

ENGINEERING MONTHLY NEWS

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

June 2002

Former Department Head John Nye Dies

Dr. John Nye died of a cerebral hemorrhage on April 30 at the age of 57.

Nye was with LSU from 1984—1991 and served as the head of the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering.

He left LSU in 1991 to serve as the Dean and Director of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Delaware at Newark and was the Director of that school's cooperative extension service at the time of his death.

Nye had recently accepted the position of Vice President of Academic Affairs and Research with the Arkansas State University system in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

He received his bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering from Kansas State in 1968 and his master's and doctor of philosophy degrees from Purdue in 1970 and 1971.

He is survived by his parents, Paul and Alice Nye, his wife Gloria, three children and two grandchildren.

Services were held in Newark. A memorial scholarship fund has been established through the American Society of Agricultural Engineering Foundation, 2950 Niles Road, St. Joseph, MI, 49085.

Dr. Lima Recognized for Service Learning

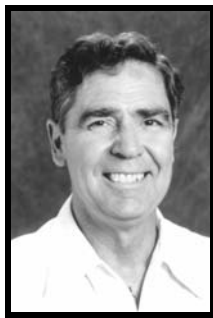
Dr. Marybeth Lima (BAE) has been awarded the Faculty Service—Learning Fellow Award.

This award includes a cash award of \$5,000 from the LSU Office of Academic Affairs, the Service-Learning Faculty Advisory Council and the School of Social Work Office of Social Service Research and Development.

Dr. Lima was recognized for her contributions to the academic goals of the university and the community outreach work with engineering students as well as kindergarten through high school students.



12,000 Copies Sold Third Printing Ordered



Dr. Armando Corripio's (ChE) book *Principles and Practice of Automatic Process Control* is in its second edition and has sold 12,000 copies. The publisher has requested that Professor Corripio and his co-author Carlos Smith

produce a third edition of the book.

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Harrison Honored

Dr. Doug Harrison (ChE) received the 2002 Dow Outstanding Teaching Award.



LA Emergency Preparedness Association

Dr. Marc Levitan (CEE) and Institute Director of the LSU Hurricane Center, was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Association (LEPA). The mission of LEPA is to provide support, training, and leadership to advance public safety in Louisiana.

On a related note, LEPA will be awarding its first scholarships next month to three students pursuing studies in LSU's new interdisciplinary Disaster Science and Management program.



Reible Receives Award and Funding

Dr. Danny Reible (ChE) received the 2002 Charles E. Coates Award from the American Chemical Society and American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

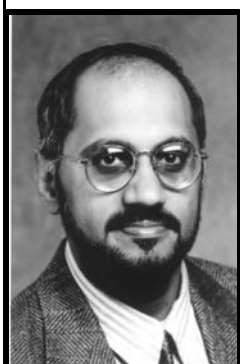
Dr. Reible has also been invited to participate in the Pellston Workshop on Sediment Quality Criteria for the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. This workshop is designed to provide scientific evaluation and input on environmental regulatory policies.

Danny Reible also has received funding in the amount of 2.25 million dollars for "Field Demonstration of Active Caps," a project led by LSU which also includes Rice University, Georgia Tech, Carnegie Mellon, and several federal agencies and industrial concerns. The goal of the project is to demonstrate innovative technologies for managing contaminated sediments.



AICHe 2002 Meeting

Dr. K.T. Valsaraj (ChE) chaired a session on "Prediction and Correlation of Transport Properties" at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AICHe) 2002 Spring meeting in New Orleans.



Wong Attends Berkeley Conference

Dr. Harris Wong (ME) was invited to give a seminar titled "Capillarity Driven Motion of Solid Thin Films," to the Department of Mechanical Engineering at University of California, Berkeley on April 2, 2002.



Graduates Receive Military Commissions

The following students were recognized during the diploma ceremony for pursuing military careers and receiving Military Commissions.

Mathew Belle (ME) of Baton Rouge, was commissioned as an undergraduate pilot trainee and will attend undergraduate pilot training at Randolph AFB, San Antonio, Texas.

Gregory Blanchard (ChE) from Schriever, received a commission in the Army and will be assigned to Armor in Louisiana Army National Guard in Shreveport. Blanchard was a two-year Army ROTC Scholarship Cadet.

James Caldwell (ECE) of Baton Rouge, received his commission in the Air Force and was selected to attend the Air Force's Institute of Technology graduate degree program to earn his master's in developmental engineering at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio.

Andrew Cavallero (ME) of Houston, TX, was commissioned as an undergraduate pilot trainee and will attend undergraduate pilot training at Randolph AFB, San Antonio, Texas.

William Lord, Jr. (ME) of Ponchatoula, received his commission in the US Marine Corp. He will attend Basic School in Washington DC, before attending Flight School in Pensacola, FL.

Andre Monnot (CEE) of Mandeville, was commissioned as undergraduate pilot trainee in the EURO-NATO Joint Jet Pilot program and will attend pilot training at Sheppard AFB, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Monthly Reports On Line

Sponsored Program Accounting (SPA) with the assistance of Financial System Services (FSS) is now providing monthly reports of obligations/budgets for new sponsored agreements.

The reports are available at: <http://www.fas.lsu.edu/AcctServices/spa/Reports/default.htm>

The first report is sorted by college or other major unit, the second report is by college or other major unit and department, and the final report is by sponsor.

The reports were created from the data in the Chart of Accounts (COA) and the General Ledger System (GLS). There are some limitations. The report will only list up to two investigators. If a project requires multiple account numbers, such as a contract from the LA Board of Regents (LBR) which includes both support funds and federal funds, the obligated amounts will be recorded in separate accounts. Obligations will be reported in the month they are processed into the GLS by SPA.

Graduates Awarded the McLaughlin Medal

Seven graduates earned a 4.00 grade point average and were awarded the McLaughlin Medal by **Dr. Edward McLaughlin**, Dean Emeritus.

The McLaughlin Medal is awarded each semester to the student with the highest GPA. It was created by the Advisory Council in honor of Dean Emeritus Edward McLaughlin. McLaughlin served LSU for 28 years as a professor, researcher, ChE Department Chair and Dean of the College.

Recipients for this year include:

Thomas Royster, an electrical engineer from Thibodaux, plans to attend Clemson University to pursue a master's degree in electrical engineering.

Bilal Ghosn, a biological engineer from Baton Rouge, plans to attend Georgia Tech for a master's in biomedical engineering.

Jing Jiang, a computer engineer from Shanghai, China, plans to attend Stanford to work on a PhD in electrical engineering.

Brian Craig, a computer engineer from Lafayette, is the founder of Velocity Squared, a company he started through LSU's Louisiana Business and Technology Center. He plans to remain self-employed.

James Caldwell, an electrical engineer from Baton Rouge, is a Second Lieutenant in the US Air Force and is considering pursuing a master's degree in electrical engineering at the Air Force Institute of Technology in Ohio.

Adam Cygan, a mechanical engineer from Baton Rouge, plans to attend Georgia Tech to pursue a master's degree in mechanical engineering.

Xuefeng Zhuang, a computer engineer from Changshu, Kiangsu Province, China, plans to attend Stanford University to pursue a PhD in electrical engineering.



(l-r) Dean Pius Egbelu, Thomas Royster, IV, Bilal Ghosn, Jing Jiang, Brian Craig, James Caldwell, Adam Cygan, Xuefeng Zhuang and Dr. Edward McLaughlin

CEE Twins Graduate

Twins and civil engineers, **Kristin Beth** and **Lauren Mary Thibodeaux**, graduated *Magna Cum Laude* and *Cum Laude*.



Latin Honor Graduates Recognized at Diploma Ceremony

The College of Engineering graduated 18 students *Summa Cum Laude*. **Karelys Dalise Bastidas (IE)**, **Jesse Quentin Bond (ChE)**, **James Thomas Caldwell (EE)**, **Brian Alexander Craig (ECE)**, **Adam Zygmunt Cygan (ME)**, **Mark Allen Danos (ME)**, **Bilal Ghosn (BE)**, **Benjamin Lucas Hodnett (BE)**, **Jing Jiang (ECE)**, **Lindsey Claire Liles (ME)**, **Emile Marchive, III (CM)**, **Brent Thomas Martin (IE)**, **Ilke Mollaoglu (IE)**, **Joel Richard Ocmund, Jr. (ECE)**, **Wesley J. Palmisano (CM)**, **Thomas C. Royster, IV (ECE)**, **Frank Anthony Yacone, Jr. (ChE)** and **Xuefeng Zhuang (ECE)**.

Ten students graduated *Magna Cum Laude*. **Jonathan Edward Fourrier (EVEG)**, **Sarah Marie Jones (BE)**, **Neema Pourmohamadian (ME)**, **Kathryn Briggs Rhea (CEE)**, **Barry Michael Rogge (ChE)**, **Herbert Joseph Roussel, IV (ECE)**, **Erica Lydia Ruiz (IE)**, **Ryan Joseph Schexnaydre (ChE)**, **Kristen Beth Thibodeaux (CEE)** and **Patrick Adam Veillon (ChE)**.

Thirteen students graduated *Cum Laude*. **Abdulaziz Ali Al-Alaji (PetE)**, **Gaetano Anthony Aloisio (ChE)**, **Lance Michael Black (BE)**, **Marc Pierre Bourgeois (CM)**, **Hang-Ping Chen (ME)**, **Greg Michael Determann (BE)**, **Christopher Joseph Fogarty (ChE)**, **Lindsey Dale Ledet (ECE)**, **Jacob Edwin Lemoine (ChE)**, **Neil Mahendra Patel (ECE)**, **Michelle Ann Pivach (ECE)**, **Margaret Sue Reaves (ChE)** and **Lauren Mary Thibodeaux (CEE)**.

Scott Bowman is Student Commencement Speaker

Scott Bowman (ME), past president of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) LSU chapter and vice-president of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) LSU chapter was the student commencement speaker. Scott is from Baton Rouge and is a Staff Sergeant with the 159th Fighter Wing Louisiana Air National Guard. He is employed with Dow Chemical Union Carbide Plant in Taft, Louisiana. He is married and has two children.

Chairman of the Electrical Department Alan Marshak to Retire in June

Alan Marshak (ECE), Chairman of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, has announced his retirement effective June 30, 2002. Faculty and staff honored him at a retirement celebration held May 1st in the department.

Dr. Marshak has been with the ECE Department since 1969, where he began as assistant professor, was promoted to associate professor in 1973 and rose to the rank of full professor in 1978. In 1983, he was se-

lected as chairman and was named the F. H. Coughlin/CLECO Professor of Electrical Engineering in 1993.

Dr. Marshak received his bachelor's degree from the University of Miami in 1960, master's degree from LSU in 1962 and PhD from the University of Arizona, Tucson in 1969. His areas of research have been mainly focused on semiconductor device physics, device analysis, transport theory and heterojunctions. Dr. Marshak will be greatly missed.



Dr. & Mrs. Marshak with Dr. and Mrs. Naraghi-Pour



Celebrations in honor of Dr. Alan Marshak's retirement, were held last month at a departmental reception and at Mansur's Restaurant.

LWRRI Director

Dean Egbelu has appointed Associate Professor **John Pardue (CEE)**, as the new director of LWRRI effective July 1, 2002.



Dr. Meletis Gives Seminar at University of Houston

Professor Efstathios Meletis (ME) was invited to present a seminar on "Functionally Gradient, Multifunctional and Self-organized Nanocomposite Thin Films and Surface Layers", at the Texas Center for Superconductivity, University of Houston, on May 3, 2002.



Scholarship Recipients

Glenn Joseph Schexnayder (CEE) of Donaldsonville, and **Cory Neil Parrot (PetE)** of Baton Rouge, are the Fall 2002 Louisiana Engineering Society scholarship recipients.



(l-r) Glenn Schexnayder, Dean Egbelu and Cory Parrot

Dr. Rusch Receives Grant

LSU Learning Communities Task Force has awarded a grant to **Dr. Kelly Rusch (CEE)** to develop new learning communities courses and implement them during the fall 2002 and spring 2003 semesters.

Dr. Rusch will teach Introduction to Environmental Engineering. The course will be composed of four classes from four different disciplines and four different colleges. Project teams will be composed of students from all four courses, creating a true interdisciplinary design team in real world projects. Students will work together using their respective backgrounds to develop an enhancement plan for Campus Lake that will include technical, as well as visual and written, components.



Dr. Moe and Dr. Fratta Honored by TAF



The Tiger Athletic Foundation Undergraduate Teaching Awards were presented to two members of the College of Engineering.

Dr. William Moe (CEE) and **Dr. Dante Fratta (CEE)** were this year's recipients. They were selected for their outstanding teaching and will receive a cash award of \$1,000.



Dr. Suhayda to Retire



Dr. Joseph N. Suhayda (CEE), director of Louisiana Water Resources Research Institute, and associate professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, has announced his retirement, effective June 30, 2002. Dr. Suhayda joined LSU in the Coastal Studies Institute in 1971 as assistant professor, and was promoted to associate professor in 1975. He then became a faculty member of the Department of Civil Engineering, where he has been since 1978.

Working with the Louisiana Water Resources Research Institute, Dr. Suhayda served as associate director from 1995-1998 and was named director in 1999. He was also director of the LSU Natural Systems Engineering Laboratory from 1995-1998. His areas of specialization are coastal engineering-offshore technology, wave forces, and sediment stability and transport.

Dr. Suhayda received his bachelor's degree in 1966 from California State University, Northridge, and Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego in 1972.

Mechanical Engineering Senior Design Projects



Team Members: Jarrett Lambert, Ryan Hoyt,
Ryan Greening, Jody Falcon
Project Title: Automated Refractory Anchor
Fabrication
Sponsor: Clyde W. Owens, TOR Industries
Faculty Advisor: Yitshak Ram



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**Team Members:** Alex Husser, Neema Pourmohamadian,  
Lindsey Liles, Adam Cygan, David Rushing,  
Edgar Boada  
**Project Title:** Downhole Gun String Orientation  
**Sponsor:** Schlumberger, Inc.  
**Faculty Advisor:** Michael Murphy









**Project Title:** Super Mileage Vehicle  
**Team Members:** Patrick Luke, David Porter,  
 Jonathan Hale, Mark Danos,  
 Matt Wolcott  
**Faculty Advisor:** Kevin Kelly  
**Sponsors:** See following list

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Project Title: Vapor Trap for Tanker Truck
Team Members: Brent Truxillo, Chad Touns,
 Shane Adams
Sponsors: Ernest Lee Taylor, Chris Glisson
Faculty Advisor: Tryfon Charalampopoulos





Project Title: Dynamic Absorber for Diesel Engine
Team Members: Ryan Pinkstaff, Steve Couvillion,
 Travis Aiken
Sponsor: ME Department
Faculty Advisors: Yitshak Ram
 Tryfon Charalampopoulos



Project Title: VTOL Aircraft
Team Members: Scott Bowman, James Duhon,
 Eamonn Walker, Hang-Ping Chen
Sponsors: NASA, LASpace
Faculty Advisor: Dimitris Nikitopoulos



Project Title: Mini-Baja
Team Members (L-R) Tim Bergeron,
 Mohamad Novilati, Patrick
 Murray, Ryan Torres, Edna
 Lomigora, Jeff Doyle, Billy
 Lord
Faculty Advisors: Glenn Sinclair,
 Gerald Whitehouse
Sponsors: See following list



Project Title: Rejected Pack Removal System
Team Members: Paul Templet, Sean Odom,
 Matt Belle, Andrew Cavallero
Sponsor: Dow Chemical, Plaquemine
Faculty Advisor: Jack Helms

Sponsor List

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 Bassett Furniture
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 Bernhard Mechanical Contractors
 The Bicycle Shop
 Car Craft, Inc.
 Mr. Trey Cavaretta
 Champion Industrial Plastics
 Clancy's
 Cox Cable
 Danos and Curole
 Dow Chemical
 Mr. John Foreman
 Eastside Garage
 Mr. Chad Ferrand
 Frenzel Motors
 Functional Mobility Services
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 Mr. Drew Rispone

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Yitshak Ram
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 Dr. Joe Goss
 Mr. Mark Vela
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Editor: Tammy Vieira Abshire,
 Dean's Office
 Designer: Donna Sentell,
 Division of
 Engineering Services