ISE students lead in the Auburn community

At Auburn, student leaders can be found in every discipline, but only a select few have the opportunity to take part in the university's governing body. Three students in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering are doing their part to make a difference at Auburn University.

**Brian Wilson**, a senior majoring in industrial engineering with a minor in business administration, has been elected treasurer of Auburn's Student Government Association (SGA). Wilson worked at NASA as part of the co-op program in the performance and capabilities office. He is a member of the Cupola Engineering Society, Campus Crusade for Christ, Omicron Delta Kappa, Order of Omega, Alpha Phi Mu and a social fraternity. Recipient of the Tracey, LouAnn and Jay O'Rourke Scholarship, Wilson hopes to pursue a career as a business consultant or financial analyst. He is from Birmingham, Ala.

Junior **Brian Krosgard** currently serves as the secretary of political affairs for the SGA. In this role, he is in charge of all campus elections, such as Miss Homecoming, Miss Auburn and SGA elections. He is also in charge of the directors of city and legislative relations. Krosgard first got involved in the SGA during his freshman year as the assistant director of city relations. He then was elected to the SGA Senate as a representative for the College of Engineering. Krosgard also currently serves as a member of Student Recruiters, ODK and a social fraternity and has worked as a Camp War Eagle Counselor. Krosgard is from Mobile, Ala.

**Katie Spinks** recently finished her term as the SGA's director of blood drives. A junior from Thomasville, Ala., Spinks also served as chairman of the Foy Union board, a university committee within the SGA. She has been involved with numerous other campus organizations, including Panhellenic Cabinet, Student Recruiters, Cater Society, Omicron Delta Kappa, Mortar Board, a social sorority, and of course, IIE and Alpha Phi Mu.

Two other students, **Stephen Tamburello**, junior; and **Charles (Chuck) Barrett**, sophomore, have recently been elected as president and vice president, respectively, of Auburn's Engineering Student Council. Tamburello is from Hoover, Ala., and Barrett is from Greenville, Ala.

The Samuel Ginn College of Engineering Student Council works to ensure that students have the opportunity to get involved, give back and have their concerns addressed within the college. The officers of the engineering council are members of the SGA Schools Council, which serves as an intermediate organization between the individual school councils and the SGA. Furthermore, these officers ensure that all requirements are met as defined by the SGA Code of Laws. The schools council provides the individual college councils the opportunity to inform the SGA about their initiatives, while developing new programs and projects that will further benefit the students. The Engineering Student Council is responsible for all the engineering student involvement in E-Day, held this year on February 23.
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

ISE students earn OSHA cards

This spring, 48 students registered in INSY 3020 (Occupational Safety and Ergonomics) had the opportunity to earn an OSHA General Industry Ten-Hour Training Card as part of the regular course. Jerry Davis, who co-teaches the course with Rob Thomas and Lewis Payton, said it was simply a matter of repackaging the material to satisfy the OSHA training requirements, maintaining appropriate documentation of attendance and topical coverage, and having an OSHA authorized trainer teach the course.

Receipt of this card and the associated training are substantial benefits to undergraduate engineers who are becoming more aware of how OSHA safety and health topics interact with the professional practice of industrial engineering.

The Deep South Center for Occupational Safety and Health funded Davis to attend a week long OSHA trainer course at Georgia Tech in 2004 to achieve OSHA authorized trainer status. The OSHA authorized trainer designation must be renewed by exam and course attendance every three years.

Congratulations to the following ISE students who earned the OSHA Cards:

Ard, Terrel Wayne  Moen, Kevin Thomas
Barrett, Charles Jeffrey  Morgan, Christopher A
Bunnell, Steven A  Neely, Elizabeth A
Burdg, Taylor  Norris, Timothy Patrick
Callaway, Madalyn L  Osborn, Michael David
Christakos, James G  Porter, Michael W
Conway, Keith O  Preston, Matthew T
Crocker, Adam Gordon  Pribonic, John D
Deihl, Brandon Michael  Ragole, Emily June
Easterwood, Bradley J  Renoewick, Celeste Devon
Erickson, Peter F  Robertson, Drew Austin
Glassford, Mark W  Sargent, Ross
Gregory, Sarah K  Scruggs, John P
Gulledge, Joseph Glen  Shaw, David W
Gutierrez, Daniel C  Smith, Christopher Ryan
Haack, Allison D  Summerhill, Brian L
Harkey, Brad Elliot  Switzer, Nicholas D
Hill, Thomas Luther  Thompson, Peter O
Kerr, Samuel Ross, IV  Todd, Marcus M
Lei, Ku-yuan Lionel  Walker, Kathleen E
Malone, Michael C  Wallet, Brett Joseph
Marks, Cynthia F  Wild, Ashley E
Mason, Sarah Elizabeth  Williams, Justin Lee
Meador, Robert L  Wilson, Brian T

Glassford named first Cook Leadership Scholar

Mark Glassford, a junior in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, has been named the first Tim Cook Leadership Scholar. The scholarship was founded by Auburn ISE alumnus Tim Cook, chief operating officer of Apple Computer. The scholarship recognizes industrial and systems engineering students with significant academic achievements, strong evidence of non-academic university involvement and leadership and strong evidence of community involvement and commitment. Glassford is originally from the Birmingham area.
“During my time at Auburn, I have gained many leadership qualities, including skills in planning, organization and communication,” Glassford says. “I have experienced and learned what it takes to be a leader in a real-world working environment.”

Glassford is co-op student who just finished his first rotation with Tubular Products in Birmingham. On campus, he is involved with the Auburn University Impact program and works primarily with the East Alabama Food Bank, where his duties include separating and organizing foods and other goods, cleaning and making food bundles for area families. He received the fall 2005 Outstanding Impact Member of the Semester Award.

“Academic success is merely the window leading into other areas, such as volunteering and community service,” Glassford says. “I have seen that a student’s time in college can be also used to enrich the lives of others. I know that these experiences and the experiences of those I am close to will continue to drive me to help others.”

**Students honored at spring awards**

ISE freshmen Michael Osborn and Drew Robertson were honored this spring by the College of Engineering. Both were named Pumphrey Outstanding Pre Engineering Students, an award given to students early in their major who maintain a 4.0 GPA, and were chosen for Pi Gamma Tau, the freshmen engineering honor society.

Junior Kathleen Walker was also recognized as a Fred and Mary Birdsong Student Abroad Scholarship winner. She will study Spanish in Costa Rica this summer.

**Frost named Outstanding ISE Student**

J. Randall Frost was selected as the 2007 Industrial and Systems Engineering Outstanding Student of the Year. Frost is a senior with an overall grade point average of 3.9 and is also working towards a business minor. He is from Mobile, Ala.

From May to July 2003, January to August 2004 and May to July 2005, Frost worked as manufacturing engineering co-op at Kaydon Custom Filtration Corporation of LaGrange, Ga. As a co-op he worked in the manufacturing engineering department; participated in large capital acquisition projects; led equipment acquisition and implementation projects; managed product development and testing projects; and worked in process improvement efforts.

When not co-oping, he has been an instructor and sales associate for Adventure Sports Scuba Inc. in Auburn. At Adventure Sports he holds a commissioned sales position; instructs university scuba classes, leads open-water dives, and organizes, sells and leads dive trips.

Frost’s honors include Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society, Alpha Pi Mu Industrial Engineering Honor Society, vice president of Golden Key, and National Society of Collegiate Scholars. He has received three scholarships: Alumni Scholar, a 4 year full tuition scholarship; National Material Handling Association scholarship, awarded to 30 graduate and undergraduate applicants nationally; and Association of Industrial and Textile Engineers scholarship, awarded each year to a candidate from one of six southeastern schools.
ISE sees record graduate enrollment

This January, 102 Industrial and Systems Engineering graduate students enrolled at Auburn University. This is the largest graduate enrollment the department has ever had. This includes 25 students in the Graduate Outreach Program and 77 on-campus students. Forty-four of the graduate students are pursuing a doctorate, while the rest are master’s degree students. About 40 percent of the graduate students are US citizens with the other primary countries represented being India, Turkey, South Korea, Taiwan and China. Twenty-four of the graduate students are female, eight are African American and one is Hispanic, making ISE one of the most diverse graduate programs in engineering. Robert Bulfin is the ISE graduate program director.

Graduate students named to top ten lists

After being selected as outstanding graduate students by the department, Ozge Sumer and Orhan Dengiz have been named one of the top ten master’s degree students and one of the top ten doctoral students at Auburn University, respectively, by the Graduate Student Council. Sumer, Dengiz and the other awardees were recognized at the Graduate Student Council picnic on April 4. Both are from Ankara, Turkey.

In December, Sumer received dual master’s degrees from Auburn University in industrial and systems engineering and business administration, with a concentration in supply chain management. Her master’s degree project was about distribution of containerized imports; her adviser was Kevin Gue, associate professor in ISE. Sumer already had a master’s degree in management from University of Florida and bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering.

Alpha Phi Mu inducts largest class into honor society

On April 20, the department inducted 20 students into Alpha Pi Mu, the national industrial engineering honor society. Rob Thomas serves as faculty advisor and senior Max Mitchell serves as president. Inducted were:

Seniors
Jaime Coppens
Frank Doman
Lynsey Gregory
Richard Ivey
Christopher Patterson
Chase Pelham
Tyler Preston
Alecia Sartori
Katie Spinks
Brian Wilson

Juniors
Andrew Dillon
Michael Osborn
Stephen TAMBURELLO
Mark Glassford

Graduate Students
Hakan Balci
Tami Blackwell
Younchol Cho
Veysel Dalkilic
Adam Piper
Gokhan Sarpkaya
Chang Song

Students from around the world enjoy pizza at an ISE Graduate Student Reception.

Rob Thomas with 2007 Alpha Phi Mu inductees at the Auburn University Chapel.
ing from Baskent University in Ankara, Turkey. Sumer is currently a doctoral student in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

Before she came to U.S., Sumer worked as a planning engineer in Turkey’s apparel industry. She was responsible for monitoring and maintaining the required amount of accessories and materials according to weekly updated production plans while involved in one-on-one relationships with suppliers and clients to solve problems. In summer 2005, Sumer worked as an intern on software quality assurance at McKesson Corporation in Alpharetta, Ga. While studying at Auburn, Sumer held research and teaching assistantship positions in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering and the College of Business. She has been a teaching assistant for Introduction to Statistical Quality Control and Data Based Decision Making Using Six Sigma, both for Victoria Jordan, visiting assistant professor in ISE. As a research assistant, Sumer has worked on the Society of Satellite Professionals International database project, NASA project Academy of Aerospace Quality and an interactive class web site project.

Sumer’s honors include Alpha Pi Mu industrial engineering honor society and 2006 Highland Industries fellowship. Sumer is a student member of Society of Women Engineers, Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals, Institute of Industrial Engineers and Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.

Dengiz received his bachelor's degree from Middle East Technical University (METU) in civil engineering in 2000. In August 2000, he joined Auburn University’s Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering as a graduate student. He received a master's degree in 2002 and has since been working towards completion of his doctorate. His dissertation topic is “Maximizing the connectivity and performance of wireless ad hoc networks using mobile agents,” where a system of remote controlled semi-intelligent agents are used to maintain connectivity and quality of communications between the users of a mobile wireless ad hoc network.

Dengiz has worked on inter-disciplinary projects that involved materials science, computer and machine vision, and industrial engineering. In 2004, he spent one month at the Machine Vision Laboratory, University of the West of England, Bristol, UK, a leading lab in machine vision research. He worked as an instructor for probability and statistics during summer 2005 at Auburn University.

Dengiz’s research involves application of computational techniques such as heuristic optimization algorithms and artificial intelligence tools in areas of manufacturing, system reliability design, automated vision systems, wireless telecommunication network design and automation problems.

While in Auburn, Dengiz had actively been involved with the Turkish Student Organization, of which he served as the vice president in 2001-2002 and as the president during 2002-2003. His honors include Alpha Pi Mu industrial engineering honor society, the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) Doctoral Colloquium attendance and 2006 Meriwether fellowship. Dengiz is a student member of INFORMS.

**DEPARTMENTAL NEWS**

**ISE remembers Jane Goff**

**Jane Goff**, office supervisor for industrial and systems engineering passed away from cancer in May. She first came to work at Auburn University in 1988, working for Foy Union as a building operations coordinator in reservations until May 2000 when she came to work in industrial and systems engineering, where she stayed until her retirement in December 2006. For
any one who ever met Jane personally, you know how much she is missed here in Dunstan Hall. Her enthusiasm was inspiring and motivating. With a joyful attitude and a heartfelt eagerness to help others, whether at the office, in her church or in the community, Jane definitely stood out from the crowd.

Jane, like many members of her family, always had that special Auburn Spirit. In 1994 Jane received the Spirit of Excellence Award and a year later, she received the Employee of the Year Award. Jane always had a strong commitment to quality customer service as well as being conscientious and trustworthy. Her value as a co-worker and friend to all was immeasurable. We are all better people because of her selfless deeds and contributions to the department.

"Every day when I got to the office, I would stop by to say hi to Jane. She was always upbeat and ready to greet me and Pogi and tell us about the grandkids or singing activities at the church that I had missed. I truly admired the organization and leadership she brought to the department and she was a real joy to work with. I miss her every day.”  J T. Black

"Ms. Jane and I had a little inside joke. A couple of years ago, I was heavily engaged in Xeroxing some documents and I didn’t notice Ms. Jane walk in behind me. To make a long story short, she snuck up on me with skills that a marine sniper would be envious of, and gently touched my shoulder. After pulling me off the ceiling, she smiled and said that she was sorry, though I could see a small mischievous snicker on her face. After having similar events occur on at least two more occasions, I informed Ms. Jane that I had developed a nickname for her: From that point on, I referred to her as ‘little deer that runs silently through the forest.’”  Jerry Davis

"Jane was one of the most helpful people I have known in my entire life!”  Saeed Maghsoodloo

"There is a line in a song that fit Jane perfectly. It says, ‘when it’s cold outside, show the world the warmth of your smile,’ and Jane did exactly that. I miss our morning conversations because we talked about how blessed we were rather than complaining. Everyone has had that friend that has a negative attitude and leaves you feeling down and everyone has had that friend that’s just joyfully contagious. Jane was absolutely contagious.”  Linda Pitchford

"Jane had a very dry sense of humor. Once we were in the copy room discussing how to get it cleaned up so we could find things easier. I asked her several questions about the purpose for certain items being in there in the place they were. I pointed to a stack of oversized paper, and asked ‘What’s this?’ Jane replied, ‘Lots of very large paper’. ‘As a new employee, I always had lots of questions about how things work at AU. Jane was always extremely helpful and supportive. I miss her terribly. She and I always laughed about how she wasn’t observant (like me) and we both knew we would be useless as crime witnesses.”  LuAnn Sims

“I always told Jane that if she left us, I would close down the department. Well, even though she is gone, we are still in business, but we miss her each and every day.”  Alice Smith

"Jane was an exemplary supervisor, a friend when I really needed one and a mother when I no longer had one. I can honestly say that I am a better person because of having her in my life.”  Barbara Swanson

"On the funny side… I often teased Jane about the necessity of getting out of her way in the morning in the parking lot beside Dominoes. She would zoom in in her white Honda civic, hop out of the car and setup a little two-wheeled luggage/grocery carrier…and ‘katie bar’ the door if you got in her way on her trek into Dunstan. You were dead meat if you did!”
“Also, realize that she was the de facto chaplain of the department. I guess one has to have been in combat to really appreciate the role that a chaplain plays when the battle is on and she certainly did that for our department for the years she was here. She was the chief chaplain of ISE and her example and sweet spirit had, and continues to have, a dramatic and lasting impact on all of us, students, staff and faculty.” Rob Thomas

Golf tournament benefits scholarship fund

The semi-annual Institute of Industrial Engineers golf tournament, benefitting the Carnahan Scholarship Fund, was held at Auburn Links in April. Five teams competed, with 19 ISE students, faculty and friends playing. The weather cooperated and the event raised money for a great cause.

Department has showing at AAMA quarterly meeting in Mobile

The Alabama Automotive Manufacturers Association (AAMA) was formed in 2001 to provide a forum for interaction among automotive companies in Alabama, to share information among its members and to provide an awareness of manufacturing trends, techniques and concerns. Representatives from the department participated in the quarterly meeting of AAMA in February 2007 to develop and enhance relationships with automobile manufacturers and suppliers in Alabama. With the growth of this industry in the state, there are many opportunities for research, student co-ops and internships, graduate student projects, professional employment for graduates, and scholarships through cooperative efforts between Auburn University and the companies in this industry.

ISE to host undergraduate researchers

Faculty members Jorge Valenzuela and Jerry Davis were awarded a three-year National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to host a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) site in automotive manufacturing systems. This REU focuses on automotive research related to manufacturing systems, such as operations management, computer simulation, occupational safety, ergonomic safety, quality control, scheduling, reliability and supply chain management. Starting this summer, ten undergraduate students from U.S. educational institutions will be selected every year to participate in the eight-week research program.
Professor J. T. Black holds the 10th edition of *DeGarmo’s Materials and Processes in Manufacturing*, by J. T. Black and Ronald A. Kohser, recently published by John Wiley and Sons. The first edition of the book was written in 1957 by E. Paul DeGarmo, professor at the University of California-Berkeley. That edition was titled “Materials and Processes in Manufacturing,” and it quickly became the best seller in the field.

DeGarmo wrote four more editions and then invited Kohser, a professor at the University of Missouri-Rolla, to help him with the materials chapters in the fifth edition. He then decided to retire and after a national search for a co-author, turned over the book to Black and Kohser for the sixth and all subsequent editions. The book has had success over the years, despite having had many different publishers, such as Macmillan, Prentice-Hall and Wiley, and being cloned by many other authors. DeGarmo passed away in 2000, and the authors changed the title, adding DeGarmo’s name to recognize his lasting contributions to the book.

**ALUMNI NEWS**

**Shivers named ISE alumnus of the year**

**Herbert Shivers**, a 1975 graduate of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering of Auburn University, is the deputy director of the Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate at NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. Shivers is responsible for the safety, reliability and quality assurance of the full range of Marshall Center programs, projects and institutional services in support of mission goals, including space shuttle, space station, space exploration and Marshall facility safety and quality activities.

From May to October 2006, following a three-month headquarters assignment to the NASA Administrator’s Exploration Safety Study team, Shivers served as assistant to the director of Marshall’s Engineering Directorate. He led teams responsible for strategic engineering management issues such as assignment of work and distribution of workforce to appropriate organizations within the directorate, information technology management and technical and personnel analysis and recommendations.

In October 2004, Shivers was named manager of the Engineering Programs and Systems Office, providing the center with engineering policy management and systems engineering functions on numerous projects, including Marshall’s Integrated Engineering Capabilities Project, the Technology Transfer Office and the Systems Engineering liaison with the NASA Chief Engineer. While in this position, Shivers was appointed by the NASA Chief Engineer to also be the NASA System Safety Engineering Technical Warrant Holder from March 2005 to July 2006, ensuring certain safety requirements on the space shuttle were met. Shivers served as deputy manager of the Engineering Systems Department from April 2003 to October 2004, assisting in overall management of the department. From July 2003 to March 2004, he helped establish and lead the restructuring of the Safety and Mission Assurance staff office into a directorate as its acting deputy.

From December 2000 to April 2003, Shivers was the deputy group lead in the Configuration and Data Management Group for the Engineering Systems Department. He led data management activities for the group, overseeing the establishment and review of policies and requirements implemented by Marshall’s programs and projects.

From October 1977 to July 1984, he was a TVA hazard control engineer in Chattanooga, Tenn., and in Muscle Shoals, performing industrial and systems safety engineering tasks, including health and industrial safety evaluations and serious accident investigations. Shivers was a civilian general engineer for the U.S. Army in Texarkana, Texas; Charlestown, Ind.; and Rock Island, Ill., from July 1975 to October 1977. He served in the National Guard from 1971 to 1977.

Shivers earned a bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering in 1975 from Auburn University. In 1976, he earned a master’s degree in industrial and safety engineering from Texas A&M University in Texarkana. Shivers earned a doctorate in industrial and systems engineering and engineering management in 1997 from the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Shivers has been honored with many awards during his NASA career, including the NASA Exceptional Service medal in 2003, recognizing significant, sustained performance characterized by unusual initiative or creativity. In 1993, he received a Marshall Center Director’s Commendation for his contributions as system safety engineer to the Spacelab Glovebox in the first United States Microgravity Laboratory mission. The Glovebox project enables astronauts to handle, transfer, and otherwise manipulate materials in the weightless environment of space. Shivers served as president of the Alabama Society of Professional engineers from 1992 to 1993 and was named the society’s Young Engineer of the Year in 1987, the Muscle Shoals chapter’s Engineer of the Year in 1988, the Alabama Professional Engineer of the Year in Government in 1989 and the Huntsville chapter’s Engineer of the Year in 1994. The System Safety Society named him manager of the year in 2004 at the group’s international conference. He is also a member of several systems and engineering professional societies.

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A native of Alexander City, Ala., Shivers and his wife Alisa live in Huntsville. Both are life members of the Auburn University Alumni Association.

**Forehand inspires ISE students**

**Joe Forehand ’71**, ISE alumnus and retired chairman of Accenture — one of the world’s leading consulting firms — visited campus in late fall and spoke to students about his career; its relation to the industrial and systems engineering discipline and the perspective he has gained from his professional achievements. Students got a chance to meet with him informally and personally at a reception.

Forehand joined Accenture (then Andersen Consulting) in 1972 in the Atlanta office and became a partner 10 years later. He served as Accenture’s CEO from November 1999 through August 2004, leading Accenture through a period of significant change and growth. In August 2000, Forehand orchestrated the successful conclusion of the company’s arbitration process with Andersen Worldwide. Shortly thereafter, the company changed its name to Accenture and undertook one of the largest global rebranding campaigns of its kind in record time.
In April 2004, Forehand stepped down as Accenture CEO, and in October 2006, joined the board of Aricent, the communications software company.

Forehand has received many honors for his visionary leadership. Among them are the Carl S. Sloane Award for Excellence in Management Consulting and the Morgan Stanley Leadership Award for Global Commerce, sponsored by the Computerworld honors program. He was also named as distinguished alumnus by the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering at Auburn University and was elected to the State of Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame.

Thank you for your support!

These IE/IM/ISE alumni, corporate supporters and friends listed below made contributions to the department in 2006.

**Major Endowed Gifts**
- Accenture Foundation
- Joe W. Forehand Jr. ’71

**Above $5000**
- Timothy Donald Cook ’82
- Corner Foundation
- Siemens
- Thomas D. Senkbeil ’71

**Gifts from $2000 to $5000**
- Brian Howard Hunt ’90
- Johnson & Johnson
- Milliken

**Gifts from $500 to $1999**
- Rafael E. Alfonso ’73
- Anheuser Busch Foundation
- James O’Neal Ballenger ’59
- William E. Biles ’60
- David E. Carnahan
- PPL Group Foundation Inc.
- Charles H. Goodman
- Patrick Higginbotham ’81
- Tim J. Kearns III ’66
- Leon F. McGinnis Jr. ’70
- Bruce R. Paton, Jr.
- PepsiCo Foundation
- David I. Rach ’69
- Roy A. and Patricia Richardson ’57
- Haskell H. Sumrall Jr. ’56
- John Michael Weigle ’68

**Gifts from $250 to $499**
- BellSouth
- Chattanooga Christian Community Foundation
- Ruskin Clegg Green ’91
- Kathryn R. Hoffman ’80
- Charles C. Huang ’74
- IBM Matching Grants Program
- Jeffrey Scott Smith ’86
- Jorge Valenzuela
- Josh Young ’04

**Gifts from $100 to $249**
- John W. Brodak
- Nancy Kay Denning ’84
- Ying-Hsin Andrew Liou ’84
- E. Graham McDonald ’63
- Douglas Edmond Dutton ’66
- Richard L. Joiner ’61
- Joseph S. Pitts ’70
- Andrew J. Powell Jr. ’61
- Peggy Yao Fang Teng ’88
- William Todd Vaught ’96

**Gifts Up to $100**
- Gerard Albert Davis ’96
- James C. Forman III ’66
- Keith F. Hornbuckle ’80
- Paul Andrew Jacobson ’94
- David Randel Jones ’91
- Kathy Cooper Jones ’90
- Steven James McDonough ’84
- John H. Reaves ’69
- Shannon Dulion Roh ’96
- LuAnn Sims
- Alice E. Smith
- Robert E. Thomas Jr.
- Billy F. West ’67

Joe Forehand speaks to students in the McMillan auditorium in Ross Hall
Saeed Maghsoodloo received many responses from the fall newsletter, which highlighted his career. The one below is typical of former student’s messages, and Rusty (Jim) Eubanks has kindly agreed that we share it with you.

Dear Dr. Maghsoodloo,

I received the Winter 2007 Newsletter today and noted the announcement of your retirement. I’m sure many former students like myself will be writing with their best wishes. I was in Auburn Industrial Engineering (both B.I.E. and M.S.I.E. programs) from 1969 to 1974 and enjoyed your recollections of that time and of Dr. Brooks, who was department head while I was there. I so well remember Dr. Hool, Dr. Smith, Dr. Miller, Dr. Webster, Dr. Layfield and Dr. Herring (who was my thesis advisor), and of course yourself. I had you for a number of statistics-related classes and I have to say that some of that information actually came in handy in my professional career.

After working for Kershaw Manufacturing in Montgomery, Vought Aerospace in Dallas, Motorola in Ft. Worth, National Semiconductor in Germany, and Culinet Software in Denver, I started my own software firm in 1983, then sold it and retired in 1989. The rigorous mathematical, statistical and operations research background I got at Auburn stood me in good stead throughout my career. Although I was never a practicing “Industrial Engineer” (whatever that is!), I became a well-regarded software systems designer which led to my success as a businessman. There were times when I considered returning to Auburn to become one of your colleagues, but the lure of the private sector and my own entrepreneurial leanings kept me from pursuing an academic career, although after I retired I did some teaching and courseware development for Microsoft.

I know it must give you great satisfaction to know that you played such an important part in so many students’ achievements. I can think of no higher calling than teaching, and I can still remember how passionate you were about it. Bless you for your many years of service (and many years to come, I’m sure). Thank you for the role you played in my life and career.

Please give my regards to any of your colleagues I have mentioned who are still around. I wish I could be there personally to shake your hand and wish you well. I hope you find retirement as satisfying as I have (I’ve mainly used it to raise two kids) and enjoy the accolades that are sure to come as you close out this portion of your life. If I ever return to campus there I’ll be sure to look you up. In the meantime, my very best wishes, and take care.

Regards,

Russell (Rusty) Eubanks ’71, ’74
Shelby Center integral to the future of Auburn Engineering

The construction of the new Sen. Richard C. and Dr. Annette N. Shelby Center for Engineering Technology is progressing steadily, with the completion of the first phase anticipated in fall 2007. The $108 million complex is the cornerstone of the college’s vision to become one of the top public engineering institutions in the country. The center will enable Auburn Engineering to recruit world class faculty, compete for the best and brightest students, and conduct innovative research.

Phase I will house the departments of Computer Science and Software Engineering and Industrial and Systems Engineering, with Phase II consisting of a new Mechanical Engineering Building and an Advanced Research Laboratory Building. The entire complex will boast modern classrooms, lecture halls and general and specialized laboratories to support a variety of disciplines. Students and faculty from every department will benefit from these technologically advanced facilities.

Sen. Richard Shelby’s efforts helped secure $65 million for the project. In addition to funding from revenue bonds and other university funds, the college is committed to raising $15 million in private support to ensure the completion of the complex.

The support of our alumni and friends for the Shelby Center for Engineering Technology will enable Auburn Engineering to create a progressive learning and research environment that keeps pace with the emerging disciplines of today’s engineering fields.

For more information on contributing to the Shelby Center for Engineering Technology, contact the Office of Engineering Development at 334.844.2736 or www.eng.auburn.edu/shelbycenter.