RICE ENGINEERING ALUMNI
Fall 2004
http://engr.rice.edu/alumni

REA Presents Over $54,000 in Scholarships at Spring Awards Picnic

One of the most gratifying activities undertaken by the REA is that of selecting honorees and presenting scholarship awards to outstanding Juniors and Seniors in all engineering disciplines, and also of administering several additional awards sponsored by other entities. At the Spring Awards Picnic held on April 17, 2004 in the Engineering Quad, the REA presented $54,500 in scholarships.

Photo of the award recipients (above). Daniel Trahan receives the award from REA's Fayebeth Little (below)

The selection process is conducted by the REA Awards Committee and is based upon a system which places 50% of each candidate's scoring upon work experience, campus/civic activities, honors, and awards; 25% upon GPA; and the remaining 25% upon an essay question which isselected each year by the REA Board. Judging of the essay question and evaluating work experience, campus/civic activities, honors, and awards is performed by a panel of REA Board members who volunteer their time to perform this service. Since there are several dozen entries in a typical year (78 in 2004), this requires a significant amount of time for each panel member. The panel also provides judging for a second question for ME Juniors for the Sartwelle/Buckley award, which is administered for the Mech Eng Department by the REA. In addition to the undergraduate scholarship awards, the REA Awards Committee also supports the Houston Science and Engineering Fair. Each year REA board members visit the Houston Science and Engineering Fair (for secondary school students) and select one of the participants to be awarded a Rice scholarship. This scholarship is contingent on the awardee attending Rice. The Awards Committee is one of the many ways REA members can get involved in supporting undergraduate education at Rice, and is one of its most gratifying opportunities for involvement with Rice's outstanding young engineers.

And the winners are...

REA Junior and Senior Merit Awards — $1000 to one junior and one senior in each of the seven departments of the Brown School offering undergraduate degrees

Juniors	Seniors
Sriram Vendata Eleswarapu (BIOE), Nicholas Wayne Henderson (CAAM), Michael Long (CEE), Michael Lyons (CENG), Eric Jean (COMP), Melodie Chu (ECE), Bret Heller (MECH), Wai Shek (STAT)	Jeffrey T. White (BIOE), Josef Sifuentes (CAAM), Matthew Swinehart (CEE), John Cliver (CENG), Ryan Aipperspach (COMP), Jeff Bishop (ECE), Kevin Bowen (MEMS), Brooke McShane Lathram (STAT)

REA Herbert Allen Outstanding Junior Award — to the overall outstanding junior

Jr. Outstanding Student: Daniel Trahan CENG - $3000
Jr. Distinguished Student: Griffin Hetrick, MEMS - $2000
Jr. Distinguished Student: Erin Maloney, MEMS - $2000

REA Herbert Allen Outstanding Senior Award — to the overall outstanding senior

Sr. Outstanding Student: Tamar Losleben, CEE - $3000
Sr. Distinguished Student: Alan Wan, ECE - $2000
Sr. Distinguished Student: Jeffrey Reitsema, BIOE - $2000

The following scholarships from other funding sources are administered by the REA:

The Harianna Butler Award — Joshua L. Carroll - $6000
(for deserving married undergraduate - Awarded October 2004)

The Alan Chapman Achievement Award — Griffin Hetrick - $2000
(for mechanical engineering undergraduate)

The Sartwelle/Buckley Award — Griffin Hetrick - $6000, Erin Maloney - $6000
(for outstanding junior mechanical engineering student)

The Hershel M. Rich Outstanding Invention Award — to honor an outstanding invention by faculty, graduate students, and/or undergraduate students

Ka-Yiu San, Bioengineering
George N. Bennett, Biochemistry and Cell Biology
Ravishankar Vadali, Bioengineering

for their invention entitled, "Method to increase intracellular levels of CoA and acetyl-CoA in Escherichia coli." Each received $1,500.

REA Welcomes New Board Members

The REA Board welcomes 7 new members for the 2004-05 year: Mark Gargiulo, Wayne Hale, Connie Holder, Long Nguyen, John Perez, Marshall Pounds, and Dick Wilson. Here's some interesting information on some of them:

REA Board of Directors

The Rice Engineering Alumni Board of Directors is a volunteer organization of 25 alumni serving staggered 4-year terms. Those interested in serving should contact the alumni affairs office at (713) 348-4057 or engalum@rice.edu.

President
Justin Singer - Comp '01 (SMBology, Inc.)

Vice President
* John T. Perez - ChE '96 (Celerity3)

Treasurer
Bruce M. Daniel - Envi '74, '76
(ATC Associates, Inc.)

Secretary
Chris A. Powers - ChE '02 (ChevronTexaco)

Members of the Board
Rakesh Agrawal - ME, COMP '97
(SnapStream Media)
Abhijit (Abi) Gadgil - MSChE '79
(ExxonMobil)
* Mark Gargiulo - MSci '92 (Accenture)
* N. Wayne Hale, Jr. - ME '76 (NASA/JSC)
Brandy Hays - BAEE, B.A. Manag. Studies '00
(Hewlett-Packard)
* Connie Holder - ChE '98 (ExxonMobil)
Galloway Hudson - ME '60, '61 (Cameron)
Elaine Lange - ChE '76
(Texas A&M University System)
Fayebeth Little - CE '98 (Dannenbaum)
Tom Marrou - B.A. '74, MEnviSci '74
(Brown & Caldwell)
* Long Nguyen - CE '98 (ExxonMobil)
Barry Payne - ChE '69, '70
* Marshall Pounds - CE '96 (Fugro)
Olina Raney - ChE '86
(Independent Consultant)
Jaime Rocha - Che '95 (The Rocha Law Firm)
Kevin Speller - EE '97 (Applied MEMS, Inc.)
Jeff Taylor - Envi '80 (City of Houston)
Mary Watrous - Envi '00, '02
(Brown & Caldwell)
* Richard O. Wilson - CE '52, '56
(Callon Petroleum Company)

**New Board Members*

Mark Gargiulo graduated in 1992 with a degree in Math Science. He is now a partner in Accenture's global chemical and energy practice located in Houston. Mark also leads Accenture's global R&D practice for chemicals. This practice focuses on assisting clients with their innovation capabilities including new product and process development. In his spare time, he enjoys running marathons, reading fiction, international travel (especially Spain and Asia). Mark said "I am thrilled about the opportunity to serve with colleagues on the REA board and is looking for ways to make engineering students and alumni 'feel the connection' to Rice and engineering through REA."

Connie Holder graduated in 1998 with a BS in Chemical Engineering. She has been working with ExxonMobil Chemicals since graduation, currently handling short-term business optimization and logistics at the Baytown Chemical Plant. She has been married over four years (formerly Connie Hou). She has no kids yet, but two dogs, and a future owl (husband Neil is a MBA candidate with Jones School).

"I am thrilled about the opportunity to serve with colleagues on the REA board and is looking for ways to make engineering students and alumni 'feel the connection' to Rice and engineering through REA."

- Mark Gargiulo '92

Long D. Nguyen graduated in Dec. 1998 with a BS in Civil Engineering and a BA in Fine Arts. Although he hasn't used his Fine Arts degree, Long started working for ExxonMobil after graduation and is now in their Marine Engineering Department. He is currently working on a Floating Storage and Offloading (FSO) vessel to be used offshore Nigeria. Long and his wife Kristy recently celebrated the birth of their first child Ethan.

John T. Perez received his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Rice in 1996. After taking positions with Rohm and Haas Company and Berwanger, he, along with two colleagues (one of them a fellow Rice alum) started an engineering consulting company, Celerity3 in Jan. 2004. John earned his PE License in 2004. In his spare time, John volunteers on the Livestock Committee for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and serves as an Election Clerk for his voting precinct. He is an active member of the AIChE and SPE. He and his wife, Colette, celebrated the birth of twins, Mary Elyse and John August in June 2004.

Marshall Pounds attended Rice from 1990 to 1996 (class of '94), and graduated with a BA in Spanish, a BS in Civil Engineering and a Master of Civil Engineering (MCE). From 1996 until the present (with a 2.5-year stint at Conoco / ConocoPhillips thrown in), he has worked at Fugro-McClelland Marine Geosciences, now serving as commercial manager. Marshall is the proud husband of Theodora Overfelt Pounds (M.S. ENVI, 1996; REA Board 98-02) and father of 11-month old Robert Andrew Pounds. He spends all his free time with his family, except for occasional excursions to Lowes, Comp USA and Valhalla. He has volunteered to serve on the REA Board primarily to re-engage with the Rice community, contribute initially to Social and Student Award functions of the REA, and as an excuse to visit campus more often.

Richard O. (Dick) Wilson, born in Coleman, Texas, graduated with a B. A. from Rice Institute in 1952 and a B. S. in civil engineering 1956. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1952 to 1955 in Quantico, Korea, and North Carolina. Upon leaving the service, he worked as structural designer, then construction engineer, on offshore hydrocarbon platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, Lake Maracaibo, and Gulf of Paria, and offshore pipelines in Brazil from 1956 to 1963. Dick started and managed Brown and Root's operations in the North Sea from 1963 to 1976. He started and managed, as employee and then partner, Brown and Root's work in Mexico's Cantarell field in the Bay of Campeche from 1977 to 1982. From 1982 to 1997, as a partner with Fred Olsen Interests, he developed an offshore platform assembly company working internationally, principally in the North Sea. He sold the company to Brown and Root in 1997 and became employed as an offshore consultant by Brown and Root from 1997 to present. After all those years of work and living outside of Houston, Dick says he is very pleased to now be able to contribute his time to the REA.

OEA / OYEA Awards

Each year at Homecoming, the REA honors a minimum of two outstanding engineers who have made significant contributions to engineering and to the community at large. One award the OEA (*Outstanding Engineering Alumnus*) recognizes lifetime achievement, while the other, the OYEA, (*Outstanding Young Engineering Alumnus*) recognizes a young engineer who has made significant strides early in his or her career. The awards for 2004 will be presented at the annual REA/Friends of Fondren Homecoming Brunch on Saturday morning, November 6, 2004. The engineering honorees will also be recognized at the annual meeting of the REA on November 5, 2004, in Duncan Hall.

The OYEA award for 2004 will be presented to **Ms. Theodora Overfelt Pounds ('96)**. Ms. Pounds did her undergraduate work in Biology at Austin College in Sherman, Texas, and received her MS in Environmental Science and Engineering from Rice in 1996. She is married to another Rice alumnus, Marshall Pounds. After Theodora was chosen for this year's OYEA award, Marshall was asked to serve on the REA board of directors, and he began his four-year term this fall. Their son Robert will be celebrating his first birthday the same week Theodora receives the OYEA award. Theodora began work at Environmental Resources Management (ERM), Houston, Texas, in 1996. Currently serving as Senior Project Manager, she has been recognized as one of the firm's top employees for successfully carrying out a number of important and sensitive assignments during her tenure. These have included site investigation, risk assessment, and corrective action in Texas and Louisiana, a presumptive remedy process for the Texas State Superfund program, natural attenuation studies, statistical evaluations, litigation support, and marketing activities. During her career she has been very supportive of Rice, participating in the Rice Alumni Mentoring Program and developing several innovative programs during her four-year tenure on the REA Board. She began a series of REA-sponsored open community meetings on various topics (such as Houston's air quality and flooding from Tropical Storm Allison), and also a summer engineering internship program. She also coordinated several events as Chair of the Social Commitee. She also contributes time to church, civic, and professional organizations. Ms. Pounds' topic at the annual REA meeting will be "Community Involvement in Environmental Projects".

This year, the REA has chosen to present two OEA awards this year. The honorees are both electrical engineering graduates of Rice, one from the Class of 1969, and the other from the Class of 1972. Both later earned doctorates from prestigious universities and have had distinguished careers, while at the same time continuing to support Rice and the George R. Brown School of Engineering.

Dr. Stephen J. Sheafor ('72) received his BA degree in EE/Mathematics/Economics and the Master of EE degree from Rice, all in 1972. He earned his doctorate in EE from the University of Illinois in 1974, and an MBA from the University of Santa Clara in 1979. He worked at Hewlett Packard for seven years and since then has been involved with several startup companies as founder and principal. He was awarded the 2000 Esprit Award – Boulder County, Colorado, Entrepreneur of the Year. Since 2001 he has been an Adjunct Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Rice. He also has served on the External Advisory Board of the Rice Alliance for Entrepreneurship since 2001 and has participated as judge and speaker in several events, including the Rice Business Plan Competition. He is the holder of nine US Patents, primarily in the area of flexible bus architectures. He and his wife Cindy Lindsay, also a Rice alum, live in Boulder, Colorado. They are funding the Lindsay-Sheafor Innovation Endowment at Rice. It is currently being used to fund the CITI Innovation Grant: Enriching Rice through Information Technology (ERIT) grant program.

Dr. John R. Treichler ('69). received his BA degree in EE and his Master of EE degree from Rice, both in 1970. John served as a line officer in the U.S. Navy from 1970 to 1974 and then earned his doctorate in EE from Stanford University in 1977, specializing in sonar and radar signal processing. After completing the PhD, he worked at ARGOSystems, Inc., in the same field. He was an Associate Professor at Cornell University from 1983 to 1984. In 1984 he co-founded Applied Signal Technology, Inc., a firm that builds signal reconnaissance and intercept equipment for the U.S. government and its allies. He now serves as Chief Technical Officer of the firm, which employs more than 450 people. He has written or co-authored scores of technical articles and papers and co-authored two books, including a text for high school students entitled *Engineering: Our Digital Future*. He has received several awards from IEEE and in 1991 was elected to the grade of IEEE Fellow for "developments in adaptive filtering algorithms and hardware for digital communications". Dr. Treichler and his wife, Dr. Sally Wood, live in Los Altos Hills, California. They have three children now in their twenties, two of whom are engineers. Dr. Wood is an electrical engineering professor at Santa Clara University in Santa Clara, California.

OEA Winners List

1974	George R. Brown
1975	Herbert Allen
1976	Walter P. Moore, Sr.
1977	Stanley C. Moore
1978	Ernest Dell Butcher
1979	David L. Rooke
1980	Jennings A. Massingill
1981	David E. Farnsworth
	John G. Holland
1982	Louis A. Waters
1983	Alan J. Chapman
	James R. Sims
1984	Louis D. Spaw, Jr.
1985	Riki Kobayashi
	Warren E. White
1986	Charles S. Matthews
1987	I. A. Naman
1988	Patrick Conley
1989	George Miner
1990	Griff Lee
1991	Walter P. Moore, Jr.
1992	W. Bernard Pieper
1993	Burton J. McMurtry
	M. Kenneth Oshman
1994	Kenneth E. Jones
1995	Orville Gaither
1996	Terry Koonce
1997	Joseph Reilly
1998	Patsy Stallings Chappelear
1999	Robert Maxfield
2000	Fred Russell
2001	Sidney Burrus
	Phillip Glynn
2002	Richard Bost
2003	William N. Sick
2004	Stephen J. Sheafor
	John R. Treichler

OYEA Winners

1996	William White
1997	Matthew Barry
1998	Alan Hirshberg
1999	J.D. Sitton
2000	Lawrence Ciscon
2001	Don Grieve
2002	Eric Sachs
2003	John D. Miner
2004	Theodora Overfelt Pounds

"Survey Says..."

REA 2004 Engineering Alumni and Student survey results are in. Here's what you had to say

In Spring 2004, the REA Board of Directors together with the Rice Alumni Office conducted an on-line survey of undergraduate alumni and current engineering students to determine the demographics and interests of Rice Engineering Alumni and students in order for the REA Board to better serve the Rice engineering community. We received 828 responses from alumni and 223 from students. The findings have already resulted in new initiatives for the REA:

>70% of engineering alumni reside outside Houston making it very difficult for the majority of you to attend events at Rice. You requested more relevant news in the newsletter and also requested networking, professional development, and fellowship.

REA Response: The newsletter articles are more aligned to your interests and solicits YOUR input for future articles. In addition, the REA newletter and website will be reconstructed. Newletters will be avialable online and the website will be updated to provide recent information. Please see http://alumni.rice.edu/rea to see our new changes. REA is also developing a new intiative to designate out-of-area liasons located in metropolitan areas with a significant number of engineering alumni.

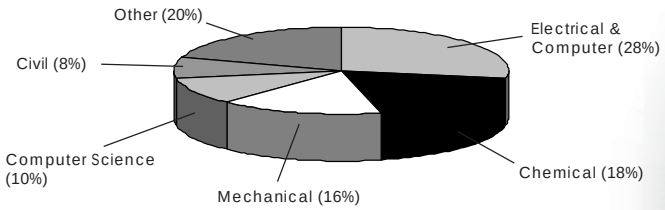
75% of the students responded that they desired mentoring with alums who can advise about the real world of engineering and Alumni asked for opportunities to get involved with the engineering school

REA Response: The REA Board is exploring ways to make the existing Rice mentoring program more custom fit for the engineering students and alumni. We are also looking at mentoring by e-mail and the internet. The REA is promoting involvement in the Cain Project, a program to enhance students' abilities in communication. Alums can participate in this by reading and listening to student presentations and providing critique. More information can be found online at http://www.owlnet.rice.edu/~cainproj/

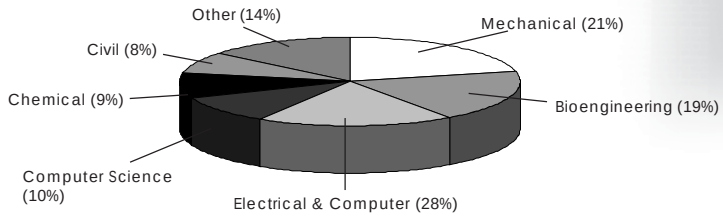
>80% of the students did not know that they are part of the REA upon their graduation and most knew little or nothing about the REA and what it does.

REA Response: The REA will be involved in student functions such Majors Day, Career Day, and e-Ball. The REA Board invites a member of the Rice Engineering Student Council (RESC) to each board meeting to keep us informed about student events and needs and to make engineering students aware of REA activities.

Of the alumni, 79% were male and 21% female, disciplines as follows:



Of the students, 58% were male and 42% female, disciplines as follows:



Please contact the REA at engalum@rice.edu if you have other ideas on how we can better serve you.

New Faculty Appointments:

BIOENGINEERING (BIOE)

Dr. Rebecca Richards-Kortum - *Chair*
Award-winning biomedical researcher Rebecca Richards-Kortum, a pioneer in the development of non-invasive screening methods for cervical cancers and pre-cancers, has joined the faculty of Rice University's Department of Bioengineering. Richards-Kortum will become the chair of Rice's Department of Bioengineering in fall 2005, when she joins the faculty as the Stanley C. Moore Professor of Bioengineering. She is currently the Cockrell Family Chair in Engineering #10 and a Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Z. Maria Oden - *Lecturer/Lab Coordinator*
Dr. Oden received her Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Tulane University in 1994, and has worked extensively in the area of Osteoporosis

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING (CENG)

Dr. Andreas Matzakos -
Adjunct Assistant Professor
Dr. Matzakos is a Rice Alum, receiving his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Rice in 1992. He is currently a research engineer with Shell International Exploration and Production, working in the fields of chemical reactor modeling and process design.

CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Dr. Pedro Jose Alvarez - *Professor*
Dr. Alvarez received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in Environmental Engineering. His research focuses on bioremediation of contaminated aquifers, fate and transport of hazardous substances, and treatment of contaminated soil, water, or wastewater. His teaching interests lie in the applications and implications of biological treatment processes in Environmental Engineering.

COMPUTATIONAL AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS (CAAM)

Dr. E. McKay Hyde - *Assistant Professor*
Dr. Hyde received his Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology in Applied and Computational Mathematics in 2003 and works in the area of numerical methods for the solution of partial differential equations

Dr. Timothy Warburton - *Assistant Professor*
Dr. Warburton received his Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from Brown University in 1998 and specializes in large-scale scientific computation

Dr. Bradford Peercy -
Pfeiffer-VIGRE Instructor
Dr. Peercy received his Ph.D. from the University of Utah in 2003, in Mathematics; his research focus has been in the general area of mathematical physiology

Dr. Timothy Redl - *Lecturer*
Dr. Redl received his M.A. in 2003 and Ph.D. in 2004 from the Computational and Applied Mathematics Department of Rice University and works in the area of graph theory and its applications and in related areas of logistical mathematics.

Dr. Fabrizio Gabbiani -
Adjunct Assistant Professor
Dr. Gabbiani earned his Ph.D. in Mathematical Physics from the Institute for Theoretical Physics of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in 1992, and is also part of the Keck Center for Computational and Structural Biology

COMPUTER SCIENCE (COMP SCI)

Dr. Luay Nakhleh - *Assistant Professor*
Dr. Nakhleh, in an unusual twist, has attended both Texas A&M and the University of Texas at Austin. He received his M.S. from A&M in 1998 and his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Texas in 2004; his research lies in the areas of computational biology and bioinformatics

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING (ECE)

Dr. T. S. Eugene Ng - *Assistant Professor (also Computer Science)*
Dr. Ng lived in Hong Kong for 17 years before moving to Seattle, WA to study at University of Washington, where he receieved a B.S. in Computer Engineering. He received a M.S. in Computer Science in 1998, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science in 2003 from Carnegie Mellon. His current research interests lie in network support for global-scale systems, network resource management, multimedia networking, and autonomic network management.

Dr. Thanh T. Tran - *Adjunct Lecturer*
Dr. Tran received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering in 2001, from the University of Houston and is now a Senior Member of the Technical Staff of Texas Instruments.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND MATERIALS SCIENCE (MEMS)

Dr. John J. Bertin - *Lecturer*
Dr. Bertin earned a Ph.D. from Rice University in 1966. He is also an Adjunct Professor in MEMS and a Professor of Aeronautics at the U.S. Air Force Academy and is a leading expert on aerodynamics and thermodynamics.

Dr. Michael J. Massimino -
Adjunct Associate Professor
Dr. Massimino earned his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from MIT in 1992 and served as an Adjunct at Rice from 1992-1995. He is currently an Astronaut at the NASA Johnson Space Center and does research in the area of human-machine systems for spacecraft and aircraft, as well as extra-vehicular activity and sensory substitution systems for telerobotic systems.

STATISTICS (STAT)

Dr. Chad A. Shaw - *Adjunct Assistant Professor*
Dr. Shaw graduated from Rice with a Ph.D. in Statistics in 2001. He is an Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine and has ongoing research projects with Drs. Kimmel and Guerra of the Statistics Department.

Dr. Ilya Shmulevich -
Adjunct Assistant Professor
Dr. Shmulevich earned his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University, the latter in 1997 and his main research focus concerns the development of models of genetic regulatory networks

Dr. John A. Dobelman - *Lecturer*
Dr. Dobelman completed his Ph.D. work at Rice University in April 2004 and did his research in the area of financial hedging programs for electricity producers and users.

Dr. J. Jack Lee - *Adjunct Professor*
Dr. Lee received his Ph.D. in Biostatistics in 1989 from UCLA. He is currently the Associate Director of Biostatistics with the Community Clinical Oncology Program at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Awards & Developments

Drezek Named to TR100 List

Rebekah Drezek, Stanley C. Moore Assistant Professor of Bioengineering, has been named to the 2004 list of the world's 100 Top Young Innovators by Technology Review, MIT's Magazine of Innovation. Rebekah joins Jennifer West, bioengineering (2003) and Lydia Kavraki, computer science (2002) in being recognized by the publication.

Tapia receives SIAM Prize for Distinguished Service

The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics has awarded Rice University's Richard Tapia with its prize for Distinguished Service to the Profession of Applied Mathematics. Established by SIAM in 1985, the prize recognizes applied mathematicians who have made distinguished contributions to the furtherance of applied mathematics on the national level. For more information see:
http://media.rice.edu/media/
NewsBot.asp?MODE=VIEW&ID=4865&SnID=485655088

Halas, West Honored for "Best Discovery of 2003"

Rice University engineering researchers Naomi Halas and Jennifer West have been awarded "Best Discovery of 2003" by Nanotechnology Now <http://www.nanotech-now.com/>, the world's leading nanotechnology news and information site. For more information see
http://www.media.rice.edu/media/
NewsBot.asp?MODE=VIEW&ID=1783&SnID=389114969

Rice Bioengineer Wins International Design Contest

Rice bioengineer Michael Liebschner has been named the grand prize winner in the "Create The Future" Design Contest sponsored by NASA Tech Briefs magazine, Emhart Teknologies and SolidWorks Corp. iebschner, assistant professor of bioengineering, won the contest for designing the OsteoSonic™, a non-invasive damage detection system that will help doctors better diagnose bone fractures and bone loss that results from osteoporosis. As the grand prize winner, Liebschner wins either $20,000 cash or a Toyota Prius hybrid automobile. For more information see:
http://www.media.rice.edu/media/
NewsBot.asp?MODE=VIEW&ID=2294&SnID=389114969

Rice Membrane Researcher Earns French Research Honors

One of Rice's leading environmental researchers, Mark Wiesner, has been named a Pierre de Fermat Laureate — a prestigious French honor conferred by an international panel of scientists. Awarded to internationally renowned foreign university scholars, de Fermat Laureates are given a "chair of excellence" that provides financial support to develop international, collaborative research programs with French scholars. For more information see
http://www.media.rice.edu/media/
NewsBot.asp?MODE=VIEW&ID=4540&SnID=389114969

Rice's Connexions Project wins $1.25M from Hewlett Foundation

Rice University's innovative, open-source e-publishing and courseware platform, Connexions, is poised to continue its rapid, grassroots expansion with today's infusion of $1.25 million in additional grant funding from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. For more information see:

http://media.rice.edu/media/
NewsBot.asp?MODE=VIEW&ID=5181&SnID=361390680

Rice University and M. D. Anderson Cancer Center Establish Center for Computational Cancer Research

Rice University and The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center are teaming together to apply high-level computer science to efforts to understand, treat and ultimately prevent cancer. Using their own funding, the two universities have created The Gulf Coast Center for Computational Cancer Research. The center was formed under the auspices of the Gulf Coast Consortium for Bioinformatics. For more information see:
http://www.media.rice.edu/media/
NewsBot.asp?MODE=VIEW&ID=1529&SnID=389114969

Rice Wins $5M Nano Instrumentation Grant From DOD

A team of researchers from Rice University has won a $5 million grant from the Department of Defense (DOD) to invent next-generation tools for the modern bioengineer and life scientist that can rapidly identify proteins and viruses in incredibly minute detail. The Rice scientists plan to develop a multimodality spectroscope for nanoscale optical imaging of the structure and function of peptides, proteins and viruses in their native environment. For more information see:
http://www.media.rice.edu/media/
NewsBot.asp?MODE=VIEW&ID=2792&SnID=389114969

E-Ball

First Engineering Ball Success at Getting Students & Alums Together

On April 24, 2004, the Rice Engineering Societies Council (RESC) held the first annual Engineering Ball. Nearly 350 students, faculty and alumni attended this semi-formal event at the Momentum Jaguar/Porsche/Volvo dealership on the Southwest Freeway. The event was organized by students as a statement that Rice engineers can host out-of-the-box, fun events. The event included free test drives on the stunt course behind the showroom, a catered buffet dinner, dancing, and live music courtesy of the Rice Jazz Band. One lucky electrical engineering senior won the use of a Jaguar for a weekend. The E-Ball event was a venue for students, alumni and faculty to mingle outside of the Rice campus. Thanks to the sponsorship from the Dean of Engineering, the Vice President of Student Affairs, the Rice Engineering Alumni and several local companies, the event was considered a rousing success. The RESC plans to make this a yearly event so keep your eyes open for an invitation in the Spring.

Spring 2004 Baseball Tailgate a Winner

Our annual REA spring tailgate was held on May 15, 2004. Organized by the REA Social Committee, close to 100 alumni, family and guests congregated outside Reckling Park before the ball game to enjoy hot dogs, drinks and lively conversation. Everyone was fired up watching the Owls shutout the Nevada Wolf Pack, 11-0. Spectators who stayed for the entire game received a coupon for a free barbeque sandwich from Demeris BBQ when a homerun was hit off of the foul pole in right field. This REA function is always a lot of fun. This game was no exception. Plan to attend next year if you are in the Houston area.

Student Happenings

TSPE Awards Update:

The Texas Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE) held their annual Student Awards Banquet during Engineers Week, on February 25, 2004, at Prairie View A&M. The University of Houston, Prairie View A&M and Rice University each select their outstanding engineering students to be honored at this luncheon. Rice selects four seniors and four juniors, one from each ABET accredited department. The Rice student recipients at this luncheon were:

Seniors

John R. Cliver	(ChE)
Ryan K. Giles	(CE)
Shay Har-Noy	(ECE)
Atsushi Suzuki	(ME)

Juniors

Jonathan C. Surratt	(ChE)
Michael J. Long	(CE)
Venkat Chandrasekaran	(ECE)
Griffin Hetrick	(ME)

Ryan K. Giles was selected as the Most Outstanding Senior and Griffin Hetrick as the Most Outstanding Junior. Ryan and Griffin each received a check from TSPE.

Phi Beta Kappa:

On May 7, 2004, 66 students were initiated into the Rice Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at a ceremony held in Hannan Hall. Of the 66 students, 18 were engineering students (27%).

Rice Senior on USA Today's 2004 All-USA College Academic Team

Rice University senior Tamar Losleben is one of just 20 students nationwide to receive top honors in USA TODAY's competition for the prestigious 2004 All-USA College Academic Team. Losleben, who will graduate this spring with degrees in both environmental science and engineering, and studio art, is one of just 20 college students named to receive first-team honors. Placing on the first team earned Losleben a $2,500 award and publicity in today's issue of USA Today. For more information see:
http://www.media.rice.edu/media/NewsBot.asp?MODE=VIEW&ID=1782&SnID=389114969

REA Membership Form

You may fax this form back to the REA at **(713) 348-5210** or mail it to the **Rice Engineering Alumni, MS-520, 6100 Main Street, Houston, Texas 77005-1892**. Help us keep the REA — Rice's oldest alumni association — running strong.

Name	Class/Degrees
Home Address	Business Name
Phone Numbers	Position
	E-mail

I want to become a contributing member of the REA from August 2004 until August 2005.

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You may also pay dues at *https://online.alumni.rice.edu/giving/giving.asp* by specifying "Rice Engineering Alumni."

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