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

Thursday April 6, 2017
Tulane River and Coastal Center

Welcome
Nicholas J. Altiero
Dean, School of Science and Engineering

Presentation of Alumni Awards
Shepard F. Perrin III
Chemical Engineering ’83

2017 Outstanding Alumnus Award
Steven (Steve) M. Paul M.D.
BS ’72, Medicine, MS ’75,
Medicine, MD ’75

2017 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
Luke J. Hooper
Biomedical Engineering, BSE ’03
Mechanical Engineering, MS ’05

2017 Outstanding Service Alumnus Award
William (Bill) A. Marko
Mechanical Engineering, BSE ’81,
Petroleum Engineering, MEGN ’83

Closing Remarks
Nicholas J. Altiero
Dean, School of Science and Engineering
Steven M. Paul, M.D., is currently the President and CEO at Voyager Therapeutics, Inc. as well as a Founder and Director of SAGE Therapeutics. He was formerly the Founding Director of the Helen and Robert Appel Alzheimer’s Disease Research Institute and the Burton P. and Judith B. Resnick Distinguished Professor in Neurodegenerative Diseases as well as a DeWitt Senior Scholar and Professor of Neuroscience (Brain and Mind Research Institute), Psychiatry and Pharmacology at Weill Cornell Medical College. Dr. Paul was also formerly the Executive Vice President of Science and Technology and President of the Lilly Research Laboratories (LRL) of Eli Lilly and Company, overseeing the development of several of Lilly’s largest products including Zyprexa® and Cymbalta®. Prior to assuming his position at Lilly and Weill Cornell Medical College, Dr. Paul served as a Laboratory and Branch Chief and Scientific Director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH/NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland.

Dr. Paul is a member of various professional and honorary societies, including Phi Eta Sigma; Alpha Epsilon Delta; Sigma Xi; Phi Beta Kappa; and the Alpha Omega Alpha Honorary Medical Society. He is the recipient of many honors and scientific recognitions, including: The Distinguished Service Medal of the USPHS and the Chief Scientific Officer of the Year Award. In 1997, Dr. Paul was elected to membership in the National Academy of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences and in 2004 Dr. Paul was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Dr. Paul has authored or co-authored over 550 papers and invited book chapters and was listed as one of the most highly cited scientists in the world (top 50 in Neuroscience) (1980-2000) by the Institute for Scientific Information (I.S.I.), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He holds 9 patents on inventions made both at NIH and Lilly. His current work has focused on the role of apoE in the pathogenesis of Alzheimer’s disease and in developing gene therapies for a variety of neurological disorders. His earlier research describing a novel class of neuroactive steroids has resulted in several drug candidates currently in clinical development for depression and refractive seizure disorders. Dr. Paul is a director of several publicly traded and private biopharmaceutical companies including Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, SAGE Therapeutics and formerly the Sigma Aldrich Company and is also a founder of SAGE Therapeutics and Voyager Therapeutics, dedicated to discovering and developing novel therapeutics for neurological and psychiatric disorders. Dr. Paul also serves as the Chairman of the Foundation for the NIH (FNIH) and is a member of the Science Board of the FDA.
Luke Hooper is the founder and president of FACTOR 10, a product design and business consulting firm that helps clients navigate every stage of the product development process. Over the course of his young career, Luke has designed, prototyped, manufactured, and launched over 30 products for FACTOR 10 and its clients, including industrial machines, medical devices, electronics, tech-centered toys and even golf clubs. A seasoned entrepreneur, Luke has also co-founded Innovention Toys, Blu Wine Bar, and Reyn Studios: Power Yoga.

A lifelong inventor at heart, Luke independently holds four utility patents, synthesizing ideas from disparate fields to create novel and marketable products. Luke’s passionate drive and endless curiosity have led to groundbreaking innovations ranging from electromagnetic induction and wireless transfer of power to methods for using lasers to fuse septal membrane tissue.

Luke got his start in product design while at Tulane University, dreaming up Khet, or “chess with lasers,” during his senior year. After graduating in 2003 with a B.S. in biomedical engineering, Luke enrolled in graduate school at Tulane to obtain his M.S. in mechanical engineering. In 2005, the same year he was named Graduate Student of the Year, Luke founded his first business, Innovention Toys, and launched Khet with support from Tulane professor Dr. Michael Larson and fellow graduate student Del Segura. Khet went on to win over 13 product design and toy awards including awards from Mensa, Wired Magazine, and Popular Science. Building on this foundation, Luke has since licensed innovative designs and technologies across a range of industries that have sold millions of units around the globe.

After serving on the faculty at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs for five years post-Katrina, Luke returned to New Orleans in 2010 with the mission of bringing professional product design to New Orleans through FACTOR 10. Outside of the office, Luke focuses on giving back to the local engineering and product design community. In addition to lending expertise and financial support to Tulane’s Maker Space, Luke also mentors undergraduate students participating in Tulane’s Novel Tech Challenge, conducts seminars on social entrepreneurship, and advises aspiring inventors through the challenges of creating a business from scratch.

Luke is married to fellow Tulane graduate and New Orleans native Simrin Mangat Hooper. Together they have two children, Jagir Singh Hooper and Katani May Hooper.
Bill grew up and spent his first 16 years in Edison, New Jersey. He and his family moved to New Orleans the summer prior to his senior year of high school, when his father was transferred with Chevron Oil. In addition to his work at Chevron, his father liked to teach college classes and taught Statics and Dynamics at night school at Tulane, which was Bill’s first exposure to the school.

In 1977, Bill graduated from high school and began his career at Tulane University, studying for his Bachelors of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering which he received in 1981. During his undergraduate years he played varsity lacrosse and was a member of Engineering Senate, Tau Beta Pi, Pi Tau Sigma and Phi Eta Sigma.

Bill had begun work at Mobil Oil in 1980 and after graduating with his bachelor’s degree continued on at night at Tulane, receiving a Masters in Petroleum Engineering in 1983. Bill spent 18 years with Mobil Oil in engineering and acquisition/divestment roles living in New Orleans, Dallas and Fairfax, VA and worked on projects throughout the U.S. and in Russia and Africa. He left Mobil in 1998 prior to the Exxon Mobil announcement and moved to Houston where he went on to become Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of Business Development at Madison Energy Advisors. He then served as Managing Director of Randall & Dewey, Incorporated. He is currently a Managing Director at Jefferies LLC in the Energy Investment Banking Group and has worked there since Jefferies bought Randall & Dewey in 2005. In his current role, Bill leads Jefferies’ energy group’s business development throughout the U.S. and Canada and he works closely with its London team with clients throughout Europe and Asia. He has traveled extensively to oil and gas cities throughout the U.S. and to Calgary, London, Beijing, Tokyo and other cities with energy clients. The Jefferies energy team has advised clients on more than $350 billion in M&A transactions and financing since 2008.

In 2016, Bill served as co-chair of his 35th reunion and he is currently chair of the President’s Council and a member of the Board of Advisors in the School of Science and Engineering. He has also been a committee member for the yearly Tulane Engineering Forum for the past four years.

Bill met his wife, Marta Robidoux Marko, when Bill’s family initially moved to New Orleans in 1976. Marta and her family lived across the street. They have been married 35 years and are passionate about Tulane and New Orleans. They have been active contributors to help with the launch of the Tulane Brain Institute, a trans-disciplinary initiative of the School of Science and Engineering, School of Medicine, National Primate Research Center, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and School of Liberal Arts. They also created the Francis William and Douglas J. Marko Scholarship in Engineering in 2010 and have sincerely enjoyed meeting and staying in touch with past winners.