

# School of Engineering

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS UNIVERSITY

## News - September 2002

### **CBU RANKED AMONG THE BEST COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

Christian Brothers University is once again listed in *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best Colleges" released this week. CBU is ranked in the top tier of Southern Universities Granting Master's Degrees and is listed as a "best value" among Southern universities. CBU is also listed among the most diverse campuses in the South. The U.S. News rankings are based on several quality measures including academic reputation, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, alumni giving and graduation rate performance. Colleges and universities are listed in various categories depending on their size, location, and other factors.



CBU was founded in 1871 by the Brothers of the Christian Schools. The university awarded their first college degree in the City of Memphis in 1875. Today, more than 110 full-time faculty members, with 83% holding doctorates or the highest degrees in their field, provide a comprehensive education to 2,000 students from more than 20 states and 25 countries, representing 35 different faiths (24% Catholic). CBU students receive more than \$7 million in scholarships and grants provided by the university and its benefactors. In addition to University scholarships and grants, 30% of CBU students qualify for federal Pell Grants. More than 90% of day undergraduate students receive some type of financial assistance.

**IN MEMORY OF BR.  
THEODORE  
DRAHMANN, FSC**



*Br. Theodore  
Drahmann*

**Brother Theodore Drahmann**, FSC, past president of Christian Brothers University, died in St. Paul, Minnesota, on Monday, September 2, 2002. He was 76 years old. Brother Theodore served 13 years as the 18th President of CBU from 1980-1993.

He is survived by sisters Florence Lacy, Catherine Drahmann, Rosemarie Larson, nieces and nephews and his religious family, the Brothers of the Christian Schools, Midwest Province. A Memorial Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, September 10 at 5 p. m. in CBU's De La Salle Chapel, 2455 Avery Street. Memorials can be made to the Brother Theodore Drahmann Scholarship Fund at Christian Brothers University, 650 E. Parkway South, Memphis, TN 38104. For more information on Brother Theodore and his productive years at CBU, please visit <http://www.cbu.edu/News/Releases/BrotherTheodore.html>.

**OCTOBER 3RD  
FUNDRAISING  
DINNER**

**Jim Guy**, Professor Emeritus, will be honored at the CBU School of Engineering October 3rd Fundraising Dinner. Jim earned his B.S. (1940) and M. S. (1941) in civil engineering from the University of Tennessee (Knoxville). Before joining CBU in 1955, he taught at University of Tennessee (Knoxville) and University of New Mexico. He also worked extensively in construction and design of concrete and steel structures. Jim taught at CBU from 1955-65 and 1974-87. He was promoted to Associate Professor and Professor in 1958 and 1964, respectively. Over his long professional and academic career, Jim was very active with various engineering organizations, including the National Society of Professional Engineers, Engineers' Club of Memphis, and Memphis Joint Engineers Council. He served as President of the Memphis Chapter of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers in 1959-60. Among his many awards/ recognition are Krusi Civil Engineering Award, Mechanics Award, Golden Bridge Award, The Douglass J. Thomas Chair of Engineering, Senior Golf Champion, Featured Engineer (Memphis Chapter of TSPE), and Distinguished Service Award (Memphis Chapter of TSPE). Currently, he maintains Professor Emeritus rank at CBU.



The October 3rd Fundraising Dinner will be at the Ridgeway Inn

(5679 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN). Cocktails will be served at 6:00 p.m. and will be followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Don't miss this opportunity to honor Jim Guy, to meet with other fellow alumni, current students, faculty, and friends. The cost is \$150/person or \$1,500 per table (for ten). If you cannot attend the dinner, you may sponsor a student or order a complete BBQ dinner from the Rendezvous for \$150. The proceeds of the dinner will help to strengthen the CBU Engineering Lab Endowment. For more information, please call (901) 321-3270 or (800) 283-2925.

Check the [School of Engineering Web Site](#) for updates on attendance.

## CHEMICAL ENGINEERING FACULTY SEARCH

The Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering at Christian Brothers University (CBU) welcomes applicants for a tenure-track faculty position for the spring or fall semesters of 2003.

The CBU Chemical and Biochemical Engineering department offers an ABET accredited undergraduate program with an emphasis on teaching. However, the faculty is highly encouraged to continue his/her professional development. A complete upgrading of the laboratory facilities is under way through a \$3M equipment grant to the School of Engineering.

Applicants are required to have a Ph.D. or equivalent in chemical engineering or a closely related area with a preference for biochemical engineering and industrial experience. Salary and rank will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Qualified candidates, please send your resume and the names of three references to:

Faculty Search Committee for Chemical Engineering  
Human Resources Department  
Christian Brothers University  
650 East Parkway South  
Memphis, TN, 38104.

Consideration of individuals for this position will begin immediately.

CBU is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from minorities, females, handicapped, and veterans (EOE/M/F/H/V).

For more information, please contact **Dr. Ali Pourhashemi**,



Chemical & Biochemical Engineering Department Chairman, at (901) 321-3401 or [apourhas@cbu.edu](mailto:apourhas@cbu.edu).

## SUMMER IN ANOTHER COUNTRY?

CBU has received to date almost \$400,000 from the National Institute of Health (NIH) under the Minority International Research Training (MIRT) Program. We sent students and faculty to Brazil and Uganda to conduct research. The definition of research is very broad. There will be a symposium on September 21, where the participants will present their research findings. For more information, please visit <http://www.cbu.edu/~aross/biodept/MIRT-CBU.html> or contact **Dr. Malinda Fitzgerald** at [malinda@cbu.edu](mailto:malinda@cbu.edu).



*Scenic view of Santa Catarina Island in Southern Brazil*

## MAESC 2003 CONFERENCE

Mark your calendar! The fifth Annual Memphis Area Engineering & Sciences Conference has been scheduled at CBU for Friday, May 16, 2003. The [Technology Council](#) at the Memphis Regional Chamber will co-host the conference with the [School of Engineering](#) and the [School of Sciences](#) at CBU. Please check the conference website at <http://www.cbu.edu/engineering/maesc> for updates. If your company is interested in being a corporate sponsor, please contact **Dr. Siripong Malasri** at (901) 321-3419 or [pong@cbu.edu](mailto:pong@cbu.edu).

## STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to **Eric Morris** (ECE) for being inducted to the CBU chapter of Sigma Pi Sigma. Sigma Pi Sigma is the National Physics Honor Society. The induction ceremony was held on September 9, 2002.

Congratulations to **Michael Avanzi** (ECE) for receiving a \$1,000 scholarship from the Society of American Military Engineers on August 21st.

The Tau Beta Pi officers for 2002-2003 academic year are:

- President: **David Schaeffgen**
- Vice-President: **Lisa Lavie**
- Treasurer: **Michael Avanzi**
- Secretary: **Jyoti Gupta**

## ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations to **Stephen Shearer** (CE'79) for the success of his firm, LMK Building Designs, Inc. LMK was listed in the May 2002 issue of the *Metal Construction News* as the 140th largest buyer of pre-engineered building systems. The firm was listed ranked 176th in the previous year. LMK Building Designs, Inc., was established in January 1, 2000, as a unique design-sales firm providing complete structural designs and sales of pre-engineered building systems. It sells to design-build contractors, developers and owners. LMK represents Inland Buildings and Mesco Metal Buildings as an authorized dealer/builder. Products include low-rise commercial, industrial, municipal, institutional, and agricultural buildings.

**Greg Emerick** (ME '97) is a Senior Engineer at Cummins Engine Company, where he works in their R&D center located in Columbus, Indiana. Cummins designs and manufactures heavy duty diesel and natural gas engines for the automotive, mining, construction, marine, and power generation markets. Engine sizes range from 3 liters to over 60 liters in displacement. His current responsibilities include design, analysis, and dynamic simulation of valve train & cam systems. Greg and his wife, Janie, currently reside in Columbus, Indiana.

Congratulations to **Kathy Romer** (CE'92) for her new baby girl. Joanna Marie Romer was born at 10:04 p.m. on Thursday, September 5. She weighed seven pounds and was 19 inches long at birth.

**Teresa Fuller** (ECE'02) is currently living in Fredericksburg, VA. She is working as an electrical engineer in the Theatre Warfare

Department at the Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division ([www.nswc.navy.mil](http://www.nswc.navy.mil)). She also passed the FE exam last April. Congratulations!



**Brian Walker** (CE'95) has taken a new job at M&H Construction in Southaven, MS. He is a project manager for the firm. His responsibilities include reviewing construction documents and preparing proposals; verifying construction documents conform to local codes, standards, and regulations; preparing data for construction staking; corresponding with engineers and contractors to discuss job progress, problems and solutions, and various elements of construction sites; and confirming with job superintendents that a job is progressing according to budget and schedule.

**David Nahlen** (CE'96) has returned to Thomas & Betts in the position of Regional Engineering Supervisor for the Steel Structures Department. He will be responsible for the Eastern half of the U.S. for the company. He was with Thomas & Betts and left to join VP Buildings for many years.

**Komal Shah** (ChE'00) is planning to finish her Master's degree in Chemistry from Boston University this December. Her research has been in the area of drug discovery through chemical genetics. She has also been involved in gene expression profiling and drug-protein interactions. She says she missed the personal contact she had with her professors while at CBU.

**Becky Bailey** (CE '02) is now working in the Engineering

Department for the City of Bartlett, TN.

**FACULTY/STAFF  
NEWS**

**Dr. L. Yu Lin, Mr. Gene McGinnis, and Mr. Fred Sock** from the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department taught PE review sessions for the Memphis District Corps of Engineers during the past summer.

---

[cbu home](#) | [engineering home](#) | [chemical](#) | [civil](#) | [electrical](#) | [mechanical](#) | [management](#)