

# Chemical Engineering Newsletter



– Watch the progress of the ChE addition construction in real time at <http://chmecam3.ecn.purdue.edu/view/view.shtml>  
Coverage of the groundbreaking begins on page 3.



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## HEAD'S GREETING



# Welcome,

Dear Chemical Engineering Alumni and Friends,

We have broken ground! The School of Chemical Engineering is beginning construction on the Addition. Soon, our students and faculty will have new classrooms, new instructional and research laboratories, and new spaces for team meetings and discussion groups. This is the first comprehensive facilities improvement for Chemical Engineering since the building was built more than 60 years ago. It will double the School's physical facilities. We couldn't be more pleased! To all alumni and friends, a heartfelt thank you!

On Saturday, September 28, the School held groundbreaking ceremonies attended by more than 250 alumni and friends. We honored all participants and announced plans to begin construction before the end of October. Martin Jischke, Purdue University President, and Linda Katehi, the John A. Edwardson Dean of Engineering, joined our celebration.

Many factors contribute to the School's successful capital construction and expansion project, including:

- Robert Forney and Marilyn Glenn Forney, both BSChE '47, as lead donors, contributed \$10 Million to the facilities project.
- The Capital Campaign Committee including Donald Orr, BSChE '61, committee chairman; Richard Grabham, BSChE '70; Philip Krug, BSChE '52; David Rea, BSChE '62; James Schorr, BSChE '54; Gerald Skidmore, BSChE '54; William Smith, BSChE '69; and William Wishlinski, BSChE '68, worked diligently and tirelessly for more than two years to ensure a successful capital campaign, ChE: Champions of Excellence.
- Alumni, friends, students and faculty provided the funds to build the Addition, gave of their time to review plans and offer suggestions to improve the design, and provided enthusiasm and encouragement for the dream all of us have of providing new and improved teaching and research facilities for future generations of chemical engineering students and faculty.

Now, we are building for the future. Exciting features of the Addition include new classrooms that are fully IT-equipped and will allow chemical engineering students and faculty to incorporate new technologies and interactive learning methods in ChE classes. Fundamentals and Advanced instructional laboratories

*(Continued on page 3)*

# ChE Groundbreaking Celebration

Chemical Engineering alumni, faculty, students and friends celebrated a commemorative groundbreaking celebration for the ChE Addition on September 28, 2002.



*G. V. Reklaitis, Robert C. & Marilyn G. Forney, and Martin C. Jischke*



*Student members of AICbE participate in the groundbreaking*

*(Continued from page 2)*

will offer opportunities for students to improve their physical intuition about chemical engineering phenomena as they improve their laboratory expertise. Research laboratories with state-of-the-art-facilities for faculty in emerging technology areas such as bioengineering and nanotechnology and in core chemical engineering technologies such as reaction engineering and catalysis will encourage leading-edge research. It is an exciting time for ChE students and faculty as they plan for the future.

As a result of the critically important financial assistance from our alumni and friends, the first phase of the expansion and renovation project is moving forward. As construction begins, our next step is to refurbish the existing CHME building and add scientific equipment and laboratory instrumentation to complete the creation of a chemical engineering learning environment that fully integrates the existing CHME building and the Addition. We are very pleased to report that we are halfway towards the goal of raising the \$5 million required for this second phase of the project.

We deeply appreciate the enthusiastic response we have received from alumni, friends, and corporate and foundation partners as we shared our message about the capital expansion project with you over the past two years. Everyone we spoke with expressed enthusiasm and encouragement. Thank you for your support. We are very pleased to recognize our chemical engineering alumni and friends as *ChE: Champions of Excellence*.

With warm regards,

G. V. Reklaitis  
Professor and Head

# Words of Wisdom from ChE Distinguished Engineering Alumni



## Robert H. Buckman

*(BS '59)*

*Chairman of the Executive Committee  
of the Board of Directors*

*Bulab Holdings Inc.*

"I have always been interested in building things. Absolutely enjoyed planning and construction from the time I was a little boy. Because I had the ability to visualize plans in three dimensions, I found myself interpreting blueprints for my father even at a very young age. Since we had a chemical business, I chose chemical engineering."

"The greatest influence on my success has been my faith in the goodness of people. People will do the most unusual things for you, if you just open up windows of opportunity for them and trust them. This faith in people allowed me to move from a strict top-down command and control structure and management style to a networked organization operating on a global basis. It was what our people did that made our success possible."



## Donald R. Dunner

*(BS '53, Purdue; JD '58, Georgetown)*

*Partner: Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner  
2000: Named one of the 100 most influential lawyers*

"Patents play a critical role in the progress and well being of the whole country, if not the world. The grant of a patent for the development of new ideas not only induces inventors to generate new and useful inventions, but also plays a critical role in the innovation process in which whole industries—such as those grounded in biochemistry and the computer—are built through the willingness of investors and industry to bring these inventions to the marketplace based on the exclusivity provided by the patent grant."

try to bring these inventions to the marketplace based on the exclusivity provided by the patent grant."



## Jay V. Ihlenfeld

*(BS '74, Purdue University; PhD '78, University of Wisconsin)*

*Executive Vice President*

*Sumitomo 3M Ltd. (Japan)*

"The greatest skill a leader has to have today is change management—understanding how to lead for continuous change to keep you aligned with the world around you. For two years, I chaired a group of general managers that focused on change management, methods, and techniques. We looked carefully at what customers expect and how we could meet those expectations. The biggest change I was involved in was

restructuring our business. We were organized around product, or material, areas. We reorganized around the key markets we serve, and since then, we have been able to achieve double-digit growth. And we have been able to get more ideas and opportunities than we can implement."

# 2001 Outstanding Chemical Engineering Award Winners



**Max Downham**

**Max Downham** ('58) is the executive director of the International College of Surgeons, an organization of 10,000 surgeons in more than 100 countries. After a six-year stint in the Navy he obtained an MBA from Wharton and began a 30-year industrial career with such firms as Nuclear-Chicago, G.D. Searle & Co. and Nutrasweet®.



**Brian Stutts**

**Brian Stutts** (PhD '83) is director, diesel technology and operations for Corning, Inc., where he has served from manufacturing and engineering division to project leadership. Recognized as a process engineering leader within Corning he has held several technology and project management positions in Corning Environmental Technologies. Since 1992 he has coordinated Corning's engineering recruiting activities at Purdue, and works closely with the Women in Engineering, Grand Prix and Freshman Engineering programs.



**Jeff Hemmer**

**Jeff Hemmer** ('80) is vice president, supply chain, for the Lyondell enterprise, which includes Lyondell Chemical Co. and Equistar Chemicals, LP. After beginning his career with Exxon Chemical in the polyethylene division in Baton Rouge, he joined Millennium Petrochemicals in 1996 as director of engineering and licensing in Cincinnati. He moved to Houston in 1997 to help lead the merger that created Equistar.

## Faculty Recognition



Professor  
W. Nicholas Delgass



Professor  
R. Neal Houze



Professor  
Joseph F. Pekny



Professor  
Nicholas A. Peppas

**Professor Delgass** was awarded the Shreve Prize, for Outstanding Teacher in Chemical Engineering.

**Professor Houze** received the 2001-02 Murphy Award, a university level Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award.

**Professor Peppas** received the Sigma Xi Award for Research. It is one of the two university-wide research awards from Purdue. The other is the McCoy Award, which he received last year.

Three other Purdue faculty members have received both awards (Professor Brown and Professor Low of Chemistry and Professor Overhauser of Physics). He also delivered the Plenary Lectures at the Particles 2002 Conference in Orlando and at the 4th World Meeting on Pharmaceutics, Biopharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Technology.

## Faculty Advancement

**Professor Pekny** was named the director of the e-Enterprise Center, one of four centers that comprise the university's new Discovery Park (along with the Birk Nanotechnology Center, Bindley Bioscience Center, and Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship).

**Professor Curtis** has been named Associate Dean of Engineering for Undergraduate Education. She is also Head of the Freshman Engineering department and a professor of chemical engineering. One of her goals is to bring more diversity to the Schools of Engineering. "One of my key first objectives is to improve recruitment, particularly women and minorities...to help improve the diversity of the freshman engineering class.



Professor  
Jennifer S. Curtis

## Kelly Lecturer

**Gerhard Ertl** is the Director at the Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, Berlin. He has co-edited and served on the editorial boards of several journals, is a member of several academies and societies including the German Academy of Sciences "Leopoldina," and is a foreign honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 1995, Dr. Ertl was appointed vice president of the German Science Foundation. Other awards and honors have included the Liebig Medal of the German Chemical Society in 1987; the Japan Prize of the Science

## 2002 NSF Career Awards

**Professors Corti and Hillhouse** are recipients of NSF Career Awards for 2002. The NSF CAREER program recognizes and supports the early career-development activities of those teacher-scholars who are most likely to become the academic leaders of the 21st century.

### Self-Assembling Microstructures



Professor  
David S. Corti

**Professor Corti** will use the NSF grant to harness complex theoretical and computational models that simulate how tiny particles in solutions arrange themselves onto surfaces, forming specific microstructures

that offer promise in the fabrication of electronic devices.

### Nanoelectronics



Professor  
Hugh W. Hillhouse

**Professor Hillhouse** will work toward developing a technique to produce nanowires, wires so thin that their diameter is smaller than the width of an electron's wavelength.

The availability of such wires could enable the development of solid-state refrigerators and air conditioners.

# New Faculty Members



Professor  
Michael T. Harris

**Professor Michael T. Harris** has joined the department as an associate professor. Mike, and his wife of 20 years, Terry, moved here from the department of Chemical Engineering and Institute for Physical Science and Technology at the University of Maryland. His degrees are from Mississippi State (BS) and the University of Tennessee (MS and PhD). His research interests include nanoparticle technology, biotemplates for synthesis of nanowires and nanotubes, micropatterning via organosol and hydrosol drops and bridges, protein crystallization, and surface science. The owner of 10 patents, he was also voted the AIChE Student Chapter – Outstanding Teacher of the Year – May 1999. He lists as his hobby “producing high quality noise on musical instruments.”



Professor  
Hugh W. Hillhouse

**Professor Hugh W. Hillhouse** has degrees in chemical engineering (BS) from Clemson, Washington (MS), and Massachusetts (PhD), along with a master's in physics (University Massachusetts). His research interests include colloidal and molecular self-assembly, nanostructured materials, thermoelectric phenomena, and facilitated ion transport. In 2001 he received an NSF International Research Fellowship, and in 2002 the NSF CAREER Award.

# New method speeds up discovery of materials

## Professors Caruthers, Delgass, Lauterbach, Thomson and Venkatasubramanian

These five ChE professors are working on a new method that promises to change how companies create materials – using artificial intelligence and a technique that simultaneously tests thousands of formulations – dramatically speeding up the discovery process.

“We have the capability of making a hundred times more catalysts and screening them in the same amount of time that researchers previously needed to study one catalyst,” Lauterbach said.

Central to the method are two types of artificial intelligence software: hybrid neural networks and genetic algorithms. The software mimics the thought processes of chemists who create new formulas for everything from rubber compounds to rocket fuels, and plastic materials to snack foods.

The research is being conducted through a new Center for Integrated Materials-To-Product Design, headed by Caruthers, which works with industry to speed the process of making products from newly discovered materials.

In research with one company, engineers using the method took about 30 minutes to find a new material that would have taken three months with conventional techniques, Caruthers said.

“As far as we can tell, this is the first and only center of its kind in the United States,” said Venkatasubramanian, associate director of the new center. “There is no other place in a university environment that is taking this kind of perspective, going all the way from molecular level modeling to final property design and then having a center dedicated to this.”

The center has received \$1.4 million in seed funding from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Technology Fund, administered by the state of Indiana. The research also is funded by the National Science Foundation and private industry.



Professor  
James M. Caruthers



Professor  
W. Nicholas Delgass



Professor  
Jochen Lauterbach



Professor  
Kendal T. Thomson



Professor  
Venkat  
Venkatasubramanian

# Three of Professor Albright's former students in the news



Professor  
Tse-Chuan Chou  
with Mrs. Chou

**Professor Tse-Chuan Chou** (PhD, '75) is the current Director of Engineering and Promotion Center, National Science Council, Republic of China. The chief investigator for the research project "Molecular Imprinting of Micro-Sensing Chips" involving 18 professors, he was former head of the Chemical Engineering department and then associate dean of engineering at National Cheng Kung University.



Professor  
James T. Cobb Jr.

**Professor James T. Cobb, Jr.** (PhD, '66) was named the Pennsylvania State Professional Engineer of the year 2001. He is Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering; Director, Energy Resources Program; and Co-Director for Service, Engineering Center for Environment and Energy.



Dr.  
Che-I Kao

**Dr. Che-I Kao** (MS '66, PhD '69), of Dow Chemical, received the Society of Plastics Engineers TPM&F 2002 Outstanding Achievement Award. He was honored for his important contributions to the plastics industry in the areas of polyolefins, polycarbonates, engineering thermo-plastic blends and emulsion polymers

In 1995 Dr. Kao was a recipient of the Distinguished Engineering Alumnus Award from Purdue University.

## "Gone but not forgotten..."

After almost 25 years of service to the department, Janet (Taylor) Jones retired as Information Processing Systems Operator V. A former student (and colleague) writes, "Janet always cared about the students. She always wanted to make sure they were taken care of whether it was for a meeting with a faculty member or having printing problems. Janet always cared about the people she took care of, the faculty and staff in her area. When we would let her know our schedule, she was excellent about reminding us of appointments and chasing us down if we were forgetful. Janet was always diligent about her responsibilities, whether it was the alumni database or ECN accounts or typing a paper." Janet and Bob are enjoying life on the Isle of Capri these days.



Janet Jones



# 10th annual Graduate Research Symposium

(August 2001)

## Posters:

**1st place** - J. Zach Hilt, "Microfabrication of Biomedical Polymers for Sensor Applications."

**2nd place** - Erika Hernandez, "Adsorption and Direct Probing of Fibrinogen and Sodium Myristate at the Air / Water Interface."

## Presentations:

**1st place** - Abhijit Namjoshi, "Modeling of Hybridoma Cells: The Cybernetic Approach to Multiplicity."

**2nd place** - Alvin Chen, "Science and Technology of Drop Formation: From Making Ultra Small Drops to Understanding Fluid Rupture."

**3rd place** - Paul Fanson, "Infrared Evidence for the Existence of Nitrate Species on Cu-ZSM5 During Isothermal Rate Oscillations in the Decomposition of N<sub>2</sub>O."

## Scholarship Winner NSBE



**Olukayode Ogundeyi**, sophomore, was named the winner of a Kimberly-Clark/National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) scholarship for academic excellence. Only six were awarded nationally.

## 2002 Senior Awards

AIChE Award ..... Todd Reese

Omega Chi Epsilon ..... Margaret Horton  
(Bruce Wilson Award)

Lottes Award ..... Theis Clarke

PSEF ..... Teresa Zakaria  
(Purdue Student Engineering Foundation Award)

## 2002 Junior Awards

Stephen Craig Award ..... Pat Stenger

George T. Tsao Award ..... Henry Santoso

## 2002 Graduate Awards

**Alvin Chen** (below left) was named the Outstanding ChE Graduate student by the Purdue Student Engineering Foundation.



**Mark Byrne** (above right) received the Silver medal of the Materials Research Society (Graduate Student Award)

which recognizes outstanding graduate research work. He also received the Chorafas Award (given by the Chorafas Foundation to the Best Graduate (Students of 11 universities around the country). The award is a prize for the best academic and research results. The Swiss-based Chorafas Foundation awards scientific prizes world-wide for outstanding work in the selected fields of engineering sciences, the humanities and social sciences, medicine, and the natural sciences.

**Aaron Foss** was featured in "Der Spiegel" in Germany for his protein work. no.35, August 27, 2001 issue. See p167 or [www.spiegel.de/spiegel/inhalt/0,1518,ausg-733,00.html](http://www.spiegel.de/spiegel/inhalt/0,1518,ausg-733,00.html), "Forscher entwickeln Insulin-Tablette für Diabetiker/Rettungstipps bei Hai-Attacken," translation: "Researchers develop insulin pill for diabetics."





# Alumni News 2002

## 1930's

**Ellis P. Owen** (BS '33, MS '35, PhD (MetE) '37), who retired in 1968 and is living in Oceanside, CA, writes that he's been a world traveler on "freighters, cruise ships, planes, trains, buses, ferries, limos. Married 4 times. At 91 health slightly impaired. Plan to live rest of my life as bachelor in these beautiful surroundings. Am a gourmet cook and still drive a '71 VW bought in Germany."

## 1940's

**Charles Dangelmajer** ('42) is the author of an article in Summer 2000 Chemical Heritage.

**Daniel D. Mast** ('43) who retired from Borden Inc. as trademark counsel, raises quarter horses. He writes that while at Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corporation he prepared patent applications for R. Games Slayter. He earned his JD in law from the University of Akron Law School.

**Dorr E. Tippens** ('45) is an investment advisor and sole proprietor of DNE-MFAS (DNE No Load Mutual Fund Advisory Service) in Gibson Island, MD. He writes that "first grandchild married: Misha Tippens Krushnic to Victoria Vantoch."

## 1950's

**James J. Blazek** ('52) who retired as VP Developmental Research for W.R. Grace & Co., Davison Chemical in 1994, has written many articles on fluid catalytic cracking, and holds several patents in the area. "Worked early for Atlantic Ref'g Co., Esso Std. Oil, U.S. Chem. Corps. and retired from Davison after 37 years service."

**Jonathan O. Brooks** ('52) also earned master's degrees at Indiana State University in Math'66, Physics'70, and Chemistry '77. He is the author of *Attributes of the Unified Field and Quantum Gravity*, a study which exemplifies chemical engineering at the atomic and cosmic levels.

**John L. Myers**, ('51) who retired from Union Carbide/KCAC, Inc. in 1993, was selected, along with wife Donna, as "Citizens of the Year-2000" for community service during the past 20 years in King City, CA. He is currently mayor of King City and on Mee Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees, and Board of Directors - Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District. At his retirement he was president of KCAC.

**Gary Poehlein** (BS '58, MS '63, PhD '66) is visiting professor and interim chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering at Lehigh.

## 1950's

**A.L. Reitemeier** (BS '56, MS '58) has published "The Little Blue Book of Management," a succinct, 'get to the point' primer designed for beginning and mid-level managers and first time supervisors. He distilled his more than 30 years of managerial experience into a guide book for the first-time manager or supervisor.

**Jack B. ReVelle** ('57) is a consulting statistician ("The Wizard of Odds") with ReVelle Solutions, LLC. He writes that "after completing three careers (USAF, academia, industry), I've begun a fourth career (Industrial Consulting-<ReVelleSolutions.com>). Had another book published recently: "Manufacturing Handbook of Best Practices-An Innovation, Productivity, and Quality Focus." He has authored seven books, co-authored five, edited two, and been a contributor on seven others.

**Paul Seib** (BS '58, MS '63, PhD '65) was honored by Kansas State University for outstanding contributions to research and graduate education.

**Glen A. Williams** ('53) is an attorney in Cuyahoga Falls, OH.

## 1960's

**John G. Leech** ('66) is a senior program manager for Versar Inc. in San Antonio.

**Craig McLaughlin** (BS'68, MS '70, PhD '72) is president & CEO of Scientific Design Company, Inc.

**James A. Shaevel** (BS '66, MS '67) is senior process research specialist for Dow Chemical/UCAR Emulsion Systems.

**Shaw F. Skillings** ('65) retired as vice president of global purchases after 36 years with Procter & Gamble.

## 1970's

**David DiBiasio** (BS '72, MS '77, PhD '80) shared the William H. Corcoran Award from ASEE for the best paper published in *Chemical Engineering Education*. He is an associate professor of chemical engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

**Matt C. Miller** ('74), who is with Dow Chemical in Freeport, Texas, writes that he and Vonda Hart were married in 2001.

**Barbara Roberts** ('78) is a project manager with WorldCom in Tulsa. She writes that she is "involved as a cuddler at St. Francis Hospital and ordained minister, June 2001."



# Alumni News 2002

## 1970's

**Rodney H. Sergent** ('73) is vice president at Chattem Chemicals in Chattanooga.

**Thomas L. Wood** ('70) is president of Valspar Sourcing and corporate vice president in Minneapolis. He writes that "in the last six years the company has more than tripled in size and globalized. We are currently focusing on the development and implementation of an integrated supply chain."

**Raymond E. Zbacnik** ('73) is a process engineer with Babcock & Wilcox Company in Barberton, OH. He's listed in the 19<sup>th</sup> edition of Marquis' "Who's Who in the World" (see [www.marquiswhoswho.net/zbacnik](http://www.marquiswhoswho.net/zbacnik)).

**Michael J. Graff** (MS '79) is president of BP Polymers with responsibility for BP's combined polyethylene and polypropylene businesses. Among his many memberships he serves on the Executive Committee of the Industrial Advisory Board for the School of Chemical Engineering.

**Rohit Khanna** ('79) is vice president, Strategic Business, for Waters Corp. in Milford, MA.

**Norman L. Koning** has been appointed manufacturing director for Safety and Security System division of 3M in St. Paul, MN.

## 1980's

**Andrew J. Ambrose** ('87) is maintenance superintendent for ONDEO Nalco in Ellwood City, PA.

**Kyle Costa** ('85, M'91) is product manager at Gerber Scientific in Muskogee, OK.

**Debra G. (Yanover) Davis** ('84) is director of marketing, Publication Papers, for Specialty Minerals, Inc. in Bethlehem, PA.

**William Pottratz** ('83) is supervisory safety engineer with the US Army Aviation and Missile Command. He received an MSE in industrial engineering from University of Arkansas in May 2001 and was elected treasurer of the System Safety Society in July.

**Barbara A. Ricca** ('80) is an environmental engineer with IBM in Tucson responsible for all chemical and environmental programs at IBM Tucson's development lab; and fire marshal responsible for fire prevention and protection. She is also president of Southern Arizona Environmental Management Society. Recently she received an MS in environmental systems management from National Technological University.

**Jeffrey Rondini** ('83) is president of Syskoplan Consulting in Waltham, MA.

## 1990's

**Eric E. Brooks** ('92) is a project engineer with Kraft Foods in Kendallville, IN. He manages capital projects for the largest marshmallow production facility in North America. He and Tracy had their first child ("Kyle") in April 2001.

**Karen Frederickson Burquest** ('96) is an engineering supervisor for 3M in St. Paul, MN.

**Thomas M. Chambers, Jr.** ('92) is senior process engineer with Novozymes North America in Franklinton, NC. He writes "I was married in Sept. 1997 and my wife and I welcomed the arrival of our son in October 2000."

**Ernest R. Davis** ('92) is senior process engineer-polyethylene with ExxonMobil in Saudi Arabia.

**Jennifer Brunner Dunn** ('99) is a graduate student at the University of Michigan. She writes that she and Chris Dunn were married May 27, 2001.

**Kenyon W. Gjerde** ('94) is working toward an MBA at the Tuck School at Dartmouth.

**John R. Judd II** ('96) is a process manager for Lafarge Corp. in Paulding, OH.

**Scott McNabb** ('99) is a semiconductor market engineer for Parker Hannifin Corp. in Austin.

**Zen Mogri** ('96) is a research engineer for Dupont in Old Hickory, TN.

**Marina Miletic** ('98) is a PhD candidate in chemical engineering at the University of Michigan.

**Michael Miltenberger** ('97) is a distributor business consultant for ExxonMobil in Fairfax, VA.

**Josh Nerenberg** ('99) is in Quality Assurance with J&F Steel in Middleton, Ohio.

**Jessica D. O'Rourke** ('97) is a production engineer for ExxonMobil Chemical in Houston.

**Elizabeth A. Russo** ('96) is a project manager for SEMAT-ECH in Austin, TX.

**Scott Seymour** ('95) works for Intel in Portland, OR.

**Scott Shelton** ('94) was promoted to director, Business Development for Cooper Industries.

**Majella Stevenson** ('90) is public works officer with the Naval Undersea Warfare Division Keyport (Washington). She was promoted to lieutenant commander, US Navy as of October 2001.

**Julie K. Dibert Suelzer** ('99) is a shift manager at International Paper in Pineville, LA.



# Alumni News 2002

## 1990's

**Robert Tampa** ('93) is a sales engineer (metal and plastic valves) for NIBCO, Inc. He writes that he and Sandi have settled in the Seattle area and are expecting their first child.

**Elizabeth Kay Thompson** ('99) is supply chain quality engineer with Ethicon in San Angelo, TX. She writes that she's working on the largest transfer in Ethicon history. She is president of the Ethicon San Angelo Toastmasters Chapter, and has earned the J & J Leadership Award.

**Debera D. Wells** ('90) is a senior business planning analyst for Frito Lay Inc. in Plano, TX.

**Cynthia (Kinsley) Zimmerman** ('91) is a senior design engineer with UOP in Des Plaines, IL.

## 2000's

**Elizabeth Davis** is in operations management with General Mills in Vallejo, CA. She writes that she's traveled through New Zealand and Egypt.

**Adam Lawson** is production supervisor for Cargill in Watkins Glen, NY. He writes that he's been accepted into the Syracuse University MBA program for 2002.

**Bryan P. Rose** is a production supervisor at Cargill in Fayetteville, NC.

**Alvaro Timotheo** writes that he is lead start-up engineer (with Babcock & Wilcox of Atlanta) for a one-year project in Brazil that includes a diversity of actions and functions.

## 2001's

**Brian R. Busse** is a process safety engineer at Air Products and Chemicals in Allentown, PA.

**Greg Lembcke** is a field engineer with Fluid Air, Inc. in Aurora, IL.

**Brock Ryan** is finishing building manager with GE Plastics in Washington, WV.

**Alicia Toscano** is studying for a PhD at the University of Massachusetts.

# In Memoriam



**Norman W. Pruitt** (BS '48) formed Nitro-pen, Ltd. in 1988 to fabricate modular chemical plants of his design after a very successful career in consulting as well as in upper management for companies such as Litwin Corporation and Puritan Bennett. Later, as consultant for the latter company he developed a process for nitrous oxide that was used by almost all plants in North America. In 1990 he was named an Outstanding Chemical Engineer.



**Dr. Harold W. Ritchey** (BS '34) was widely regarded as the "father of solid-propellant rocketry." At his retirement in 1977 he was chairman of the board of Thiokol Corporation, where he had served for 28 years. Prior to joining Thiokol he had been chief of the Nuclear Reactor Engineering Department at the General Electric Hanford Works in Richland, Washington. He received an honorary doctorate from Purdue in 1960 and was named a Purdue Outstanding Chemical Engineer in 1993.



# Alumni News 2002

## In Memoriam

### 1920's

John S. Bond ('26)

John T. Eash ('28)

### 1930's

Gabriel Baker ('34)

Howard S. Bowen ('38)

Paul E. Hamilton ('36)

Edward J. Keller ('31)

Daniel B. MacLaren ('30)

Raymond Moses ('38)

Henry F. Nolting ('38)

Rex W. Oyler ('39)

John K. Park ('33)

Philip P. Rector ('33)

Willia J. Resiner ('32, MS '33)

Emil M. Schafrik ('34)

William R. Smith ('37)

Fred Stretmater ('34)

### 1940's

Lloyd Berg ('42)

C. Daniel Bopp, Jr. ('44)

David M. Brenner ('48)

Howard B. Bryan ('49)

James O. Davis ('40, MS '41)

Floyd E. Demmon Jr. ('48)

Richard L. Fee, Jr. ('42)

Leo J. Haigerty ('44)

Paul B. Hessert ('45)

Albert L. Ludwig ('44)

Robert J. Rudebaugh ('45)

Charles L. Seely ('46)

Richard A. Spraker ('41)

Robert C. Thalheimer ('46)

### 1950's

John P. Chesick ('54)

Robert J. Greischar ('59)

Howard A. McLain ('56)

Thomas R. Sparks ('58)

Charles C. Todd ('59, MS '61)

### 1960's

Thomas H. Buller ('67)

Michael Musser ('61)

Wayne J. Svoboda ('66, MS '67)

### 1970's

Jerome J. Schmitz ('72)

### 1980's

Lawrence S. Schwartz ('86)



# Purdue Chemical Engineering Korean Alumni

From time to time we'd like to feature our far-flung alumni. This first installment was suggested by **Professor Ramkrishna** who writes, "When I was in Korea...I got together with all the Purdue alumni who were in academia and was surprised how many of them were in academia. I therefore requested a list of their names and affiliations for our next newsletter not only to mail the newsletter but also to announce their being in academia."

Since we can never be sure whether our list is complete or not, we look forward to hearing from those who may have been omitted from our list.

Name		Affiliation	Phone number	E-mail
First	Last			
Hong Hee	Lee	Seoul National University	2-880-7403	honghlee@snu.ac.kr
Hwayong	Kim	Seoul National University	2-880-7406	hwayongk@snu.ac.kr
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# 37 Year Career at Purdue!



Professor Kessler in his office.

**Professor David Kessler** retired following a 37-year career at Purdue. A native of Anderson, Indiana, he earned his BSChE at Purdue in 1956 and went to work for Dow Chemical Company at Midland, MI. He and Carolyn were married in 1957 (and have four children—Eric, Joel, Lisa and Beth). Two years later they moved to the University of Michigan where he completed graduate school (MS '59 and PhD '62). After working at Procter & Gamble, Dave started as an assistant professor in Chemical Engineering in 1964. He was promoted to associate professor in 1968 and to full professor in 1973. His research interests included transport in disperse media, biomedical models, stochastic models and numerical solution of nonlinear models. He is also a holder of several patents covering dialysis incorporating a portable hemodialyzer for use as an artificial kidney.

He taught a number of courses at Purdue with special interest in statistics and transport phenomena. He coauthored textbooks in both of these areas with Professor Bob Greenkorn. The two of them also developed a TV course in 1976 on Data Analysis (43 video sessions). Affectionately known as the “Bob & Dave Show,” ChE 525 was taught in this format on local television for five years as well as in the classroom, with the former proving to be every bit as effective as the traditional approach.

Dave was very service oriented. He was head, Division of Interdisciplinary Studies from 1982-2000 and acting head of Freshman Engineering from January to June 1992. From 1978-80 he was director of Academic Information Systems and from 1976-80, assistant provost. He chaired the University Senate in 1972-73 and was president of the Purdue chapter of Sigma Xi, 1979-80. As the head of IDE he developed new plans of study at the interface of engineering with genetics, international operations, inventive design, and the entertainment industry, to cite just a few areas. During this time he played an active role in chemical engineering as well. He served as the chair of the undergraduate committee while the curriculum was restructured.



Professors Kessler & Chao discussing ChE Groundbreaking

The author or co-author of more than 80 books, book chapters, research papers and conference papers, he has been for many years a member of the American Society of Engineering Education, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the American Association of University Professors, and the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution.

As an escape from the quantitative world of engineering, for about thirty years he has been active in Indiana and Illinois in alternative dispute resolution as well as expert witness testimony. This has taken the form of a variety of arbitration, mediation, and fact-finding activities, ranging from mediation/fact-finding in teacher contract negotiations to farm debt mediation, and, currently, to mediation of United States Postal Service employee disputes and Better Business Bureau arbitration of auto consumer/manufacturer conflicts.



Professor Wankat welcomed by Professor Kessler

Outside the classroom, Dave revealed a side of himself that extended from a love of music to “hustling a mean game of pool,” especially at student-faculty gatherings. The highlight of his sabbatical at the IU School of Medicine was becoming (inadvertently) “a blood brother to a baboon”! His droll humor spilled over to the classroom, though some non-alert students missed the subtleties. Although a decent golfer when he sets his mind to it, his lifelong passion prior to a recent hip replacement was tennis (some even say he was ruthless while playing with colleagues!). Currently, he is indulging his lifelong love of books, including adding to his extensive collection of volumes on aphorisms, epigrams, and quotations. Other hobbies include fly fishing, and handgun, trap and skeet shooting.

In light of his love of quotations, it is appropriate to conclude with a comment from his friend and colleague, Bob Greenkorn, recalling a favorite quote explaining why we define separate input and output terms in the entity balance rather than just using positive and negative input—it is simply traditional, as Tevye says in *Fiddler on the Roof*: “You may ask, how did this tradition start? I’ll tell you—I don’t know. But it is a tradition. Because of our traditions, everyone knows who he is and what God expects him to do.”

We wish him luck in these endeavors during his retirement.



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