

ChemE News

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Chemical Engineering ■ Kansas State University





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Jennifer Anthony works with Ph.D. student Sean Tomlinson

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On the cover:

Assistant Professor Placidus Amama, standing center, works with undergraduate students on calculations in the transport phenomenon laboratory.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

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Message from the department head



CHE department head James Edgar answers some frequently asked questions:

What's new in the department?

Increasing enrollments continues to drive much of the changes in the CHE department and College of Engineering. This is a national trend, driven by the growth in U.S. chemical and petroleum industries, and recognition by students that an engineering degree opens the door to good job opportunities. Our class sizes have grown tremendously; there were 124 students in our freshman class in the fall 2013 semester, and there are 188 students enrolled in the introductory materials science and engineering course this fall. The May 2014 CHE B.S. graduates found jobs in chemical and petroleum, pharmaceutical packaging, agriculture processing and manufacturing industries.

There are new faces around the college and department. We have a new dean, Darren Dawson, who started in July. He was formerly at Clemson University, where he served as chair of the Holcombe Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The CHE department staff completely turned over, so we welcomed Danita Deters, Karen Strathman and Cynthia Brott to our office team.

What changes will the increasing number of students bring?

As our enrollment grows, the courses being offered, the way faculty teach and expectations of students are evolving. This year we added a new required course on chemical process safety. Faculty are adopting new teaching strategies to engage students and ensure they receive the best quality education possible. These include "flipping the class" so students watch a video of the lecture outside of the classroom, leaving the class period to work problems, typically in small groups so they can learn from each other. With new technology, students can answer questions in class using their cell phones, giving the instructor quick feedback, so the lecture can be modified to address the "muddiest points." Online homework and quizzes

are being used more and more, as these have the advantage of giving students almost immediate feedback. We have also hired undergraduate student mentors for certain classes, to help field questions about homework and to help prepare students for tests.

Will CHE benefit from the new building being added to the engineering complex?

Yes, it will have interdisciplinary space to collaborate with others in the college and across campus. We will have a direct benefit as the electrical and computer engineering department moves into the new building, this will free up space for the other engineering departments. Our highest priority is to bring our graduate student offices back to Durland Hall.

How are our new faculty doing?

First-year faculty members Placidus Amama and Bin Liu have both had good starts to their academic careers. Both earned grants from the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund and National Science Foundation - Kansas EPSCOR program, respectively. Both have begun to advise graduate and undergraduate students in their research; both received KSU Mentoring Fellowships — awards to support their research and teaching; and both were well-received by the students in their classes.

What's coming up in the next year?

We have begun a national search for a new faculty member to replace Vikas Berry who left for the University of Illinois at Chicago. We hope to have this person in place for the fall of 2015. Keith Hohn will be taking a sabbatical in Belgium during the spring 2015 semester to focus on learning fluorescence spectroscopy for studying catalysts.

How well is the department supported?

Although the percentage of the university's budget supported by the state is decreasing, the department continues to be well supported by industry and alumni who are dedicated to improving the quality of stu-

continued on page 2

Message from the department head continued from page 1

dent education. In the past year, the department has received more than \$2.1 million of outright gifts, pledges and deferred gifts. This funding goes to facilities, scholarships, student professional development and faculty support. Notable industrial and private donors include ConocoPhillips, Chevron Phillips, ExxonMobil and Phillips 66; Kassim Alkhatib and Sorkel Kadir for the renovation of the computer laboratory; Tom Barrett, Tim and Sharon Taylor, and Jim and Robin Siefkin for the support of faculty and scholarships; and Gordon and Joyce Goering, David and Pam Beardmore, and L.T. Fan for student scholarships.

Does the department close down over the summer?

Far from it. Many activities keep all of the faculty and many of our students quite busy. Summer is the best time to focus on research. The department has two National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) centers that host a total of 20 undergraduates who are researching sustainable energy projects. Faculty are busy advising students on their research, writing papers and preparing proposals. June is the month for new student enrollment; this year we signed up a total of 82 new students eager to start their freshman year at K-State. Faculty administer Ph.D. qualifying exams to our newest graduate students. Faculty are also involved in outreach such as the EXCITE program for high school students, Planetkeepers for students and teachers, and the K-State Engineering Education Experience to acquaint Kansas high school science and math teachers with our engineering programs. I had the pleasure of working with 12- to 14-year-old girls for two days in a short workshop on crystal growth as part of the K-State Girls Researching Our World (GROW) program. The girls' energy was great and they really liked some of our crystallization demonstrations. We actually teach, too. John Schlup's summer class on materials science and engineering had a total of 36 students.

With the strong support of our alumni and friends and continued efforts by new and old faculty to provide the best education to our students, we look forward to many more happy faces at commencement, like those on the right.

James H. Edgar

James H. Edgar



Research continues throughout the summer.



Planetkeepers provides learning opportunities for students and teachers.



Happy CHE graduates at May 2014 commencement



"I look forward to leading the College of Engineering in meeting the challenges set at the university and state levels."

Dawson named dean of the College of Engineering

Following a national search, Kansas State University has selected Darren Dawson, an electrical engineer from Clemson University, as dean of the College of Engineering. He joined the college July 1.

Dawson comes to Kansas State University with experience in growing both Ph.D. and undergraduate enrollment — goals that play a part in the K-State 2025 visionary plan and a statewide engineering initiative.

As chair of Clemson's electrical and computer engineering department, Dawson led Ph.D. enrollment increases from 42 students in 2007 to 100 students in 2013. Under his leadership, electrical and computer engineering undergraduate enrollment grew from 340 to 540 students in six years.

"Dr. Dawson has proven success in areas that will be critical for the College of Engineering as it meets the challenge set by the governor to increase the number of engineers in Kansas and our own goals as we rise to become a Top 50 public research university by 2025," said April Mason, Kansas State University provost and senior vice president.

As a researcher, Dawson has worked with motion control, motor control, robotics and mechanical system control. As an educator, his interests include changing the traditional classroom experience through technology, such as Web-based teaching tools and smart classroom facilities.

"The momentum at Kansas State University is exciting, and I look forward to leading the College of Engineering in meeting the challenges set at the university and state levels," Dawson said.



Berry to leave CHE department

After seven and a half years at K-State, Vikas Berry has decided to leave the

department to join the faculty in the department of chemical engineering at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Berry was extremely successful in his time at K-State, receiving the National Science Foundation CAREER Award; serving as PI on grants from the National Science Foundation, industry and the Department of Defense; and publishing high-impact articles. While with the College of Engineering, Vikas taught the undergraduate transport phenomena class, and both undergraduate and graduate chemical reaction engineering courses.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working at K-State, which has a great set of faculty, students and staff. I would like to thank all for the support and encouragement over the years," Berry said. "K-State will always remain the special place where I started my career as an independent researcher and faculty member, and I will always cherish my purple time there. I now look forward to starting a new phase of my career at UIC, and wish K-State all the success and growth!"

Faculty, staff and students in the chemical engineering will miss Berry's contributions to the department and wish him the best of luck in his future career. His new email address is vikasb@uic.edu and he can be followed on Twitter @vikasberry.

In remembrance: Eva Fan



Eva Fan, wife of the late (see pg. 8) L.T. Fan, passed away in April 2014. She was a tremendous promoter of the chemical engineering department, providing its social structure. She always attended its events and celebrated the accomplishments of our faculty and students. She greatly augmented her husband's tenure as department head. She was the perfect hostess, regularly welcoming students and faculty to her home, taking a personal interest in what they were doing, and helping to build a camaraderie and esprit de corp in the department. Every Thanksgiving for many years, Eva served dinner to the department's international graduate students, making sure they were included and felt appreciated, as well as less lonely over the holidays. Eva also supported the best of K-State, contributing to the McCain performing arts series and the library. The department is forever grateful for her contributions.

Alkhatib brothers memorialized in CHE computer laboratory

Future generations of chemical engineering students will be able to write laboratory reports, make engineering calculations and use chemical process simulators in a fresh, attractive computer laboratory thanks to the generosity of the Alkhatib family. On Sept. 7, 2013, chemical engineering students, faculty, staff and friends gathered to dedicate the Alkhatib Brothers Computer Lab, a memorial to Shwan (ECE, B.S. 2009) and Weesam (B.S. 1999) Alkhatib who died in the spring of 2012.

Aveen Alkhatib (B.S. 2002), Shwan and Weesam's sister, commented on the family's decision to remember Shwan and Weesam's lives through this gift to the department of chemical engineering: "We thought of how to help as many K-State students as we could, and that is when the idea for the computer lab was decided on. Weesam had graduated with a degree in chemical engineering, Shwan had taken some courses in the department — his degree is in electrical engineering — and I had also finished with a degree in chemical engineering. I remember spending endless hours in that computer lab, and we thought that renovating that room was a perfect way to give back to the university while still remembering Shwan and Weesam. This way, all of the students going through the program would benefit, not just a select few."



Alkhatib family at ribbon-cutting ceremony

"We thought of how to help as many K-State students as we could, and that is when the idea for the computer lab was decided on."



Kassim and Cheen Alkhatib stand at Shwan's quote in CHE computer lab.

Weesam, a vascular surgeon and instructor at Stanford University of Medicine, battled a rare form of cancer. Shwan put his master's degree studies at K-State on hold to go care for his brother because that's what family do — take care of each other. Shwan passed away unexpectedly during this time, and a little over a month later, Weesam succumbed to his cancer. Weesam was 34 and Shwan was 25.

"We want every student to remember who Shwan and Weesam were as people," Aveen said. "They were incredibly loyal to their family and friends, and kind to all they met. When students are in this computer lab, we want everyone to work together to help each other in any way possible. Be kind to each other, help when you can, learn that your grades are not everything. Your character and integrity mean much more than a test grade."

Weesam and Shwan are survived by their parents, Kassim and Sorkel, and their sisters Aveen and Cheen.

CHE Honor Roll

July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014

INDIVIDUALS

\$250 - \$499

David and Kathy Carr
Scott Coatney and Stephanie Lee
Michael and Ollie Dole
Katherine and Davin Erikson
Beverly Jaderborg and Michael Burlingame
Lana Knedlik
Jeanenne and Blase Leven
Peter and Carol Maa
Alison Peterson
Kevin and Anna Quinn
Joseph Rahija
Jim and Robin Siefkin
Sarah and John Staton
James and Nancy Vines

\$500 - \$999

Jeffrey and Trixie Bone
Ashish Ghosh Haira
Larry and Linda Glasgow
Lewis Ho
Keith and Joanna Hohn
Scott and Staci Kring
Kathy and Bill Rasmussen
Travis and Jeanette Rogers
Tracy and Mary Sandow
Sam and Dorothy Sinderson
Ted Wiesner and Colleen Farley
Jon and Katie Wright

\$1000 - \$2499

Bill and Beth Barrett
Lyn and Jerri Boyer
Kent Buster and Gitta Banks
Dick and Mary Elizabeth Corbin
Matthew and Lynn Dassow
Warren and Joleen Ewert

L.T. Fan
Carl and Terri Hopkins
Ed and Ming Hsu
Eric Johnson and Pam Dlabal
Warren and Gisela Kennedy
Larry Kraus
Dana and Liz Mathes
Nancy and John Matthews
Chris and Ed Null
Ann and Donald Schaechtel
Bob and Peggy Smith
Fred and Lois Stoller
Edward and Dorothy Travnicek
Patrick and Carolyn Wilburn
Laura and David Winks

\$2500+

Kassim Alkhatib and Sorkel Kadir
Tom Barrett
Dave and Pamela Beardmore
Brad and Penny Beecher
John and Heather Button
Tom and Denise Carlisle
Larry and Laurel Erickson
Judith Fan and Robert Reay
Gordon and Joyce Goering
Wayne and Barbara Harms
Steve and Kim Hieger
Rick and Cheryl Kinder
Scott and Karen Love
Snehal and Jyotika Patel
Brandy and Eric Reed
Don and Barb Riedl
Tim and Sharon Taylor
Norman and Donna Tetlow
Spencer and Susan Tholstrup
Kerry and Donna Williams

\$25,000+ Lifetime Giving

Kassim Alkhatib and Sorkel Kadir
Terrie and Arnold Allemang
Melvin and Rannie Barb
Tom and Marilyn* Barrett
John and Heather Button
Dick and Mary Elizabeth Corbin
Larry and Laurel Erickson
Judith Fan and Robert Reay
L.T. and Eva* Fan
Gordon and Joyce Goering
Charlotte Gollobin
Wayne and Barbara Harms
Art* and Georganne Hiser
Bill* and Virginia* Honstead
Ed and Ming Hsu
Joe* and Louise* Hyer
Scott and Karen Love
Ken Martin
Don and Barb Riedl
Ann and Donald Schaechtel
Jim and Robin Siefkin
Bob and Peggy Smith
Keith Steyer
Fred and Lois Stoller
Tim and Sharon Taylor
Norman and Donna Tetlow
Spencer and Susan Tholstrup
Kerry and Donna Williams

* = deceased

CORPORATIONS

\$250 - \$499

Valero Energy Corporation

\$500 - \$999

\$1000 - \$2499

Cargill Inc.
Ecolab Foundation
Pfizer Inc

\$2500+

Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP
ConocoPhillips
ExxonMobil Foundation
II-VI Foundation
Occidental Petroleum Charitable Foundation
Phillips 66 Company
Shell Oil Company Foundation
The Dow Chemical Company
The P&G Fund

\$25,000+ Lifetime Giving

Cargill
Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP
Chevron Texaco
ConocoPhillips
Cosmo Ec Co Ltd
E I DuPont De Nemours and Company
ExxonMobil Foundation
KUBOTA Corporation
Mobil Foundation Inc
Monsanto Company
Nisshin Flour Milling Co LTD
Phillips 66 Company
Shell Oil Company Foundation
The Dow Chemical Company
The P&G Fund

Interested in supporting the KSU chemical engineering program?

Learn more at found.ksu.edu/give/che.

We sincerely thank you all for your generosity and support.

Florence Sperman retires



After 24 years in the department and 26 years at K-State, Florence Sperman has retired from chemical engineering. In honor of her service, faculty, staff, students and friends of the department gathered to express their appreciation and to congratulate her on her retirement on June 6, 2014. At this celebration, Sperman was presented with a photo album signed by her friends and colleagues, and received a Wildcat necklace and matching earrings. Her service to the department was also recognized

at the annual chemical engineering banquet on May 2, 2014, where current students spoke about what she meant to them and presented her with a variety of heartfelt gifts. Some said seeing her was always the best part of their day and the candy from her bowl always made them feel better.

When Sperman joined the chemical engineering department as a secretary in 1990, her duties mainly involved word processing for faculty papers and proposals. As time progressed, she became the primary point of contact for undergraduate students and their events and activities, as well as seminar speakers, board members and department visitors. Walt Walawender and Sperman worked together many years with AIChE and Omega Chi Epsilon. Sperman soon settled into life as the person chemical engineering students, staff and faculty would go to seek answers to nearly any problem.

Students recognized her as the smiling face of the department who they could go to for a kind word when they were down. Faculty and staff knew that she would welcome their requests with a smile and would do her best to quickly help them.

Sperman's dedicated service to the chemical engineering department has not gone unnoticed. She was selected as the 2003 College of Engineering's Classified Employee of the Year. This award is given annually to only 12 employees across the entire university.

Department head James Edgar thanked Sperman for all of her problem solving, organizing and planning she had done for the students, faculty and alumni of the department. He noted her unfailingly positive attitude, personal interest in others, patience, empathy and reassuring nature. She listened carefully to students, and always asked how she could help. She enjoyed students and they liked her in return.



Larry Glasgow talked about what Sperman has meant to the department of chemical engineering. "I told Florence years ago that when she retired, I'd have to quit too. For she is not just a coworker and colleague, she is a fixer, a problem solver, an encyclopedic source of information, a dear friend and a confidant," he said.

"I — we — will miss her every single day. I can only say, thank you, Florence, for everything you have brought to our lives and to our department. We were so lucky to have you with us for a quarter of a century and you can be very proud of the impact you have had upon all of us — students, staff and faculty."

Phase IV — expansion begins



The College of Engineering, charged with an initiative to increase its number of engineering graduates to meet the demands for engineers in Kansas, has started construction of the final phase, Phase IV, of the engineering complex. At the corner of College Heights Rd. and Denison Ave. will stand an impressive structure as an anchor to the K-State campus. Completion of Phase IV will set the standard for learning, outreach, research innovation and excellence in 108,000 square feet of new space on four levels.

The ground floor of the expansion is designed to highlight what engineering is all about, and make it more relatable and accessible to the public. Design teams, including the ChemE Car team, will use new competition space areas for their work. This space is open to the public, unlocking the world of engineering and design team creations to visitors on game days, at K-State Open House and other events. The first floor will feature a 250-seat auditorium, one of the

largest lecture halls on campus. The collaborative learning center, also on the first floor, will create a community of scholars who mutually benefit from student collaboration and achievement. The second and third floors will house the computing and information sciences, and electrical and computer engineering departments, respectively.

The chemical engineering department will not receive dedicated space in the expansion, but will benefit from many spaces such as the competition team space, the new lecture hall and the collaborative learning center. All departments will benefit by utilizing classrooms and conference rooms on all floors. Phase IV construction was begun in the spring, with an anticipated completion in the fall of 2015.

Investment opportunities are available in our learning environment. To learn more, go to engg.ksu.edu/phaseiv. It is an exciting time to be part of the Wildcat family!

M.S. and Ph.D. graduates in CHE

December 2013

Sun, Xiajiao (Stella) – Hohn (Ph.D.)
Single-Molecule Studies of Acidity in Heterogeneous Catalysts, Intel

Hossain, Tashfin Zayed – Edgar (Ph.D.)
Electrical Characteristics of Gallium Nitride and Silicon-Based Metal-Oxide Semiconductor (Mos) Capacitors, Nitride Solutions Inc

Schmidt, David – Erickson (Distance M.S.)
Simulating Aerosol Formation and Effects in Nox Absorption in Oxy-Fired Boiler Gas Processing Units Using Aspen Plus

May 2014

Ikenberry, Myles – Hohn (Ph.D.)
Acid Monolayer Functionalized Iron-Oxide Nanoparticle Catalysts, Intel

Wei, Daming – Edgar (Ph.D.)
Study of High-Dielectric Constant Oxides on GaN for Metal-Oxide Semiconductor Devices, currently seeking employment

B.S. graduates

December 2013

Alshogheathri, Ahmed

Hafenstine, Glenn – University of Colorado,
 ChE Grad Studies

Heady, Blaine – Coffeyville Resources

Hodson, Aaron

Lopez, Mayra

McNeil, Nolan

Roberts, Gary – Northwind Technical Services

Urban, Corey – Koch Industries

Diehl, Kevin – ExxonMobil

Doan, John – ConocoPhillips

Engwall, Evan – Hospira

Fager, Cody – Invista

Gana, Kabila – Chevron Phillips Chemical

Goldberg, Alexander – OneOK

Guyett, Damon – Cargill

Henry, Chris – Drexel University,
 ChE Grad Studies

Johnson, Allison – Bechtel Marine Propulsion

Kaiser, Katelyn – Hospira

Kehr, Christian – ConocoPhillips

Kelley, Megan – Cargill

Kier, Holly

Kraft, Taylor – Cargill

Laffery, Larissa – Zeeco, Inc.

Lohkamp, Cameron – Cargill

McManaman, Brett

Mehrer, Chris – University of Wisconsin,
 ChE Grad Studies

Moncayo, Mary – Emerson-Fisher

Morris, Deven – Land O'Lakes

Rittenberger, James – Flint Hills Refinery

Schneider, Aaron

Snow, Klye – University of Minnesota,
 ChE Grad Studies

Strand, Eric – Hospira

Traylor, Wade – HollyFrontier

Wahaus, Jason – Hospira

Weatherred, Matthew – HollyFrontier

Winter, Clayton – Hospira

Xue, Liming – Tarrecon

Zuiss, Stephen – Dow Chemical

May 2014

Barrett, Lawrence – University of Oklahoma,
 ChE Grad Studies

Bauer, Bannon – Zeeco

Dalke, Rylan



Burhanuddin Alkhadary



Lawrence Barrett



Gannon Bauer



Arthur Cannon



Kevin Diehl



John Doan



Chikezie Ehie



Evan Engwall



Cody Fager



Kabila Gana



Alexander Goldberg



Ana Gomez



Damon Guyett

Chemical Engineering Kansas State University 2014



Chaoran Huang



Allison Johnson



Katelyn Kaiser



Christian Kehr



Megan Kelley



Holly Kier



Taylor Kraft



Jacob Kuhlman



Larissa Laffey



Nathan Lechtenberg



Cameron Lohkamp



Jessica Martin



Trevor McCullah



Brett McManaman



Mary Moncayo



Deven Morris



Woody Rittenberger



Alejandra Romero



Aaron Schneider



Kyle Snow



Eric Strand



Wade Traylor



Jason Wahaus



Matthew Weatherred



Clayton Winter



Andrew Woolley



Stephen Zuiss

Not pictured: Brianna Hulett Megan Tryon

Faculty and staff notes



Strathman, Deters and Brott

■ **Karen Strathman** joined the chemical engineering department as a senior administrative assistant in February 2014. Prior to joining CHE, Strathman worked at Capitol Federal Savings for 10 years. She has experience in account management, expenses and customer service. Her husband, Darin, is a project manager/estimator at Manko Windows. They are both from Nemaha County here in Kansas, and currently live in Manhattan with their two girls, Andie and Morgan.

■ **Danita Deters** joined the chemical engineering department as administrative specialist in June 2014. Deters has worked at K-State for 29 years with her most recent post being in the civil engineering department. Her husband, Marvin, is the manager for Reeves-Wiedeman and they have two sons, Ryan and Eric.



Anthony

■ **Jennifer Anthony** received the Senior Award, given by chemical engineering seniors to the faculty they find the most inspiring. **Placidus Amama** received the award for "Most Approachable," voted on by all chemical engineering undergraduate students.



Amama

■ **Cynthia Brott** joined the chemical engineering department in October 2014 as the public service accountant. Before joining CHE, Brott worked in the Dean's Office of the College of Engineering. Prior to coming to K-State, she had been the human resources representative for Black Hills Energy in Dodge City, Kansas, for five years and was the head secretary at USD 443 Beeson Elementary School for 15 years. Brott's experiences are in human resources and accounting/management. Her husband, Darren, is the impact manager for Red Bull and they have four children: Kayla, Kyle, Jensen and Kinley.

■ **Keith Hohn**, has been granted sabbatical leave in spring 2015 in order to conduct research with Professor Johan Hofkens at Katholieke Universitat Leuven in Leuven, Belgium.

Alumni news

- **Mark McClure** (B.S. 2010) traveled throughout China for more than a year, where he visited amazing places, learned about language and culture, and met a lot of friends. In May 2014, he had the opportunity to translate for a geoprobe sonic tooling training in Salina, Kansas. He hopes to continue to use his language skills in the future by taking graduate courses in linguistics.
- **Deborah Hemphill** (B.S. 2008) started working as a composites product development engineer for Altec, a manufacturer of utility trucks, in St. Joseph, Missouri, in August 2013. Prior to this, she worked as an engineer at Burnham Composite Structures, in Wichita, Kansas. Her duties included bidding aerospace tooling and parts jobs, writing production planning for these jobs and developing .dxf files to kit the material for the parts. Hemphill has two grandsons, Preston and Logan, who live in Liberty, Missouri, just 45 minutes away.
- **Yinlun Huang** (M.S. 1998, Ph.D. 1992), chemical engineering professor at Wayne State University, received the 2013 National Association for Surface Finishing Scientific Achievement Award. He began this area of research — the theory and practice of electroplating, metal finishing and the allied arts — more than 20 years ago as a graduate student of Professor L.T. Fan.

Long-time professor passes

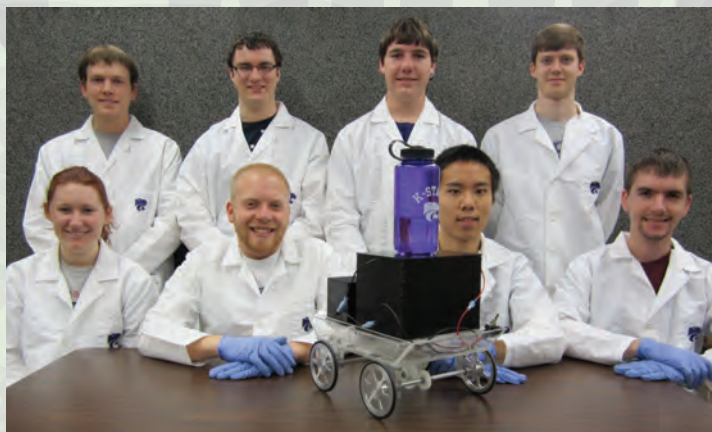


Just as this newsletter was going to press, word arrived that L.T. Fan, University Distinguished Professor and Mark H. and Margaret Hulings chair in engineering, had passed away on August 4, 2014, three days short of his 85th birthday. Professor Fan had proudly worked at K-State since 1958 including 30 years, from 1968 to 1998, as department head. A prolific researcher, he coauthored more

than 600 journal articles and reports, held 27 patents and had just completed his eighth book, covering a wide range of chemical engineering topics. Some of his accomplishments included development of the CHE Ph.D. program, securing funds for Durland Hall, modernizing the undergraduate program, and serving as major adviser to 55 Ph.D. and 79 M.S. students. His complete obituary can be seen at <http://www.ymlfuneralhome.com/obituary/5264>.

Student news

- At K-State Open House, Gabrielle Dellinger's display on the chemical engineering curriculum won third place. The display, "Vacuum Ping Pong Cannon," by Jared Brisco, Andrew Betzen, Elizabeth Jennings and Clint Jantzen received the Individual Department Award.
- Andrew Woolley earned honorable mention in K-State's Kirmser Undergraduate Research Award for his project "Production of Trivalent Influenza Vaccines: Disposable Technology and Insect Cell Lines."
- Lacie Falk, James Rittenberger, Kyle Snow and Michael Whinery were named Phillips 66 SHIELD Scholars.
- Kevin Diehl received the Donald F. and Mildred Topp Othmer National Scholarship from the American Institute of Chemical Engineering.
- Lacie Falk and Michael Whinery received the College of Engineering Leadership Scholarship Award.
- John Stanford and Jingyi Xie each won a K-State Graduate Student Council Travel Award.
- John Stanford, Michael Wales, Tim Hoffman and Balabalaji Padavala received the department's Honstead Fellowship.
- Michael Wales, John Stanford and Leslie Schulte won the Elias Klein Founders' Travel Award to attend the 2013 North American Membrane Society meeting. Wales also received the Carl Storm Underrepresented Minority Fellowship at the Gordon Research Conference in July 2014.



- The ChemE Car team (above) competed at the national AIChE meeting in San Francisco, placing 16th out of 31 cars. At the regional competition in Iowa City, Iowa, the team's two entrants placed fourth and ninth, while the poster presentation for the Struggle Bus car was selected as the most outstanding presentation at the conference.
- Several chemical engineering graduate students placed in the Research and the State Graduate Student Poster Session: Michael Heidlage placed second in the math and physical science category, Michael Wales placed second in the food science category, and Tim Hoffman received first place in engineering with a focus in health and safety for his poster, "Growth of hBN Using Metallic Boron: Isotopically Enriched 10BN for Neutron Detection." Hoffman's first-place award qualified him to travel to Topeka, Kansas, to show his research to state politicians.

CHE alumnus profile — Staci Kring

Staci Kring, Green Bay, Wisc., is a 1995 graduate of Kansas State University in chemical engineering, and foods and nutrition. She is the executive vice president-retail sales for Schreiber Foods Inc., leading a team responsible for more than \$2 billion in revenue, servicing leading retailers and CPG brands across the U. S. She has held numerous positions since joining Schreiber in 1995 including operations, business sales manager for the West Coast, director of Walmart/Sam's Sales, vice president of retail sales, contract manufacturing sales and customer service. She was promoted to the Schreiber Foods board of directors in



2012. Kring has won numerous awards for her performance and leadership at Schreiber including being the recipient of the President's Awards for Excellence in 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2008.

She serves on the board of directors and executive committee for the Green Bay YMCA, and is serving as president of the board of directors for the Jr. Gambler's Hockey Association. In 2014, Kring was a recipient of the K-State College of Engineering Professional Progress Award, given to select alumni graduating fewer than 20 years ago who have done exceptionally well in their careers.

Let us know what you've been up to!

We would like to feature alumni news in future issues of ChemE News. Please fill out the section below and mail to Keith Hohn, Department of Chemical Engineering, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-5102; e-mail to hohn@ksu.edu; or fax to 785-532-7372. Thank you.

Name _____ Degree/year _____

Title _____ Company name _____

Business address _____ Phone _____

Home address _____ Phone _____

News/accomplishments _____
