

Robertson named outstanding alumnus

Rodney L. Robertson was named Outstanding ECE Alumnus for 2004 at a ceremony on March 19 at the Auburn University Hotel and Dixon Conference Center. Larry Benefield, dean of the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, presented the award.

Robertson is the deputy director within the Space and Missile Defense Technical Center (SMDTC) — the research and development element of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC). He is responsible for managing day-to-day research, development, test and evaluation activities for the Army's space and missile defense technology program. He ensures that the command's efforts are balanced and integrated to support the Army, the Missile Defense Agency and the Program Executive Office for Air and Missile Defense.

Promoted as a member of the senior executive service in 2001, Robertson has more than 23 years of professional experience in science, engineering and management covering a broad spectrum of activities in advanced sensor technology, research, design and development. Robertson has managed numerous programs in the sensor technology area. He became the acting director, Sensors Directorate, in 1999. In 2001 he assumed additional duties as acting associate director of technology and deputy director of SMDTC.

Robertson's principal areas of expertise are the design, development, testing and evaluation of sensor systems (optics, radar and laser radar), sensor data collection, systems engineering, and signal and data processing. Current interests include the development of advanced technology to enhance the performance of existing space and missile defense systems and to meet the requirements of future systems.

As a member of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Industrial Advisory Board, Robertson generously volunteers his time and expertise in support of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. His service in this capacity provides valuable direction for the evolution and growth of this program.

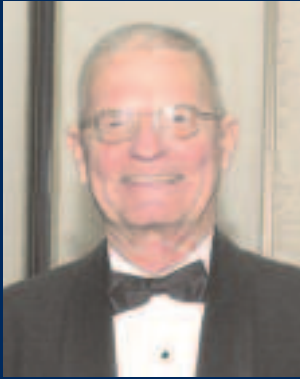
Rodney Robertson (left) receives the outstanding ECE alumnus award from Dean Larry Benefield at the April awards luncheon.



Robertson earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Auburn and master's and doctoral degrees in engineering from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He has received numerous awards and recognition during his career.

McCartney inducted into engineering hall of fame

Alumnus Forrest S. McCartney has been inducted into the class of 2004 State of Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame. McCartney, a retired lieutenant general in the Air Force, earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Alabama Polytechnic Institute, now Auburn University, in 1952. He went on to the Air Force Institute of Technology to earn a master's degree in nuclear engineering, and then he earned his place in aerospace history.



Forrest McCartney

McCartney's 35-year Air Force career culminated in 1986 in an assignment to NASA as director of Kennedy Space Center. Brought there by the loss of Space Shuttle Challenger, McCartney assumed the awesome responsibility of return-to-flight procedures. His work restoring manned space flight created such strong approval that aerospace elites asked for his continued involvement. He agreed, presiding over nearly 20 shuttle launches and landings — choreographing 20,000 workers and a \$1.3 billion annual budget — before retiring in December 1991. After consulting with industry in various capacities, in 1994 McCartney became the vice president for launch operations at Lockheed Martin Astronautics. In this position, he was responsible for the launch of Atlas and Titan space boosters from Florida and California. He retired from Lockheed Martin in 2001 and was again summoned by NASA, this time to serve on the Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel (ASAP) providing safety oversight of NASA. He served as ASAP's vice chairman until 2003. He is now on the Stafford-Covey Task Group overseeing NASA's efforts to return to flight from the Space Shuttle Columbia accident.

The duties entrusted to the retired general over the years demanded intellectual rigor, imagination and integrity. In him, all three were united with a gift for inspiring and organizing those who worked for him. Space exploration is a system of systems. Engineers master the intricate design, construction and operation of these specialized systems. Others — engineers and administrators — succeed in managing programmatic for the systems. McCartney is among those few taking personal responsibility for technical and programmatic development of each space program component — individually and in concert. It is a capability he gained in advancing Air Force assignments: from weapons program project officer to Air Force satellite controller; to program element monitor for space-related efforts at the Pentagon's space directorate; to director of range engineering, Eastern Test Range; to systems program director, Fleet Satellite Communications systems.

Reassigned to the Air Force Space Systems Division in 1974, he became deputy space communications systems, vice commander and commander of the Ballistic Missile Office (overseeing Minuteman, Peacekeeper, etc.), and then vice commander and commander of the Space Systems Division. McCartney's performances garnered three Distinguished Service Medals and two Legion of Merit Decorations. He received a Presidential Rank Award, reserved for a small circle of venerable government administrators, and belongs to the Air Force Missile and Space Pioneers Hall of Fame. Private-sector awards bestowed on him are also most prestigious: the National Geographic Society's General Thomas D. White Space Trophy, the National Space Club's Goddard Memorial Trophy and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics's von Braun Award for Excellence in Space Program Management.

A native of Fort Payne, McCartney graduated with distinction from his

collegiate ROTC program. In addition to earning engineering degrees, he graduated in 1967 from the Armed Forces Staff College and holds an honorary doctorate from the Florida Institute of Technology, where he served as a trustee.

The general and his wife, Ruth, reside in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla. They have two daughters and three granddaughters.

Nelson named outstanding faculty member by SGA

Victor Nelson was honored as outstanding graduate school faculty member by the Student Government Association at its banquet April 13.

A graduate of the University of Kentucky where he was an Academic All-American track athlete, Nelson earned his graduate degrees from Ohio State University.

Joining Auburn's ECE faculty in 1978, his contributions to the department have been invaluable. He has served as chairman of the ECE Digital Stem since 1979; chairs the ECE curriculum committee; serves on the executive committee; coordinates ECE SACS/ABET accreditation activities; is the ECE graduate program officer; and serves as assistant department head.

For the College of Engineering, he is a member of the curriculum committee, a member of the ABET EC-2000 Committee, and served as interim associate dean for assessment and the freshman computing initiative (1999-2000).

Other awards and honors include the Walker Merit Teaching Award (2002), Birdsong Merit Teaching Award (2000), Camp War Eagle faculty honoree (1995) and ASPE Regional Young Engineer of the Year (1984).

Nelson is a member of the Association for Computing Machinery, the American Society for Engineering Education, Eta Kappa Nu, Pi Mu Epsilon and a senior member of the IEEE Computer Society.

He has directed 32 master's theses, six doctoral dissertations, currently directs one master's student, and is a member of 16 graduate student advisory committees.

Nelson is the principle author of the textbook "Digital Logic Circuit Analysis and Design" as well as numerous chapters for textbooks, journal and conference papers, and magazine articles.

IEEE selected him to be an ABET program evaluator for 2002-2007.

Clanton earns place on *USA Today* team

Joshua Clanton, from Alexander City, received honorable mention on *USA Today's* 2004 All-USA College Academic Team out of 600 nominees nationwide.

As an undergraduate, Clanton was a research assistant with an AU software group developing computer programming for low gravity instrumentation. The group's work enables multiple measurements to be performed on individual cast metal samples in space, minimizing sample-



Victor Nelson



Joshua Clanton

to-sample variability and reducing the need for large numbers of samples.

"I was really honored to be considered and selected, and to be included with the caliber of students chosen, students who have done some very impressive things," said Clanton.

"Experiments in the low gravity environment of space will provide rigorous tests of theoretical concepts and help advance existing commercial casting methods," said Tony Overfelt, a member of the mechanical engineering faculty and director of AU's Solidification Design Center, a collaborative research program involving industry, academia and NASA.

The instrument package is scheduled for launch to the International Space Station. It will house 18 samples and will be controlled by Auburn scientists and engineers via teleoperation, or remote control.

"Josh's software has been described to experts in NASA and we are excited that his results may be made available to other research groups across the country for use in their own space research," said Overfelt. Clanton graduated summa cum laude in August and remains at AU to pursue a master's degree in electrical and computer engineering. He plans to pursue a career involving control systems and autonomous vehicles.

Students claim **Everitt Award**

Each year the ECE faculty selects two outstanding seniors to receive the International Engineering Consortium's William L. Everitt Award of Excellence. This year's awards went to Christopher Trueblood and Joshua Clanton.

A spring semester graduate, Trueblood captained the AU solar car team for two years, was a member of the Cupola Society, vice president of the



Christopher Trueblood (left) and Joshua Clanton receive the Everitt Award from Professor Victor Nelson at the summer reception for graduating seniors.

College of Engineering Student council, IEEE treasurer, and served on the Horizons Committee.

He is a member of the honor societies Eta Kappa Nu, Tau Beta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi, which named him Most Outstanding Male Sophomore Student. He is also an Eagle Scout.

Clanton, who graduated in August, was selected co-outstanding graduating senior for the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering. During his senior year, he was named to *USA Today's* 2004 All-USA College Academic Team.

He is a member of Eta Kappa Nu, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies.

Both Trueblood and Clanton have decided to pursue graduate degrees in electrical and computer engineering at Auburn.

Auburn alumnus honors sister through scholarship

Inspired by his sister, an ECE alumnus has established a scholarship in the AU College of Sciences and Mathematics to benefit students in that college.

Jesse Duane May of Huntsville, a 1985 electrical engineering graduate, created the Jayna May Gillespie Endowed Academic Scholarship through a gift of \$26,000. May said the scholarship honors his sister, a 1993 Auburn graduate who, despite being faced with medical ailments, has proven "resilient, optimistic and truly inspirational."

Diagnosed with an aortic aneurysm, Gillespie, also a Huntsville resident, has undergone five operations to finally correct the disorder.

May said he wanted to provide Gillespie with a gift to honor her love for life and her love for Auburn.

"We hope to bring some good, strong doctors to the medical field through the scholarship," Gillespie said, adding that she and her brother are very close.

May is president of Chandler/May, Inc., a company focusing on system integration and software development for Department of Defense applications, including programs that are being used by the U.S. Army in Iraq.

The first scholarship was awarded this fall. Recipients are known as Jayna May Gillespie Scholars.

IEEE names **Singh** outstanding contributor

Adit Singh, the James B. Davis Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is the recipient of the IEEE Computer Society's outstanding contribution certificate.

A certificate is awarded for an achievement of major value and significance to the Computer Society. Singh was recognized for his contributions to the IEEE Test Technology Technical Council, where he currently serves as first vice chair.

With nearly 100,000 members, the IEEE Computer Society is the world's leading organization of computer professionals. Founded in 1946, it is the largest of the 37 societies of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Singh, who is a fellow of the IEEE, is also a member of the Computer Society's technical activities board.



Adit Singh

Institute designates **Rao** highly cited researcher

Sadasiva M. Rao has been named “Highly Cited Researcher” by the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI), a database publishing company that provides comprehensive coverage of the world’s most important and influential research. The designation means that Rao is among a very exclusive group composing less than one half of one percent of all publishing researchers whose work is frequently cited by other researchers in their work.

Rao, who joined the AU ECE faculty in 1988, is a fellow of the IEEE. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Osmania University in Hyderabad, India, his master’s degree from Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, India and his doctoral degree from the University of Mississippi.

His expertise and research interests include acoustic and electromagnetic scattering, antenna analysis, numerical methods, EMC/EMI and radar cross section studies.

Auburn student studies China’s man-made marvels

Christopher Jon Poe of Opelika, a junior in electrical engineering, participated in the International Mission on Engineering in China in May. He joined 80 college and university students from the United States interested in engineering careers to compare and contrast education and career options and the methodologies utilized in the U.S. and China.

Poe lived on a boat on the Yangtze River during a three-day voyage to the Three Gorge Dam project. Participants also visited China Aeronautics University and hiked along the 2,000-year-old Great Wall while learning the history behind this man-made wonder.

“The exchange of western and eastern ideas makes the International Mission on Engineering so unique,” said John Hines, executive director of Envision Institute, the organization that sponsors the international missions. The mission provided the

chance to visit the sites of China’s great industrial efforts and to interact with the engineering masterminds behind them.

By focusing on education in which participants learn by doing, Envision Institute provides the skills and resources needed to succeed and gives its participants the opportunity to gain a tremendous head start on their career aspirations.

Poe, a co-op student with Neptune Technology Group, Inc. in Tallahassee, was invited on the mission trip through his membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars at Auburn.

He is an active member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Opelika and enjoys hiking, camping and building Adirondack furniture, which he sells locally.



ECE student Christopher Jon Poe at the Great Wall of China

Princeton names **Auburn** **alumnus** distinguished teacher

Vince Poor received the 2003 Distinguished Teacher of the School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS) Award at Princeton University, given in recognition of faculty dedication and success in teaching undergraduate students.

The class he teaches, "The Wireless Revolution: Telecommunications for the 21st Century," is described by sources at Princeton as one of the most popular courses on campus.

In recognition of his imaginative teaching applications, Poor received a National Science Foundation Director's Award for Distinguished Teaching Scholars in 2002. In 2001 he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

He joined Princeton's Department of Electrical Engineering faculty in 1990, leaving a post as professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Poor earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Auburn in 1972 and 1974, respectively, and his doctorate in electrical engineering and computer science from Princeton.



Vince Poor

A remotely operated vehicle was constructed by 16 senior design students in the wireless area. The rover uses the Broun Hall wireless Internet to provide two-way video and audio. Shown here with its student designers, it made its debut at E-Day 2004.

Senior design students construct Broun Hall rover

Inspired by the Mars rovers landed by NASA early in 2004, 16 students enrolled in a spring 2004 senior design course have collaborated to design and construct a remotely operated vehicle that can be driven in and around Broun Hall using the Internet.

The rover takes advantage of the recently installed wireless ethernet in the building to communicate video and audio to and from any computer logged into the engineering network. The driver can operate the rover remotely and can see and hear through a camera and microphone mounted on the rover. Simultaneously, anyone near the rover can see and hear the driver.

A preliminary version of the rover was rolled out for its first public demonstration on E-Day after only four weeks of work,



but the goal of the semester-long design is to develop a vehicle that can carry payloads of up to 100 pounds between rooms and offices in the building, serve as a mobile Internet videoconference platform and as a research tool for telerobotics. Future plans call for enhancing the device with appendages such as arms to lift equipment, fingers to push elevator buttons, and additional sensors.

The rover was built largely with salvaged parts and donated items. Students used their academic skills in areas such as pulse-width modulation for motor speed control, Internet protocol and microprocessor system design, as well as considerable extramural talents including welding, machine shop work and automotive electronics. To include human factor considerations in their design, the students collaborated with colleagues in the College of

Architecture, Design and Construction's Department of Industrial Design. They raised more than \$700 in donations from local technology companies, including HiLine Engineering LLC, Boles Engineering Inc., Auburn Electrical Construction Company, Inc., Shannon, Strobel & Weaver Constructors and Engineers, Inc. and CoachComm Inc. Additional support was provided by ECE and the Wireless Engineering Research and Education Center in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering.

The project is destined to continue long past the semester as future students continue the development. Reader involvement of any kind is welcome. Please contact Dr. Thad Roppel at troppel@eng.auburn.edu. A Web site for the project, including video footage, still photos, detailed technical descriptions, and student bios can be found by visiting www.eng.auburn.edu/~troppel and clicking on "Tiger Rover."

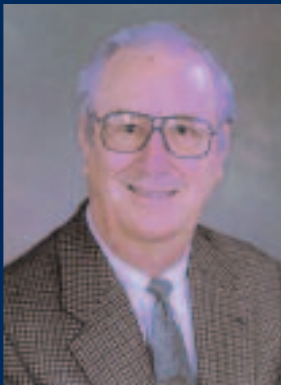


The ECE faculty selected Jackie Sims of Covington, La. as outstanding ECE student for 2004. Sims is shown receiving the award from Dean Larry Benefield at the awards luncheon in April.

IEEE names **Grigsby** outstanding educator

Each year, the Power Engineering Society of the IEEE presents an Outstanding Power Engineering Education Award to an outstanding electric power engineering educator. The award recognizes excellence in teaching, ability to inspire students, contributions to education, publication of textbooks and other writings, innovations in power engineering education, leadership, and service to the profession and power engineering education community. Professor Emeritus Leonard L. (Leo) Grigsby received the 2003 award.

Leonard Grigsby



Grigsby has taught electrical engineering at Texas Tech, Oklahoma State, Virginia Tech and Auburn. In 1990, he spent nine months at the University of Tokyo as the Tokyo Electric Power Company Endowed Chair of Electrical Engineering.

During his teaching career, Grigsby received 12 awards for teaching excellence. Among them are the William E. Wine Award for Teaching Excellence at Virginia Tech in 1980, the ASEE AT&T Award for Teaching Excellence in 1986, the 1988 Edison Electric Institute Power Engineering Educator Award, the 1990-91 Distinguished Graduate Lectureship at Auburn, the 1995 IEEE Region 3 Joseph M. Beidenbach Outstanding Engineering Educator Award and the 1996 College of Engineering Birdsong Superior Teaching Award at Auburn University.

He conducted research in a variety of projects related to the application of network and control theory to modeling, simulation, optimization and control of electric power systems. He has been the major advisor for 35 master's and 21 doctoral graduates. With his students and colleagues, he has published more than 120 technical papers and a textbook on *Introductory Network Theory*. Grigsby is editor of CRC Press's *Handbook of Electric Power Engineering*, published in 2001, and of a book series on electric power engineering. In 1993 he was inducted into the Electrical Engineering Academy at Texas Tech for distinguished contributions to electrical engineering.

Auburn's Charles Gross, Square-D Power Professor, was the 2001 recipient of the Outstanding Power Engineering Educator Award.

ECE faculty earn distinction of **IEEE fellow**

ECE professors Wayne Johnson and R. Mark Nelms have been named fellows of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

According to IEEE's Web site, the IEEE grade of fellow is conferred by the board of directors upon a person with an extraordinary record of accomplishments in any of the IEEE fields of interest and the total number of fellows selected in any one year does not exceed one-tenth of one percent of the total voting membership.

Johnson, who joined the Auburn faculty in 1987, was cited for his contributions to electronics that must operate in harsh environments. He earned his doctorate from Auburn after graduating from Vanderbilt University with bachelor's and master's degrees. During his time at Auburn he has established teaching and research laboratories for advanced packaging and electronics manufacturing and served as director of the NSF Center for Advanced Vehicle Electronics from 1999-2002. Now Samuel Ginn Distinguished Professor and director of the Information Technology Peak of Excellence, Johnson is responsible for coordinating collaborative research efforts among the NSF Center for Advanced Vehicle Electronics (CAVE); the Center for Innovations in Mobile, Pervasive, and Agile Computing (IMPACT); the Alabama Microelectronics Science and Technology Center (AMSTC); and the Wireless Engineering Research and Education Center (WEREC).

Nelms, who earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Auburn and a doctorate from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, was cited for technical leadership and contributions to applied power electronics. A member of the Auburn faculty since 1985, Nelms chairs the circuits and systems stem and serves in numerous other capacities in support of the department. In 2003 he served as technical coordinator for the 2003 South's BEST regional robotics competition and the 2003 Alabama's BEST state robotics competition. He was also involved with the 2002 Solar Decathlon in which Auburn's entry placed third nationally.

The addition of Johnson and Nelms to the IEEE fellow roll brings to 12 the number of Auburn ECE faculty who hold that rank — more than one-third of the ECE faculty.



R. Mark Nelms



Wayne Johnson

Alumnus Stewart makes contribution to department

James H. Stewart of Stewart Engineering, Inc. in Anniston recently presented a check for support of ECE and its programs to J. David Irwin, Earle C. Williams eminent scholar and head of the department.

“The support of alumni such as James Stewart is a vital part of our efforts to enhance the education of our students, and we appreciate that support tremendously,” said Irwin. “In an environment of dwindling resources, these funds help us maintain an outstanding program by allowing the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering to expand labs and support student projects.”

Stewart, a 1960 electrical engineering graduate, cooped with Alabama Power where he worked for 13 years before opening his consulting business in 1973. Among Stewart Engineering’s clients are 22 cities in Alabama that own their own utilities, six electrical cooperatives, Auburn University, Jacksonville State University and Tuskegee University.



J. H. Stewart Jr. of Stewart Engineering (left) presents a check to J. David Irwin, ECE department head.

Alumnus Robertson co-chairs SMD conference

Rodney Robertson co-chaired the seventh annual Space and Missile Defense Conference, “Missile Defense — Deployment and Beyond”, August 16-19 in Huntsville.

The conference included government and industry individuals with an intense interest in missile defense issues discussing the policy, technology and operational issues and implications of the Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS).

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was the featured speaker at the conference.

Space and missile defense conference co-chairs Jeff Schreppe (left) and Rodney Robertson (right) with the conference’s featured speaker, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.



The Space and Missile Defense Conference was sponsored by the Air Defense Artillery Association, the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association and the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Association.



A February reception honoring the newest ECE named professors was held in the Foy Student Union on the Auburn campus. From left: Mark Halpin, Alabama Power Distinguished Professor; Vishwani Agrawal, James J. Danaher Professor; Prathima Agrawal, Ginn Distinguished Professor and director of the Wireless Engineering Research and Education Center; Adit Singh, James B. Davis Professor; Jitendra Tugnait, James B. Davis and Alumni Professor.

ECE students earn nuclear scholarships

Three ECE students are among five Auburn students who have been awarded \$2,500 National Academy for Nuclear Training scholarships.

The recipients are Carl Kitchens, a sophomore from Decatur; Erin Griffin, a junior from Birmingham; and senior James Layton from Carrollton, Ga.

The goals of the National Academy's Educational Assistance Program are to support U.S. nuclear engineering education; to encourage students to consider careers in the nuclear power industry; to support students who would be likely candidates for employment in the industry after graduation; and to strengthen and unify the efforts of U.S. nuclear utilities to improve the performance and professionalism of nuclear plant personnel.



Les Simonton

Simonton takes weightlifting title at masters championship

Les Simonton '80, '84 finished first in his age group in the 94 kg. weight class at the 2004 National Masters Weightlifting Championship held April 2-4 in Savannah, Ga.

Masters Weightlifting is the Olympic sport of weightlifting for persons 35 years old or older. Weightlifting consists of two events, the snatch and the clean and jerk.

Simonton is an Engineer III in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and is responsible for the computer network and resources for the department.

In addition to his participation as an athlete, Simonton teaches the sport of weightlifting locally, is a Category 2 international weightlifting referee and a member of the USA Weightlifting technical committee.

R. Mark Nelms and Adit Singh received Walker Merit Teaching awards at the April awards luncheon. Nelms is shown receiving the award from Dean Larry



Faculty news

John Hung, along with graduate student Nat Albritton '93, '96 and former student Fan Xia '95, was awarded second place in the 2003 Technical Paper Competition, Alabama Section of IEEE. The paper, "Nonlinear control of a magnetic bearing system," appears in the July 2003 issue of the journal *Mechatronics*.

Dick Jaeger began a two-year term as vice president of the IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society, at the end of which he will assume the presidency. The Solid-State Circuits Society is interested in all aspects of solid-state circuits: the design, testing and application of circuits and sub-systems, as well as closely related topics in device technology and circuit theory. They also focus on scientific, technical and industrial applications, in addition to other activities that contribute to the field, or utilize the techniques or products of the field, as the art develops.

Bogdan Wilamowski has been named president of the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society. Director of the Alabama Microelectronics Science and Technology Center, Wilamowski is the author of four textbooks, more than 250 refereed publications, and holds 27 patents. His main areas of interest include solid-state electronics, mixed signal and analog signal processing, CAD development, VLSI design, network programming, computational intelligence and soft computing. The Industrial Electronics Society encompasses a range of technical activities devoted to the application of electronics and electrical sciences for the enhancement of industrial and manufacturing processes. These technical activities address the latest developments in intelligent and computer control systems, robotics, factory communications and automation, flexible manufacturing, data acquisition and signal processing, vision systems and power electronics.

Charles Gross was an invited lecturer on the subject of symmetrical components at the IEEE-PES Transmission and Distribution Conference in Dallas in September 2003.

Victor Nelson has been elected secretary/treasurer for the electrical and computer engineering section of the American Society of Engineering Educators (ASEE). It represents a three-year commitment with the second year spent as program chair and third as president. Founded in 1893, the ASEE is a nonprofit organization of individuals and institutions committed to furthering education in engineering and engineering technology.

The Wireless Engineering Research and Education Center (WEREC) at Auburn is participating in a \$1.1 million collaborative research grant from the National Science Foundation's Information Technology Research (ITR) program to develop new methods for testing radio frequency integrated circuits. Auburn researchers, led by ECE professor Adit Singh, will work with Georgia Tech, the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Florida to develop cost-effective test strategies to test circuits operating at frequencies beyond 10 Gigahertz.

Hulya Kirkici served as conference chair of the 2004 IEEE Power Modulator Conference held in San Francisco May 23-26. The Power Modulator Conference is the longest-running conference in the field of repetitive pulsed power. Kirkici has also been awarded a research contract from the U.S. Department of Education to conduct research in international collaboration in postgraduate education.

In memory

Memorial services for Dr. Sidney Neal James of Auburn were held Friday, August 13, 2004 at Founder's Chapel in Auburn.

Born June 21, 1938 in Amory, Miss., James earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Alabama. He was a member of the Auburn University engineering faculty for 35 years. During his career at Auburn, he was chairman of the College of Engineering Scholarship Committee and, for more than 18 years, served as chairman of the University Graduation Committee. In that capacity, James served as the faculty marshal in 78 consecutive Auburn University graduation ceremonies.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine B. James of Auburn; two daughters, Dr. Jeanne James of New Orleans, La. and Joelle Phillips (Brant) of Nashville, Tenn; one brother, J.D. James of Orwigsburg, Pa; and one granddaughter, Catherine.

Memorial services for Bhuwan Singh, a 1998 Auburn ECE graduate, were held Monday, May 10, in Cambridge, Mass. and Tuesday, May 11, 2004 in Montgomery. Singh was a graduate student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at the time of his death.

Friends and family remember him for his love of people. Professor Terry Orlando, his research advisor at MIT, describes him as "the most caring person I've ever known."

"The loss of Bhuwan constitutes a rip, a tear in the MIT community that won't be easily repaired. His influence here will linger," said Dean for Graduate Students Isaac Colbert.

Singh is survived by his parents, Drs. C.P. and Madhuri Singh, his sister and brother-in-law, Manisha and Sachin Ganglani, and his brother, Barun.

William Bailey III died Thursday, April 1, 2004. Born March 24, 1922 in Norwalk, Conn., his family moved to Birmingham soon afterward.

He attended Shades Cahaba Elementary School, Phillips High School and graduated from Alabama Polytechnic Institute, now Auburn University, in 1943 with a degree in electrical engineering. He was a member of Eta Kappa Nu honor society, Kappa Sigma fraternity and the Auburn Alumni Association. Upon graduating he was commissioned in the U.S. Navy and served as lieutenant on the USS Prometheus in the Pacific.

Bailey was a professional engineer certified in Alabama, Mississippi and Pennsylvania. During his career he was employed with STAMCO in New Bremen, Ohio, Reynolds Metals in Listerhill, Ala., where he was instrumental in perfecting aluminum rolling mills for rolling foil, and Rust Engineering Company, where he chaired the design team for the first missile shot to the moon and chaired the U.S. Steel Continuous Pipe Mill at Fairfield. He was also vice president with Rust International.

As a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, he served on the vestry as senior warden. He belonged to the Association of Iron and Steel Engineers, St. Andrew's Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Symphony Volunteer Council, Mountain Brook Exchange Club and Rust Quarter Century Club. He was a volunteer for the AARP tax aide programs for the last 10 years of his life. An avid golfer, he was a member of the Old Overton Club, a former member of Vestavia Hills Country Club and Gulf Shores Golf Club.

He is survived by his wife, Frances Rew Bailey; three children, William Bailey IV (Debra), Ms. Lorena Bailey and Charles Rew Bailey (Wendy); grandchildren Christopher William Bailey, Ashley Elizabeth Bailey, Charles Rew Bailey Jr., John Talmadge Bailey and Anthony Atkinson; brothers Emlen MacDougal Bailey (Mary Kathryn) and Ryburn Hancock Bailey (Louise); and several nieces and nephews. Memorial services were held April 3, 2004 at St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands Episcopal Church.

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering would like to hear from you!

Please send news and address changes to:

Newsletter Editor
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
200 Broun Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849-5201
jloden@eng.auburn.edu

Name _____

Address _____

Auburn Class _____ Advanced Degrees _____ Institutions _____

Current Position Employer/Location _____

News/Comments _____

I may be able to help with:

- Co-op jobs
- Summer jobs
- Research topics/graduate student support
- Equipment donation
- Speaker for IEEE meeting

Alumni updates

Leon H. Riley '60 was named outstanding alumnus in chemical engineering for 2004. Riley is a general engineer in the Advanced Technology Directorate of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

Scott Vechinski '84, '86 is with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) in Huntsville. He and his wife Amy have four daughters.

Rich Hammett '95, '01 lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife and son. He is employed by the National Institutes of Health.

Jeff Casady '96 is president and chief technical officer for SemiSouth Laboratories, Inc. in Starkville, Miss. SemiSouth is a leading developer and manufacturer of silicon carbide electronics and electronic material.

Ray Newsom '96 is a manager with IBM in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Carlos White '96, '98 and his wife, Latangia, are the parents of Carlson Emanuel White, born May 23. Carlos is a senior instrument engineer with ExxonMobil Chemical in Baton Rouge, La., where he has worked for five years. His area of expertise is gas and steam turbine controls.

Allan K. Calvo '99 lives in California where he works as a device yield engineer for Jazz Semiconductor, Inc., a semiconductor manufacturing/test company.

Otis Seals '02 returned from Iraq in April, where he served for a year with his Army Reserve unit. After fulfilling his military obligations, he will return to his position with Farley nuclear plant.

Jason Martin '03 works for Redstone Technical Test Center (U.S. Army) in the flight test branch, on a missile test range on Redstone Arsenal; most of his work is in instrumentation. He was married June 26 to Kelly Terrana.

THE ECE NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED TWICE YEARLY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING. ADDRESS CHANGES, NEWS ITEMS, AND SUGGESTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO 200 BROUN HALL, AUBURN UNIVERSITY, AL, 36849-5201.

www.eng.auburn.edu/elec

AUBURN UNIVERSITY
SAMUEL GINN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING
200 BROUN HALL
AUBURN UNIVERSITY, AL 36849-5201

WWW.AUBURN.EDU
AUBURN UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION/EMPLOYER.
2004-001-ECE

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #77
Montgomery, AL