

**ASSOCIATION OF RICE ALUMNI
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATION FORM**

Nominee James Bartlett (Bart) Sinclair Phone 713-348-6324 Fax 713-348-5300

Address 3650 Dumbarton

City/State/Zip Houston, TX 77025 Rice Class Year(s) _____

Degrees/Majors/Years/Institutions BS, 1973; MS, 1974; PhD, 1978-Elec. Eng. - Rice Univ.

Occupation/Professional Field Faculty, Administration Rice University

Current Title/Position Associate Dean of Engineering - George R. Brown School of Engineering, Rice University

The Distinguished Alumni Award is designed to recognize Rice alumni who have advanced the interest and standards of excellence of Rice University through distinctive professional or volunteer careers. The following criteria will be considered:

- a) advancement of the value of one's profession; exceptional expertise and dedication
- b) significant professional innovations or research findings
- c) significant voluntary contributions of energy, time, creativity, and skills for the advancement of the community welfare, the arts, education, social or government service

Please attach a curriculum vita or other biographical information for the above nominee, describing his or her professional achievements, honors and awards, publications/inventions/innovations, and professional/civic activities, boards or affiliations. In addition to the curriculum vita, please provide a short letter of recommendation describing the merits of the nominee. Consider the following question in support of the above criteria: **What qualities or achievements make this person a truly outstanding leader in his or her profession, and a role model for current Rice students?**

Please note that incomplete nomination forms cannot be considered.

Nominated by Sallie Keller-McNulty Phone 713-348-4009 Fax 713-348-5300

Address 3802 Byron St.

City/State/Zip Houston, TX 77005

Please list ³ other people (i.e., colleague, classmate) whom you have asked to write a letter of support to further validate your nomination.

- 1) Name John Doerr Relationship Colleague
Address KPCB, 2750 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025 Phone 650-233-3428
- 2) Name C. Sidney Burrus Relationship Fellow Dean
Address 2361 Bolsover Rd., Houston, TX 77005 Phone 713-348-5484

Please return nomination material to:

Lauren Linn
Assistant Director
Office of Alumni Affairs - MS 520
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston TX 77251-1892

or fax to: 713-348-5210

- 3) Cindy Lindsay Relationship: Colleague
1133 Timber Lane, Boulder, CO 80304-0451

**Summary Curriculum Vita
March 2009**

Name: Bart Sinclair
Position: Associate Dean of Engineering
Lecturer, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Education: BSEE (cum laude), Rice University, 1973
MEE, Rice University, 1974
PhD, Rice University, 1978

Industrial Experience:
Texas Instruments, 1974-75
(VLSI design engineer, applications programmer)

Teaching experience:
Digital logic design
Computer architecture
Advanced computer architecture
Operating systems
Computer network design and analysis
Computer systems performance evaluation
Professional issues in electrical engineering

Engineering licensure: State of Texas (P.E. license no. 74547)

Scientific and professional society memberships:
ASCE
IEEE
Computer Society
Texas Society of Professional Engineers
National Society of Professional Engineers

Honors and Awards:
Distinguished Faculty Associate, Brown College – 1996 to 2002, 2004-2008
Outstanding Faculty Associate, Brown College – 2003
Rice University Distinguished Service Award - 2008

Institutional service over last five years:
Member, Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
Member, University Marshals
Co-Chair, SACS Compliance Review Committee
Member, Ad Hoc University Committee on Infrastructure
Member, Classroom Taskforce Committee
Member, Electronic Procurement Advisory Committee



SALLIE KELLER-McNULTY
WILLIAM AND STEPHANIE SICK DEAN OF ENGINEERING
PROFESSOR OF STATISTICS
GEORGE R. BROWN SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

September 30, 2009

To: The Association of Rice Alumni

Nomination for Distinguished Alumni Award

James Bartlett Sinclair
Associate Dean, George R. Brown School of Engineering

Dear Nominations Committee,

Drop into Bart Sinclair's office at the corner of Duncan Hall at any hour during the working day (and many after-hours and weekends) and you will find him deep in concentration, tackling some of the School of Engineering's thorniest problems. In his role as associate dean for academic and financial issues, Bart is intimately familiar with the greatest challenges of managing a top tier school of engineering. Through seven years of working with Dean Sidney Burrus and with me for the past four, Bart Sinclair is the single person most responsible for making the George R. Brown School of Engineering truly great.

Bart operates behind the scenes, taking what seem like the most intractable problems facing the school and through tenacity and hard work, arriving at solutions that allow us to move forward. As an example, for several years, finding enough office and lab space for our growing faculty and student populations has been a challenge. Even when we acquire new space, it is quickly filled, or it might not be located where our faculty want to be. Bart regularly takes on this optimization problem, and although he knows that he might make people unhappy with his solutions, spends countless hours finding a place for everyone and doing his best to meet everyone's needs.

Bart's knowledge of the university's budgeting process has been critical to the school's mission, particularly in this time of economic uncertainty. His understanding of the intricacies of Rice's funding structure has made it possible for the School of Engineering to improve the stability of its staff and decrease the likelihood of layoffs through these tough times. From the day a new budget is submitted in February until the next year's budget is due, Bart is working on keeping the School on firm financial footing.

Bart has spent his entire adult life at Rice, from his years as an undergraduate student to his current position. In addition to his full slate of duties, he continues to teach in the Department of Electrical and

Computer Engineering. There is not an engineering student who graduates from Rice who does not know who Bart is, or who does not benefit from his dedication. He is involved with students from the time they first visit campus—he conducts weekly information sessions for prospective students—to the time they graduate and beyond. Since 1979 he has been a faculty associate for Brown College and has served as faculty advisor for the student chapter of IEEE at Rice. He has served on numerous university committees and is a strong advocate for the continuous improvement of our undergraduate and graduate programs. He is a fervent believer in the value of research and community service as a part of our students' engineering experience, and he works tirelessly to promote these activities.

That Bart Sinclair's contribution to the School of Engineering and to Rice University is invaluable, in my opinion, is indisputable. His quiet manner, rigorous attention to detail and gentle sense of humor set an example for our students and faculty. His love for Rice, its traditions and its role in shaping our society are evident through the energy and attention he gives to Rice and the School of Engineering. This is not a job for Bart, it's a passion. It is with great conviction of his worthiness that I nominate him for the ARA's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Sallie Keller-McNulty

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sallie Keller-McNulty', with a large, stylized initial 'S'.

Dean of Engineering

George R. Brown School of Engineering



Kleiner
Perkins
Caufield
& Byers

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September 30, 2009

Lauren Linn
Assistant Director
Office of Alumni Affairs
Rice University
MS 520, P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251

VIA FACSIMILE: 713 348-5210

Dear Ms. Linn:

I'm writing to commend Bart Sinclair as a Rice Distinguished Alumnus. I've known Bart since the beginning of his Rice experience; in 1969 he was my freshman suitemate in the then brand-new Lovett College. Even then Bart was studious but easy going, purposeful but affable, smart, humble, and extremely helpful. Indeed, I might have failed freshman calculus except for Bart's tutoring (There was no pre-calc at my high school.). As they say, "There's a warm place in one's heart for the tutor who helps you pass Calc!"

In the spirit of our beloved Ken Kennedy, Bart lives and breathes Rice, true blue. Both Bart and I were profoundly influenced by Ken. Ken taught both of us computer science, compiler construction, and engaged us in graduate projects. Like Ken, Bart has benefited from Rice, really knows Rice, and is devoted to Rice.

Bart earned his Ph.D. in 1978, and has given back to Rice ever since. He joined the faculty of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and put his energy into teaching and mentoring students, particularly undergraduates. His support of undergraduates was not limited to the department, however, as he has been an advisor to countless engineering students over the years.

In the best Rice tradition, Bart has always reached "beyond the hedges", connecting students with internships, inviting leaders to come to Rice and share their wisdom (and scar tissue).

Now, as associate dean of engineering, Bart's dedication benefits the entire school of engineering, and the university at large. His passion for undergraduate engineering has led him to champion the establishment of the Rice Center for Engineering Leadership. Bart is unwavering in his commitment to Rice engineers doing good by solving real problems.

I'm lucky to have had Bart as a roommate. Rice is fortunate to have Bart as a leader. It's a pleasure to commend him, without reservation, as a Distinguished Rice alum.

Sincerely,



John Doerr

Partner, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers



DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

28 September 2009

To: Association of Rice Alumni
From: C. Sidney Burrus
Subj.: Support letter for Prof. Bart Sinclair for the Distinguished Alumnus Award

I have known Prof. Sinclair for over 30 years and seen him in a wide variety of circumstances. I knew him as an ECE student, both undergraduate and graduate, knew him as a Lovett College alumnus, knew him as a young faculty member, and finally, knew him as Associate Dean of Engineering when I was dean. He is as devoted to Rice, all of Rice, as anyone I have known. His involvement in the undergraduate education program includes teaching computer engineering courses, developing part of the ECE undergraduate curriculum, and advising undergraduate students. His involvement with the college system is extraordinary. He has been a loyal and devoted Brown College associate in all sorts of ways, receiving several Brown College Associate awards. His service to the university includes being a University Marshal for years, being deeply involved in both the accreditation of the ECE department and the whole university, serving of a variety of important university committees, and representing Rice Engineering in many ways with the state and national professional engineering societies.

In approximately 2000 while I was dean, I talked to Bart about a career change. He had been a successful faculty member in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, teaching undergraduate and graduate students and supervising graduate research (some of his PhD graduates have gone on to prominent positions). However, Bart had shown interest and ability in academic administration. I ask him to become an Associate Dean and devote half time to administration. After significant deliberation, he accepted and the administrative work grew to be a full time responsibility (Bart is full time Assoc. Dean yet still teaches in the ECE Dept., advises students, and talks to prospective students and their parents). His work as associate dean was absolutely crucial to whatever success we had in 1998-2005. His having been a teaching, researching, and publishing faculty member gave him a perspective and credibility that previous associate deans had not had. Much of his contributions are not externally visible, but both Dean Keller-McNulty and I know how significant Bart's contributions were and are to the success of the school of engineering and to Rice University.

I highly recommend Professor Bart Sinclair for the Rice Distinguished Alumni Award.

September 24, 2009

**Robert Taylor
Laureate Nominations Chair**

Robert,

I am writing in support of the nomination of Bart Sinclair for Rice's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Bart was in my class at Rice and so I have known him for some time, but my interactions with him in the last few years have made me aware of the many contributions that he has made to the Rice Engineering Department and Rice community at large.

Bart was instrumental in starting the Professional Issues in Electrical Engineering (PInEE) curriculum. This curriculum is designed to introduce engineers to a variety of issues ranging from ethics to intellectual property to entrepreneurship. This opportunity to broaden the engineering experience beyond the tactical concerns of the 'doing' of engineering is invaluable to success in the business and/or academic world.

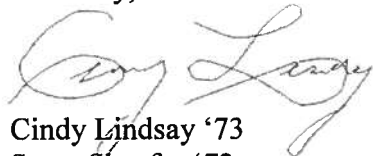
Steve and I lecture in the PInEE class on entrepreneurship and work closely with Bart to provide information that will be valuable to the students. Bart is always open to our crazy ideas and encourages interactions with students. Last year, we lectured on the importance of being able to succinctly describe a business idea, called an Elevator Pitch. We added a special project in the class to attend the Elevator Pitch competition at the Rice Business Plan Competition. With Bart's encouragement, almost 75% of the class attended the optional session at the competition. They voted for the best elevator pitch, gave a \$1000 prize from the engineering department to their winner (battery technology, duh!) and really loved the experience! This 'out of the classroom' knowledge is invaluable and Bart clearly recognizes and supports real world interactions.

The PInEE curriculum is part of a broader initiative in engineering to provide students with more tools to make them successful after graduation. Bart has also worked with the Caine Project, which provides coaching for engineering and science students in presentations and writing.

In other collaborative efforts, Bart was part of the project team to start up the Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen. He clearly understands that future engineers need to have collaborative skills to be able to work with people from various international backgrounds.

Rice is fortunate to have Bart focused on critical issues in engineering and it is a 'double happiness' that he also represents the alumni of Rice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cindy Lindsay".

Cindy Lindsay '73
Steve Sheafor '72