2013 has been a banner year for Purdue Agricultural & Biological Engineering.

For the third consecutive year, our undergraduate program was named #1 by US News & World Report; for the fifth consecutive year, our graduate program was also named #1 by US News and World Report.

Several of our faculty members received recognition this year: Michael Ladisch was named a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors; David Umulis was inducted into the Purdue University Teaching Academy; Martin Okos was inducted into the Purdue Book of Great Teachers; Monika Ivantysynova and Marshall Porterfield were both recognized at the PRF 9th Annual Inventors Recognition Reception; Jane Frankenberger received the Purdue Cooperative Extension Specialists Association Mid-Career Award; Dennis Buckmaster received the David C. Pfendler Outstanding Counselor Award; Four ABE faculty members were named Entrepreneurial Leadership Academy Fellows—Joseph Irudayaraj, John Lumkes, Mark Morgan, and Jenna Rickus; Five ABE faculty were recognized for patents at the 8th Annual Inventors' Recognition Reception—Klein Ileleji, Monika Ivantysynova, Gary Krutz, Jenna Rickus, and Bernard Tao; Professor Indrajeet Chaubey was named head of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences; two of our alumni received recognition—the UNA University Center named the campus library for Professor Dr. Mauri Fortes and John Andruch III was the “New Face of Engineering 2013.”

Departmental Happenings

Our department had an accreditation review in October, following submission of the self-study in June. Final results have not been published, but preliminary reports indicate that the department’s degrees will receive full accreditation when the final report is issued in Summer, 2014.

In the spirit of continuous improvement, we invite you to submit comments and suggestions in the enclosed envelope. There is also an alumni survey at the website, or you can request a hard-copy version.

Professor Gary Krutz will be taking a partial retirement beginning at the close of the spring semester. He will not be on campus in the fall, but will return in the Spring of 2015 and 2016. In honor of his and Ray Lien’s involvement in the establishment of the Ag Mech (now ASM) degree, the ASABE Club and the ASM Club have established a scholarship (see reverse).

In an increasingly digital age, more information on all of these items, as well as up-to-date information on other happenings, can be found on the departmental website at www.purdue.edu/abe.

ABE welcomed three new faculty members in 2013: Kari Clase, joint appointment (Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Biotechnology Program); Constantina (Nadia) Gkritza (Associate Professor of Civil Engineering and ABE); and Meng Deng (Assistant Professor of ABE). For more information on these three outstanding additions, please see the departmental website (www.purdue.edu/abe).

Mark Your Calendars!

- Annual ABE Outstanding Alumni Awards and the Senior Capstone Event are scheduled for April 24, 2014. We are always looking for more feedback for our seniors.
- Professors Lumkes and Whittaker to speak at the President’s Council Mollenkopf/Keyes Weekend, Naples Florida, February 14-16, 2014

Outstanding Students for 2013:

Outstanding Seniors: HannahJoy Pheasant (AE); Eli Fred (ASM); Sean Kearney (BE)
Outstanding Juniors: Jordan Garrity (AE), Adam Sills (ASM); Jessica Wade (BE)
Outstanding Sophomores: Caroline Schier (AE), Joel Waterman (ASM); James Nolan (BE)
Outstanding Freshmen: Peyton Hite (ASM); Sarah Cox (Pre-ABE)
Outstanding MS: Barron Hewetson
Outstanding PhD: Cibin Raj

August 8 saw us welcoming our students back at the ADM Innovation Center, preceded by an industry contact session.
November 7 the College of Agriculture hosted an Entrepreneurial Day building on the success of the event hosted in ABE in 2012.
Greetings Boilermakers! Thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to read this letter. We are writing to request your support and assistance. The ASABE and ASM Clubs are initiating a campaign to establish a scholarship endowment honoring Professor Ray Lien and Professor Gary Krutz as a tribute to their legacy.

Over the years, many of you have benefited from Professors Lien’s and Krutz’s teaching, guidance, mentoring, and friendship. Our clubs have been searching for a way to honor and thank both for their impact on ASM (formerly Ag Mech) and ASABE. We could think of no greater gift than to establish a legacy endowment in their honor earmarked for students within Agricultural and Biological Engineering. This endowment will build upon the foundation they have established and make it attainable for students to benefit from the program in perpetuity.

The last link to Ray Lien’s history will soon be departing with Professor Krutz beginning a partial retirement. We feel the need to document Ray’s contribution and solidify his legacy for those coming after us. We also want to take the opportunity to show our appreciation to Professor Krutz for his 30+-year career helping mold the Ag Mech/ASM and ABE programs into what they are today. He has been the greatest advocate for ASM and ABE, and we see the impact of his efforts in your careers.

We have set a goal to raise $50,000 for the Ray Lien and Gary Krutz Legacy Scholarship. Your involvement in this effort is vital to the success of our campaign. No donation is too large or too small. Many companies will match their employee’s donation, which is an excellent way to double your donation and help us reach our goal. Gifts can be made as a lump-sum, or pledges are payable up to 5 years. Gifts are tax deductible, and qualify for a tax credit if you reside in Indiana.

On a special note - Please share with us a memory about Ray and/or Gary along with your gift. We are putting together a booklet that will be presented with the scholarship to students, so they know about these two great men. Thank you for your time and consideration of a gift honoring Professors Ray Lien and Gary Krutz.

We are coordinating with the College of Agriculture Development Office on this campaign. There is a gift form you can print and submit with your donation or if you prefer to give online you can – at the top, under online – click make a one-time gift, fill in information and note Ray Lien/Gary Krutz Legacy Scholarship. If you have questions, please contact Carol (Sikler) Weaver at (765) 494-1174/cmweaver@purdue.edu or Joel Hartman, Director of Development, at (765) 494-4785/jhartma@purdue.edu.

Boiler Up!!

Sincerely,

Austin Guckien, ASM Club President

Ian Hahus, ASABE Club President

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