

**CHARALAMPOPOULOS  
NAMED ASSOCIATE  
DEAN FOR  
UNDERGRADUATE  
INSTRUCTION**

**Tryfon Charalampopoulos** has been appointed the new Associate Dean for Undergraduate Instruction; his assignment is effective May 2003. Charalampopoulos has served the college well by bringing in research funding; serving on committees at all 3 levels at LSU: university, college, and department; and working as Graduate Program Coordinator for Mechanical Engineering. He is well published and excels in both engineering research and education. Charlam-popolous has been a member of the CoE faculty since January 1985.

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**NEW HALL OF DISTINCTION MEMBERS INDUCTED  
AT ANNUAL BANQUET**

On the evening of April 10, 2003, **Dean Pius Egbelu** hosted the 24th Annual Hall of Distinction Banquet at Baton Rouge's Embassy Suites Grand Banquet Room; there he inducted two long time contributors to the College. **Alden L. Andre**, Vice President of Formosa Plastics, Inc. and 1961 graduate of LSU College of Basic Sciences; and **Edward McLaughlin**, CoE Dean Emeritus and former Chemical Engineering Chair and Professor were distinguished as the 2003 awardees. Each will have his name permanently displayed on the Hall of Distinction Honor Wall in the ground floor corridor of CEBA.

**ALDEN ANDRE**

Alden Andre is a lifelong resident of Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana. Andre served six years in the US Army with experience in LSU ROTC; he achieved the rank of captain. Andre's career began at Allied Chemical Plant which was sold to Imperial Chemicals and later acquired by Formosa Plastics; he is currently semi-retired working as vice president for business development, public relations and government relations at Formosa. Andre helps community service organizations such as Rotary, United Way, and the Dean's Advisory Board.



▲ ANDRE  
McLAUGHLIN ▼



**EDWARD McLAUGHLIN**

A native of Ireland, McLaughlin joined the LSU community in 1970 following sabbatical leave from his appointment at Imperial College in London, England. McLaughlin began work here as professor of chemical engineering. He rose through the ranks holding the position of department chair from 1979-1987 and CoE dean from 1987-1997. McLaughlin is responsible for the titled professorships program, and its director, Mr. Edward Steimel; the establishment of the environmental engineering program; and the initiation of what has become known universally as the student technology fee.

## COE GRADUATES HONORED FOR EXEMPLARY DISSERTATIONS

On behalf of the College of Engineering, Dean **Pius Egbelu** will gladly congratulate two 2002 Ph.D. graduates for exemplary dissertations. This year's distinguished researchers are **Vetle Ingvald Torvik** and **Solomon Ovueferaye Inikori**. Each will be presented a plaque at Spring Commencement Exercises to mark their accomplishment.

Additionally, the College is proud to announce that **Vetle Torvik** has also been awarded the prestigious LSU Alumni Association Distinguished Dissertation Award. This honor is bestowed on two doctoral graduates campus-wide; one from arts, humanities, and social sciences; and one from science, engineering, and technology. The LSU Alumni Association gives this award annually to recognize students whose research and writing exemplify superior scholarship. Torvik will be given another plaque marking this honor as well as a \$1000 award.

### VETLE INGVALD TORVIK

**Vetle Ingvald Torvik** successfully defended his dissertation titled, "Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery: A Guided Approach Based on Monotone Boolean Functions" under the guidance of his major professor **Evangelos Triantaphyllou** (IMSE). With a Ph.D. in Engineering Science, Torvik is now a research assistant professor at the University of Illinois-Chicago College of Medicine's Psychiatry Department. He is currently managing the Arrowsmith Project which "mines" biomedical literature from computational and statistical aspects.

The project collaborates with neuroscientists studying the imaging, electrophysiology, and protein and genes of the brain to assess novel scientific hypotheses. More information about Torvik's project is available via <http://arrowsmith.psych.uic.edu>. Vetle and wife **Elizabeth Tanner**, an MFA graduate of Roosevelt University, have enmeshed themselves in the professional and social realms of their new home city, Chicago, Illinois.



◀ TORVIK  
IMSE  
2002

INIKORI ▶  
PETE  
2002

### SOLOMON OVUERFERAYE INIKORI

**Solomon Ovueferaye Inikori** effectively presented his dissertation titled, "A Numerical Study of Water Coning Control and Downhole Water Sink (DWS) Well Completions in Vertical and Horizontal Wells," under major professor **Andrzej Wojtanowicz** (PetE). Inikori's doctoral degree culminated an educational program that included a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Nigeria-Nsukka (1988) and a master of science degree in mechanical engineering design from the University of Benin, Nigeria (1993). While at

LSU, Inikori was highly commended for several papers and held a membership in Pi Epsilon Tau, a PetE Honors Society. Currently, Inikori is a Senior Reservoir Engineer with Shell International Exploration and Production, Inc. He has been selected for inclusion in the 2003-04 edition of the American Registry of Outstanding Professionals. Solomon Inikori resides in Houston, Texas with his wife, **Evarista Inikori**, a pharmacist, and their four sons.



Other nominees for this year's Exemplary Dissertation Award were as follows:



**Ehab Farouk Badran**

"Optimal Channel Equalization for Fliterbank Transceivers in Presence of White Noise"

**Dr. Guoxiang Gu** (ECE)



**Yilmaz Hatipkarasulu**

"A Variable Response Time Lag Module for Car Following Models Using Fuzzy Set Theory"

**Dr. Brian Wolshon** (CEE)



**Lianfeng Sun**

"Thermal Rheological Analysis of Cure Process Epoxy Prepreg"

**Dr. Su-Seng Pang** (ME)

## GRANTS

### NSF HELPS NIRT

The National Science Foundation will sponsor **Elizabeth Podlaha** (ChE) and her fellow



▲ PODLAHA

multidisciplinary researchers. The Nanoscale Interdisciplinary Research Team, NIRT, plans to improve the effectiveness of microdevices. Ultimately, NIRT aspires to establish a new industry focused on nanoscale technology. Podlaha et al will collaborate to combine synergistic science and engineering research in the realms of technology and nanoscale science. Elizabeth Podlaha is Associate Professor and Clarence M. Edit Endowed Professor of Chemical Engineering. She is a 1992 doctoral graduate of Columbia University.

### NASA FUNDS DEVIREDDY

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has approved a proposal submitted by **Ram Devireddy** (ME) in cooperation with Omni



▲ DEVIREDDY

Technologies, Inc. of New Orleans. The Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I proposal is titled, "Non-Intrusive Continuous Wave Flowmeter." Devireddy's proposal is one of 25 NASA approved submissions nationwide; it is the only funded proposal from Louisiana.

GRANTS  
CONTINUED PG 4

## MAJOR PROFESSORS INTEGRAL TO PHD SUCCESS

The College of Engineering is indeed fortunate to be home to numerous outstanding student researchers. Doctoral students' papers regularly earn recognition at competitions around the country. However, too often in the celebration of their studies' completion, the focus remains on the graduate, and the devoted faculty member who has mentored him or her returns to work outside of the College of Engineering. The College of Engineering would commend all giving professors who give of their time and talent advising student research. Without their tireless service and devoted engineering at LSU would be little of the noted establishment it is today. **Mehmet Tuma**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, would like to extend special thanks and regard to those who have served as major professors. This year **Evangelos Triantaphyllou** (IMSE) and **Andrzej Wojtanowicz** (PetE) are especially commended for their work with the CoE Exemplary Dissertation Awardees. Triantaphyllou served as major professor to Vette Torvik (Ph.D. 2002); Wojtanowicz was mentored Solomon Inikori (Ph.D. 2002) as his major professor. The work of these professors and the students they guided represents the excellence for which the College of Engineering is known.



▲ TRIANTAPHYLLOU



▲ WOJTANOWICZ

## APPOINTMENTS

### CHARALAMPOPOULOS JOINS RESEARCH LEADERSHIP

The LSU Council on Research recently welcomed newly elected council chairman **Tryfon Charalampopoulos** (ME). His term begins immediately and will conclude in December 2003. Charalampopoulos, Ted and Ester Walker Professor of Mechanical Engineering, has specialties in heat and mass transfer, combustion, aerosol dynamics, optical diagnostics, and combustion synthesis of materials.

### SINGH NOW COR MASTER

The LSU Council on Research unanimously accepted the nomination of the College of Engineering and announced the selection of **Vijay Singh** (CEE) as one of the two 2002 Distinguished Research Master Awardees. Singh will represent Engineering, Sciences, and Technology. He will be joined by Johnny Matson, Professor of Psychology, who is to represent Arts, Humanities, and the Social Sciences.



▲ SINGH

### SARKER MADE IIE FELLOW

**Bhaba Sarker** (IMSE) has been selected as Fellow of the Institute of Industrial Engineers. He will travel to Portland, Oregon from May 17-21 for the 2003 Industrial Engineering Solutions Conference where he will accept his honor. Sarker, a 1989 doctoral graduate from Texas A&M University, specializes in mass production systems, facilities planning, inventory control, and operations research.



▲ SARKER

## GRANTS



▲ CAI



▲ ROY



▲ VOYIADJIS,  
CEE CHAIR  
& LTRC GRANT  
PARTICIPANT



▲ WILMONT



▲ WOLSHON

### *LSU CIVIL ENGINEERS EARN GRANTS FOR PROJECTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE TRANSPORTATION CENTER*

The Louisiana Transportation Research Center (LTRC) awarded several sponsorships to LSU faculty members in March 2003. LTRC is a multiparty organization composed of both the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and LSU. The organization's aims are to solve problems related to transportation and to improve transportation technology. While supporting higher education, LTRC achieves its objectives by facilitating applied internal research. College of Engineering recipients include (all listed here are CEE faculty):

#### *Application of Smart Materials in Bridges and Pavements*

\$30,000

**Steve Cai** with George Voyiadjis

#### *Determination of Interaction between Bridge Concrete Approach Slab and Embankment Settlement*

\$99,621

**Steve Cai** with George Voyiadjis

#### *Modeling Hurricane Evacuation Traffic*

\$170,320

**Chester Wilmot** with Brian Wolshon & Sherif Ishak

#### *Reactive Aggregate in Base Course: Implementations of Laboratory Results*

\$13,975

**Amitava Roy**

#### *Support Study for Development of Automated Device to Electronically Measure Fine Particle Sizes in Soil Suspension*

\$41,784

**Wanjun Wang** with Zhongzie Zhang

#### *Synthesis and Evaluation of Block Copolymers as Anti-stripping Additives*

\$30,000

**William Daly**

#### *Waste Tire Fiber Modified Concrete*

\$30,000

**Guoqiang Li** with Su-Seng Pang

## EVENTS

### *CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR*

**Andrzej Wojtanowicz** (PetE) will present the May 15 Society of Petroleum Engineers' Continuing Education Seminar. The half-day, afternoon seminar is to be held at the Baton Rouge Chevron Building; it will conclude the SPE Continuing Education Series for the 2002-03 academic year. The seminar topic will be: "Downhole Control of Produced Water in Wells." Innovations in the separation of water in oil and gas wells will be introduced. Wojtanowicz will discuss in detail both modern technologies- bottomhole separation and separation in-situ. Anyone wishing to attend the seminar must RSVP with his or her \$100 admission fee by May 8. Contact Steve Moore, (592-7062 or SMOO@chevrontexaco.com), for further details or to RSVP intention to attend.



▲ WOJTANOWICZ

### *SPRING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING PRODUCTIVE*

Each spring **Dean Egbelu** invites distinguished persons in the construction and engineering industry to assemble for a day of strategic planning. This year, under president **Alden Andre**, the group gathered to hear the advice of UNO Engineering **Dean Russell Trahan** and the comments of **Chancellor Emmert**. As in past years, the council debated issues of budget and spending, aligning curriculum with knowledge needed in industry, and finding more space for the college. The dean and board members will take action on their plans before reconvening in October.

## AWARDS

### *CM STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS GARNERED BY GILL*

As a result of **James H. Gill's** (CM) receipt of the 2003 AGC Outstanding Educator Award, the Association of General Contractors (AGC) has awarded the Department of Construction Management a \$6000 stipend. Of the sum, \$2000 is to be a stipend for Mr. Gill, and the remaining \$4000 is to be split into two scholarships for deserving CM students. Chairman **George Hammit** (CM), honored two juniors, **Renee Duplantis** and **Nicholas Rockforte**, with the AGC Scholarship Award. The two awardees were recognized for academic excellence, as seen in their earning outstanding grade point averages in excess of 3.90.

**Renee Duplantis** is the first scholarship recipient. Duplantis was a 2000 graduate of E.D. White Catholic High School in Thibodaux, Louisiana. At LSU, he has held membership in Sigma Lambda Chi, for leaders in construction, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, and the Association of Building Contrac-

tors. After graduation from LSU in May 2004, he plans to work as a project engineer or estimator, or enroll in Auburn University's Masters Program in Construction. Duplantis is the son of A. Norman and Denise Duplantis. His father, a 1969 LSU ChE graduate, represented Texaco, Inc. on the Dean's Advisory Council. Duplantis has two brothers; one of the two, Jaques, was a 1999 LSU ECE graduate.

**Nicholas Rockforte** also received the AGC scholarship. He is the son of Lori and Nickie Rockforte of Port Allen, Louisiana. He was a 2000 graduate of Catholic High School of Pointe Coupee. Rockforte, who intends to graduate from the CoE in Construction Management next spring, is looking forward to attending LSU Law School; he hopes to begin his professional program in Fall 2004. Nicholas is known for his academic success in the department; according to **John Dean** (CM), "he's our resident rocket scientist."

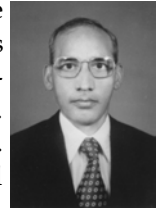
### *LSU COUNCIL ON RESEARCH ANNOUNCES 2003 SUMMER STIPEND PROGRAM AWARDEES*

The LSU Council on Research has announced its 2003 Summer Stipend Program recipients. Each of the 43 awardees will receive a \$5000 stipend for use in research activities during the summer term. The College of Engineering is home to 6 of these awardees:

- **Jannette Frandsen** (CEE)
- **Dante Fratta** (CEE)
- **Charles D. McAllister** (IMSE)
- **Dorel Moldovan** (ME)
- **W. Todd Monroe** (BAE)
- **Suresh Moorthy** (CEE)

### *SINGH WINS ASCE 2003 ARIDLANDS HYDRAULIC ENGINEERING PRIZE*

The American Society of Civil Engineers has awarded **Vijay Singh** (CEE) the 2002 Aridlands Hydraulic Engineering Prize. Singh is Arthur K. Barton Endowed Professor of Engineering. His interests include surface and subsurface hydrology, irrigation hydrology, stochastic and mathematical modeling, and entropy.



SINGH ▲

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LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

**NEXT MONTH:**

*Dr. Constant Travels to  
New Mexico with  
Student Competitors*

*CoE Graduate Students  
Host Symposium*

*College Crawfish Boil*

*Electrical Engineering  
Students Take Top Honors*

*Minority Engineering  
Ceremonies*

*Top Grads*