

School of Engineering

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS UNIVERSITY

News - January 2001

STUDENT NEWS



Congratulations to **Jeffrey Lau** (ME) and **Teresa Fuller** (ECE) for being initiated as a member of the Tennessee Theta Chapter of Alpha Chi last semester. Alpha Chi is a coeducational society whose purpose is to promote academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students and to honor those who achieve such distinction. As a general honor society, Alpha Chi admits to membership students from all academic disciplines. Membership in Alpha Chi recognizes previous accomplishments and provides opportunities for continued growth and service. The Tennessee Theta Chapter of Alpha Chi at Christian Brothers University is the only chapter of Alpha Chi in the state of Tennessee. The chapter was founded in 1975. Requirements for membership in the Tennessee Theta Chapter are: junior or senior standing at CBU, ranking within the top ten percent of the class, and one year prior enrollment or completion of twenty-four semester hours at CBU.

Walter Weirich (MEM) has recently assumed a position at American Tissue. Walter credited the landing of his new position to the management skills he learned from CBU Engineering Management Graduate Program. He said, "This position will give me the opportunity to use everything I've learned and can learn in the MEM program." Walter plans to complete the MEM program in spring 2001.

Shalini Gupta (ECE), **Katie Logerot** (ME), **John Noronha** (ECE), and **Chris Gonsalves** (ECE) attended the Joint Meetings of the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America in early January.

Maria Teresa Blanco (ECE), president of Tau Beta Pi, attended the annual national convention of the honor society in San Francisco, last October. She was elected chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws committee at the conference. CBU



chapter, Tennessee Delta, was recognized for its exceptional commitment to the Engineering Futures program. Maria was also elected Chapter President for District 6, which encompasses all the Tau Beta Pi chapters in Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

ALUMNI NEWS

Keith Payne (MEM'99) recently accepted a position as a Senior Project Engineer - Controls, for RTS Wright Industries, in Nashville. The company is an OEM that designs and manufactures equipment for many different industries. Keith works primarily in control systems engineering.

Paul Hagan (ME'98) started a new job working for the Eaton Corporation in Memphis. He is the manufacturing engineer for the plant. The Eaton facility in Memphis manufactures heavy duty hydraulic pumps for aircraft and industrial applications. He is responsible for CNC encoding, fixture and tooling design, as well as testing and proving various manufacturing processes.

Congratulations to **David Nahlen** (CE'96) for passing the P.E. exam recently. David is currently a structural engineer at VP Buildings, Inc., in Memphis, TN. Last semester, he was a guest speaker in the MEM 614 Structural Failures class.

Lecia Martin, P.E. (ME'94) is owner of the Dunning-Martin Engineering consultant engineering firm. Her company designs HVAC and plumbing mechanical systems for commercial buildings. She said recently, "I urge architectural firms to work with my company not only because I'm a minority engineer and that would help them to meet their quota for minority participation on certain projects, but also because I do excellent work and just need an opportunity to grow."

Jeremy C. N. Chan (ME'95) is Senior Project Engineer at EC Chem Technologies (Singapore) Pte. Ltd. He said recently, "I am very grateful to the wonderful staff and the very competent faculty of CBU, especially the Department of Mechanical Engineering."

FACULTY NEWS



Dr. Blanks

Dr. Bob Blanks of Chemical Engineering recently attended the Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, held in Los Angeles November 12 - 17, 2000. It was pointed out at the meeting that today's job markets for chemical engineers are shifting away from the traditional chemical and petroleum companies into pharmaceuticals, semi conductors, and a number of specialty areas. Some called for life sciences and more advanced chemistry to be added in place of some of the traditional unit operations and control courses. Dr. Blanks also attended a workshop on effective teaching for engineering professors. Finally he was trained as an evaluator for ABET accreditation teams using the new EC 2000 criteria.



Dr. Lin

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering co-sponsored a GEOPAK 2000 Road 1 Training Class with Modern Tech SI, Inc. on January 8 - 12, 2001, in the Nolan Engineering Center. Mr. Beebe Ray, who works with GEOPAK in their corporate Miami office, taught the class. Twelve professionals from Memphis and Nashville area consulting firms attended the class, as well as **Mr. Gene McGinnis** and **Dr. Yu L. Lin** from the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at CBU. During the five-day class, Mr. Ray took the attendees through a complete TDOT highway design project. The participants were very enthusiastic about the class and were requesting that other GEOPAK classes be held in the future at CBU.

Dr. Bernard Beard of the Mechanical Engineering Department has been invited to spend two weeks at the National Institute for Nuclear Physics, associated with the Physics Department of the University of Florence in Florence, Italy. He will be working on research and lecturing on QMC and continuous time loop algorithm.



Dr. Jackson

Dr. Neal Jackson, Director of Graduate Engineering, was the guest speaker at the Engineers' Club of Memphis, Inc., meeting on January 8, 2001. He spoke about Certificate Programs in Graduate Engineering. The MEM program is offering Certificate Programs in two specialties: Information Technology and Construction Management. A certificate is earned for completion of 3 graduate courses (9 credits). He also mentioned the on-going cooperation with Jackson State Community College in Jackson, TN, to expand the MEM program to Jackson, TN.

Dr. Robert Cosenza (School of Business), **Dr. Roger Easson** (School of Arts), **Dr. Siripong Malasri** (School of Engineering), and **Dr. Anna Ross** (School of Sciences) have started a pilot project on Website Contest for the Memphis in May International

Festival, Inc. The 2001 Website Contest encourages 9th-12th grade students to learn about the Netherlands, express their creativity through website design, and develop teamwork and research skills. The project web site can be viewed at <http://www.cbu.edu/~pong/webcontest>.

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