

School of Engineering

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS UNIVERSITY

News - August 2000

2000 DISTINGUISHED LASALLIAN EDUCATOR

Reginald Rodriguez (Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering) was named the 2000 Distinguished Lasallian Educator on April 30, 2000. Below is a quote from his award citation:



Reginald Rodriguez, P.E.

"Your relationship with students in the classroom, the office, and the laboratory over the past 33 years as teacher, advisor and mentor has demonstrated the characteristics of a Lasallian Educator to faculty, staff and students. Through your quality teaching, brotherly concern for students, personal fairness and a strong religious faith your quiet leadership has challenged hundreds of students to outstanding professional careers and moral leadership in their communities. Three or four afternoons a week in the laboratory with students discovering the wonders and intricacies of microcircuits and power electronics is exhausting and exhilarating for the dedicated Lasallian teacher who cares for his students. In addition to your years as Professor of Electrical Engineering and two terms as Chair of the Electrical Engineering Department, you have been generous in your service to the University community in many capacities: the Rank and Tenure Committee, the 1990 SACS Self-Study Steering Committee, the Library Committee, the Faculty Review Committee, the Sabbatical Committee, and numerous Engineering School committees. Your active dedication to the engineering profession, impressive and encouraging to your students, has included leadership roles in the Memphis Chapter of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers and advisor to the Student Chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers. Your professional consulting with The Bodine Company has placed CBU and your students on the cutting edge of electronics technology and produced a number of patents and publications attributable to both yourself and your former students. Your unselfish devotion to those entrusted to your instruction is at the heart of education in the Lasallian tradition. And, your patience and understanding of the students' need for individual help that you so willingly gave has been an inspiration to your fellow faculty members. Along with your wife, Ouida, of 29 years, and with the help of Cuddles, you raised two lovely daughters, Betsy Rodriguez Grusin and Amy Marie Rodriguez, both with MBA degrees, one a Sales Analyst at Smith and Nephew, the other a Network Administrator at International Paper. Over the years your family has been actively participating in the life of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish. In recognition of your long and determined commitment to the Lasallian Mission of the University, you are hereby designated the year 2000 Christian Brothers University

Distinguished Lasallian Educator."

Wow! That is two years in a row that engineering faculty members received this ultimate recognition. Last year, **Dr. Ray Brown** (our previous dean) was named for the same award.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS 2000

Mr. Bob Fisher, P.E. (CE'70) was named the Distinguished Alumnus 2000 at the commencement last May. Below is a quote from his award citation:

"Your accomplishments in the field of engineering are available for everyone to see in the form of buildings and landscape architecture. What often goes unseen is your time spent for your alma mater, Christian Brothers University, and your church, Our Lady Perpetual Help Catholic Church. After receiving your Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from CBU in 1970, you went on to receive your Master of Science in Engineering from Mississippi State University in 1973. Your professional experience is equally impressive with positions as Public Works Director, Shelby County Engineer and also principal engineer with several engineering-consulting firms in the Memphis Area. In 1985, you and fellow CBU alumnus, Jeff Arnold, opened an engineering firm^{3/4}Fisher & Arnold, Inc. which provides engineering, architectural, environmental consulting, land planning, landscape architecture, and surveying services in Memphis, Nashville, and Jonesboro, Arkansas. The firm has over 110 employees and its growth reflects your knowledge of the industry and belief in providing consistent, quality service. In the engineering community, you have held prestigious appointments such as the governor appointed Tennessee State Board of Architects and Engineers Examiners, Director of the Memphis Area Home Builders Association, and the Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee. Christian Brothers University has been fortunate to have you on the Advisory Board for Civil and Environmental Engineering for the past eight years. Recently, you led an initiative to establish an endowment in honor of Jim Guy, a Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering at CBU. In 1993, you were honored with the Outstanding Civil Engineering Alumnus Award. Your family is a great source of pride with your wife, Becky, and your three children, Steve, Tina, and Greg. Your commitments are many, but you consistently give over and above self. This selflessness and generosity of time and spirit is what makes you distinguished in your professional career and distinguished among Christian Brothers University graduates. Therefore, on behalf of the Alumni Association and the entire Christian Brothers University community, we are honored to present you with the 2000 Distinguished Alumnus Award."

Congratulations!

FACULTY NEWS



Dr. K. Madhavan, P.
E.

Mr. Gene McGinnis, P.E. (Civil & Environmental Engineering Department Chair) taught "Construction Equipment and Methods" for the Engineering Management Program during the summer. This was the kicking off course for the Certificate Program in Construction Management. **Dr. K. Madhavan**, P.E., and **Dr. Siripong Malasri**, P.E., are offering the 2nd course entitled "Construction Failures" this fall.

Dr. Fred Terry, P.E., (Electrical & Computer Engineering Department) attended TSPE Board of Directors meeting and combined Consulting Engineers of Tennessee (CET) and Tennessee Society of Civil Engineers (TSPE) Board meeting as one of two voting members from the Memphis chapter. The meeting was held in Murfreesboro on July 20-22, 2000. **Dr. Siripong Malasri** (dean) was recognized at the meeting with the President's Citation for his outstanding service and dedication to the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers. He served as President of the Memphis Chapter of TSPE in 1998-1999 and served on the TSPE/CET Blue Ribbon Committee in 2000.

Dr. L. Yu Lin, P.E., presented two papers entitled "Irrigation Pipe Network Design Using GIS" and "Heavy Metal Removal Using Electrokinetic Technology" at the Convergence 2000: ASCE Joint Environmental and Pipeline Engineering Conference in Kansas City, MO (July 23-26, 2000).

Welcome to CBU Engineering:

- **Dr. Ali Pourhashemi** joins the School of Engineering as Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering. Dr. Pourhashemi comes to CBU from Howard University in Washington, D.C., where he was an Adjunct Assistant Professor and Laboratory Instructor/Manager. He holds a Ph. D. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Maryland.
- **Mr. Frederick E. Sock** joins the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering as Visiting Lecturer of Civil Engineering. Mr. Sock previously was a Structural Engineer for Kos, Inc., which he founded and managed in New Orleans. He holds an M.S. in Structural Engineering from Columbia University.
- **Ms. Rebecca Bailey** joins the Master of Engineering Management office as Secretary. Rebecca is a civil engineering major.

Dr. Juan Carlos Olabe (Electrical & Computer Engineering

Department) presented a paper entitled "Engineering Education and the Internet: A Project for Global Access to Quality Education" at the International Conference on Engineering Education in Taiwan (August 12-20, 2000). The National Science Foundation (NSF) selected him as a US delegate and provided him a travel grant to participate in the conference.

Dr. K. Madhavan of the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department was a member of the organizing committee of the 1st CBU Teaching Excellence Conference - Renewing Our Commitment to Teaching Excellence - on August 17, 2000. The following engineering faculty members presented papers at this university-wide conference:

- "A New ChE Project Course" by **Dr. Robert Blanks** and **Dr. Henry Luttrell**
- "Capstone Design Course in Civil & Environmental Engineering" by **Dr. K. Madhavan**
- "Supplementing Traditional Teaching & Learning with Distance Education Technology" by **Dr. Siripong Malasri**

CAREER CENTER CALENDAR

Senior Meetings

(Mandatory For All December 2000, May 2001 & August 2001 Graduates)

- Wednesday, September 6 - 1:00 to 2:00 pm - Spain Auditorium
- Wednesday, September 6 - 5:00 to 6:00 pm - Spain Auditorium
- Thursday, September 7 - 1:00 to 2:00 pm - Spain Auditorium
- Thursday, September 7 - 5:00 to 6:00 pm - Montesi Room, Buckman 211

Resume Writing Workshop

(Two Sessions, Two Opportunities To Attend!)

- Wednesday, September 13 - 1:00 to 2:00 pm - Montesi Room, Buckman 211
- Wednesday, September 13 - 2:00 to 3:00 pm - Montesi Room, Buckman 211

Interviewing Skills/Professional Image Workshop

(Two Sessions, Two Opportunities To Attend!)

- Wednesday, September 20 - 1:00 to 2:00 pm - Spain



Auditorium

- Wednesday, September 20 - 2:00 to 3:00 pm - Spain Auditorium

Graduate School Workshop

- Tuesday, September 26 - 1:00 to 2:00 pm - Montesi Room, Buckman 211

Fall Practice Test Day

- Thursday, September 28 - 1:15 to 5:00 pm - K200, K203, K219, K221

Graduate School Fair

- Wednesday, October 4 - 11:00 am to 1:00 pm - East Lounge

Job Search Strategies For Engineering Majors Workshop

- Thursday, October 12th - 1:00 to 2:00 pm - Nolan 241

For more information, please check <http://www.cbu.edu/Career> or contact **Curt Rogers** at (901) 321-3330 or crogers@cbu.edu.

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