Strategic Plans Call For Growth

The Purdue University Strategic Plans call for growth in faculty numbers and ABE is well positioned to participate.

Over the past year both the School of Agriculture and the Schools of Engineering have been developing strategic plans, which call for expanded participation in Discovery, Learning, and Engagement. The emphasis for both schools will be improved economic development. To accomplish this goal the plan calls for increasing both the size and diversity of the faculty by hiring as many as 300 new faculty members.

The new areas for investment will include nanotechnology, biological science, information systems, and management. Based on these plans Purdue ABE could grow by as many as six new faculty members in the coming five years. When considering pending or future retirements this number could grow to as many as ten faculty members.

The department growth strategy will be to maintain current strengths while expanding into the new strategic areas. The School of Agriculture has identified bio-based industries, food health and safety, environmental sustainability, and new crop production systems as priority areas. The Schools of Engineering have identified signature areas including nanotechnologies, renewable energy, advanced materials, global sustainable systems, information technologies, and tissue and cellular engineering. Many of the new positions in ABE will be joint positions between the schools of Agriculture and Engineering.

The department is currently preparing position announcements for several new faculty positions in biological engineering, food process engineering, machine systems, and environmental and spatial systems. The positions will be opened at all levels and will be available immediately. If you would like additional information please check out our web site as shown below.

http://purdue.edu/abe/positions.whtml

Purdue ABE Ranks Among the Best

Each year US News & World Report ranks the best graduate schools in the nation and publishes its Exclusive Rankings issue. We are proud to report that Purdue’s ABE graduate engineering programs were again ranked 2nd in the country by this report.

The Agricultural Engineering rankings are part of the specialty rankings based on nominations by educators and deans at peer institutions.

In order to have a top-ranked department, you must be among the best in many areas including academics, research, faculty, staff, and alumni. We are very proud of this honor and wish to thank you all for your help in making ABE the best we can be!
Letter from the Department Head

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Welcome to the spring edition of the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Newsletter. We have just completed another very busy but productive semester here at Purdue. The spring semester was particularly productive and fun because of the many alumni who were able to join us during the review of our Senior Capstone Projects, Spring Banquet and Gala week activities. I would like to thank all of the alumni who participated in these activities. Events such as these give students a sense of history and perspective on the opportunities in the “real world” once they graduate.

Some highlights of the week included the Outstanding Alumni activities, the Student- Alumni Banquet, and the ASAE Historic Marker Dedication. In addition the Class of 53 held a luncheon organized by classmate John Chenoweth from Illinois. The luncheon was held in ABE 106 and gave folks the opportunity to share experiences and memories of their days at Purdue. After 50 years there still seemed to be some controversy over who had the highest GPA at graduation in 1953, but this and other issues were shared and discussed as if the group had never left campus.

We were also very pleased to host two Distinguished Agricultural Alumni. They were Mr. William Carteaux (ASM B.S. ’84), President, and CEO of Van Dorn Demag Corporation and Dr. Evandro Montovani (ASM B.S. ’81, Ph.D. ’84) is a Senior Researcher for EMBRAPA a Brazilian Agricultural Conglomerate. This was the first time that the ABE Department had two Distinguished Alumni in the same year. They both gave very interesting seminars to our senior students and faculty. It was very interesting to hear of their successes in business and the industry. The theme of Bill Carteaux’s talk was the need to be flexible and open when applying the things that they learned at Purdue to other fields. Also he emphasized that what students learn at Purdue was just the beginning of what they would need to know to become successful in life. Dr. Montovani gave a seminar about Brazilian agriculture which was very timely considering the Maymester course, ASM 491K, Discovering Tropical Agriculture in Brazil which was offered from ABE this spring.

Our student numbers have been holding up with some fluctuation from year to year. We are always looking for more students to fill our ranks. Our total graduation numbers were 52 undergraduate and 17 graduate degrees this year. In our strategic plan we would like to see these numbers move closer to 75 undergraduates and 25 graduate students graduating each year. Despite the current economy the job placement of our students has remained strong. Students have accepted jobs with companies and organizations such as John Deere, General Mills, ADM, ConAgra, Hormel and Indiana DNR.

Based on the development of the strategic plans in the School of Agriculture and the Schools of Engineering, we have recently been given the green light to begin searching for several new faculty members. The new faculty members will be in the areas of biological engineering, food process engineering, machine systems, and environmental and spatial systems. We believe that with additional faculty and students in these areas we will be able to continue our record of excellence and leadership in Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you who have continued to support our Department programs during this past year. Your gifts make it possible for us to remain competitive and “among the best” programs in our field. As noted on the previous page Purdue ABE graduate programs have been ranked 2nd in the nation by US News. Alumni gifts make a huge difference in our ability to offer the quality of education and the access to higher education for our students. Over this past year we have give over $30,000 in Departmental scholarships to over 44 students in our programs. The number of endowed scholarships and the number and amount of individual and corporate gifts has been the best ever. Thank you again for your support.

Please feel free to drop in to see us if you are in the West Lafayette area. We will be happy to arrange a tour of the Department so that you can view first hand the improvements that have taken place over the past several years.

Go Boilers!

Our Mission:

“To prepare students, citizens, and industry for the future through innovative education and extension/outreach programs, and the discovery of knowledge.”
ABE Celebrates Distinguished Agricultural Alumni

Each year the School of Agriculture honors alumni who have made significant contributions to both their profession and to society. This year’s celebration took place on April 25, as part of Purdue's Gala Week. This year's ceremony marked a special honor for ABE: this year is the first time in the history of the Distinguished Agricultural Alumni (DAA) awards that we have had two recipients in the same year. ABE is proud to honor William R. Carteaux and Evandro C. Mantovani with the DAA award. Congratulations to you both!

William R. Carteaux received his degree in Agricultural Mechanization in 1984. After graduating from Purdue, William went to work for three other firms before finding his place at Autojectors, where he worked for seven years. He began as a Sales Manager, working his way up to General Manager, and Vice President. In 1994 William became President of Autojectors, a company specializing in vertical injection molding machinery for the automotive, appliance, office furniture, and medical industries.

After leaving Autojectors, William went to work for Van Dorn Demag, another company focusing on injection molding machinery and in 1999 earned his M.B.A. from Indiana Wesleyan. He began as the Vice President of Marketing and in 2002 became the President and CEO of the firm, as well as the Executive Managing Director of Demag Plastics Group.

In addition to his career responsibilities, William still has time to enjoy his favorite pastime: golf. Introduced to the sport by a friend, he is now an avid golfer.

Although he’s traveled around the world, Purdue still remains close to his heart. William often returns to speak to Purdue ABE students about the importance of lifelong learning and networking. His commitment to Purdue and his career earned him one of the 1998 ABE Outstanding Alumni awards. He says of his experiences with the faculty at Purdue, "My Purdue professors helped me realize my potential and instilled a lifelong commitment to learning, I received an excellent education…But I also learned to manage competing priorities and to stay focused."

Evandro C. Mantovani came to Purdue after earning his B.S. in Agronomy in 1974 from the Federal University of Viçosa in Brazil. He completed his M.S and Ph.D. degrees at Purdue in Agricultural Mechanization in 1981 and 1984, respectively. He has worked with many ABE faculty, including Gary Krutz, Harry Gibson, Mark Morgan, and Anton Sumali.

Before leaving Brazil for Purdue in 1975, Evandro took a position with EMBRAPA National Research Center for Corn and Sorghum in Brazil. He has continued working with EMBRAPA as a Senior Researcher, but has also participated in international visiting programs and served as a host at Viçosa.

In addition to his work with EMBRAPA, Evandro is also the Vice President of the Brazilian Society of Agricultural Engineers and is a Full Member of Italy’s Club of Bologna Committee, an international association of agriculture and agricultural mechanization experts. Evandro was also the Agricultural Commerce and Industry Secretary for Sete Lagoas, Brazil. In 1992 Evandro served as a technical consultant for a 15-member group of farmers, extension staff, and private companies who visited Purdue.

For his dedication to EMBRAPA and his contributions to agriculture, Evandro was presented with a 2002 ABE Outstanding Alumni award.

Evandro fondly recalls his time with Purdue, “I consider my years at Purdue one of the more profitable times of my life. The quality of the courses, the library, student assistance, and advisor’s attention gave me the structure to develop my personal life.”

To see more photos from the DAA ceremony, go to: http://purdue.edu/abe/
ABE Celebrates Exceptional Alumni & Friends

Purdue ABE honored seven individuals on April 24th as ABE Outstanding Alumni and Service Award recipients. ABE established these awards to recognize and honor alumni and friends of the department who have achieved significant professional, community, and social accomplishments in the areas involving agriculture, engineering, and technology.

Family and friends gathered on campus for the day-long celebration that started with a morning reception and luncheon at the Sagamore Room in the Union, followed by a poster session, roundtable discussion, and reception. The day’s festivities concluded with a student awards banquet and keynote speech by 2003 Distinguished Agricultural Alumnus, William C. Carteaux (AgMech B.S. ’84).

Joseph K. Boddiford, Jr. (AGEN B.S. ’73)

Joseph K. Boddiford, Jr. received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering at MIT before earning his M.S. in Agricultural Engineering from Purdue in 1973. After leaving Purdue, Joseph returned home to Georgia to work on the family farm. He started his own farm with 500 acres and has increased to his current 2000 acre farm. He began farming half and half, corn and soybeans, sometimes adding peanuts and wheat to his crops. During the 1990s, Joseph began growing cotton. He now farms 1000 acres of cotton, 700 acres of corn, and 300 of peanut acres.

Despite keeping busy with farming, Joseph still makes time to be active in his community. He is very active in the Farm Bureau and is now the Screven County President. From 1985 to 2000 Joseph was a member of the School Board and served on numerous committees within the Board. He is also active in his local church.

Professionally, Joseph has also remained active. In 1996 Joseph attended a Precision Agriculture conference and has since been cooperating with the Nationally Environmentally Sound Production Agricultural Laboratory to determine the benefits of aerial images for farmers. Joseph was elected to the Board of the Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Peanuts in 1999.

Joseph has two children, Joseph Knapp III, who is 8 and according to Joseph, “already a farmer,” and daughter, Lauren, who is 6.

Yael Edan (AGEN Ph.D. ’90)

Yael Edan attended Technion in Israel, earning her B.Sc. in Computer Engineering and her M.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering. She then came to Purdue to pursue a Ph.D. in Engineering. She has taken part in an extensive list of research projects, including teleoperation control, sensor selection procedures, robotic control of dynamic tasks, sensor fusion, and human-robot collaboration.

With this research, Yael has contributed a great deal to the field of agriculture. Some of her contributions consist of developments in agricultural robots, automatic control of poultry and cattle weighing systems, feeding systems for dairy cows, and multi-sensor quality sorting of agricultural products.

Yael has published over 120 articles and has written several book chapters, including an invited chapter on Food and Agriculture Robots for the 2nd edition of the Handbook of Industrial Robotics. She has also been involved in international conferences in robotics, and industrial and agricultural engineering. Additionally, Yael participates on several editorial boards, which include the International Journal of Industrial Engineering – Applications and Practices and the IIE Transactions of Operations Engineering. She was also the Associate Editor of Transactions of the ASAE.

Yael is currently the Chair of the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management at Ben-Gurion University, where she was formerly the Chair of the Paul Ivanier Center for Robotics and Production Management. Current research sponsors include the Israeli Ministry of Science, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Agriculture, and the US/Israel Bionational Agricultural Research and Development (BARD) program. She has constructed research projects in the USA and Japan and has served as a review in the European Union.
Mauri Fortes (AGEN Ph.D. ’78)

Mauri Fortes earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering (1973) and his M.S. in Nuclear Sciences and Techniques (1973) from the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. In 1975, he came to Purdue and received a Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering in 1978, after which he stayed at Purdue for a year as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow.

After leaving Purdue, Mauri returned to Brazil to accept a position at the Federal University of Minas Gerais as a Professor of Mechanical Engineering. In 1998, he became a Professor in the Food Engineering Department at the University Center of Belo Horizonte. Currently, Mauri is a Professor in the Department of Informatics and Quantitative Sciences and Economics, as well as the Dean of Graduate School and Research at the Centro Universitário de Ciências Gerenciais.

Mauri is also active in many professional activities. Since 1983, he has been in the position of Research 1-A at the National Council of Scientific and Technological Development. He is also a member of many editorial boards, including the International Journal of Thermal Sciences and the Brazilian Journal of Storage. Mauri has done consulting and project engineering work for ten organizations. In addition, he has published over 147 journal articles, conference proceedings, book chapters, and other publications.

Mauri has held memberships in many professional societies, including the Society of Rheology, the Brazilian Agricultural Engineering Society, and the ASAE, from which he received an ASAE Paper Award in 1982.

Levon L. Mathews (ASM B.S. ’81)

Levon L. Mathews graduated from Purdue University in 1981 with a degree in Agricultural Systems Management. After leaving Purdue, he went to Ohio to work for Thomas-McKinnon Securities, Inc., as a retail investment representative. Levon was with Thomas-McKinnon from 1981 to 1983. After leaving Thomas-McKinnon, Levon joined Lafayette National Bank, part of Union Planters Bank, as a management trainee. He later attended the University of Virginia Graduate School of Banking, completing the program in 1989. In 1995, he received his M.B.A. from Butler University and is currently pursuing the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst.

In addition to his impressive educational experience, Levon has also been very active in civic causes. He was Treasurer and Board Member of both the Lafayette Parks Foundation and the Public Schools Foundation of Tippecanoe County. He is currently involved with the Mid-South Minority Business Council and the United Way, as well as other groups within his Memphis, TN community.

While at Union Planters Bank, Levon became President, CEO, and Senior Lender and was responsible for all banking activities. In 2001, he became Regional President of the tri-state region, which includes AK, northern MS, and Memphis, TN.

Levon has been very involved in speaking to ABE classes relating to career development and the importance of flexibility in the professional world.

David W. Smith (AGEN B.S. ’67, M.S. ’69)

David W. Smith received his B.S. degree in Agricultural Engineering from Purdue in 1967. He then stayed at Purdue another two years to work under the late J. Bruce Liljedahl (faculty 1954-86) on a tractor stability project – receiving his M.S. degree in 1969.

After a stint in the U.S. Army, David went back to college and earned a Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering at the University of Illinois in 1974. He has been a longtime Deere and Company employee, working at the John Deere Tech Center in Moline, IL, since the fall of 1973. As a research engineer, he uses multibody dynamics (computer modeling and simulation) to help other John Deere engineers in the analysis of mechanisms and vehicle dynamics for existing and new product designs.

Over the years, David Smith has been a significant and continuing contributor to his profession, both in and beyond the workplace. He was a co-author with his former major professor, Bruce Liljedahl, for the 3rd and 4th editions of the textbook *Tractors and their Power Units*— used in countless senior ag engineering and graduate student courses across the country and throughout the world. And, he is a co-author of the current follow-up textbook, *Off-Road Vehicle Engineering Principles*.

David was elected three times to the ASAE Board of Directors/Trustees, and twice to the national Nominating Committee. He has also served twice as an ABET accreditation evaluator for ASAE, and on three USDA CSREES review teams – including the CSREES review of the Purdue ABE department programs in 2001. He is currently a member of our ABE Academic Advisory Committee, serving since 1999.

David has been recognized and honored for his talent and outstanding professional accomplishments. He received an ASAE Engineering Achievement Award – the 1982 F.E.I. Young Researcher Award. He was also elected a Fellow of ASAE in 1994.
William C. Werner (AGEN B.S. ’82)

William C. Werner earned his B.S. in Agricultural Engineering from Purdue University in 1982. He participated in the cooperative education program, working for the Sunstrand Corporation in both Rockford, IL and Ames, IA, as a Product Engineer. After finishing his B.S. at Purdue, William worked as a Project Engineer for Romec in Elyria, OH, where he was responsible for developing external gear pumps for jet engine lube and scavange pumps.

In 1987, William began working with Eaton Corporation, with whom he is still employed. He started as a Product Engineer, working for both the Eden Prairie, MN and Shawnee, OK locations. In 1999, William became the Plant Site Product Engineering Leader in Shawnee where his duties included developing product training materials for employees. Presently, he is an Applications Engineer at Eaton where he assists with product specifications for manufacturing and engineering, both at home and abroad.

William is also involved in many community activities at home in Shawnee. From 1989-2000, he worked with the Shawnee Junior Chamber of Commerce, where he held many offices and received awards, such as the Jaycee of the Year and the Fountain of Youth awards. William was also involved with the Greater Shawnee March of Dimes Walk America. He helped the March of Dimes raise over $200,000 in the past twelve years. William also participates in the ASAE, SAE, and the President’s Council of Purdue University.

In addition to being a strong personal supporter of Purdue ABE, through his association with Eaton, he has assisted with increased support for graduate student research in the area of fluid power.

David L. Daughtery

David L. Daughtery is a native of Warren, IN. He has over 30 years of experience with agricultural monitors, and ranks as one of the most experienced ag-electronics people in the industry – an expertise he has willingly shared with ABE department faculty and students on numerous occasions.

After graduating from high school, David attended the Indiana Institute of Technology in Ft. Wayne, then completed an AT&T program in 1963 which, at the time, was the equivalent of an associate degree in electronics engineering. This was a time when electronic sensors and monitors were being introduced and widely-applied to a whole host of agricultural equipment – tractors, combines, planters, sprayers, and so forth. Since 1968 David has been associated with the DICKEY-john Corporation, a leading manufacturer of ag monitors, as sales representative for Indiana and Kentucky. Since the early 1990s, Daughtery, Inc. has been at the forefront of the precision agriculture movement, as the four-state (IN-IL-OH-MI) sales representative for Ag Leader, the premier combine yield monitor used for site-specific crop management.

In 1977, David founded a separate company, AgriMotive Products, Inc., to manufacture and market electronic specialty products for the agricultural marketplace. This company introduced the first grain drill monitoring system in 1992, pioneered population monitoring in 1994, and, in 1998, was first to the marketplace with their Precision Information Center featuring Ultra High Rate Sensors for counting wheat and other small grains. In January 2003, companies, AgriMotive Products, Inc., and Daughtery, Inc., were consolidated into The Daughtery Companies, Inc.

For at least 25 years, David has contributed his time and talents to various educational programs of the ABE department – as an exhibitor at our producer-oriented educational field days; as a provider of monitoring equipment and instruction manuals for undergraduate classes and laboratories; as a guest speaker in the classroom and at student club meetings; and as an equipment and information source for faculty and graduate students alike. In addition, he has provided numerous students of our department with summer intern opportunities. He has also hired some of our graduates to work for his companies.

David has been a leader in various civic and community activities in Huntington and Wells counties, winning numerous awards and recognitions, and in local and regional politics. He has twice been named a “Sagamore of the Wabash” (by Indiana Governors Whitcomb and Orr), and the equivalent “Kentucky Colonel” designation by that state’s governor. He and his wife have three grown children.
On April 25, 2003, the ASAE honored the accomplishments of Purdue University in the field of agricultural engineering by dedicating a second ASAE Historical Landmark to the university. The plaque recognizes the contributions of USDA-SCS researchers Walter H. Wischmeier and Dwight D. Smith to the development of the Universal Soil Loss Equation.

The commemoration of this historic landmark took place as part of Gala Week festivities, including the ABE Outstanding Alumni & Service Awards (see page 4). This landmark was nominated by ABE Associate Professors Dennis C. Flanagan and Jane R. Frankenberger.

The Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE) is hailed as one of the most significant developments in soil and water conservation in the 20th century. It is an empirical technology that has been applied around the world to estimate soil erosion by raindrop impact and surface runoff. The development of the USLE was the culmination of decades of soil erosion experimentation conducted by university faculty and federal scientists across the United States.

Walter H. Wischmeier became an employee of the USDA-SCS in 1940 at the University of Missouri in Columbia, MO under the direction of Dwight Smith. From 1940-1953 he was a clerk in support of the SCS scientists (serving in WWII during part of this time), and in 1953 he received a B.S. degree in Statistical Theory from the University of Missouri.

When the SCS research branch was converted into the new Agricultural Research Service (ARS) in 1953, both Smith and Wischmeier became employees of ARS. The next year in 1954, the National Runoff and Soil Loss Data Center was created at Purdue University under the direction of Walt Wischmeier. The Center was to be the central location for the soil erosion data that had been collected across the U.S. since the 1930’s, and was to utilize this data in further development of erosion prediction equations. An important asset at Purdue University was its leadership in computing facilities, allowing for rapid analysis and summarization of the runoff and erosion data.

Throughout the period of USLE development, tremendous cooperative research efforts were conducted between the USDA-ARS scientists and Purdue faculty in the Departments of Agricultural Engineering and Agronomy. Many of the ARS employees were students or graduate students at Purdue, conducting research studies on erosion processes or factors that impacted the USLE work.

The USDAPurdue rainfall simulator, or “rainulator,” was developed by Don Meyer and Donald McCune in the late 1950’s as a tool to conduct experiments to supplement the USLE natural rainfall database. Jerry Mannering conducted an extensive 5-year erodibility experiment using the rainulator on 55 Corn Belt soils in the 1960’s. This study was critically important for development of the soil erodibility nomograph that made USLE very easy to apply to any soil.

The very successful accomplishments of the Center and the tremendous impact of the USLE helped in efforts in the 1970’s to gain Congressional support and funding for a physical research facility at Purdue. Congress funded construction of the National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory (NSERL) in 1977, and the building was completed in 1981. Today, the ARS NSERL scientists continue research studies into the processes of soil erosion by water and development of improved erosion prediction technologies.

For more photos from the USLE dedication ceremony, go to: http://purdue.edu/abe
Gerry Isaacs speaks to luncheon guests, clockwise from left: John Mentzer (AGEN B.S. ’53), Sam Parsons (AGEN B.S. ’61 and Professor Emeritus), Mike Irvin (School of Agriculture Development), David Horneys, Don Shoemaker, Carole Horneys, Alvin Rush, Dale and Donna Reed, Robert (AGEN B.S. ’53) and Laverne Lawrence, Nancy Wagner, and Phil Raney (AGEN B.S. ’53, Ph.D. ’59).

Bruce McKenzie
(AGEN B.S. ’50 and Professor Emeritus)

Sam Parsons speaking to the group, with John Mentzer to his left and Mazie Rush to his right

Gerry Isaacs (ABE Department Head, 1964-1981) laughs with the crowd
To see more photos from all Gala Week celebrations, go to: http://purdue.edu/abe
Presenting our Spring 2003 ABE department graduates

**ABE Graduates**

- Mark Bowers
- Brian Costigan
- Julie Creech
- Anthony Crowder
- Wynn Dermawan
- Melissa Durack
- Matthew Eckerle
- Suhand Faghihi
- Andrew Fife
- Kyle Folk
- Robert Gaffer
- Chad Gorell
- Matthew Hobbs
- Joshua Jones
- Kylen Kaiser
- Adam Lammers
- Scott Long
- Adam Sederlund
- Erik Shonk
- William Smith
- Amanda Stewart
- David Szabela
- Nathaniel Teeters
- Dustin Thurston
- Rylie Vance
- Jonathan Walden
- Jessie Wilder

Josh Archibald poses with his family before the ceremony

Professor Mike Ladisch visits with Riley Vance and his family at the graduation reception

Congratulations graduates!
Don Shoemaker and his family share stories with Professor Buddy Miles.

Rylie Vance and family.

Proud parents photograph their ABE graduates.

ASM Grads:

Joshua Archibald
Kyle Barlow
Joseph Brunton
Steven Bush
Ryan Cook
Austin Fleck
Jeffrey Grzymajlo
Michael Hawkins
Mark Humrickhouse
Geoffrey Jackson
Ryan McKinney
Joseph Miller

Brian Purkey
Donald Shoemaker
Mark Taulman
Michael Veld

Kyle Folk, Jon & Carrie Welden, Nathan Teeters with girlfriend Jen Vollmer ham it up before the ceremony.

Jessie Wilder with her mother at the reception.
Matt Eckerle

The ABE department would like to congratulate graduates this May from the School of Agriculture with degrees with honors in both Botany/Plant Pathology and Agricultural and Biological Engineering, with a Machine Systems Engineering option. In addition to his rigorous academic schedule, Matt makes time for extracurricular activities: he is President, two years running, of the Triathlon Club, a member of the Outing Club, Cycling Team, Ski Team, and Solar Car Team. After graduation, Matt is planning on earning M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Biomedical Engineering from the University of California - Berkeley.

Purdue awards the G.A. Ross Award to a graduating senior male who has a grade point average of at least 3.00 and who best exemplifies scholarship, leadership, service, and character. School deans, department heads, and staff in the Office of the Dean of Students nominate students for the award and a committee of students selects the winner. Matt is the third consecutive winner from the School of Agriculture.

Julie Creech

"My experiences with ABE have prepared me for a successful career in many ways. In my classes, I have learned some fundamental engineering principles that I have applied in two previous internships (General Mills in Minneapolis & Quaker Oats in Danville, IL) and plan to apply in my new job (with General Mills at their Chex plant in Cincinnati). The ABE department has taught me to work hard on my own and with friends to try to understand and apply the material. Then, when I have gone as far as I can, the professors are more than willing to help me over the hurdles.

I feel the small size of the department has helped me with my communication skills, which are necessary for success in life. I have had one-on-one interactions with professors in ABE on a regular basis, which is something that is rare in other departments. The professors and students in ABE promote well roundedness and support my interests outside of engineering, such as a minor in psychology. I feel this support is one of the main strengths of the department."

Leah Maxwell

"The greatest asset of the ABE department is the ability of all professors to use their industrial and research experiences in their teaching methods. This has provided an easy way to understand real world applications of engineering principles. Because of the varied backgrounds of course instructors as food process, machine systems, environmental, and biological engineers, ABE graduates are among the most diverse engineering graduates at Purdue.

The ABE department has the most personalized approach to engineering instruction among all of the disciplines at Purdue. Although this may be partly due to the smaller department size, I think it is mainly a function of the people in the department. If students are willing to take advantage of all the resources, success is made very easy.

My ABE education has taught me how to identify problems, develop numerous options to solve the problem, and then evaluate the options to choose the best one. My teamwork skills from the ABE curriculum have enabled me to recognize not only my own strengths and weaknesses but the strengths and weaknesses of others so that I can easily identify where I fit in best as a summer intern on a process engineering team."
Larry F. Huggins has been with Purdue since 1962 when he became an Instructor in our department and began his Ph.D. graduate studies under the tutelage of Professor Ed Monke (faculty 1958-92). Like Monke, Huggins is a native of Illinois (near Decatur), where he attended Illinois State University for two years, then completed his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Agricultural Engineering at the University of Illinois. Upon earning his Ph.D., he joined our faculty in a teaching and research position, working in what was then called the “soil and water” area of Ag Engineering. In 1973 he was promoted to full professor; in 1981 he became department head; and in 1994 he accepted his current position as Associate Dean for the Purdue Schools of Engineering.

The contributions of Larry Huggins to the Purdue ABE Department and Schools of Engineering, and to our profession, have been numerous and significant. As a young researcher he introduced the concept of distributed parameter modeling for the analysis and understanding of hydrologic phenomena associated with large-scale watersheds; and he developed nationally recognized techniques for real-time computer control of experiments and remote data acquisition systems. Larry has been joined on all of these activities by his wife Lola and their three children.

During his tenure as department head, an era characterized by faculty downsizing, Larry brought in outstanding replacements for retiring faculty, increased the size and quality of the graduate program, and improved undergraduate course offerings. He also presided over major upgrades to the department’s infrastructure, including instructional areas, office space, and research and computer facilities. In his current position, he oversees the Office of Academic Affairs for the Schools of Engineering, which has responsibility for several areas: Information Technology (IT), academic affairs, statewide engineering and engagement, Engineering Computer Network (ECN), dual careers, faculty fellowships, and promotion and tenure processes.

Larry’s leadership at the national level of ASAE has been exemplary, from his early involvement and contributions to the technical committee structure of ASAE, to his service as national ASAE President (1999-2000). In between, he helped “computerize” ASAE’s national headquarters operations at St. Joseph, MI (early 1980s), served as President of the ASAE Foundation (1991-93), and as national ASAE Treasurer (1994-98). He has been honored by ASAE with two National Paper Awards (1973 and 1981), and with election as an ASAE Fellow in 1985.

A registered professional engineer in both Indiana and Illinois, Huggins holds memberships in a number of other scientific and professional societies: American Society for Engineering Education, National Society of Professional Engineers, Indiana Academy of Science, and Soil Conservation Society of America.

Congratulations, Larry and Lola Huggins and thank you!
Scholarships and Awards

New Century Scholars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chad A. Cepeda</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>LaPorte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jocelyn T. Doreste-Gayman</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Boca Raton, FL</td>
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<td>Maria S. Foley</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
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<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
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<td>Reid A. Formo</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Granite Falls, MN</td>
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<td>Christine R. King</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Maineville, OH</td>
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<td>Jana A. Kochler</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Ames, IA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth G. Larson</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle E. Rajna</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
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<td>Bloomfield Hills, MI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelsea Q. Steele</td>
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<td>FPE</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diana C. Tjabon</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>San Pierre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher B. Forrell</td>
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<td>Highland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacuelina S. Velasco</td>
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<td>Indianapolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philip W. Wetzel</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usita Wijaya</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ABE Scholarships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brian M. Baumjan</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>Rochester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julian N. Bergman</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Batesville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma R. Buning</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Greensburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin T. Dougherty</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Needham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan A. Fleck</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>Vincennes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevor A. Goehring</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew A. Horn</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Rockport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara B. Leyman</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Elkhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leah B. Macwell</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Francesville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron W. Miller</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Coldwater, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luis A. Santini</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>Aikenos, PR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob R. Walker</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<td>Waterloo</td>
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Parker Hannifin Scholarship

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keith J. Harmeyer</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Batesville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg D. Swank</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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John Deere Ag Engineering Scholarship

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daniel R. Linhoop</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>Hartsville</td>
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</table>

Caterpillar Scholarship

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kevin E. Gillespie</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>Rensselaer</td>
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Kellogg’s Scholarship

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>City</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La Nia Lane</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>W. Lafayette</td>
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Eaton Scholarship

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Justin T. Dougherty</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<td>Needham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keith J. Harmeyer</td>
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<td>Batesville</td>
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Bridgestone/Firestone Scholarship

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lee A. Franklin</td>
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<td>ASM</td>
<td>Royal Center</td>
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Gary W. Krutz Scholarship

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John A. Trott</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Pleasant Plains, IL</td>
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John B. Greiner Scholarship

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cart A. Elpers</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Dale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Z. Gallien</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Bloomington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Indrawati</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenny L. Ketchmark</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Naperville, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicole A. Nelson</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Schererville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle E. Rajna</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Bloomfield Hills, MI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott W. Strickland</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>West Lafayette</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Matthew and Lesa Reynolds Scholarship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristen N. Mebling</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
</tr>
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</table>

2003 Outstanding ABE Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philip Wetzel</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Ley</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Tipton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan A. Fleck</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>Vincennes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald Shoemaker</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>Vincennes</td>
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Omicron Delta Kappa Century Circle Outstanding Sophomore Leadership Award

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cart A. Elpers</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Dale</td>
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Purdue Student Engineering Foundation Outstanding Senior Award

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leslie A. Kopko</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>FPE</td>
<td>Greenwood</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Schools of Engineering Magoon Award for Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Douglas K. Allen</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Red Oak, LA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas W. Vanlinaingham</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Milford</td>
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</table>

Celebration of Graduate Student Teaching Award

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael F. Thomas</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Brookston</td>
</tr>
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</table>

ACOS Frank C. Naughton Award

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>City</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Douglas K. Allen</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Red Oak, IL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations!

Thank you!

ABE students received over $30,000 in scholarships for the 2002-2003 academic year from industry, alumni, and friends of the ABE department.

Thank you for your continued support of our programs and our students.
Philip is a freshman in Agricultural and Biological Engineering who hails from Indianapolis, IN. This award is not the first he’s received from the ABE department; last semester Philip received a Scholarship of Excellence Award.

It’s not all school for Philip. He’s very interested in outdoor activities, such as fishing and shooting. He recently founded the Recreational Fishing Club of Purdue University, which will begin club activities in the fall semester and will be advised by Gary Krutz.

Philip has made a deep connection with the folks of ABE: “I’ve found ABE as the perfect major for myself. I have always been interested in mechanical engineering, but my passion was always for heavy machinery which of course is the machine systems engineering portion of ABE. I’ve found that every faculty member in the department that I’ve talked with to be a very nice and helpful person…”

Jason is a sophomore in Agricultural and Biological Engineering, pursuing a Machine Systems Engineering option. He is also the recipient of the Ray and Lillian Bower, Spencer, Engineering Dean, and Hoosier scholarships.

Jason is a member of the Delta Theta Sigma fraternity as well as a member of the ASAE, a club he feels will allow him to better understand the role of ABE in both engineering and other disciplines.

Mentoring is also very important to Jason. He feels it is important to encourage young people to study engineering, which can be a very discouraging field to many. Jason says of mentoring, “It is my goal to help inspire at least one young person the same way my high school calculus teacher inspired me to choose engineering at Purdue University.”

Nathan is a junior in Agricultural Systems Management. His other honors include membership in the Golden Key, Phi Theta Kappa International, and Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Societies. Nathan is also a member of the Alpha Zeta professional fraternity.

In addition to his academic life, Nathan is also very involved in extra-curricular groups. He is a member of the ASM Club, the ASAE, Habitat for Humanity, and is the Public Relations Chair for the Purdue Agriculture Council.

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Award-winning students

Kelsi Bracmort, a graduate student in ABE, was recently elected President of Alpha Epsilon. I spoke with her about her leadership experiences and how they have helped her become more successful, both academically and personally. This is what she had to say:

I have had an active leadership role as National President of the Alpha Epsilon Honor Society, PU ABE – Natural Resources representative, and as a leadership team member for the WIEP. As Alpha Epsilon president, my primary responsibilities are assembling fall and spring semester newsletters, helping local chapters with the induction process, and facilitating the annual meeting at the ASAE summer conference. I am sometimes called upon to represent the ABE Natural Resources division at various Purdue panel review sessions to discuss my scholastic experiences in the ABE department. As a leadership team member for the Women in Engineering Program, I assisted in providing fellowship, support, and guidance for female engineering graduate students.

The roles mentioned above require me to serve and lead others. To do this successfully requires organization, discipline, determination, and a thorough understanding of who I am, what I know, and what I can offer. Many of the qualities that have helped me to succeed as a leader have and are helping me to complete graduate school requirements. Graduate school can be extremely hectic and demanding at times. Organization is the key to making sure my tasks get accomplished as smoothly and as quickly as possible. When I am faced with a challenge, discipline and determination help me to do my best and overcome the obstacle.

The most challenging task I have had as a graduate student and a leader comes from my ongoing graduate school experience. The Natural Resources division of ABE has asked me numerous questions and given many suggestions on ways to accomplish scientific goals set in my thesis. I have learned the scientific method for solving a problem. This method is being applied to other areas of my life. I no longer accept everything I read, hear, or see. I make sure that I ask questions or defend my viewpoint if I disagree with someone.

Serving in a leadership role allows me to work on these qualities and many more. For me, there is a direct link between leading an organization and/or a group of peers and succeeding in life. The qualities needed to successfully run an organization have strengthened my ability to execute the duties bestowed upon me as a graduate student. I am certain the lessons learned by serving in leadership roles will help me to succeed in life. The greatest asset I will take with me as I begin my career is the ability to work with others. This is not a trivial task. I have encountered opinions different from mine and I have learned how to include others in my decision-making. Every person I come in contact with has something unique to offer and it is up to me to take that something and incorporate it where it is appropriate.

Alumni Contact Website Coming Soon

In the last issue of our newsletter, we featured the new website and mentioned a site dedicated to you, our alumni. With this site, you will be able to check on future events on a printable calendar and, more importantly, search for and contact lost friends and classmates.

This site is secure, so you will need to login with a username and password. We’ve set a default username and password for everyone. Your username will be the first initial of your first name and your last name (Joe Smith would be JSmith) and your password is the year you graduated from ABE. You will be able to change your password once you activate your account.

Look to our website for information about this site and its release date. Remember, you can only contact alumni who have activated their accounts, so it’s important to get as many alumni as possible to use this site.

For more information about the release date and other information about this site, go to: http://purdue.edu/abe

Left to right: Lily Hassan, Roxanne Mitchell, Dr. Bralts, and Kelsi Bracmort at the MANRRS (Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences) Conference in Atlanta, GA.
March 15, 2003 was a special day in LaPorte, IN. The Rumely Historic Day celebration took place on this day. The ASAE presented the town of LaPorte with a plaque commemorating the site of the Rumely Companies as an ASAE Historic Landmark.

The Rumely Company was started by Meinrad Rumely and his brother John, who emigrated to the U.S. from Germany. In 1853, Meinrad and John created the M&J Rumely Company which built sorghum presses, flourmills, and rice-harvesting machinery. In 1854 their first thresher was built, with the production of steam engines beginning in the 1860s.

The first tractors that were built by the Rumely Company were powered by steam engines, using horses to propel the machine. In 1872 the steam engine and broiler were mounted on wheels to make the tractor more easily moved by groups of horses. Ten years later the Rumely tractors were self-propelled. The Rumely development of the steam engine was a major breakthrough in agricultural mechanization for two main reasons: it caused a great reduction in energy expenditures by both humans and horses and it also lead to an increase in agricultural production.

In the early 1900s, Edward Rumely, Ph.D. (Meinrad’s grandson) recruited John Secor who became Chief Engineer of Rumely Company. John Secor had ten years experience in building stationary internal combustion engines prior to joining Rumely. In 1909 the first kerosene, dubbed “Kerosene Annie,” tractor was built and tested. Between 1910 and 1931 over 58,000 OilPull (kerosene) tractors were sold throughout the world. One of the most exciting characteristics of the OilPull tractor was that it used kerosene, an abundant byproduct of petroleum. At the time, kerosene was only 5¢ per gallon where gasoline was 25¢ per gallon. The substantial savings seen by using kerosene led to greater fuel economy in farming.

On October 2, 1911 a unique plowing demonstration was held at Purdue University. A special machine was created by connecting 3 OilPull tractors together to a specially-engineered 50-bottom plow to cut a 60 foot wide furrowed path. With this tractor trio a new record for plowing 14 acres per hour was set.

The ASAE recognizes the contributions of the Rumely Companies to the mechanization of agricultural production. These contributions are the reason for making the original site of the Rumely Companies an ASAE Historical Site. This landmark can be found at the intersection of Lincolnway and Madison Streets in downtown LaPorte, IN.

The RUMELY OILPULL TRACTOR
An Historic Landmark of Agricultural Engineering

The Rumely Companies, which operated in La Porte, Indiana, from 1853 to 1931, produced a variety of equipment including threshers and steam engines, which helped to change the nature of American and world agriculture.

The revolutionary OilPull Tractor, which was introduced in 1910, used a unique carburetion system developed by John Secor, the Company’s Chief Engineer. The OilPull tractor efficiently converted a low cost petroleum product to mechanical power, greatly reducing the need for animal and steam power on American farms.

Dr. Edward Rumely, grandson of founder Meinrad Rumely, continued the company’s emphasis on agricultural mechanization and forecast its dramatic impact on farm productivity and efficiency. Many Rumely engineering accomplishments were carried forward by the Allis-Chalmers Company after it acquired the Rumely Company in 1931.

DEDICATED BY THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS
2003
Sabbatical in France: Non-trivial endeavor

by Rabi Mohtar, Associate Professor, ABE

When I decided to take my sabbatical leave in France I did not assume I would be doing the same things I would normally be doing in West Lafayette. I knew it was going to be different, and I’ve yet fully to discover how much.

To begin with, I did not feel like a complete stranger to the culture of southern France. After all I am a native of Lebanon, a neighboring culture across the water. However, this feeling seems to be an oversimplification of my experience. Southern France is a beautiful mix of northern European heritage, Latin culture, French bureaucracy, and rich African flavors.

Living in Southern France is a lot like driving a remodeled 1940 Mercedes Benz with all of the accessories of its 2003 model. The cities of Southern France have all of the charm and inconvenience of the old and the new, along with its myths and functionality. Cities are old and city roads are older, they were built before modern traffic mechanisms and population explosion, and way before concept of city blocks invaded our cities. All of which makes maneuvering in the city more fun and frustrating more interesting and infuriating.

From a facilities perspective our cotton modeling group is currently housed in a chateau (building) which is several hundred years old. The building has huge rooms with high ceilings, which are warm, friendly, and classy, but they are a nightmare for networking and efficiency. My portable phone often refuses to operate behind the thick walls of our charming château office.

One of my most memorable experiences since arriving in Montpellier was moving into my château office. My new officemate is a senior scientist, who took a similar leave from his duties so we could work together on the new soil water model. Once we arrived we scavenged the château for authentic furniture from the caves and alleys of the main CIRAD building. Finally three months later, with a new phone and computer network installation we were official.

Yes things move slowly in here, but they move in a way which made me move at a slower pace, not only to enjoy what I do but also to emphasize my own creativity, work quality, and the quality of life in general. I believe that the pace we operate in is critical to our productivity as a whole; however, it has little to do with the quality of our creativeness and life. As a matter of fact, as the case with most things in life, creative ideas need gestation periods to ferment and mature.

I have passed the first six months of my sabbatical and I continue to discover new systems and value what it offers at all levels. One thing I can say is that I am glad I have more time to explore. I was very fortunate to meet wonderful friends and colleagues who made my convalescence due to my back injury more tolerable. After all is said and done, it is intense experiences such as this one that stay with us and help shape our future.

Recently, here in my chateau office neighboring the Lez, I experienced my first flood. While this was occurring I realized how important my interest in overland flow wave propagation really is. It was a special moment of beauty, fear, and helplessness towards the madness of nature.

This professional opportunity has taken me back where I started 20 years ago to the fundamentals of water flow in soils to looking at a new process based conceptual model using pedo-structural and swelling-shrinkage properties of soils. The fluid nature of the soil matrix of our new model has challenged my entire soil physics training. The team I am working with is competent, friendly, caring, and above all fun to work with.

I have enjoyed friendships with many people in town. I enjoy the diversity, openness, and growth opportunities these relationships offer. When packing for my trip, I did my music first. I enjoy oriental, African, Sufi, and other ethnic music from around the world. To my surprise, these selections are normal encounters on the local daily radio station.

The spring and summer in southern France are beautiful. Let me know if your travel plans brings you close the area. The mountains, the sea, the people, the cheese, and wine are plentiful.
**Class Notes**

**1940s**

Jack Ross, AGEN B.S. ’49, began working at Sunkist Growers after his retirement from the Navy. Jack has worked in 43 nations as an agribusiness consultant, most recently working in Ethiopia, Africa to help cooperatives sell their food crops.

L. Donald Meyer, Ph.D. ’64, co-developer of the USDA-Purdue rainfall simulator (the “rainulator”) in the late 1950s, returned to Purdue for the ASAE dedication ceremony during Gala Week.

Paul G. Sink, AGEN B.S. ’52 M.S. ’60, received the Distinguished Engineering Alumnus award in April of 1973. Let’s not forget these great alumni from the past.

John Chenoweth, AGEN B.S. ’53, comments on this year’s Gala Weekend celebration: “I feel so very good about the Gala Week experience and particularly so about our ABE gathering. I can selfishly say we are a great group…I continue to be thrilled with the experience with which I worked on for so long and which seemed to be over so quickly. Many thanked me for instigating this reunion…In fact, several are talking about doing it again in 2008.”

Dale D. Reed, AGEN B.S. ’53, came back to Purdue to participate in the Class of ’53 reunion festivities. He was accompanied by his wife, Donna.

Alvin P. Rush, AGEN B.S. ’53, has been quite busy since his retirement in 1991. Alvin has taken an interest in landscaping problems, as well as gathering Class of 1953 memorabilia, including clippings from The Elkhart Truth and other local newspapers.

**1950s**

Vernon Threlkeld, AGEN B.S. ’61, wrote to us to let us know that he “recently retired after over 40 years of service in municipal engineering in CA and WA, as both a consultant and government employee.” He and his wife Kay are relocating to Bend, OR to enjoy “hiking, biking, winter sports (and sunshine!).”

Harmon L. Towne, AGEN B.S. ’63, moved to Tellico Village, IN after his retirement. He recently received the Corbett Award from the Grain Elevator & Processing Society.

A. Keith Gilmore, AGEN B.S. ’69, is working at NRCS in Orleans, IN, as an Area Engineer.

David Moorman, ASM B.S. ’77, works as the Vice President of Sales & Marketing at Burlington Installation Corporation and recently co-authored a pending patent for a new K8500 hydrostatic PTO/High Flow system for use on the Case 570MXT and New Holland LV-80 tractors.

John K. Schueller, AGEN M.S. ’79, Ph.D. ’83, is currently a Professor at the University of Florida with joint appointments in the departments of Mechanical Engineering and Agricultural Engineering. His article about agricultural engineer and ABE alum L. Eugene Smith was recently featured in ASAE Resource.

Terry Siebenmorgan, AGEN Ph.D. ’82, received the Spitzt Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence at the University of Arkansas where he is a Professor. This award is presented to a faculty member who embodies greatness in all areas of academia: learning, discovery, engagement, and service.

Dr. Jay D. Harmon, AGEN B.S. ’84, was inducted into the Rural Builders Hall of Fame. Jay is an Associate Professor in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at Iowa State University.

Melinda M. Muscat, FPE B.S. ’85, came back to ABE to visit with Osvaldo Campanella. Melinda works with Campbell Soup Company

**1960s**

J. William Richardson, ASM B.S. ’94, recently left Charles Schwab to manage his family farm and their expanding vineyard. He hopes to open a commercial winery within the next few years.

Chad Kasprzak, AGEN B.S. ’95, M.S. ’96, moved to Jacksonville Beach, FL, where he is a Product Support Manager at Coastal Equipment Systems, Inc.

Dr. Danielle Bellmer, ABE Ph.D. ’96, Assistant Professor of Biosystems Engineering at Oklahoma State, and her research team have created quite a unique product…sliced peanut butter. These slices go on bread much like luncheon or cheese, but are made of peanut butter.

Brandon D. Kessler, AGEN B.S. ’97, works at AgExcel co-managing Operations, which includes consulting work in agricultural and environmental issues. He and his wife Leigh just built a new house in Shelby County where they raise corn, beans, and alfalfa.

Jeff Selner, ABE B.S. ’99, is currently working as a Regional Sales Manager for Friesen of Iowa.

**1970s**

**1980s**

Lori E. (Tuttle) Price, ABE B.S. ’00, and her husband Kevin recently gave birth to their first child, James Kaleb, on April 13, 2003.

Matthew R. Peter, ABE B.S. ’01, stopped in recently to see our own Gary Krutz. Matt is an Account Manager at the Parker Motion and Control Store at Parker Corporation.

Irene Naas, friend of ABE and President of the Brazilian Society of Agricultural Engineers (BSAE) and the Latin American Society of Agricultural Engineers flew in from Florida to show her support for ABE Outstanding Alumni award winner Mauri Fortes and DAA award winner Evandro Mantovani. Mauri and Evandro are also members of the BSAE.
All in the Family

Bob and Carol Stwalley have returned to Purdue Engineering. Carol (FPE B.S. ‘83, ABE Ph.D. ‘90) returned in 2000 as the Assistant Director of the Women In Engineering program.

More recently, Bob (AGEN B.S. ‘82) was named Director of the Cooperative Education program at Purdue. While an undergraduate with ABE, Bob participated in the co-op program, working for Caterpillar where he was later hired as a Senior Research Engineer for the Caterpillar Technical Center in Detroit, MI. Bob’s senior project for his bachelor’s degree was a study of seed geotropism and was aboard the 1983 Challenger space shuttle flight.

The Cooperative Education program provides students the opportunity to gain the hands-on work experience most employers require of their applicants. The co-op program shows students what it is like to be an engineer, something no amount of time in a classroom can teach.

Purdue Alumni ASAE Breakfast

Don’t forget to register for the Purdue Alumni ASAE Breakfast on Tuesday July 29th. To register contact Linda Miller at miller13@purdue.edu, or visit our website: http://purdue.edu/abe and click on ASAE Breakfast. We hope to see you all there!

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