TECHS) headlined the events on the last day and attracted a standing-room-only crowd campus-wide. The day ended with a crawfish boil with entertainment by “Fur Charger.”

The annual faculty auction took place during the crawfish boil. Funds raised support many of the outreach programs of ESC.

Amber Combs, ESC VP, overseeing the TURBO competition

Students gather to watch the TURBO robotics competition.
A civil engineering team of eight students placed first at the American Society of Civil Engineers Deep South Regional Concrete Canoe competition in April. Team members, Jenna Addis, Joel Dixon, Bart Grasso, Bridget Kelly, Courtney Miller, Kristin Moan, Josh Moore and Reilly Thompson spent the past year designing, performing analysis on and building the cement canoe. They participated in the national competition held in June at Clemson University, SC.

Jonathan Bakke, chemical engineering, has been named a Goldwater Scholar for 2005. This prestigious honor is given to students who have distinguished themselves in the fields of math and sciences. Jonathan is also the recipient of the 2004-05 Academic Scholarship award of the New Orleans Chapter of the Louisiana Engineering Society.

The Biomedical Engineering IDEA team presented a business plan for its design as the RESTEZE Corporation in the Tulane University Business Plan Competition and placed second in the undergraduate division. The design will be entered into the national design competition for BME students. The team consists of students Nick Zwolak, Daniel Pelaez, Shannon Smith, Heather Miller, Katie Merritt, Andrea Conant, Doug Brownfield, Chad Beaver and Justin Albert.

Undergraduate students, Matthew Dooner (CS), Ross Kaplan (EE), Powell Kinney (BME) and Aaron Lee (CS), and several Tulane engineering professors and alumni teamed up with a local business, Gray Insurance Company, to create an auto-piloted vehicle that can navigate itself through an obstacle course in desert terrain. They will be competing in the 2005 DARPA Grand Challenge; a field test the Department of Defense sponsors to accelerate research and development into auto-piloted, or “autonomous,” ground vehicles for military use. The “Team Gray” was one of 40 teams selected by DARPA to advance to the semi-finals this fall. For more information visit www.grayinsco.com/darpa/.

By the Student, For the Student

The Engineering Student Council (ESC) is the governing body for students of the school of engineering. It represents the students to the deans and faculty, and provides a means of communication between students and administration.

The ESC is also responsible for upholding and maintaining the integrity of the Engineering Honor Code, and for providing programming for the engineering school. This includes educational programs concerning careers and job searching, the displaying of the engineering school to the public during E-Week, and entertainment programs.

The Tulane Engineering and Computer Science Honors Society (TECHS) is a society of scholarship winners in the school of engineering who are active in sponsoring numerous community service projects and Scholar Days.

TECHS also play a major role in the events planning for E-Week with their popular event, the Tulane University Robotic Battle Olympiad (TURBO).

There are numerous other industry and discipline related student chapter organizations and honor societies within the school of engineering. Students involved with these organizations stay busy during the year with various community service projects and the planning of E-Week each spring.

The school of engineering is well represented with university-wide student government organizations and their officers:

Associated Student Body (ASB): President, Arman Sadeghpour (Graduate Engineering)

Graduate and Professional Student Association (GAPSA): President, Nick Bacque (Graduate Engineering); Treasurer, Vipin Menon (Graduate Engineering)

Undergraduate Student Government (USG): Executive Vice President, Bryan Cole (Electrical Engineering); Vice President for Finance, David Welch (Biomedical Engineering).
New Orleans high school teams traveled to Duluth, GA in March for the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Peachtree regional competition. Forty-nine teams from across the country participated in a spirited competition.

Teams from the New Orleans Center for Science and Mathematics, Marion Abramson High School, O. Perry Walker High School and John F. Kennedy High School represented New Orleans in the competition. Students were able to participate with help from grants from NASA’s Louisiana Space Grant Consortium, and sponsorship from various companies and individuals throughout the city.

Tulane Engineering hosted three workshops in the fall for the teams. Dr. Annette Oertling of Mechanical Engineering coordinated the workshops which were presented by students Yi Liang and Bin Xu. Assistance was provided by freshman Will Kethman who participated in FIRST Robotics as a high school student.
One School, One Family, Three Generations

Three generations of the Charbonnet family have attended Tulane School of Engineering. Wilfred Hellmers Charbonnet graduated in 1940 with a BE in Chemical Engineering. Mr. Charbonnet said, “I never thought about going anywhere else.”

Wilfred was later commissioned as an engineering specialist in the Navy because of his degree from Tulane. His duty took him to diesel engine school in Cleveland, OH, where he met his wife, Jackie. He served as the engineering officer on ships in all theatres of operation and attained the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

After the war, Wilfred worked for Harshaw Chemical Company and General Electric, then returned to his native New Orleans. He worked in the Chrysler Space Division at Michoud, then with Litton Industries in Pascagoula, MS, and finally for the State of Louisiana in air pollution control. Since his retirement, he has been active with the Service Corps of Retired Executives for the past 20 years.

Wilfred’s two brothers, Killian and Carl, also attended Tulane. His sisters, Grace Charbonnet Moulton and Louise Charbonnet Skiff went to Newcomb. In 1944, Grace received a BS in Physics. Louise received a BA in Chemistry in 1937 and an MS in Chemistry in 1939.

Wilfred’s uncle, Loys Charbonnet, received his law degree from Tulane in 1903. His cousin, Henry Stall, was an engineer, graduating from Tulane in 1947 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Three of Wilfred’s sons, Michael, Clark, and Derrick all graduated from the Tulane School of Engineering. Wilfred said that it was natural for them to attend Tulane.

Michael received his BS in Electrical Engineering in 1968. His wife Laura Tomskey Charbonnet’s grandfather, Dr. George Logan, received his BS in Engineering in 1894, the year the School of Engineering – then known as the College of Technology – was founded. He went on to receive his M.D. in 1899. Michael is Chief Executive Officer of Autoimmune Technologies LLC in New Orleans. Laura worked in the Tulane Biology Department in the 70s and attended the graduate school in the 80s. Michael and Laura’s son, Dean, graduated with his MBA from Tulane in May of 2005.

Clark received his BS in Electrical Engineering in 1975. He now lives in Austin, TX and is Vice President of Marketing for EMO Corp. Clark met his wife, Lisa Pressly Charbonnet, when she attended Newcomb College. Lisa’s uncle Ralph Cameron received an MD from Tulane in 1944. Clark and Lisa’s sons Alexander and Cameron followed in the family footsteps and attended the Tulane School of Engineering. Alexander graduated summa cum laude with departmental honors in Computer Engineering in 2003. Cameron is currently a student in Biomedical Engineering and will graduate in 2007.

Derrick received his BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1981 and his MBA in 1985, and married Norma Herrington, who received her BS in Mechanical Engineering from Tulane in 1978 and her MS in 1986. Derrick is an engineering and product development consultant in Ocean Springs, MS. Norma is a Software Project Manager for Northrop Grumman in Pascagoula.

President’s Corner

2005-06 President David Kanger

Usually, the president takes this time to discuss the state of affairs for the Society of Tulane Engineers. Our society is in good shape, and better yet is the news that Dean Altiere has been reappointed. I want to take this opportunity to depart from the usual content of the President’s Corner and reflect on how the dean has affected the society.

I was first exposed to Nick and his unprecedented vision for the school when I met him at a reception in 2000. Prior to his arrival, the society had been experiencing a decline in activity, including a lack of interest and leadership from alums. At that reception, Nick communicated his unprecedented vision for the school. I had doubts that his plans for growth in both number of students and faculty could be carried out. But it was his plan for the alumni that spoke to me personally. He assured me that the school would support the alumni in full. Because of that, I wished to be a part of Nick’s vision, so I ran for the office of STE Secretary. I joined Tommy Meehan as president, David Gereighty as vice-president, and Bob Kahl as treasurer – all of whom shared in Nick’s plan to renew the society.

My first term with STE saw significant changes, the most substantial being Nick’s idea to amend the bylaws. Prior to the amendment, STE officers were elected on a yearly basis. Because of this, there was no continuity of leadership in the organization. This was changed to a hierarchical term of service where members would be elected to secretary and then move up through each position until serving as president. This ensured that STE would gain stability.

The next item of Nick’s agenda was more dramatic. In 2001, he handed over the operations of the Tulane Engineering Forum to the newly reformed STE with the support of the school. Since then, the forum has grown each year. It now has an attendance of over 400 patrons, almost four times its initial attendance.

While these items were perhaps the most dramatic changes that took place with Nick’s arrival, they weren’t the only ones. With stability and support from the school combined with Nick’s leadership, the STE has gone on to spearhead several more programs to great success. I believe the Society owes a lot to Nick and that first group of officers led by Tommy Meehan. I believe the renewed legacy of an energetic, interested and effective Society of Tulane Engineers will be around for a long time to come.

I hope you help share in the society’s success by giving support, whether it comes in the form of time, money, or participation.

David Kanger (CE ’95, ’96)
2005 Tulane Engineering Forum

Make plans to attend the 6th annual Tulane Engineering Forum on Friday, September 30 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside and Towers. This year’s theme explores:

“Engineering in a Coastal Environment”

The TEF provides an opportunity for engineering and business professionals to learn from industry, government, and academic experts about emerging technologies and their impact on economic development.

Underwritten by 50 companies, this one day event is sponsored by the Tulane School of Engineering and the Society of Tulane Engineers.

Join over 450 engineers for plenary and concurrent sessions.

Registration is $225 for the general public and $200 for Tulane alumni. The TEF qualifies for seven Professional Development Hours (including one ethics PDH credit).

For complete program and registration information, visit www.eng.tulane.edu/community or call (504) 891-1044.

Alfred E. Hiller (ChE’53) has been elected chairman of the Emeritus Club Board of Governors for 2005-06. Black Chaffe (ME’55) will serve as a board member.

Harold R. Davis (CE’54; MS’65) is the author of a recently published book, Homeward and Other Writings, a collection of stories of sailing the high seas in the early 1800s. Mr. Davis and his wife, Shirley live in Phoenix, AZ where he is retired from a career as a civil engineer. In his spare time he enjoys golf, baseball and women’s basketball.

Peter Y. Lee (MS-CE’65; PhD-CE’68) will retire at the end of the summer quarter, or upon the appointment of a new permanent dean, as the dean of the Cal Poly College of Engineering.

Kenneth E. Arnold (MS-CE’67) was recently elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering. Election to the Academy is among the highest professional distinctions accorded an engineer. Membership honors those who have made outstanding contributions to “engineering research, practice, or education, including, where appropriate, significant contributions to the engineering literature.”

John W. Krupsky (EE’71) recently received the 2004 Distinguished Service Award from the Engineering Council of Birmingham.

Stephen K. Hacker (ME’77) has been awarded the R.A. Maass Award for his work in the area of Customer-Supplier Relationships by the American Society of Quality (May, 2005). Books include: Transformational Leadership (2004), The Trust Imperative (2001), and Work Miracles (1999). He is CEO of Transformation Systems International, LLC.

John “Curt” Killinger (MS-PetE’91) is putting his petroleum degree to good use as a senior engineer with Challenger Minerals Inc. The company explores and develops fields in the offshore Gulf of Mexico, North Sea, West Africa and other venues. He resides in Houston with his wife and teenage children.

Jason A. Ross (ME’96) and his wife, Erin, welcomed their first daughter, Alexandra Howard Ross, on April 2. Details can be found at www.jasonross.net.

Andrea P. Wight, PhD (ChE’97) and her husband, Rob, are the proud parents of a second son, Bradley John Wight, born February 10. Andrea serves as a class agent for the class of 1997.

Amy Leonard (Comp. Engr.’02) is an Embedded SW Engineer for The Boeing Company in Houston, Texas. She received her masters in Software Engineering from the University of Houston, Clearlake, in the spring. Amy is a class agent for the class of 2002.

Micah Florea (CE’02), a graduate student in structural engineering at the University of Texas, Austin, provided technical information and logistical support to install thousands of 16-foot-tall structures in Central Park for the latest project of world-renowned artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude. Micah helped plan “The Gates” project (unveiled February 12) for three years, since graduating from Tulane.

Evan Ross Shultz (EE’02) and Mariah Bree Kightlinger were married on Dec. 30 in New Orleans. He is completing a Master of Science degree in electrical engineering at LSU and is employed by Intel Corp. in Folsom, California, as a product development engineer.

Marques A. McCormick (ME’02) and Robyn Marie Sangster were married April 30 in New Orleans. He is employed by Chevron Corp. as a facilities maintenance engineer.

Eric Nicholas Zymboly (CS’02) recently returned from a four-month deployment to Iraq. He will be marrying Stacy Reulet in October. Eric is a Flight Commander in the U.S. Air Force, McDill AFB, and resides in Tampa, Florida.

Jason R. Garis (CE’03) serves in the U.S. Navy (LTJG) and is currently stationed at NAS Corpus Christi for intermediate multi-engine training. Upon designation as a naval aviator, he will fly either the E-2 Hawkeye or C-2 Greyhound.

Duane Daniel Johnson, Jr. (CE’04) was selected s one of 17 new technical professionals with Shell Exploration & Production Co. for the North and South America region. After training in the Netherlands, he will be situated in the New Orleans Office of Shell where he will be responsible for subsurface analysis of deepwater development in the Gulf of Mexico.

In Memoriam

Shelby Bennett (ME’54)
William P. Boulet (ME’48)
Patrick D. Burke (non-grad’57)
Wesley L. Bushy (CE’59)
Krum J. Cannon (CE’65)
Robert D. Cosgrove (ME’39)
Cora M. Creighton (daughter-in-law of William Creighton and friend of the school)
Nicholas J. Cuccia (ME’51)
Philip M. Duvic (non-grad’43)
Hero Joseph Edwards Jr. (EE’55)
Ernest L. Eustis, Jr. (CE’32)
Earl B. Gaines (ME’43)
Earle R. Gurtler (ChE’40)
Wermund E. S. Hansen (CE’49)
Martin L. Huber (ME’53)
Robert B. James (ME/EE’37)
Earle H. Jones, Jr. (ME’39)
A. L. Jung, Jr. (ME’38)
E. Newton Kearny, Jr. (non-grad’22)
Raymond P. Maddux (ME’53)
Hamilton P. Millet, Jr. (ME’77)
Raymond J. Ordoqui (EE’55)
George E. Pearce, Jr. (EE’49)
Earl S. Robinson, Jr. (non-grad’43)
John P. St. Raymond (ME’48)
Roy R. Strickert, Jr. (MS-CE’58)
John E. Wilkes (EE’57)
J. Herbert Williams (ME’48)

Memorial donations are welcome.
Class Agent Link Available Online

During the Spring 2004 board meeting of the Past Presidents of the Society of Tulane Engineers, a recommendation from the Public Relations Committee to reinstate a class agent listing for the school of engineering was suggested and enthusiastically endorsed by the entire board.

This suggestion arose during a discussion of how to encourage more reunions at homecoming. For years, a class agent program was in place but had been neglected and needed a complete overhaul.

We are pleased to announce that a link at www.eng.tulane.edu is in place that contains your class agent(s) names and contact information. You are encouraged to contact them to indicate interest in reunions and to provide ideas.

Missing from the list:
- Decade 1930
- Decade 1940
- Class of 1965
- Class of 1967
- Class of 1994
- Class of 1997

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Barbara Hogue at (504) 865-5764 or bhogue@tulane.edu.

2005 Homecoming Reservation Form

Get ready to roll, Wave! Join the festivities of homecoming with the STE Annual Meeting and Cocktail Party on Friday, Sept. 30 and Tailgating on Saturday, Oct. 1 followed by Tulane vs. Southeastern Louisiana at Tad Gormley Stadium in City Park. Kickoff is at 2:30 p.m.

Class of 1980 Silver Anniversary Tent: Members of the Class of ’80, visit and reminisce with classmates, get a welcome from President Cowen, snag some free game tickets for you and your family and much more, compliments of alumni affairs. Call Jenny Benoit at (877) 4TULANE or (504) 314-2106 for tickets and info.


Please complete the registration form below and mail it to:

Barbara Hogue
Engineering Dean’s Office
Tulane University
New Orleans, LA 70118

STE Annual Meeting and Cocktail Party

Friday, September 30, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Audubon Clubhouse, Audubon Golf Course

I (we) will attend: YES ☐ NO ☐

$25 per person: $ ____________

Tailgating

Saturday, October 1, 10:30 a.m.
Homecoming Village, Tad Gormley Stadium, City Park

I (we) will attend: YES ☐ NO ☐

No Charge, Courtesy of STE

Name______________________________________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________________________________
Phone ___________________________ Email ________________________________________________

Names to appear on nametags (you and guests): ________________________________________

☐ Check enclosed: $ ___________________ ☐ Charge to my credit card (fill out below): $ ____________

Signature _____________________________________________ ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa Card #__________________________ Exp. __________________

CLIP AND MAIL please print
Calendar of Events

**September 30, 2005**
**Tulane Engineering Forum**
New Orleans Hilton Riverside
(See information inside newsletter)

**STE Annual Meeting & Cocktail Party**
Audubon Clubhouse (Audubon Park)
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

**October 1, 2005**
**Tailgating**
STE Tent, Homecoming Village
Tad Gormley Stadium (City Park)
Opens at 10:30 am

**Class of 1980 Silver Anniversary Tent**
Homecoming Village
Tad Gormley Stadium (City Park)
Opens at 10:30 am

**Homecoming Game**
Tulane vs. Southeastern LA
Tad Gormley Stadium (City Park)
2:30 pm

* Please look for reservation form in this newsletter and return immediately.

**November 10, 2005**
**Annual Outstanding Researcher’s Award Ceremony**
Freeman Auditorium
5:00 pm

**May 19, 2006**
**50 Year Reunion**
Class of 1956
Time and Place TBA

**May 20, 2006**
**Unified Commencement**
Louisiana Superdome
9:30 am

**Engineering Ceremony**
Time and Place TBA

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**Let us know!**

If you have alumni information you’d like to share, please submit it in the attached envelope, or email Barbara Hogue in the dean’s office: bhogue@tulane.edu.

All archived *Tulane Engineer* newsletters can be found at [www.eng.tulane.edu](http://www.eng.tulane.edu)