

Biographical Narrative: Kevin Webb

I am a professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Purdue University. I was a visiting professor at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, while on sabbatical during 2006/2007, other than a short period as an Erskine Fellow at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. During calendar year 2003 I was a visiting professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I earned a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Urbana, in 1984. From 1984 through 1989 I was on the electrical engineering faculty at the University of Maryland, College Park, and since then I have been with Purdue University. I received the 1986 George Corcoran award for contributions to education, while on the faculty of the University of Maryland. I am a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and a Fellow of the Optical Society of America.

I grew up in Australia and came to the United States to pursue a Ph.D. My wife, Kaisa, is Swedish and she has a Ph.D. in biochemistry. We have two daughters, Anna (5 years) and Frida (2 years). We enjoy music, theater, and various outdoor activities such as hiking, all of which are now tailored for our daughters. I have been involved in karate for 36 years (now 4th dan, Renshi), and in 1990 I founded the Purdue Karate Club, for which I am the chief instructor. Other sporting accomplishments include a number of marathons (New York, Marine and Chicago), and the 300 km Vätternrundan, a continuous bicycle ride around the Vättern Lake in Sweden, in 2005-2009. This past August I climbed Mount Rainier. I also enjoy a number of other sports.