ALUMNI REGISTRATION

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering is always interested in how our alumni are doing. We hope you will take time to complete the Alumni Update information below. Please include information on your recent professional and personal developments. Please email your information to szerin1@lsu.edu or mail submissions to Civil and Environmental Engineering, Louisiana State University, 3418 CEBA Building, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-6405.

Name:	Year of Graduation:	
Home Address:		
	Email:	
Job Title and Address:		
	Business Telephone:	
News:		



Civil and Environmental Engineering Louisiana State University 3418 CEBA Building Baton Rouge, LA 70803-6405

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LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 6 • Spring Issue • March 2007

Civil & Environmental Engineering Department



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Forever

Message from the



Alumni Can Help Raise Departmental Rankings

By Ronald Rodi, Member of CEE Campaign Steering Committee and Chair of CEE External Advisory Board

College Rankings...Yes, we've just been through another football season and our Fighting Tigers finished the season ranked No. 3. This season, both the men's and women's basketball teams are also among the top in the land. As many of us college sports aficionados know, there is a multitude of polls and ranking systems that gauge your team. The margin between teams can be slight, subjective and sometimes parochial. Nonetheless, we all cheer and bask in the glory of our alma mater.

No. 2 Learn More about Today's CEE partment. Nearly 25% of practicing, LSU-graduated civil engineers are from the "preresearch" era of college education. In the mid-1970's, the faculty's primary (and almo singular) role of the dozen or so civil engine ing faculty was to teach soil mechanics, training faculty was to t

In the 2006 and 2007 editions of the U.S. News & World Report, LSU's Civil Engineering Department reached lofty rankings of No. 62 and No. 58 in this acclaimed academic poll. While it may not be something to cheer about, and the criteria may not be anymore objective than in athletics, the CEE ranking has continued to climb. In this realm of academic competition, LSU is within striking distance of Top 40 status. But why the need?

LSU CEE needs all the resources and prestige we can muster to compete with other universities in attracting top faculty and top students. Why would an alum of the Ole War Skule not want LSU to be considered as one of the top civil engineering programs in the nation!

So here's the Top 3 list on how we as alumni can help get CEE there:

No. 3 Cheer for the Home

Team. Nearly all of us never set foot on the field or court, yet we root, root, root for the home team and sing "Forever LSU." Let's get excited about our academic success! We should talk among our friends and colleagues about the value of our degrees from LSU, express our personal success as a civil engineer and encourage young people to attend LSU. We should also contact legislators to support LSU and fund higher education initiatives.

No. 2 Learn More about Today's CEE De graduated civil engineers are from the "preresearch" era of college education. In the mid-1970's, the faculty's primary (and almost singular) role of the dozen or so civil engineering faculty was to teach soil mechanics, traffic, structures, and sanitary engineering. Today, LSU in general and the Civil and Environmental department in particular strives for recognition as a leader in research. CEE has 35 full-time faculty covering courses of study in: Environmental Engineering Systems; Geodesay, Geoinformatics and Surveying; Geotechnical and Geophysical Systems; Transportation; Structural Engineering and Mechanics; Material Modeling and Visualization and Water Resources. Most recently, CEE has brought on distinguished faculty in the area of coastal studies and is working through the process to begin Master and Doctorate level programs in Coastal Engineering.

No. 1 Support the Cause. Any public educational institution requires a dependable revenue stream from both the state and private sectors in order to complement the income derived from research. Whether right or wrong, we all should know that higher education is not at the top of the state's priority list. See Item No. 3 and get engaged with your elected officials.

On the private side, LSU alumni (not specifically civil engineers) are dead last in percentage of giving compared to our peer SEC schools with engineering programs. We, as a profession, are people who are most generous with their time and talent, and so committed to public service. Let's be a TIGER with our giving!

"We all have some ability to make a difference!"

Find out the latest information about the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, visit: www.cee.lsu.edu

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Dr. George Z. Voyiadjis, Boyd Professor, Chair and Bingham C. Stewart Distinguished Professor

Our department has been busy for the past few months. Our Forever LSU fundraising campaign is in full swing. To kickoff our campaign, a fundraiser event was held at Wilfred Barry's home, a member of the CEE Campaign Steering Committee, where alumni and friends joined to listen to the Chancellor speak about the visions of the campaign.

Two of our faculty members received recognition for their outstanding work in teaching, research, and/or service. John Pardue was a recipient of the LSU Distinguished Faculty Award for 2007. Mark Levitan was a recipient of the 2007 LSU Alumni Association Faculty Excellence Award. We congratulate them on their excellent performance.

Our ASCE student chapter continues to succeed offering a 100% pure CEE job fair last October where potential employers met with students. Plans of an expansion of the next CEE fundraiser are already in the works. The ASCE student chapter also held elections for new officers. We thank the outgoing officers for all of their hard work, and wish the incoming officers great success.

This edition of our newsletter has feature articles on our two new inductees to the Civil and Environmental Engineering Hall of Distinction - Larry McKee and Kenneth McManis. Larry McKee is currently the chair of our own CEE Campaign Steering Committee, and is still active in civic activities. Kenneth McManis is currently the department head of the Civil Engineering Department at University of Louisiana in Lafayette. He received his Ph.D. from LSU in Civil Engineering in 1975.

Our department in conjunction with the Louisiana Water Resource Research Institute will hold a symposium this spring addressing important issues to coastline planners especially following the 2005 hurricane season. I encourage you all to participate in this symposium—registration is free.

YES, count me in!

I want to donate to the: ☐ Civil and Environmental Engineering Siess Endowment Fund ☐ Other:	
Here's my contribution of: □ \$10,000 □ \$5.000 □ \$2,000 □ \$1,000 □ \$500 □ \$250 □ \$	
Payment: Check enclosed — Please make check payable to: LSU Foundation/Civil & Environmental Engineering	
☐ Credit card (Circle one): Visa MasterCard Discover AmEx Account number://////////// Expires://////	
Name as it appears on card:	
Signature:	
Note: If your/your spouse's employer has a Corporate Gift Matching Program, you may be able to double or even quadruple your gift! Please contact the employer's human resource office for more information. Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.	
☐ I enclose a matching gift form for my company	
Please send this completed form to: Civil and Environmental Engineering, Louisiana State University, 3418 CEBA Building,	

Baton Rouge, LA 70803-6405

Please fill out the information on the back of this form also

Symposium Will Be Held in Spring

This spring, the Louisiana Water Resource Research Institute (LWRRI) in conjunction with LSU Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, URS, and the LSU Hurricane Center will be holding a spring symposium: Mitigation of Storm Surge using Vegetation. The symposium will be held at the Hilton Capitol Center, located in downtown Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on April 13, 2007.

This symposium will address an important issue to state and federal coastal planners; that is subsequent to the Hurricane season of 2005, Louisiana's coastal restoration focus was altered to consider the effect of wetlands on hurricane storm surge. Wetland vegetation can help protect coastal communities by dampening waves and by the frictional resistance of the plants, themselves, reducing the energy and depth of the water. Hydraulic engineers have studied the flow through vegetation for many years, in the context of overbank flooding, but connecting these approaches with coastal restoration scientist is needed. Key

scientific questions include: What are the appropriate quantitative procedures for frictional resistance and wave dampening of different wetland types? What types of wetlands provide ability to mitigate surge? Invited speakers include: Dr. Heidi Nepf from MIT and Dr. Robert Kadlec, emeritus from University of Michigan. In addition, state and university researchers will discuss research and applications of information related to the role of vegetation in mitigating storm surge.

To encourage the participation of undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty, staff and industry people, no registration fees will be charged. Participants are asked to register via the LWRRI website: http://www.lwrri.lsu.edu/MSSV07.htm. If there are any questions or comments, please contact John H. Pardue, Ph.D., P.E., and Director of LWRRI at jpardue@lsu.edu or via phone at (225) 578-6770.

FACULTY NEWS

Forever LSU: The Campaign for Louisiana **State University**

Forever LSU: The Campaign for value of our degrees, and most Louisiana State University, launched at the end of June, 2006. support for the students of the fu-The goal is to raise \$750 million by ture," he added. the University's Sesquicentennial in 2010. The College of Engineer- The "Case for Support," which is ing set a target of \$100 million.

Excellent leadership is provided to campaign. It includes graduate the CEE Forever LSU Campaign through the Campaign Steering chairing this key group. Along with CEE. The ultimate goal is the fellow members of this distinguished group Ann Trappey, Ron Rodi, Wilfred Barry, Lloyd Guillory and Falcolm Hull, the CEE campaign target has been set at \$4 million for departmental initiatives in the next four years, with a stretch goal of \$8 million. The ultimate goal is to secure a gift(s) to name the department.

The CSC has met several times to discuss how best to connect with alumni and friends to engage them in the process.

The intent is to truly transform the department through significant investments by alumni and friends. "We are calling upon all of our fellow alumni to consider joining us in making a difference in this campaign," said McKee. "Together, we can help elevate the Department in the national rankings, increase the

importantly, provide the essential

available upon request, outlines the Department's priorities for the student fellowships, faculty support, lab and equipment invest-Committee (CSC). Larry McKee is ment as well as general support for naming of the Department for \$10

> Larry McKee encourages alumni and friends who are interested in playing a role in this important endeavor to contact one of the Campaign Steering Committee members or to call Don Eisenberg at (225) 578-2441.



For more information, check out www.foreverlsu.org.

Thanks for Joining the Forever LSU campaign!

The CEE Department would like to express our appreciation for the generosity of alumni and friends. Many have donated, and we hope others will join us in this vital campaign.

We would like to offer our deep gratitude for the following special gifts:

- Larry McKee has committed to endow a professorship by means of a life insurance policy.
- Stan and Hilma Cothren have funded a graduate student fellowship and an undergraduate scholarship in CEE.
- John N. "Jack" Carmena, along with his brothers Joseph Carmena, Jr. and Thomas N. Carmena have endowed an undergraduate scholarship in the name of their late father, Joseph W. Carmena, Sr., a 1921 CE Alumnus.

We will have more information on these generous donations and others in future newsletters.

Two CEE Faculty receive recognition



Dr. Marc L Levitan was awarded a 2007 LSU Alumni Association Faculty Excellence Award. This award recognizes faculty members for outstanding teaching, research, and/or service. Dr. Levitan is the founding and current director of the LSU Hurricane Center. His research, teaching and service activities

primarily revolve around his work in engineering for natural hazards, particularly hurricanes and extreme winds. He co-founded the LSU Wind Tunnel Laboratory with colleagues from Mechanical Engineering and has conducted a number of research projects using that facility. His work in the areas of hurricane sheltering and wind effects on industrial and petrochemical structures have had national impact. He chairs the International Code Council committee developing a national standard for the design and construction of storm shelters. He also chairs the ASCE committee developing guidelines for wind loads on petrochemical structures. He serves on the ASCE 7 Main Committee and the Wind Load Subcommittee. He additionally chairs the ASCE National Infrastructure and Research Policy Committee, vicechairs the ASCE Aerodynamics Committee, is the immediate past President of the American Association for Wind Engi-

neering, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Applied Technology Council. In the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, his research on the effectiveness of building codes in reducing wind damage was important in assisting the state of Louisiana to pass building code reform. He has testified before the US Senate and provided congressional briefings on a number of occasions about wind and hurricane engineering issues. With support from the National Science Foundation, Dr. Levitan led a team of faculty creating curricular materials for the new field of hurricane engineering, and his CE 4445 Hurricane Engineering course is one of the department's most popular electives. Dr. Levitan has received five teaching awards during his career.



Hazardous Substance Research Center cane Katrina (Pardue, J.H., W.M. Moe, oping areas. (South & Southwest), a multi-university D. McInnis, L.J. Thibodeaux, K.T. Val-

plants and microorganisms that result in such as EPA, NSF, NOAA, and DOD. chemical degradation.

consortium studying the remediation of saraj, E. Maciasz, I. van Heerden, N. contaminated sediments. Dr. Pardue's Korevec and Q.Z. Yuan. 2005. Chemiresearch group investigates the fate and cal and microbiological parameters in transport of chemicals in the environ- New Orleans floodwater following Hurriment focused primarily on chemicals in cane Katrina. Environ. Sci. Technol. wetlands and aquatic systems, chemical 39:8591 - 8599). He has published over fate at the groundwater-surface water 50 peer-reviewed papers and coninterface and interactions between ducted research for federal agencies

His research has led to development of Prior to Hurricane Katrina, his group a number of innovative technologies had been working on identification of including the constructed wetland apcritical chemical storage areas in Or- proach for treating contaminated Dr. John Pardue was awarded an LSU leans and Jefferson Parish, identifying groundwater. In addition, his research Distinguished Faculty Award for 2007. simple chemodynamic models that group works closely with international The LSU Distinguished Faculty Award would predict acute hazards to first- collaborators including the Environrecognizes faculty members with sus- responders in the event of a flood or mental Engineering program at UCLAS tained records of excellence in teaching, hurricane inducted spill. His group has at the University of Dar es Salaam in research, service, and/or any combina- been involved in a wide range of envi- Tanzania, West Africa providing retion of the three. He directs the Louisi- ronmental sampling and analysis efforts search opportunities for future faculty ana Water Resources Research insti- post-Katrina and has published the first and working to further development of tute (LWRRI) and co-directs the EPA peer-reviewed scientific paper on Hurri- the environmental engineering in devel-

ASCE Student Chapter Continues Success

The ASCE student chapter held their last Fall semester meeting on November 30, 2006. As is customary at this time of year, elections were held for new officers to be in charge during the 2007 calendar year. Elections were competitive this time, especially for the office of president. This shows growing interest in the chapter's activities.

We would like to acknowledge the outstanding performance of the outgoing team, which consisted of:

President: Matt Blackwell Vice President: Danielle Chabaud Treasurer: **Robert Nuss** Lauren Johnson Secretary: Community Service: Stuart Adams Paul Govan Fundraising: Meeting Coordinator: Neil Marinello Steel Bridge Captain: Jason Fennell Concrete Canoe Co-Capts.: Garrett Sutley Paul J. Kocke

To their credit, the steel bridge and concrete canoe teams maintained the tradition of winning regionally and competing nationally. The ASCE student chapter was also successful in fundraising and attracted new students to the chapter.

The highlight of the chapter's activity in 2006 was taking the initiative to hold the first job fair in its history. This job fair took place on October 19, 2006 and was different from other employeestudent interaction opportunities in the sense that it was 100% pure-CEE. The experiment went well and it was a great success by all accounts. Student participation exceeded expectations. The fair gave them the opportunity to learn about ten potential employers that participated in this trial which included Aquaterra Engineering, Conestoga-Rovers and Associates, Inc, ExxonMobil, Ford. Bacon and Davis. Jacobs Engineering. NAVY, Owen and White, SJB Group, TCB AE-COM, and US Army Corps of Engineers.

Because of this success, the students will plan to expand on their experience and invite more firms



Students had the opportunity to meet with hiring employers.

next time to help establish a regular job fair that serves student members.

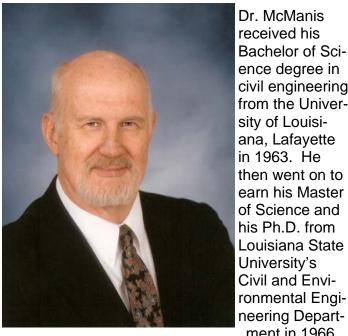
We thank them all for their efforts and hope this organization keeps succeeding and setting new records.

The final results for the team that will be in charge are as follows:

President: Lauren Johnson Vice President: Bridge Scheyd Treasurer: Stuart Adams Secretary: **Adele Cook Community Service: Megan Drewes Seth Dejean Fundraising: Meeting Coordinator: Amanda Hamlin Steel Bridge Captain:** Joseph Marino Concrete Canoe Capt.: Paul Govan



New Officers (I-r): Stuart Adams, Amanda Hamlin, Megan Drewes, Adele Cook, Bridget Scheyd, Seth Dejean, Lauren Johnson



Kenneth L. McManis, Department Head, Civil Engineering Department, University of Louisiana

Upon comple-

ment in 1966

and 1975.

Louisiana State

tion of his graduate research at LSU, he was awarded the Michael Claus Memorial Award for Outstanding Graduate Research.

joined the University of New Orleans (UNO) as an Associate Professor. He was then selected as chairman of the Department of Civil and Environ-

mental Engineering. He remained in this position for twenty-six years until his retirement as Profes-Bachelor of Sci- sor Emeritus in 2004. He then accepted a posience degree in tion as professor and department head of the Civil civil engineering Engineering Department at the University of Loufrom the Univer- isiana in Lafayette, Louisiana, which he presently

> In 2000, he was appointed to serve a six year term on the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board by the Governor.

Some of Dr. McManis's awards and honors include the College of Engineering Distinguished Service Award, University of New Orleans (2004); Contractors Educational Trust Fund Professorship ronmental Engi- (1994-2004); Who's Who in Science and Engineering Depart- neering (1994); LEF Engineering Faculty Professionalism Award, Louisiana Engineering Foundation; and Who's Who in Engineering (1980). He is also a member of Chi Epsilon, Sigma Chi, and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. Dr. McManis is a registered Professional Engineer and a Professional Land Surveyor in the state of Louisiana.

Dr. McManis continues to provide service to the After years of practice and teaching, Dr. McManis Civil Engineering profession. His leadership and enthusiasm make him respected by all.

Where are they now?



John J. Plaisance was named a National Society of Professional Engineers' Fellow Member in the 2006 class. He graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree from LSU in Civil Engineering in 1983.

> We would like to thank the treasured alumni who forward up-to-date information and addresses.



Larry A. McKee. Chair of CEE Campaign Steering Committee

ceived a Bachelor of Engineering from Louisiana State University tion, he began his professional career work-

ing for private engi-

Larry A. McKee re-

neering consulting firms in the Baton Rouge area. After gaining twelve years experience, he acquired 100% ownership of Professional Engineering Consultants (PEC) on May 1, 1970.

Upon the leadership and direction of Mr. McKee, and in the pursuit of excellence, PEC enjoyed stable and continuous growth and became recognized throughout the southeastern United States for its expertise in all phases of public works planning and development.

Mr. McKee has strived throughout his career to improve the engineering profession. He has served as president of the Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers as well as president and national director of the Louisiana Council of Engineering Companies. He is one of only two engineers, from Louisiana, to serve as National Vice President of American Council of Engineering Companies.

Mr. McKee was appointed, by Governor Buddy Roemer, to the Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board where he served for six years and chaired the Board for one year.

Department welcomes two new inductees to the CEE Hall of **Distinction**

Mr. McKee also has served as an adjunct professor of Civil Engineering at Louisiana State University where Science degree in Civil he is an honorary member of Chi Epsilon and a member of the College of Engineering Dean's Club.

in 1958. Upon gradua- Mr. McKee has remained active throughout his career in civic activities. He has served as a Board Member of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce and chaired the Education Division of that organization. He has been an active member of the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge for thirty years, during which time he served as team leader of a Group Study Exchange Team which traveled to Japan for five weeks studying Japanese construction projects. He is the recipient of Rotary's "Service Above Self" award for his work with Rotary's Group Study Exchange Program.

> In addition to his many contributions to the engineering community, Mr. McKee taught economics to second graders at Wildwood Elementary as a Junior Achievement Instructor for which he received one of his most cherished compliments. "You are a very tall man to twenty five children and their teacher in many more ways than height," said Carolyn Lastrap, a 2nd grade teacher.

The most gratifying and rewarding aspect of practicing Civil and Environmental Engineering, to Larry A. McKee, is the ability and capacity to improve the quality of life, for such a large segment of society, through planning, designing and constructing all types of public works that will endure as a treatment to his efforts long past his lifetime.

Continued on next page

CLASS TAKES FIELD TRIP TO DOCK SITE

For over a decade now, Clovis Morrison, an instructor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has offered students the chance to visit local dock sites to see real life examples of what they have learned in nity to finally understand the class. This past fall semester, Morrison and the students of CE vious in-class design work. 4430, Design of Marine Structures on Inland Waterways, took It was also a great opportunity a field trip to the Port of South Louisiana at Reserve. The students toured the facilities where they were able to see two ship docks at the Globalplex, Reserve Morrison said the trip was not an Terminal.

ana's docks showed many interesting things that linked the calculations and computer analysis that we have done throughout the class with real field visualization," said a student who participated in the field trip. "It was benefiting to see the enormous bridge cranes and oversized forklifts so that I can visualize the bers and sketches that we, as a loading on the platforms and accurately assess the worst case scenarios."

At this point in their college career, students majoring in civil engineering have accumulated countless hours of classroom and self-study time in design and analysis of structures. This field trip gave students the opportu



practical application of their pre-

for students to see an actual operation site and the working conditions of engineers.

easy one to make. Students were asked to make themselves "Visiting the Port of South Louisi- available for five hours to visit the sites. They were also required to make comments about their observations and experience. One student noted, "The field trip helped me to understand and appreciate the calculations we've done in class so far. Being able to see the docks in person helps transform numclass, have seen on paper to reality."

> This field trip is always a success, and this past semester was no different.





Chancellor speaks at CEE fundraiser event

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering's part of the Forever LSU Campaign launched in earnest on November 17, 2006. Wilfred and Shelley Barry sponsored this superb event for select alumni and friends, and hosted it in their lovely home in Baton Rouge.

"The Forever LSU capital campaign was getting started, and George Voyiadjis and Don Eisenberg asked me to help with the Campaign Steering Committee. After deciding to become a member of the committee, I thought it was time to step up and publicly indicate to my peers and friends that this was a worthy cause," said Wilfred Barry.

About thirty people were on hand to hear Chancellor Sean O'Keefe share some compelling words regarding the criticality of the Forever LSU Campaign to the future of Louisiana State University. He spoke about the high caliber of students now entering into the University and the importance of engaging alumni and friends to assure the success of the campaign.

Later, department chair Dr. George Voyiadjis shared his pride in recent CEE accomplishments, including higher national rankings. He shared his vision regarding priorities for the campaign.

Larry McKee, CEE Campaign Steering Committee Chairman, encouraged attendees to play a significant part in the department's effort, and to contact us for more details. "The event hosted by Wilfred Barry and his lovely wife, Shelley, at their home was a very fitting kickoff for our fundraising campaign," said



Chancellor Sean O'Keefe spoke about the Forever LSU Campaign at the Wilfred Barry reception.

McKee. "The commitment of Chancellor O'Keefe who gave us some motivational words as well as support from the College of Engineering was all very apparent during the event."

A fine evening of food, drinks, and fellowship was capped off with a viewing of the new "Forever LSU" campaign video.



L-R: Wilfred Barry, Sean O'Keefe, Larry McKee, and George Voyiadjis

FOREVER LSU

For more information on funding opportunities, check out www.foreverlsu.org.

"Forever LSU provides alumni of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering the vehicle and opportunity to elevate the Department to one of the best in the nation. Providing excellence through endowed and non-endowed funding is very much doable with your help. We ask for all alumni to give very serious consideration to a major investment in the future of Civil and Environmental Engineering at LSU," said McKee.

Several thousand dollars were contributed by attendees as well as some unable to come. Most importantly, however, it provided an opportunity to reconnect, and for those present to consider how they would like to invest in the lives of future CEE students.

This event was made possible through the generosity of Wilfred and Shelly Barry and the wonderful efforts of several SIB Group team members including: Michelle Ruxton, Ben Fritsche, Eric Borne, and David Bacci.



L-R: Loyd Rockhold, Wilfred Barry, and Larry McKee



L-R: Loyd Rockhold, Ron Rodi, George Voyiadjis, and David Constant