

School of Engineering

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS UNIVERSITY

News - June 2000

STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to the following graduating seniors who were recognized for special awards at the 2000 Commencement Exercises on May 13, 2000:

Amanda V. Stanford - T. Herbert Darnell Award (This award is presented by the Mechanical Engineering Department to the department graduate who has demonstrated academic excellence and provided service to the University and/or community.)



Lori B. Poepsel - Outstanding Civil & Environmental Engineering Graduate Award (This award is presented by the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department to the graduate who has demonstrated evidence of academic excellence and who has been of service to the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department.)

Michael C. LaMountain - Brother Philip Morgan Electrical Engineering Design Award (This award is presented by the Electrical Engineering Department to the department graduate who has shown outstanding evidence of design ability and academic excellence.)

Justin E. Cash - Philip M. Becker Award in Chemical Engineering (This award is presented to the graduate who has demonstrated academic excellence and creativity in approaches to chemical engineering problems.)

Luis A. Tercero - Outstanding School of Engineering Graduate Award (This award is presented by the School of Engineering faculty to the graduate who has shown evidence of academic excellence and given service to the University and/or community.)

Jessica E. Brown - Thomas G. Morrison Award (This award is given annually by the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering in honor of the late Dr. Thomas G. Morrison, Professor Emeritus, who was killed in an automobile accident in December 1994. It is awarded to the best civil engineering graduate who specialized in structural engineering.)

Congratulations to **Thomas James Malone II** (ME), **Patricia Lynne Raniszewski** (CE), and **Luis Alberto Tercero** (ChE) for being listed in *Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities*. This award is a national honor recognizing those students whose academic standing, service to the community, leadership in co-curricular activities, and future potential are a credit to their graduating class and to Christian Brothers University.

The Tennessee Delta section of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society at CBU initiated the following new members on April 29, 2000: **Jennifer Mandler** (ChE), **Jessica Brown** (CE), **Ronald Carter** (ChE), and **Patricia Raniszewski** (CE). Also, the 2000-2001 officers for Tau Beta Pi have been named: **Maria Teresa Blanco** (President), **Carrie Mills** (Vice-President), **Eric Branson** (Secretary), and **Jarred Drewry** (Treasurer). Congratulations to the new members and officers.

ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations to **Troy Drewry** (MEM Alumnus) on his recent promotion to Manager of Products of Development in the Technology Development Division at Sofamor Danek.

Haidar H. Jaradah (CE'88) works at the Ministry of Public Works in the Gaza Strip (Palestine) as Director of the Roads Department. He is married and has a son.

Fadi Chehab (CE'83) recently moved from California to Lebanon.

On Friday, April 28, 2000, Graduate Engineering and the School of Engineering at CBU held a reception to recognize students, faculty, and alumni for their contributions to the Master of Engineering Management Program. **Andrew J. Mohler** (MEM'98), Director of Process Innovation at Buckman Laboratories, Inc., was honored as the recipient of the R. Craig Blackman Outstanding Graduate Engineering Alumni Award. This award was presented to Mr. Mohler in recognition of his academic excellence, professional success, community service, and continual support of Christian Brothers University, the School of Engineering, and the Master of Engineering Management Program.

Malinda Bennett (CE'93) now works for the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County, Tampa Bay, Florida. Her lovely new house is only 45 minutes from Disney World and 20 minutes from Busch Gardens. What a place to live and work!



FACULTY NEWS



Dr. Eric Welch

Dr. Eric Welch was named Acting Chair for the Electrical & Computer Engineering Department for the 2000-2001 academic year. Dr. Welch is an Associate Professor in the Electrical Engineering Department at CBU. Before arriving at CBU in 1992, he taught various courses for the Electrical Engineering Department at Mississippi State University, where he earned his B. S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees. His current interests include computer systems, networking, and forensic engineering. In addition to electrical engineering, his research experience includes work in biological and aerospace engineering. He is a member of Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu and other honorary societies. Dr. Welch can be reached at 901-321-3425 or ewelch@cbu.edu.



Dr. Bob Blanks

Congratulations to **Dr. Bob Blanks** (ChE Dept. Chair) for receiving an NSF CSEMS (Computer Science, Engineering and Math Scholarships) grant. The grant amount is \$55,000 for two years; it was a competitive award. Thanks to Ann Smith who helped in the proposal. Ten students per year will receive \$2500 each. The students must meet several criteria:

- Pell Grant eligibility, which is a measure of need based on federal government standards measuring how little support each eligible student gets from outside, parents, etc.
- Junior standing in Computer Science, Engineering, or Mathematics.
- Meet CBU standards for scholarship eligibility.
- U.S. citizens or resident aliens.



Our CSEMS committee has met and identified 10 candidates, 6 of whom have been contacted and have accepted. The other 4 will be contacted in August. During the year the committee will meet with the students and monitor academic progress. We will provide tutoring if it seems necessary. We plan to attempt to place all students in an industrial internship position and make sure that they get several field trips to local industries. We will support these students to maximize their chances of getting a degree and a good job following CBU graduation.



Dr. Mike Santi

Dr. Mike Santi (ME) has received a research grant from the NASA Glenn Research Center on his project entitled "Robust Strategy for Rocket Engine Health Monitoring." The objective of the project is to refine a computational strategy for real-time assessment of component level performance in rocket engines. The new strategy will be tested as part of NITEX, an integrated vehicle health management experiment scheduled to fly on the X-34, NASA's technology demonstration vehicle. The grant amount is \$86,527

for the period of June 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000.
Congratulations!

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