COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING CHEMICAL ENGINEERING VIRGINIA TECH. CONTROLOGIONAL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING VIRGINIA TECH.



Dear alumni and friends:

Greetings from Blacksburg! Our department continues to thrive. We graduated 98 B.S. chemical engineers last May, and our students continue to be remarkably engaged: 67 percent had co-op or intern experience, 26 percent had a study abroad experience, and nearly 34 percent had an undergraduate research experience.

Demand remains high for the chemical engineering major. The investment of six new chemical engineering faculty by the College of Engineering over the past four years has allowed us to continue to deliver a quality experience to our undergraduate population amidst high enrollments. We have two additional positions we hope to fill in the coming year.

Our research expenditures grew by 16 percent this past year and are up by over 50 percent in the past four years. The additional opportunities provided by this

Progress Continues >

funding have translated into higher graduate enrollments to support our research mission and more research opportunities for our undergraduates.

Dean Julia M. Ross now leads the College of Engineering. She holds a bachelor's degree from Purdue and a doctoral degree from Rice University; both in chemical engineering. Dean Ross' tenured home is in chemical engineering. We have welcomed Dean Ross to Virginia Tech and our department.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our alumni who continue to give back to the department through their service, giving, and recruiting of our graduates. Philanthropy of our alumni becomes more important to the department with each passing year. Your gifts allow us to enhance the educational experience and the learning environment for all of our students by supporting initiatives for which there is no state budget. Your contributions are important in helping us maintain the quality of our programs through support of our teaching mission, student groups, student travel, and a host of other uses. Thank you for your help!

We love to hear from you, so please stay in touch. If you are in the area, I encourage you to stop by and visit the department in Goodwin Hall. Please take a moment to complete the Alumni Information Form near the back of this newsletter, or the online form of the web site: www.che.vt.edu. Also, I hope you will connect with us on Facebook and Twitter.

Best wishes,

David S. Cox Professor and Department Head



College of Engineering Dean Julia M. Ross is a tenured faculty member in the chemical engineering department.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

New faculty member, Sanket Deshmukh



Sanket Deshmukh joined the department in August 2016 as a tenure-track assistant professor. He comes to Virginia Tech following postdoctoral work at Argonne National Lab (Nanoscience and Technology Division) and North Carolina State. He earned his Ph.D. in chemical and bioprocess engineering from University College Dublin. Deshmukh's research interests are in the development of simulation techniques and coarse-grained models to study problems in tribology, corrosion, and structure-property relationships in softand bio-materials. The chemical engineering undergraduate program ranks No. 18 by 2017 U.S. News & World Report

Vlachos gives Doumas Distinguished Lecture

The 2016 Bill and Ann Doumas / Dow Chemical Distinguished Lecture was presented on December 2nd by Professor Dionisios G. Vlachos of the University of Delaware. Vlachos is the Allan and Myra Ferguson Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, joint professor of physics and astronomy, director of the University of Delaware Energy Institute and director of the Catalysis Center for Energy Innovation, a DOE Energy Frontier Research Center. A world renowned expert in multiscale modeling and simulation, Vlachos' seminar was titled "In Silico Prediction of Materials for Energy Applications."

College Association for Staff in Engineering (CASE) hosts fundraising event

In May 2017, the CASE organization hosted a pizza and ice cream social on the lawn adjacent to Goodwin Hall to raise funds for needy senior citizens. One of the primary draws of the social was a dunking booth featuring participation of several department heads from the College of Engineering. Students, staff and faculty were given an opportunity to buy chances to dunk their favorite administrative faculty.

Among those participating was the chemical engineering department head, professor David Cox. After the event he reported that the water was very cold.



Chemical engineering department head David Cox is dunked by staff at CASE event.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Virginia Tech AIChE student chapter hosts Process Safety Boot Camp



The Virginia Tech Student Chapter of the AIChE hosted a two-day Process Safety Boot Camp for Students, March 25–26, 2017 at the Inn at Virginia Tech.

The workshop, conducted by AIChE's Center for Chemical Process Safety, was part of AIChE's Undergraduate Process Safety Learning Initiative – a major global effort to ensure that all chemical engineering graduates possess a working knowledge of process safety principles when they enter the workforce.

The initiative is a core priority of the AIChE Foundation's Doing a World of Good campaign and was generously funded by Founders' Circle members: Dow, Chevron, LyondellBasell, DuPont, Eastman, and Univar, along with other corporate supporters.

The workshop focused on chemical process safety management and was attended by 40 seniors selected from the process design class.

The Virginia Tech Student Chapter was chosen to host the AIChE/CCPS workshop based on its Outstanding Student Chapter status within AIChE, its award-winning record in the AIChE competition for safety in process design, its standing as a top participating university in online process safety training certification, and support from sponsor companies.

Companies sponsor Center of Excellence in chemical engineering

In the fall of the 2016-17 academic year, China National Petroleum Company, Beijing, China; and Aspen Technology, Inc., Bedford, Massachusetts, signed a multiyear agreement with the Virginia Tech Foundation to sponsor a Center of Excellence in process system engineering in the department of chemical engineering.

The goal of the center is to promote industrial training and graduate education in process system engineering for optimizing process manufacturing. Y.A. Liu, Alumni Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering, directs the Center.

The process system engineering team in the department of chemical engineering at Virginia Tech has a successful record of accomplishments in helping with technology development and engineering training for large global corporations such as Honeywell Specialty Materials and Technologies, Formosa Petrochemical Corporation, and China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation.

Over the past 20 years, professor Liu and his graduate students have trained over 7,000 practicing engineers in the U.S., Taiwan, and China to use advanced software tools to minimize costs and maximize profits in petrochemical operations. They have also published five pioneering textbooks in process system engineering that help with intelligent manufacturing, energy and water savings, and simulation and optimization of polymer plants and petroleum refineries.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Chemical and mechanical undergraduate students form biomedical start up

A team of three chemical engineering students, Tucker King, Elisabeth Rebholz, and Kim Wyluda, and one mechanical engineering student, Juliana Downey, formed a biomedical startup called Tech Wound Solutions.

The students, all pursuing biomedical engineering minors, worked on the development of "Kare Powder," an active wound care product and a business model as part of a special-topics course on biomedical entrepreneurship taught by Mark Van Dyke, professor of biomedical engineering and mechanics.

Tech Wound Solutions' win at the ACC InVenture Prize led them to compete in the regional ACC InVenture Prize at Georgia Tech in March 2017. They placed second out of the fifteen ACC schools, bringing home \$10,000 to put towards their project. More recently, they took home the People's Choice Award at the VT KnowledgeWorks' Global Challenge, winning \$5,000 in scholarship money.



From left: Tucker King, Juliana Downey, Elizabeth Rebholz, and Kim Wyluda.



Student association hosts ninth annual Graduate Student Symposium

The Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Association hosted a Graduate Student Symposium on April 13, 2017.

The one-day event featured 18 oral presentations covering all aspects of graduate research in the department and two poster sessions, including contributions from another 18 undergraduate and graduate researchers.

The program co-chairs for the symposium were graduate students Mick Williams and Eric Gilmer. Highlighting the program was the keynote address given by Emily Cranston of the chemical engineering department at McMaster University.

Siewn Wang describes her work on coordination-based descriptors for understanding size effects of metal nanocatalysts.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Rajagopalan named fellow of AIMBE



In the fall of the 2016-17 academic year, Padma Rajagopalan, the Robert E. Hord Jr. Professor of Chemical Engineering, was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

The AIMBE College of Fellows represents the most accomplished and distinguished medical and biological engineers responsible for innovation and discovery. The select group is among the top two percent of medical and biological engineering professionals.

Patent issued to father and daughter team

Professor Gary Whiting (Virginia Tech chemical engineering, Ph.D. '85) and his daughter, Hilary Whiting (Virginia Tech mechanical engineering, BS '13), are co-inventors of a recent U.S. Patent 9,387,756 issued July 12, 2016. The patent, entitled "Vehicle Hybrid Drive Arrangement," documents inventions completed in conjunction with their designing and building a hybrid electric Chevrolet Corvette, OHP770.



Hilary and Gary Whiting

The patent is assigned to Whiting's business, Quanta Products LLC, and specifically to Quanta Hybrid Performance. Quanta Products was a sponsor of Virginia Tech's Hybrid Electric Vehicle Team for the 2016-17 academic year.

Hilary Whiting graduated from Virginia Tech's mechanical engineering department in 2014, works for Kollmorgen in Radford, Virginia, and is pursuing her MBA at Arizona State University.

Whiting named Joseph H. Collie Professor

Gary Whiting, professor of practice of chemical engineering, was named the Joseph H. Collie Professor of Chemical Engineering by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors early in the 2016-17 academic year.

The professorship is awarded to a distinguished visiting professor who has extensive industrial experience and expertise in production, marketing, and sales of chemical products. Chemical engineering students are introduced to advanced business and marketing concepts in chemicals distribution management.

Whiting joined the Virginia Tech faculty after retiring from DuPont in 2015. Whiting received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Lebanon Valley College, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in chemical engineering from Virginia Tech.



New model aims to unlock catalytic powers of gold

Professor Hongliang Xin and his postdoc Xianfeng Ma coauthored the article "Orbitalwise Coordination Number for Predicting Adsorption Properties of Metal Nanocatalysts" published in Physical Review Letters (Vol 118, Jan.2017).

This new model challenges the conventional wisdom of the standard d-band model, and can potentially predict just the right formula of gold catalysts to achieve a desired outcome for a given chemical reaction.

This work is mainly funded by the National Science Foundation Catalysis Program and partially supported by the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund.

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FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



Quanyou Feng and Assistant Professor Rong Tong

Research from Tong's group highlighted in C&E News

A recent publication in the Journal of the American Chemical Society (J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2017, 139, pp 6177–6182) by postdoc Quanyou Feng and assistant professor Rong Tong was highlighted in May 1, 2017 issue of Chemical & Engineering News.

Their work describes a new catalytic process for the synthesis of functional poly(α -hydroxy acid), or PAHA, from O-carboxyanhydride monomers. The resulting PAHA polyesters are biodegradable polymers useful for a wide range of medical applications with biodegradable implants.

STUDENT NEWS

Chem-E-Car team earns third consecutive top-ten finish

The Virginia Tech Chem-E-Car team placed seventh in the Chem-E-Car competition at the 2016 National American Institute of Chemical Engineers Student Conference in San Francisco, California, on November 13, 2016.

This was the team's third consecutive top-ten finish at the national competition, this year competing against forty other cars from universities across the country and around the world. The team also placed second in the accompanying poster competition.

The Chem-E-Car competition tests a team's ability to design and construct a shoe-box sized car that is powered by a chemical energy source that safely carries a specified load over a given distance and stops via the direct control of a chemical reaction.



The Virginia Tech car relied on a lead acid-based battery that powered the vehicle, and the team implemented on-board computer control to manage the vehicle systems and monitor a novel cinnamaldehyde-based chemical reaction to stop the car.

Team leader Bobby Hollingsworth explained that "there were a lot of challenges associated with the chemical reaction this year; our reaction releases heat, causing complexities in modeling its behavior." Despite these challenges, the Tech Chem-E-Car stopped within six inches of the target distance of 56 feet.

The team acknowledges the generous financial support of Virginia Tech alumnus Steve Cope and ExxonMobil.

Virginia Tech's team consists of two seniors: team leader Hollingsworth, and Courtner Clark; two juniors: Rebecca Engler and Brett Rastatter; and one sophomore: Jim Owens. Their faculty advisor is Associate Professor Stephen Martin.



Icenhour awarded Turner scholarship

Abigail E. Icenhour, a chemical engineering junior co-op, was awarded the Maxine S. Turner Scholarship in Chemical Engineering for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 academic years. 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.

STUDENT NEWS

Hollingsworth named outstanding senior for 2017



Owens wins Odyssey fellowship

James Owens, a sophomore in chemical engineering, was named the 2017 Class of 1954 Odyssey Fellow by the Virginia Tech Honors College.

One of six fellowships awarded by the college each year, the class of 1954 Odyssey Fellowship provides outstanding honors students with opportunities extending far beyond the classroom during their last two years of undergraduate study. Jim received a fellowship to cover up to \$10,000 of his travel experience and university tuition.



Jim Owens and Assistant Professor Michael Bortner

Jim's undergraduate research has focused on multiple aspects of energy that he plans to leverage for his Odyssey experience. He worked on solar cell research during an REU at Drexel University in summer 2016. He is currently researching conductive transparent electrodes with Assistant Professor Michael Bortner, who also served as his faculty mentor.

Jim will use the fellowship to travel to South Africa and Denmark during the summer of 2018 to conduct energy poverty research at the University of Cape Town and to study the economic and political factors affecting energy distribution. Bobby Hollingsworth, a triple major in chemical engineering, biochemistry, and chemistry, was named Virginia Tech's College of Engineering's 2017 Outstanding Senior.

In his four years at Virginia Tech, Hollingsworth was actively involved in Virginia Tech's Honors College, led the Department of Chemical Engineering's Chem-E-Car team, published a coauthored paper, won a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, and was an Honors College Class of 1954 Fellow.

He worked in research labs at Virginia Tech, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and as an Amgen Scholar at Harvard University, with a focus on researching viruses and diseases — most notably, HIV and cancer — and how they interact with vaccines and drugs.

Hollingsworth is currently attending Harvard University, pursuing pursue a Ph.D. in biological and biomedical sciences. Long-term, he hopes to work in biomedical research and public health, running a lab and acting as an advocate for reducing costs of creating life-saving drugs in order to better reach underserved communities.

He wants to continue learning all aspects of the lab-topatient drug delivery process, including how government policies, education, and other real-world factors impact whether or not a patient receives the medicine they need.

"Studying engineering at Virginia Tech has taught me how to think rationally, analyze data, and problem solve," Hollingsworth said. "These critical thinking skills will be invaluable in solving complex, novel problems in research and human health."

Graduate student awarded funding

Wenhui Li was selected to receive a Spring 2017 Graduate Research Development Program award based on her proposal "Solvent tuning on crystal structures and sizes of ligand-controlled synthesized colloidal Pd nanoparticles."

The selection is made by the Virginia Tech Graduate Student Assembly through peer reviews and the award consists of \$1000 for her research. The program is administered by the GSA



to provide monetary support for degree contingent research conducted by Virginia Tech graduate students.

Wenhui is a third year Ph.D. student working in Associate Professor Ayman Karim's group. Her Ph.D. work focuses on understanding the role of ligands and solvents in the synthesis of colloidal Pd nanoparticles.

STUDENT NEWS



Joey Sarver, a senior majoring in chemical engineering from Wytheville, Virginia, placed first in the materials engineering and sciences section of the undergraduate poster competition at the 2016 AIChE Annual Meeting held during November 13-18, 2016 in San Francisco, California.

His poster, titled "Gradient Foaming of Polymers in Supercritical Carbon Dioxide," dealt with a unique experimental system for foaming, and the recent results of foaming of Poly(methyl methacrylate) rods while analyzing the subsequent pore morphology.

Over 400 posters from around the globe were presented in topics ranging from reaction engineering to computing and process control.

Joey participated in undergraduate research in Erdogan Kiran's supercritical fluids lab before joining our M.S. program in fall 2017.



Joey Sarver (left) with his advisor, Professor Erdogan Kiran



STUDENT NEWS

BACHELOR, MASTER, AND DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED

The department awarded 98 bachelors degrees during the spring 2017 commencement. The department also awarded the following masters and Ph.D. degrees over the past year.

Wei Shan Chin (M.Eng) Advisor: David Cox

Ami Jo (M.Eng.) Advisor: Richey Davis

Jianger Yu (M.Eng.)

Carlos Landaverde Alvarado (Ph.D.)

Sorption, Transport and Gas Separation Properties of Zn-Based Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs) and Co-Advisors: Steve Martin (ChE) and

Alicia Pape (Ph.D.)

Influence of Solvent Removal Rate and Polymer Concentration on Ordering Kinetics of Block Copolymers in

Co-Advisors: Steve Martin and Don

Kevin Wood (Ph.D.)

Development of Computational Tools for the Design, Simulation and Optimization of Cyclic Steady

Finkenauer selected as Howe Award winner



Blake Finkenauer. a senior from Yorktown, Virginia, was selected as the 2017 James Lewis Howe Award recipient for the department of chemical engineering. This award from

the Blue Ridge chapter of the American Chemical Society recognizes the outstanding achievements of graduating seniors in the chemical sciences.

In addition to his academics. Finkenauer worked with Virginia Tech Services for Students with Disabilities, participated in residential learning communities on campus, interned with NASA Langley, worked as a co-op with DuPont in Richmond, and participated in undergraduate research.

After graduation, Blake began his Ph.D. in chemical engineering at Purdue University.

ALUMNI NEWS

Valeiras inducted into the College of Engineering Academy of Engineering Excellence

Horacio Valeiras received his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering as a member of the Class of 1980. Following his graduation from Virginia Tech, Valeiras went to Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of California, Berkeley to earn his master's degree in chemical engineering and M.B.A., respectively.

After graduating, Valeiras joined First Boston Corporation as an equity research analyst covering European technology companies.

Once involved in the capital markets, Valeiras was hooked. He continued his work at Credit Suisse First Boston as an international strategist. In 1992, he became a partner at Miller, Anderson & Sherrerd, a Philadelphia-based money management firm until it was acquired by Morgan Stanley in 1996.

At this point, Valeiras became managing director for Morgan Stanley Investment Management until 2002, when he took on the role of chief investment officer at Nicholas Applegate Capital Management.

Seven years later, Valeiras took on the same role at Allianz Global Investors, where he stayed until becoming managing partner of HAV Capital LLC in 2012. Valeiras serves as the member of

several boards, including Virginia Tech's Board of Visitors and the Association of Governing Board of Colleges and Universities.

Previously, Valeiras served as board chairman of the Virginia Tech Foundation.



Horacio and Amy Valeiras

Sinha to lead alumni - student mentoring program



Shashwat Sinha, a 2015 B.S. graduate from chemical engineering, has agreed to serve as the first alumni liaison for our department.

As the chemical engineering alumni liaison, Sinha will develop and build relationships between the alumni and the college, specifically to facilitate alumni mentoring of current students and recent graduates.

During his time at Virginia Tech, Sinha served two terms (May 2013 - May 2015) as the president of the AIChE student chapter. He worked to increase student interconnectedness and to increase the organization's national involvement and professional outreach. During his second term as president, he started the organization's first-ever student mentoring program to connect groups of seniors, juniors, and sophomore chemical engineering students into mentoring groups with graduate students.

The work the organization did during this time led to a national AIChE Outstanding Student Chapter Award for the department for the first time.

To share your knowledge and experience to benefit the professional growth of our students and alumni, email at shashwat@vt.edu, or fill out a survey online at www.che.vt.edu by selecting the Alumni-Student Mentoring Program link on the right side of the page.

Chemical engineering alumnus teaches at BYU

Virginia Tech chemical engineering alumnus Dongjin Seo will start a new position as an assistant professor in the department of chemical engineering at Brigham Young University beginning November 2017.

Seo completed his Ph.D. working with Professor William Ducker studying changes in boundary fluid flow due to different surface molecules characteristics before beginning postdoctoral work studying lubricity and wetting phenomena with Professor Jacob Israelachvili at the University of California – Santa Barbara.

At Brigham Young University, Seo plans to investigate lipid layer adhesion to various materials in search for the optimal materials for cell adhesion and tissue scaffolding. He also plans to modify the surface of aerosol drugs so that they could travel deeper inside lungs. He began teaching the material and energy balance class beginning January 2018.



Hokie in charge at UVa



Virginia Tech chemical engineering alumnus William Epling (B.S. 1992) has been hired as professor and chair of the department of chemical engineering at the University of Virginia. Epling started his position at UVa in the fall of 2016, taking over from another Hokie, Robert J. (Bob) Davis (B.S. '85).

After leaving Virginia Tech, Epling received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Florida. His work experience includes a postdoc at a national laboratory, and industrial experience with a catalyst manufacturer, and a diesel engine manufacturer.

Epling joined UVa after time on the faculty at the University of Waterloo and the University of Houston.

His recent research has focused on diesel and natural gas engine emissions reduction, catalyst degradation, environmental catalysis, including catalyst design, manufacture, characterization and application and utilization of natural gas in the production of value-added chemicals.

ALUMNI NEWS

ChE alumnus, 2017 College of Engineering commencement speaker

Lisa Price, chemical engineering alumna and general manager of business development for GE Energy Connections, delivered the keynote address at the College of Engineering's commencement ceremonies in May 2017.

Price was the recipient of the 2017 College of Engineering Distinguished Alumni Award. The award is bestowed annually upon one graduate who has achieved success and exemplifies *Ut Prosim* out of approximately 67,000 living College of Engineering alumni.

With GE for 12 years, Price leads global business development activities, including the power conversion, industrial solutions, and digital energy divisions of GE.

In September 2013, Price returned from assignment in Shanghai, China, as general manager of GE's corporate business development division where she supported inorganic growth initiatives to drive mergers and acquisitions in China.

After earning her master's in business administration from Tulane University in 1995, Price worked at Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Deutsche Bank, where she focused on mergers and acquisitions in the energy, utility and oil, and gas industries. Previously, Price served in a variety of operating and environmental positions with Freeport-McMoRan Inc.



An avid Hokie, Price serves on the college's international programs alumni planning board and the department of chemical engineering's advisory board. She previously served four years on the college's alumni advisory board. Price is the director of Hope Imaging, a nonprofit organization.

Schulz, president of WSU



In mid-June 2016, Kirk Schulz became the 11th President of Washington State University following a seven-year tenure as President of Kansas State University.

Schulz is a two-time graduate of the Virginia Tech chemical engineering department (B.S. 1986; Ph.D. 1991).

Online Alumni Information System

The department welcomes updates from our alumni about your lives and careers. The easiest way to send us updates is to use our online alumni update system which can be accessed via the Department's homepage, **www.che.vt.edu**, and clicking on "ChE Alumni" link on the right side of the page. On this form, you can specifically state what level of privacy we should use with your information. Per your approval, 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.

IN MEMORIAM >

Garth L. Wilkes

A dedicated educator, lecturer, and inventor

Garth L. Wilkes passed away at his home in Blacksburg, Virginia, on Friday, October 21, 2016 at the age of 74.

He began his chemical engineering teaching and research career in 1969 at Princeton University. In 1978, Wilkes moved to Virginia Tech as a professor of chemical engineering where he remained for the duration of his career before retiring as a University Distinguished Professor Emeritus in July of 2003.

Wilkes was a dedicated educator, influencing countless students at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and many industrial scientists through his teaching of short courses.

During his career, Wilkes gave more than 500 lectures, contributed to more than 500 scientific



publications, and edited several books on polymer chemistry and science. In addition, he taught over 350 continuing education short courses to diverse sectors of industry, as well as serving as a consultant for companies such as 3M, Dow Chemical, Phillips Petroleum, Johnson & Johnson, and many others.

Wilkes was awarded 12 U.S. patents. He was

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internationally known and respected as an expert in his field of polymer science and engineering.

A memorial celebration of his life was held at the German Club in Blacksburg on May 22, 2017 on the occasion of his birthdate.





CLASS NOTES



1948

James T. DiPiazza (BS)

- Other degrees: MS, Case Institute; MBA, Fairleigh Dickinson
- James is retired from Exxon. He started in the Exxon research division and then moved on to industrial sales. He was responsible for sales to the chemical industry (DuPont, Dow, Monsanto, etc.). James resides in Wyckoff, New Jersey. He can be reached at JTDiP@aol.com.

1960

- George W. Moore III (BS)
- George retired from Industrial Risk Insurers as a chemical account engineer in 1999. He now lives in Rockwall, Texas and can be reached at GWMoore35@yahoo.com.

1962

- Rudolph (Rudy) Janis (BS) Other degrees: MS, chemical engineering, U of D; PhD, chemical engineering, Virginia Tech
- Rudy is retired, living in Florida, and can be reached at rjsailing2@aol.com.

Clifford E. Woodward (BS)

- Other degree: MS, chemical engineering, University of Houston
- Woodward is the president of Protective Environmental Engineering Service, Inc., (Cypress, Texas), and would love to know where his fellow '61/'62/'63 classmates are and what their careers were like. He can be reached at peesiengineering@aol.com.

1964

Robert Gray O'Connor (BS)

O'Connor retired as a manufacturing and project engineer after more than 50 years with Atlantic

Research Corp./Aerojet/ Rocketdyne manufacturing solid propellant rockets for our nation's defense. He lives in Woodbridge, Virginia and his email is bobcat@arkansas.net.

1984

Tom Quantrille (BS)

- Other degree: PhD, Virginia Tech Quantrille lives in Greer, South
- Carolina and is President and CEO of Advanced Composite Materials, LLC. He has been in this role since 2006 and with investor support is now majority shareholder of the company.

Michael Tran (BS)

Tran can be reached at michaeltran979_702@msn.com.

1990

Carol L. Wilson (BS) Other degrees: MS, PhD, psychology, Texas A&M University).

1996

Shannan Billings

- Other degree: MBA, Kennesaw State, Georgia
- Billings is the Global Sourcing Director of Raw Materials for Shaw Industries. Recently, The Manufacturing Institute awarded Billings with the Women in Manufacturing STEP (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Production) Ahead Award, honoring women who have demonstrated excellence and leadership in their careers and represent all levels of the manufacturing industry. She is among the 100 recipients to be recognized as honorees and 30 to be recognized as emerging leaders. Billings was selected for her leadership in supporting

the company's product category shifts through vendor negotiations and ongoing supplier relationship and for her demonstrated leadership within the company, including efforts to mentor others. This past April, The Manufacturing Institute recognized the 130 recipients of the STEP Ahead Awards at a reception in D.C.

2009

- Allison Chambliss (BS) Other degree: PhD, chemical engineering & biomolecular engineering, Johns Hopkins University, 2014
- Chambliss has started her faculty position at Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California and can be reached at allisonbchambliss@gmail.com.

2010

Eric Stonehill (BS) Stonehill now works with High West Distillery in Park

City, Utah, since 2013 as a production manager. He says he is putting to good use what he learned in separations class and asks people to give High West a try if you see it on your local liquor store shelf. He is also enjoying the skiing in Utah. Stonehill can be reached at e.stonehill@highwest.com.

2012

Christopher Progen (BS)

Other degree: BS, chemistry Chris can be reached at cprogen@vt.edu.

2013

Samavedi Satyavrata (PhD)

Satyavrata worked as a postdoctoral researcher from July 2013-June 2015 and then in August 2015 he accepted a faculty position at the Indian Institute of Technology in Hyderabad, India.

2015

Kenneth Shin

Shin can be reached at kwshin93@gmail.com.

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 2406

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David Cox Jane Price Lindsey Haugh David Simpkins Department Head Coordinator Designers



The department gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, corporations, foundations, and trusts for their support during 2016-17.

INDIVIDUALS

Deborah B. Crain and Allen L. Crain (L)

Robert H. Crewdson and Lois P. Crewdson (L)

Theresa E. Cutler

Eddie G. Dalton, Jr. and DeVonna D. Dalton

Richey M. Davis and Judith A. Davis

David M. Dean

Dennis M. Dickison and Nancy C. Dickison (L)

James T. DiPiazza and Lila DiPiazza

Basil C. Doumas and Ann S. Doumas (U)

Kenneth H. Dyke and Patricia M. Dyke

Gene A. Echols

Linda L. Farrell and Emmett L. Farrell

Ryan M. Fischer

Cullen J. Fleming

Edward A. Fliss

Estate of George N. Foster, PhD* and Joyce A. Foster, RN

John H. Frey, PhD and Beth A. Frey

Thomas R. Fuller, PE, PMP

Gerald C. Gasser

Glenn D. Giles and Patricia S. Giles

Gregory B. Glover and Nancy Glover

Angela M. Goodman and Scott Goodman

Sara D. Gregory and Michael W. Gregory, Esq.

Donald A. Grindstaff

Roger Q. Haight

Yvette V. Hake

Jean E. Hall

Robert S. Hall and Janice S. Hall

Thomas R. Hanley, PhD and Norma D. Hanley

John B. Hillenbrand, Jr. and Frances M. Hillenbrand

Douglas E. Hirt, PhD and Charlotte A. Hirt

Estate of Robert E. Hord, Jr.* (L)

Philip C. Hosimer

David A. Huffman and Cathy A. Huffman (L)

Robert T. Jacquet

Seth D. Jergenson

Wayne P. Jessee and Diane R. Jessee (L)

Daniel A. Kauff

Glen N. Klesat and Heather M. Klesat

Mark V. Klopp and Megan M. Klopp

James J. Knepper and Linda N. Knepper

Eric D. Kuchinski, PE and Sara J. Kuchinski

Lawrence J. Kyle and Carolyn J. Kyle (U)

Roger C. Lane and Tina S. Lane

Fred P. Lingamfelter and Elizabeth A. Lingamfelter

David R. Lohr and Diane L. Lohr (U)(L)

Robert C. Luckner, PhD and Catherine E. Luckner (U)

Paul F. Lumbye

Leslie A. Maloney and Stephen D. Maloney, PhD

Thomas F. Mason III and Dorothy C. Mason

Kyle M. Matika

Douglas M. Maynor and Constance Maynor

Rakesh H. Mehta and Swati Mehta James A. Miller, Jr. and Shelby J. Miller

Daniel S. Monhollen and Yuka Monhollen

Melissa D. Moreno

Robert C. Morrison and Beverly Morrison

Jennifer E. Mosser, PE

Kevin R. Norfleet

Rebecca H. Nutbrown and Thomas H. Nutbrown

Kirsten M. O'Brien

- Jenni B. Oliphant and Richard Oliphant
- Kathleen M. Palm, MD and Spass O. Stoiantschewsky

Eric G. Parr

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