



Tulane
University

School of Science & Engineering

*2013 Alumni
Awards Celebration*

Tulane University
School of Science and Engineering
Fifth Annual Alumni Awards Celebration

April 11, 2013
Lavin-Bernick Center for University Life
1834 Club

Welcome

Nicholas J. Altiero
Dean, School of Science and Engineering

Remarks

Michael A. Bernstein
Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost

Presentation of Alumni Awards

Shepard Perrin III
Chemical Engineering '83

Outstanding Alumnus Award

Jeffrey Balsler
Biomedical Engineering '84

Outstanding Service Alumnus Award

Richard Mayer
Chemical Engineering '79

Outstanding Young Alumna Award

Tamara Goldin
Geology '03

Closing Remarks

Nicholas J. Altiero
Dean, School of Science and Engineering

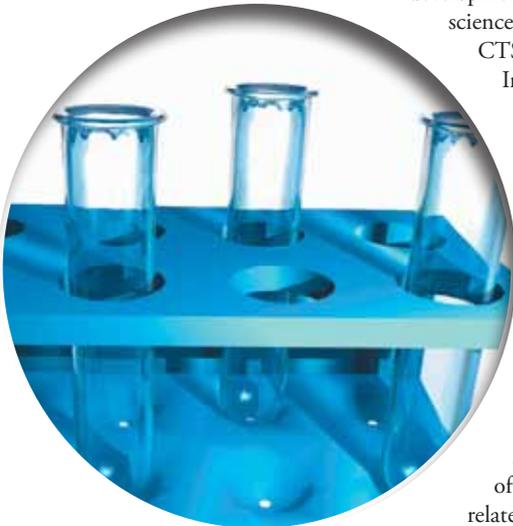


Jeffrey Balser

School of Science and Engineering
Outstanding Alumnus



Jeffrey R. Balser, a 1984 graduate of Tulane and a 1990 graduate of the Vanderbilt MD/PhD program in pharmacology, undertook residency training in anesthesiology and fellowship training in critical care medicine at Johns Hopkins. He joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins in 1995, initiating a basic research program aimed at the molecular pharmacology of cardiac arrhythmias. His clinical work has primarily involved the care of postoperative cardiac surgery patients in ICU settings. Dr. Balser returned to Vanderbilt in 1998, serving as Associate Dean for Physician Scientists. He established medical center wide mentoring program for junior faculty physician-scientists that has become a national model for career development. The program is now a core element of Vanderbilt's NIH clinical translational science (CTSA) program, which serves as the coordinating center for the national NIH CTSA network. His basic research, published in *Nature* and funded by the National Institutes of Health, explores the genetic precursors and potential drug targets for life-threatening cardiac rhythm disturbances.



In 2001, Dr. Balser was appointed the Gwathmey Professor and Chair of Anesthesiology. During this period, Vanderbilt's clinical services supporting surgery and intensive care medicine grew by 25%. In 2004, he became the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, leading medical-center wide research during a period of expansion that moved Vanderbilt into 10th place among U.S. medical schools in National Institutes of Health funding. He is a member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, and has chaired the NIH Director's Pioneer Awards Committee. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academy of Sciences, and is presently serving on the IOM Membership Committee. Since 2008 he has been dean of the Vanderbilt School of Medicine and as Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, oversees all of the health-related programs at Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Balser oversees one of the nation's largest fully integrated academic health centers, a system entirely owned and operated by Vanderbilt University. The center has \$4 billion in annual revenue and over 21,000 employees, including 3000 faculty in the Schools of Medicine and Nursing, over 1000 inpatient beds and 2 million yearly outpatient visits. He is a national spokesperson on health system integration and finance, and has led national efforts to understand and quantify academic health system financial support for research and educational activity, presently serving as chair of the Association for Academic Health Centers (AAHC) Metrics Initiative. He also serves as the Chair of the AAMC Advisory Panel on Healthcare. Dr. Balser speaks and works nationally on the emerging role of health information technology and clinical decision support in healthcare quality, particularly in genomic medicine where Vanderbilt is playing a national leadership role.



Richard Mayer

School of Science and Engineering
Outstanding Service Alumnus

Richard retired in Dec. 2011 after a 31-year career in the Ethylene Oxide/Ethylene Glycol (EO/EG) Business with Union Carbide and The Dow Chemical Company. He held multiple positions in Operations, Process Improvement, Process Engineering, Catalyst and Technology Licensing, Six Sigma, and Process Technology. In addition to long-term assignments at multiple sites in the U.S., he also had long-term assignments in Red Deer, Alberta and Teesside, United Kingdom. He also completed shorter assignments in China, India, Kuwait, Malaysia, and multiple locations in Europe.

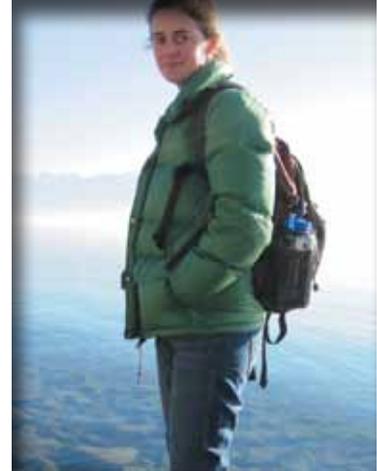
In addition to fulfilling leadership roles on several major capital projects and new plant startups, he led the development of several breakthrough improvements in EO/EG process technology and is co-inventor on one patent and several pending patent applications. Richard also led the EO/EG Business technology training and education program and was a corporate oxygen handling subject matter expert. He became a recognized leader for investigating and resolving serious Operationsunplanned events and complex technology performance issues, and helped develop a science-based problem solving process now successfully applied across Dow.

Richard received a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from Tulane in 1979. He is a certified Six Sigma Master Black Belt and a Registered Professional Engineer (ChE) in Louisiana. He and his wife Susan reside in The Woodlands, Texas. Richard actively supports the Houston area Tulane Alumni organization and is also a judge at the FIRST Robotics Bayou Regional high school robotics competition in the New Orleans area.



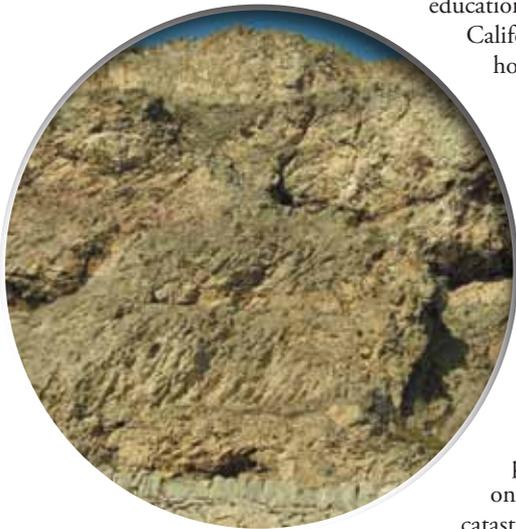
Tamara Goldin

School of Science and Engineering
Outstanding Young Alumna



Dr. Tamara Goldin is an associate editor at *Nature Geoscience*, a leading journal of multidisciplinary geoscience research and part of the Nature Publishing Group family of academic publications. Based in London, her duties include handling research manuscripts, facilitating the peer review process, and commissioning, writing, and editing content for the journal.

Tamara arrived at Tulane in the fall of 1999 in search of jazz, jambalaya, and a higher education in the world. Little did she know, when she left her hometown of Berkeley, California, to accept a Dean's Honor Scholarship from Newcomb College, just how close to her fingertips the world was about to be. Ironically, it was in the Mississippi River Delta - void of topography, full of mud, and with nary a rock in sight - that she discovered geology. She was soon directing her curiosity about the world into studying the Earth literally. Not satisfied with merely reading about the world (and the endlessly long drives in the geology department van to actual outcrops), she also acquired her first passport. Thanks to Tulane's Junior Year Abroad program, she spent a year tromping through Scotland's geologically-rich terrains while an exchange student at the University of Edinburgh.



After graduating from Tulane with a BS in Geology in 2003, Tamara moved from the bayou to the desert to attend graduate school at the University of Arizona, where she obtained a PhD in geoscience and planetary science in 2008. Her research focused on large meteorite impacts on the Earth and beyond. She was particularly interested in the environmental catastrophe that occurred 65 million years ago as a result of the Chicxulub impact that is thought to have killed off the dinosaurs. She also spent a year as a visiting doctoral researcher at the Bayerisches Geoinstitut in Bayreuth, Germany, and conferences and field excursions to craters took her all over the world. She then went on to conduct postdoctoral research in impact cratering at the University of Vienna in Austria through the Lise Meitner postdoctoral program for foreign researchers.

As opposed to her highly specialized focus as a researcher, Tamara now enjoys handling the full scope of the geosciences, while actively guiding and shaping its storylines. She spends her days reading about everything from the Curiosity rover on Mars to Antarctica's shrinking ice to Louisiana's sinking wetlands. She likes to keep her science, like her life, as interesting as possible. She is now on her second passport. She still likes jazz, jambalaya, and rocks. And on cold dreary London nights she still turns up some Rebirth Brass Band music and lets that second line beat temporarily transport her back to New Orleans.



Tulane University School of Science and Engineering
201 Lindy Boggs Center • New Orleans, LA 70118
Telephone: 504-865-5764 • Fax: 504-862-8747
<http://tulane.edu/sse/>