

CONNECTION

SUMMER 2013

Greetings from the Department Head

A year of change

Dear Alumni and Friends of the Virginia Tech Department of Chemical Engineering:

Greetings from Blacksburg. I hope this latest edition of the ChE *Connection* finds you well and happy. It has been a cool and very wet summer at Virginia Tech, and we are all hoping for better weather in the fall as the new school year and the football season progresses.

The past 12 months have been another busy and productive year for the department, while being punctuated by major changes in our administrative structure. The departure of John Walz at the end of August 2012 to become the new dean of engineering at the University of Kentucky was a significant loss. While we hated to see John leave, we wish him and his family the best as he takes on a new set of challenges in his role as dean at Kentucky. Thank you, John, for your years of service to the chemical engineering family at Virginia Tech.

Following John's departure, I served as interim head during the 2012-2013 academic year. With the cooperation of our dedicated faculty, and a phenomenal effort on the part of the staff to keep me informed and on

point, we navigated through the 2012-2013 academic year with minimal disruption to our operations. I thank all the students, staff, and faculty who worked so hard on behalf of the department this past year. With "interim" recently removed from my title, I look forward to continuing success for the department with everyone's support.

Chemical engineering continues to be a popular major. Our graduating class in spring 2013 numbered 99. Based on the size of our previous sophomore and junior classes, we expect graduating classes in excess of 100 for the next several years.

Taken as a whole, our undergraduate enrollments have more than doubled in the past five years. This increase is both gratifying and problematic as we lost two full-time faculty members from the department during the same five year time frame. While it is rewarding to see our student body recognize the important role our profession will play well into the future, the increased numbers have resulted in our department having one of the highest student-to-teacher ratios in the College of Engineering.

On the positive side, our faculty members have been working hard to maintain the

quality of the educational experience in the department, and we have several faculty openings we will be looking to fill in the coming year.

It is an exciting time in the department. Progress continues on the Signature Engineering Building, and we look forward to moving the ChE office and most of our faculty to this new facility late in the spring of 2014. In addition to upgrading our laboratory and office space, we expect the new building to be an excellent recruiting tool for attracting new faculty and students to our program.

Our continuing success as a department owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to our alumni who provide unrestricted financial donations to the department that we use to support our educational mission. While the nation is slowly emerging from the "Great Recession," our state budget will likely never return to pre-2008 levels. Your contributions are used for direct support of our teaching mission, student travel and recruitment, outreach, and a host of other purposes. We are thankful also for those of you (alumni and friends) that participate by donating your time and efforts to the department, those of you that recruit and hire our students,



DAVID COX

and those that spread the word about our programs to potential students. I thank you all for your help.

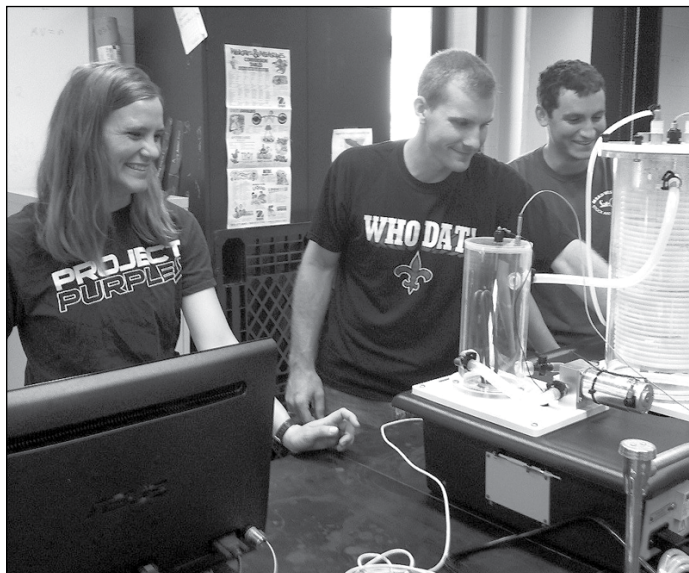
We love to hear from our alumni, so please stay in touch. If you are in the area, I encourage you to stop by for a visit. Even if you are unable to make it back to campus we would still very much like to hear from you.

Please take a moment to complete the Alumni Information Form near the back of this newsletter, or the online form you can find through the "ChE Alumni" link on the right hand side of our departmental website (<http://www.che.vt.edu/>).

Best wishes,

David Cox,
Professor and Head

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Monica Romine, Andrew Nadler, and Jeremy Laubach work on the new tubular flow reactor.

Unit Operations Laboratory improvements continue

Upgrades continue to the unit operations laboratory located in Hancock Hall. In the past year, a new, fully-instrumented, tubular reactor experiment was added to the lab, along with a new gas

chromatograph for use with the distillation experiments. The lab will remain in Hancock Hall when the department transitions to the new Signature Engineering Building next year.

Baduini steps down from advisory board

Paul J. Baduini (B.S. 1972), vice president and director of engineering (retired) with Rohm and Haas Company, stepped down from the ChE Advisory Board following the spring 2012 meeting after five years of service. We thank Paul for his dedication and service to the department.

Kenis presents Dumas Distinguished Lecture

The 2013 Bill and Ann Dumas/Dow Chemical Distinguished Lecture was presented by Professor Paul J.A. Kenis, University Scholar, professor and head of the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The lecture entitled "Microchemical Systems to Address Challenges in Energy and Biology" also served as the keynote address for the ChEGSA Graduate Symposium.



KENIS

The Dumas lectureship is made possible by a generous donation by alumnus Basil "Bill" Dumas (B.S. 1954, M.S. 1955, Ph.D. 1961, all in ChE) and his wife Ann.

ChEGSA Graduate Student Symposium held



Heather Grandelli describes her work on polymeric drug delivery systems.

The Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Association (ChEGSA) hosted another successful Graduate Student Symposium on March 28, 2013. The one-day event featured 17 contributed oral presentations by our graduate students covering all aspects of graduate research in the department, a poster session, and reception in the evening, followed by a banquet.

The program chair for the symposium was graduate student Heather Grandelli. Highlighting the program was the plenary address given by Professor Paul J.A. Kenis, University Scholar, professor and head of the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and this year's Bill and Ann Dumas/Dow Chemical Company Distinguished Lecturer.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Kiran stays busy with projects

Professor Erdogan Kiran had a busy and productive year, continuing with two research projects funded by the National Science Foundation. One was on the formation of cyclodextrin inclusion compounds, and the other focused on ionic liquids. He received a third project funded by industry on high pressure behavior of polyolefins.

He served on the scientific committee of the 10th International Symposium on Supercritical Fluids held in San Francisco, and was an honorary member of the scientific and organizing committees of the 3rd Iberoamerican Conference on Supercritical Fluids held in Cartagena, Colombia where he and his doctoral student Heather Grandelli and visiting scientist from Kureha Corporation (Japan), Shinya Takahashi, gave oral presentations.

He hosted another visiting scientist, Dr. Sulamith Frerich from Ruhr University Bochum (Germany). He and his students published six papers in peer-reviewed journals and three papers in conference proceedings. A third book entitled Phase Equilibrium Engineering appeared in the Elsevier Book Series on Supercritical Fluid Science and Technology for which he is serving as the series editor. He served at a NSF Career Awards review panel. He is currently involved in the organization of a special Workshop on Supercritical Fluids and Energy funded by the National Science Foundation to be held in Brazil in December 2013.



Aaron Goldstein (left) receives award from Dean of Engineering Richard Benson (right).

Goldstein wins Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence

Professor Aaron Goldstein received the Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence for 2013. Goldstein was recognized for his outstanding teaching in both the chemical engineering and biomedical engineering programs. The award was presented during the annual College of Engineering reception and awards ceremony on April 2, 2013

Walz leaves for Kentucky post



In September 2012, Professor John Walz left his position as the head of the Virginia Tech Chemical Engineering Department to become dean of engineering at the University of Kentucky.

Walz came to Virginia Tech in 2005 following eight years on the faculty at Yale University, where he served as chair of the Chemical Engineering Department from 2002 to 2005.

Walz served as department head for seven years, from 2005 to 2012, before his departure to Kentucky.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Rajagopalan invited to serve on NIH study section on biomaterials

Professor Padma Rajagopalan, Robert H. Hord Faculty Fellow and associate professor of chemical engineering, accepted an invitation from the Center for Scientific Review at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to serve as a member of the Biomaterials and Biointerfaces (BMBI) study section. Her term began July 1, 2013 and ends June 30, 2017.

"Members are selected on the basis of their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, and other significant scientific activities, achievements and honors,"

writes Dr. Richard Nakamura, director of the Center for Scientific Review in the letter announcing Rajagopalan's appointment.

In this role, Rajagopalan will review grant proposals made to the NIH Biomaterials and Biointerfaces study section and make recommendations for funding. Membership on a study section represents a major commitment of professional time and energy as well as a unique opportunity to contribute to the national biomedical research effort. The NIH is a component

Padma Rajagopalan co-directs the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science Center for Systems Biology of Engineered Tissues.



RAJAGOPALAN

of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Rajagopalan's research focus is on biomaterials, cell, and tissue engineering. In 2010, she received the prestigious Faculty Early Career Development award from the National Science Foundation

to study the movement of cells under complex environments. At Virginia Tech, she founded and co-directs the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science Center for Systems Biology of Engineered Tissues. The goal of the center is to define a new synthesis between tissue engineering and systems biology.

Rajagopalan serves as the program director for a new interdisciplinary graduate education program on "Computational Tissue Engineering". This program focuses on training a new community of graduate students at the confluence of tissue engineering, systems biology, and computer science.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Martin promoted, wins award

At the annual AIChE Senior Banquet on May 4, 2013, Professor Stephen Martin was named the ChE Professor of the Year, an annual recognition sponsored by the student Ω XE chapter.

In June, the University Board of Visitors approved the promotion of Martin to associate professor with tenure. Martin did his undergraduate work in chemical engineering at Princeton University, then completed his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota before doing postdoctoral work at MIT.

Martin is well-known to ChE undergraduates at Virginia Tech for the quality of his instruction in core ChE courses, independent study, and undergraduate research. In graduate education, he runs a quality research program in the areas of soft and self-assembled materials.



BAIRD

Baird gives international talks

Professor Don Baird gave two major international talks in the past year.

The first, "Role of Basic Rheology in Predicting the Orientation and Configuration of Semi-flexible Fibers during the Injection Molding of Thermoplastic Composites" was a keynote lecture at the International Congress

on Rheology in Lisbon, Portugal in August 2012.

He also gave a plenary lecture, "The theory of flexible fiber suspensions and its role in process simulations" for the Institute for Non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics at Chicheley Hall in the UK in March 2013.



Lu awarded three-year, \$710,000 NIH grant

Chang Lu, associate professor of chemical engineering and a core faculty member of the School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences at Virginia Tech, has been awarded a three-year, \$710,000 National Institutes of Health grant from the Institutes' National Cancer Initiative.

The grant focuses on early-stage innovative molecular analysis technology (IMAT) development for cancer

research.

Lu is working with Albert Baldwin, a cancer biologist of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. They are advancing the development of a highly sensitive version of chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP) to examine the protein binding to DNA sites, that could revolutionize the study of molecular mechanisms involved in cancer development.

Chang Lu, a core member of the School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences, and his research group are known for their contributions to the practice of cellular manipulation and analysis.



LU

The VIRGINIA TECH DEPARTMENT of CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
CONNECTION

STUDENT NEWS



Nicholas B. Adams

Brianna D. Beasley

William R. Beckwith

Molly J. Boal

Matthew D. Behmle

Casey G. Bolin

Michael S. Branigan

Margaret A. Castelvocchi

David T. Cato

Woohyun Choi

Cameron D. Cummings

Brendan P. Daley

Anna F. Dimling

Edward J. Dobyns

Stephen J. Donner



Alex C. Fattore

Thomas S. Gelzer

Francesco Giberti

Chemical Engineering



Sarah E. Gilbert

Karl F. Glong

Kerry J. Goldsmith



Conor P. Goree

Michael F. Goree

Gregory P. Hartmann

Cameron T. Hastings



Martha E. Hay

Evan G. Hollins

David C. Hummer

Joshua R. Ingeholm



Akash Jain

Clairissa M. Jobstas

Megan P. Kennedy

Timothy R. Kent

Bradford L. Knight

Class of 2013

Stevens Photography, Inc.
 Christiansburg, VA



Gregory W. Kobacki

Lance R. LaTulipe

Chih-Yu Lu

Kristianne V. Macaraeg

Emily M. Miller



Melissa D. Moreno

Lindsay A. Myrick

Aruna Nagarajan

Diana T. Nguyen

Megan L. O'Mara

Thomas D. Pereira

Philip J. Pierce

Sandeep S. Pole

Paige E. Rahmes

Ruzzel John B. Reel

Brian J. Regan

Katherine E. Revitsky

Lauren N. Russell

Sonia Sahgal

Shueva Sakribar



Megan E. Salvato

Wesley E. Sellers

Carolyn R. Shurer

William T. Smith

Stephanie A. Sparks

Bryce A. Stickie

Jonathan R. Tate

Pushpit Thohan

Kevin R. Wolfe

Catie Westfall

Michael C. Wepandt

Christina B. Williams

Emily L. Winland

Christopher M. Wong

Ya Peng Yu

STUDENT NEWS



Shinholser named ACC swimming and diving scholar-athlete of 2013

Chemical engineering major and rising senior Logan Shinholser of the Virginia Tech swimming and diving program was recognized as a 2013 Atlantic Coast Conference Men's Swimming and Diving Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Shinholser led the conference as one of five athletes to earn the honors for the fourth-

straight year. He ends his NCAA career as Tech's most decorated diver, as he is a four-time All-American and ACC Champion.

During the past season Shinholser collected three silver medals to earn 51 points for the H₂Ogies at the conference championships and garnered Honorable Mention All-America accolades on the platform at NCAAs.

Mays awarded Maxine Turner scholarship

Christine Mays, a rising senior, was awarded the Maxine S. Turner Scholarship in Chemical Engineering for her senior year.

The scholarship is given jointly by the Chemical Engineering Department and the University Honors Program in memory of Maxine Turner, a senior

chemical engineering major whose life was cut tragically short in the events of April 16, 2007.

M.S., and Ph.D. degrees awarded

Brandon Veres, M.Eng.

Mimicking Liver Basement Membranes using Self-Assembled Multilayers

Advisor: Padma Rajagopalan

Geoffrey Widdison, M.Eng.

Fiber Breakage During Mixing and Injection of Polymer Composites

Advisor: Don Baird

Ching-Wen Chiu, M.S.

Effects of Electric Fields on Dielectric Particles in Air

Advisor: William Ducker

Francisco Guzman, M.S.

Separation of Colloidal Particles in a Packed Column Using Depletion Forces

Advisor: John Walz

Phuong Bui, Ph.D.

Catalytic Hydrodeoxygenation of Bio-Oil Model Compounds (Ethanol, 2-Methyltetrahydrofuran) Over Supported Transition Metal Phosphides

Advisor: Ted Oyama

Yujung Dong, Ph.D.

Geometric and Electronic Structure Sensitivity of Methyl and Methylene Reactions on Metal Oxide Surfaces

Advisor: David Cox

Adam Larkin, Ph.D.

The Design of Three-Dimensional Multicellular Liver Models Using Detachable, Nanoscale Polyelectrolyte Multilayers

Advisors: Padma Rajagopalan and Richey Davis

Anil Surapathi, Ph.D.

Functionalized Single Walled Carbon Nanotube/Polymer Nanocomposite Membranes for Gas Separation and Desalination

Advisor: Eva Marand

Zhenxing Wang, Ph.D.

Simulation Study of Carbon Dioxide and Methane Permeation in Hybrid Inorganic-Organic Membrane

Advisor: Luke Achenie

Syed Mazahir, Ph.D.

Improvement in Orientation Predictions in Injection Molded Geometries for High-Aspect Ratio Particles

Advisors: Don Baird and Peter Wapperom (Math)

Satyavrata Samavedi, Ph.D.

Complementary Strategies to Promote the Regeneration of Bone-Ligament Transitions Using Graded Electrospun Scaffolds

Advisors: Abby Whittington and Aaron Goldstein

STUDENT NEWS

Ph.D. student wins Torgersen Research Award

Satyavrata (Satya) Samavedi, a Ph.D. student in chemical engineering, won the top prize in the Ph.D. poster competition for the 2013 Paul E. Torgersen Graduate Student Research Excellence Award for his poster “Tissue-Engineered Grafts for the Repair of Ligament Injuries.”

Satya was jointly advised by Profes-

sors Aaron Goldstein and Abby Whittington. His research focused on regenerating tissue interfaces using graded electrospun scaffolds and stem cells. Using different approaches, he examined the role of mechano-chemical gradient cues in influencing stem cell behavior to promote regeneration of ligament-bone transitions.



SAMAVEDI



Team members (left to right) are Peter Rim (faculty advisor), Kerry Goldsmith, Meredith Cook, Megan Salvato, Amy Wang, David Cato, and Yousef Hanif.

Chem-E-Car Team places at regional competition, advances to nationals

Virginia Tech’s Chem-E-Car team earned second place in a very competitive AIChE student event held at Rutgers University on April 5, 2013. Teams representing 13 other universities competed to test their ability to control a chemically powered vehicle that was designed, built, and tested by undergraduate team members.

Virginia Tech’s team consisted of three seniors, team leader Megan Salvato, David Cato, and Kerry Goldsmith, and three juniors, Meredith Cook, Yousef Hanif, and Amy Wang. Their faculty advisor is Peter B. Rim who holds the Joseph H. Collie Distinguished Visiting Professorship.

In the competition the vehicle must be powered by a chemical reaction and travel a prescribed distance, with the distance being provided only a few minutes prior to the competition. Virginia Tech’s team led the competition after the first round and had the best average distance for both rounds, but was edged-out by a terrific run in the second round by the team from Rutgers. In the spirit of sportsmanship, prior to the competition the Virginia Tech team loaned equipment to the eventual winner who had experienced technical difficulties. The team’s juniors are headed to the national competition in San Francisco in November 2013.

Williams named 2013 outstanding senior

Christina Williams, a graduating senior in chemical engineering from Alexandria, Va., was named the College of Engineering Outstanding Senior for 2012-13. This is the second year in a row the award has gone to a graduating senior in chemical engineering.

The award recognizes outstanding student performance. Students are select-

ed on the basis of their grade point average (3.4 or higher on a 4.0 scale) and outstanding performance in several or all of the following areas: academic achievement, extracurricular activities, leadership positions, and contributions of service to the university and/or community.

Christie’s resume lists contributions to service and leadership, locally and internationally. She was involved in service projects in Mexico, Spain, and Tanzania. Locally, she served as a mentor in the Center for Enhancement of

Engineering Diversity (CEED), and as the campus coordinator for Teach for America.

A member of the hon-



WILLIAMS

ors program, she completed minors in Spanish and chemistry in addition to her Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering. Her academic interests outside of engineering include sociology, particularly in American Indian Studies

and Africana Studies.

During her time at Virginia Tech, Christie gained professional experience through the Cooperative Education Program with work terms at General Electric Energy and Marathon Petroleum Company.

At Virginia Tech she has participated in music (symphonic band) and club sports (rugby), performed undergraduate research and worked as a teaching assistant in the sociology department, and participated in philanthropic activities with her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma.

STUDENT NEWS

Students travel to Denmark for Unit Operations Laboratory

This summer, a group of 30 rising seniors traveled to Lyngby, Denmark to take the unit operations laboratory at the Technical University of Denmark for four weeks. The course consisted of seven labs, exposing them to industrial processes such as distillation, membrane separation, crystallization, and piping systems. Students also toured Nordic Sugar and Dong Energy plants to gain insight into applications of these processes. A final assignment exposed them to various facets of Danish culture in the form of a group oral presentation session.

In between writing lab reports and performing experiments, students were able to tour the university's surrounding area. Students traveled to the nearby beach, downtown Copenhagen, and a variety of neighboring tourist sites. Many students were also able to travel throughout Europe before and after the laboratory.



Virginia Tech students Jaelyn Paulk and Logan Shinholser work on the crystallization experiment in Denmark.

Jakstas receives the Ware Achievement Award

Graduating Senior Clarissa Jakstas received the Kimberly Ware Outstanding Achievement Award.

This annual award from Career Services recognizes the outstanding senior who has worked at least one co-op term and made significant professional achievements in the workplace.



Clarissa was recognized for her outstanding achievements working with Progress Energy.

In her nomination form, Richard Reiland of Progress Energy wrote, "Based on the inputs from those she worked

with or for whom she completed projects, it is evident that she learns quickly, is diligent and thorough in completing assignments, does accurate work, and once she knows the expectation of what is needed, can work diligently to complete the assignment. Feedback from the people that she has worked with here at Crystal River has been extremely positive — and we will miss her when she leaves."

After graduation, Clarissa will work as a process engineer for Bechtel in Houston, Texas.

Virginia Tech Chemical Engineering Department

CONNECTION

- David Cox**..... Department Head
- Jane Price**..... Coordinator
- David Simpkins**..... Designer

The Virginia Tech Department of Chemical Engineering *Connection* is a publication for the alumni of the Chemical Engineering Department published by the Chemical Engineering Department, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061.

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ALUMNI NEWS

In memoriam

Alexander F. Giacco, Sr., university and department benefactor

Alexander F. Giacco, Sr. passed away on June 27, 2013. He was 93.

Giacco grew up in Meriden, Conn., the oldest of four children. He attended and graduated from Virginia Tech in 1942 with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering.

He went to work for Hercules Inc., starting a 45-year career that culminated in his service as the company's president from 1977 to 1987 and chairman of the board from 1980 until his retirement in 1987.

After retirement from Hercules, Giacco went on to serve as chairman and CEO of Himont Inc., a joint venture in polypropylene between Hercules and Italy's Montedison.

He also served as president and CEO of Rheometric

Scientific Inc., a company that designs, manufactures, and services computer-controlled materials test systems used to make physical property measurements, such as viscosity, elasticity, and thermal analysis behavior on various materials

such as plastics, petrochemicals, paints, coatings, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and foods.

He also served as chairman and managing director of Axess Corporation, a company that produces polymers and thermoplastics.



In 1984, *Financial World* named Giacco best chief executive officer in the chemical industry. *The Wall Street Transcript* voted him the Chemical Industry's Outstanding Chief Executive Officer for three consecutive years in the 1980s.

After Giacco retired from Hercules, the company established the Alexander F. Giacco Presidential Chair at Virginia Tech with a \$1 million endowment. The Alexander F. Giacco Engineering Scholarship Fund was subsequently

established through his support.

He served as a member of the Board of Visitors from 1979 to 1987 and was rector from 1984 to 1987. He was inducted into the College of Engineering's Academy of Engineering Excellence in 2000 and was a member of the college's Committee of 100. In 1989, he received the University Distinguished Achievement Award for "significant achievement of enduring significance to society." In 2002, he received the Alumni Distinguished Service Award. From 2003 to 2007 he served as a member of the Advisory Board for the Department of Chemical Engineering.

Giacco and his wife, Edith, raised five children in their home in Wilmington, Del.

Giving to Chemical Engineering

One of the primary reasons for the department's continued success is the generous support of the alumni.

Your contributions not only provide funds for the day-to-day operations of the department, but also support scholarships and travel for undergraduate students, fellowships for graduate students, and support for activities such as the seminar program that brings outstanding researchers

from other institutions here to Virginia Tech to interact with faculty and students.

Your continued support is vital to our goal of becoming one of the top chemical engineering programs in the country.

To make it as easy for you as possible to support the department, a link has been added on the homepage (www.che.vt.edu) that will direct you to a form for making a gift online.

The link is entitled "Giving to ChE" and can be found on the upper right hand side of the page.

The page describes the method for designating your gift for the Chemical Engineering Department using the "Enter your own" button. If you type in Department of Chemical Engineering in the form, you can be assured that your support will come directly to us and that it will be used wisely.

CLASS NOTES

The information below was taken from the mail-in response cards that the department received during the past year, or through the on-line alumni feedback form. The on-line form can be accessed via the Alumni Feedback tab on the left-hand side of the department's home page (www.che.vt.edu). Our goal is to continue to publish all such information that we receive so that our alums can stay connected both to the department and to each other.

1942

Phillip A. Sanguinetti (BS)

Other degree(s): M.S., University of Tennessee, 1948. Mr. Sanguinetti is also a graduate of the American Press Institute at Columbia University and studied advertising at the University of Pittsburgh.

Phillip was a chemist and chemical engineer with Monsanto Company from 1942-1954. He held an instructor position at the University of Tennessee during this time and was employed in technical sales at Mobay Chemical Company from 1954 to 1962.

In 1962, he joined Consolidated Publishing Company and served in various positions until 1973 (ending as president of the company). He founded Calhoun Publishing Company (eventually purchasing *The Jacksonville News*) and served as an editor, general manager and is currently editor and publisher at *The News*.

Service activities have included serving on various boards and members of many associations. In 2003 he was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alabama Press Association.

In 1950, Phillip married Elise Ayers of Anniston, and they reside at 818 Glenwood Terrace in Anniston, Alabama.

1980

David Fitchett (BS)

David reports that he has 25 years of experience in chemical engineering. His first job after graduation was for Dow Chemical Company in Freeport, Texas where he worked to convert the plant energy from gas to lignite coal. He also spent time in the hydrocarbons side of the business before moving to a job with American Cyanamid / Cytec in West Virginia from which he retired.

He currently owns Uncle Dave's Sweet & Savory Omelettes in Parkersburg, West Virginia and is the master chef.

1983

David Rosa

David currently lives and works on the island of St. John in the US Virgin Islands and works for the Department of Planning and Natural Resources in the government offices for the island as a coastal zone manager. He also does engineering consulting and design work on the side.

1992

Ken Walker

Other degree(s): MBA from University of Delaware, 1998

Ken's current position is President – GGB Division at EnPro Industries. He can

be reached at ken.walker@ggbearings.com.

1999

Andrew J. Capozzi

Other degree(s): MBA from University of North Carolina, Charlotte, 2007

Andrew reports he lives in Chicago, Illinois and is a sales manager in Packaging Coatings for PPG Industries, Inc. He has one son, Christopher, who is eight years old.

2004

Jocelyn Brewster Mauldin

Other degree(s): MS from North Carolina State
Jocelyn can be reached at jobrewst@gmail.com

2009

Bryan Bean

Bryan worked for three

years after graduation with Dow Chemical Company and has now changed jobs to begin working with Lyondell Bassell as a run plant engineering for advanced lubricants. He can be reached at bryan.bean@me.com.

IN MEMORIAM

William R. Jones (BS 1943)

Mr. Jones resided in Spring Hill, Florida and passed away in August 2012. He was a retired manager in engineering design.

David K. Whittington (BS 1950)

Mr. Whittington was a retired director of engineering at PPG Industries. He was from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and passed away in August 2012.

Online Alumni Information System

The department welcomes updates from the chemical engineering alumni about your lives and careers. The easiest way to send updates is to use the online alumni update system, which can be accessed via the department's homepage, www.che.vt.edu, and clicking on "Alumni News and Update Form" on the right side of the page. On this form, you can specifically state what level of privacy we should use with your information. This information will be published in our Connection newsletter.

As always, if you are more comfortable with paper and pen, feel free to complete the form at the end of the newsletter and mail it back to us. Again, this form allows you to specify exactly how much of the information you want published.

CONNECTION

DONORS TO THE DEPARTMENT

The department gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, corporations, foundations and trusts for their support during 2012.

INDIVIDUALS

Sara A. Al-Saihati
 Nyimas Ami H. Arief
 Allison A. Athey
 Atef Aziz
 Mr. Paul J. and Lisa A. Baduini
 Mr. James R. and Betty May Ballengee
 Dr. Michael D. and Denise Barrera
 Kelly E. and Dr. Steven M. Belz
 Dr. G. Gregory and Suzanne S. Benge
 Gary H. and Carolyn B. Bishop
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Dr. Thomas R. and Norma D. Hanley
 Dr. Douglas E. Hirt
 Robert E. Hord, Jr.
 Charles A. and Christine S. Hurst
 Dr. Wayne P. Jessee
 Dr. J.B. and Jane H. Jones
 Dr. George E. and Judith B. Keller
 Gary J. and Pamela V. Kerestes
 John F. and Susan Kile
 Edward P. Kinney, Jr. and Moreen E. Atkinson
 Glen N. and Heather M. Klesat
 Mr. Eric D. and Sara J. Kuchinski
 Roger C. and Tina S. Lane
 Fred P. and Elizabeth A. Lingamfelter
 David R. and Diane L. Lohr
 Paul F. and Sara H. Lumbye
 Sharon M. and Tom Lynch
 Leslie A. and Dr. Stephen D. Maloney
 Dawn A. and Dr. James E. Maneval
 W.J. and Sandra S. Matney
 Dr. Christopher C. and Debbie K. McDowell
 Andrew G. Melick
 Kevin R. Norfleet
 Rebecca H. and Thomas H. Nutbrown
 Kirsten M. O'Brien

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Progress continues on the future home of Chemical Engineering

Construction continues on the Signature Engineering Building, the future home of Virginia Tech's Chemical Engineering Department.

Construction remains on schedule, with completion anticipated for January 2014.

A final inspection will follow the completion of construction, leading to the issuance of a Certificate of

Occupancy. Delivery of furniture for the new building is expected in March of 2014.

The schedule for the department move has not yet been finalized.

Progress on the building can be viewed on the live webcam at: <http://www.eng.vt.edu/signaturebuilding/livecam>



Signature Engineering Building – Summer 2013



The Virginia Tech College of Engineering Advisory Board visits one of the new chemical engineering laboratories under construction in the Signature Engineering Building.

CONNECTION

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The Chemical Engineering Department is always interested in hearing from its alumni. Please take a few minutes to complete the following:

Full Name: _____ Name while at Virginia Tech (if different) _____

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Please feel free to provide any additional information about yourself or your career: _____

The Department of Chemical Engineering would like to keep our alumni updated about the careers and lives of other alumni, either via the web or the department newsletter. However, we also respect each person's right to privacy. Thus, please indicate below the level of confidentiality that you wish us to maintain with regard to your information:

- Feel free to make all information provide on this form public.
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- Do not publish any information about me.
- Other, please explain on a separate sheet of paper.

Please mail the completed form to:
Chemical Engineering Department
c/o Ms. Jane Price
133 Randolph Hall (MC 0211)
460 Old Turner Street
Blacksburg, VA 24061
or, by e-mail at: jsprice@vt.edu

Department of Chemical Engineering
133 Randolph Hall (0211)
Virginia Tech
460 Old Turner Street
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*The Signature Engineering Building,
future home of Chemical Engineering*