Faculty Promotions

The School of Engineering has some great faculty promoted this year and we want the engineering community to celebrate their success. Promoted faculty are:

Bioengineering: Michael Diehl, Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with Tenure; Oleg Igoshin, Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with Tenure; Tomasz Tkaczyk, Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with Tenure; Jane Grande-Allen, Associate Professor to Full Professor with Tenure.

In Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering: Lisa Biswal, Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with Tenure.

In Civil and Environmental Engineering: Daniel Cohan, Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with Tenure; Leonardo Dueñas-Osorio, Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with Tenure; and Rob Griffin, Associate Professor with Tenure to Full Professor with Tenure.

In Computational and Applied Mathematics, Béatrice Rivière, Associate Professor with Tenure was promoted to Full Professor with Tenure. Congratulations to all! You can read more about this at: http://engineering.rice.edu/facultypromotions2014/.

Student Leaders

There’s a lot of talk about L-ship these days, and while some are talking about it, others take action. Several students were recently elected to leadership positions in the Student Association (SA) and the Graduate Student Association (GSA). In the SA leadership are Nathan Liu, BIOE junior, Internal VP; Ravi Sheth, BIOE sophomore, External VP; and Michael Pan, BIOE sophomore, Treasurer. Elected to the GSA leadership were: Navid Sakhavand, CEE, Treasurer; Anne Hellebust, BIOE, historian; and Kiri Kilpatrick, ChBE, parliamentarian.
Design Showcase Thursday!
On Thursday more than 300 engineering students will be competing in the OEDK’s annual Design Showcase. I highly recommend that if you’re a student who has not done design yet that you attend. This is a great way to find out what the possibilities are and what will be expected of you in terms of design. All faculty are invited, too! There are Professors’ and Students’ Choice awards, so come and vote on your favorite team’s project!

There are 72 teams this year, that’s 12 more than last year. Besides senior design projects there are freshman and club projects competing. The action is at Tudor Field House from 4:30 to 6:30, with the awards ceremony starting at 6:30. You can find out about the teams and projects here: http://oedk.rice.edu/2013showcaseteams.

More Awards and a Picnic!
Each year, the Budd, Waters and Rich awards are given out at the REA/School of Engineering picnic. These awards were endowed by donors to acknowledge special accomplishments. This year’s winner of the Ralph Budd Thesis Award is Chinmay Hedge, ECE; the James W. Waters Creativity Award will go to Lauren Theis, political science, and the Hershel M. Rich Invention Award goes to Daniel Hashim and Pulickel Ajayan, of MEMS. You can read more about these awards and why these folks are the winners here: http://engineering.rice.edu/awards2014/.

So, about that picnic! It will start at 4:30 on Saturday in the Engineering Quadrangle. Barbecue and drinks will be provided and everyone in the school of engineering is invited. The REA hosts this event every year to celebrate the accomplishments of Rice engineering faculty, students, staff and alumni and they give away lots of scholarships—about $100,000 worth this year!

Innovate Challenge
Last week the Innovate participants had to test how well their perception and memory work. They were given pages of familiar logos to identify and had to identify the correct versions of some very common ones. Can you pick out the correct version of the Rice war owl? (answer at the
Well, one team came out way on top of the others in this exercise: Joshua Lipschultz a CS junior and 2-time Innovate winner; Aniruddha Sen, a senior ECE and ECON major; and Ana Cristina Estrada, a senior bioengineer. Congratulations, all! On Friday, it’s the Innovate Challenge feedback session at noon in the OEDK classroom. Maria and her group want to know how to make this event even better—and take suggestions on new challenges. Sign up here by Wednesday so they can order enough lunch for everyone:
http://oedk.rice.edu/innovatefeedback.

Mark Your Fall Calendars
The Indian Institutes of Technology Global Conference will be held in Houston this year, December 6-8 and they invite Rice students and faculty to plan to attend. You can find out more here: http://www.iit2013.org/. This conference is held every year to foster professional development, brainstorm and network. Mark your calendars!

TODAY
CAAM
Andro Mikelic, University of Lyon 1
“Modeling Effective Pressure Interface Law Between a Free Fluid and a Porous Medium”
3 p.m. in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=20103

STAT
Prabir Burman, University of California, Davis
“Generalized Exponential Prediction in Time Series”
4 p.m. in 1070 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19018

TUESDAY
MEMS
Olivier Delaire, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
“Photon Scattering in Thermoelectric Materials”
10 a.m. in 102 Keck Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=20220

Dean of Engineering
Jim Gregory, Brown & Gay Engineering
Professional Engineering Master’s Seminar Series
4 p.m. in 3076 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=20001

WEDNESDAY
CS
Schlumberger Presentation
3:30 p.m. in Martel Hall and McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=20156

CEVE
Chi Epsilon/ACSE honors Event
6 p.m. in Farnsworth Pavilion RMC/Rice Student Center
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=20063

THURSDAY
Dean of Engineering
Dining with the Dean: STAT Undergraduates
12 p.m. in 3076 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19557

Ken Kennedy Institute for Information Technology
Moshe Vardi, Rice University
“Building Rice’s Human and Organizational Capital: A Draft of the Senate Working Group on Research and Scholarship—Request for Comments”
4 p.m. in McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=20012

OEDK
2013 Engineering Design Showcase
4:30 p.m. in Tudor Fieldhouse
http://oedk.rice.edu/events

THURSDAY – FRIDAY
Scientia
“Space Exploration and Human Imagination: Space Futures”
Kelly International Conference Facility, Baker Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19612

FRIDAY
OEDK
OEDK Innovate Challenge Feedback Session
Signups start at 11:50am
http://oedk.rice.edu/innovatefeedback

SATURDAY
Dean of Engineering/Rice Engineering Alumni
REA/School of Engineering End-of-Year Picnic
4:30 p.m. in Engineering Quad
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19657

Here are some events scheduled in the coming weeks:

April 18
Dining with the Dean: CAAM Undergrads
https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/q7p0x3//

Computer Science End of School Lunch
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=20224

May 2
4th Annual Rice Undergraduate Venture Challenge
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19595

Have a great week and I’ll see you at the picnic at 4:30pm on the Engineering Quad Saturday!

The correct answer to the war owl logo is #4.
Ned

Edwin L. Thomas
William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering