We all screamed (for ice cream)!

Last Wednesday was a good day for an ice cream social—well, there was a bit of rain but we had a roof over our heads and plenty of ice cream—with no waiting in lines! The clubs did a booming business at signing up new members and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Thanks to all of you who attended! You can see lots of photos from the event here: [http://goo.gl/jyMpv9](http://goo.gl/jyMpv9).

Taking the Lead on Energy Initiative

Congratulations to Ramon Gonzalez, professor in ChBE, who has been named Director of the Energy and Environment Initiative (EEI). Ramon has been on leave from Rice to be a program manager at ARPA-E (Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy) for the past two years and we’re glad to have him back! Ramon will help develop programs in energy across all departments within the University. You can read more about his appointment and his expertise here [http://engineering.rice.edu/gonzalez_EEI/](http://engineering.rice.edu/gonzalez_EEI/).

Not Resting on Their Laurels!

Two design teams with a number of prizes under their belts have won yet again! At the 2014 BMEStart Competition, Nutriflow nabbed the third place prize and the R-ARM team snapped up the TREAT Award for Excellence. You may recall these teams from last week’s message—they are just tearing up those competitions! NutriFlow, which increases the amount of nutrients delivered to preemie babies, had as team members (L to R) Denizen Kocak, Nathan Liu, Alexa Juarez, Jane Jarjour and Mika Tabata (they all graduated in May). The R-ARM team is made up of seniors (L to R) Nimish Mittal, Matthew Nojoomi and Sergio Gonzalez. The fellow in the purple shirt is Dee Faught, the local teen who got their robotic arm to help him do things we all take for granted. Heartiest congratulations to all of you and to your design team advisors, Eric Richardson and Maria Oden for Nutriflow and Ann Saterbak for R-Arm!
Events and Opportunities of Note

Come Dine With Me, CEE Undergrads!
I’m kicking off my Lunch with the Dean series with the civil and environmental undergraduates on Thursday at noon. **Students who haven’t declared a major are also invited to attend.** Let’s get together and talk about being a civil engineer, environmental engineer, building things (like the guys who went to Alaska to compete in the Seismic Design Contest), cleaning up water or anything else that’s on your mind. Today’s the last day to sign up: [https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z1ybak5e12bgum2/](https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z1ybak5e12bgum2/). There are only a few spaces left!

Freshmen: Don’t Miss RCEL’s Liftoff on Saturday!
If you haven’t signed up for the Rice Center for Engineering’s Liftoff! on Saturday, freshmen, you should do that right away. **You’ll go in there feeling like a freshman and come out thinking like an engineer!** They’ll challenge you and feed you and put you in contact with fellow engineers. It’s your second Saturday since school started—use it wisely! Sign up at [https://oedk.wufoo.com/forms/rcel-engineering-liftoff-2014-freshmen-only/](https://oedk.wufoo.com/forms/rcel-engineering-liftoff-2014-freshmen-only/).

A Word on Signing Up
When the School of Engineering (or anyone else, for that matter), has an event that requires you to sign up, there is one thing you should always remember: **If you sign up, show up!** This is important so we always have enough food but don’t have so much that it is wasted. If you sign up and something happens to keep you from attending, let us know, please. A good engineer is responsible and following this simple rule is just one part of that.

Café Society
The School of Natural Sciences is hosting an interesting event, their Science Café, on Tuesday. The featured speaker will be our own Distinguished Service Professor Moshe Vardi of computer science. The topic will be The Future of Artificial Intelligence and the setting, the Black Lab on Montrose. So, get something to eat, something to drink, and sit back for an interesting evening. You can find out more about the event here: [http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22758](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22758).

NASA Design Competition
NASA is calling for participation in its 5th Annual RASC-AL Exploration Robo-Ops, a university rover engineering design competition. Participants in this competition are required to build and test prototype planetary rovers at NASA’s JSC Rock Yard. If you’d like to participate, get a team together and submit a notice of intent by Sept. 19. Project plans are due October 10th. The contest is open to undergraduate and graduate students. Here’s a
picture of last year’s winning rover (from West Virginia U.) For more information, see http://nia-cms.nianet.org/RoboOps/index.aspx.

**SEA Wants Your Suggestions**
The Shared Equipment Authority (SEA) is a group of 15 engineering and science faculty that looks after our shared research infrastructure issues. The group has $250K to spend on equipment and would like to have suggestions on what is needed. There’s a form you need to complete, so if you have suggestions, send a message to meri.dix@rice.edu. Input is due by September 15. To see all the goodies that the SEA oversees, check http://sea.rice.edu.

**Companies on Campus**

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For more information on these sessions, see http://ccd.rice.edu

Here are the events scheduled for this week:

**TUESDAY**
**Center for Theoretical Biological Physics**
Neal Waxman, University of Texas Medical School
“Integrating Signaling in Space and Time – Calmodulin as a Case Study”
12:30 pm in 1060 A/B BRC
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23168

**Dean of Natural Sciences**
Science Café: The Future of Artificial Intelligence
6:30 pm at the Black Labrador Pub
http://naturalsciences.rice.edu/ShowContent.aspx?id=2508

**THURSDAY**
**Dean of Engineering**
Lunch with the Dean: CEE Undergrads
12 pm in 1049 Duncan Hall (registration required!)

**CS**
Fall All Hands Meeting
4 pm in McMurtry Auditorium
http://compsci.rice.edu/events.cfm?EventRecord=22501

**RCEL**

**Hot Tips on Finding Internships**
6 pm in McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23098

**FRIDAY**

**Study Abroad Office**
Annual Rice Study Abroad Fair
11 am Brochstein Pavilion
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22678

**ECE**
IEEE Lunch Talk: Elaine Chung
Noon in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23190

**SATURDAY**

**RCEL**

**RCEL Engineering LIFTOFF**
1 pm in Grand Hall, RMC
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23097

Here’s a list of upcoming major events.

**Dining with the Dean**
September 11—ECE Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z2ft9sl1t2nc3z/
September 19—BIOE Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z130o4ws17t0bcn/
September 25—MECH Undergraduates http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23173
October 2—MSNE Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/zf1pqrn1gdzd6n/
October 9—CHBE Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/zzfi26i1frrz7m/
October 24—CS Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z19jo4rm168s407/
November 12—STAT Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/zy8rk7r0zl0moa/
November 21—CAAM Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z1ae67gw0kr6eqx/

**Wednesday, September 10**
CS Startup Meetup
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23152](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23152)

**Thursday, September 11**
Changing the Culture of Human Space Flight: How we returned the Space Shuttle to flight after Columbia
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23149](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23149)

**Monday, September 15**
Rorschach Memorial Lecture: Educating the 21st Century Scientist and Engineer
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22884](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22884)

**Tuesday, September 16**
Medicine, Energy, Space, Technology (MEST) Conference
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23101](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23101)

**Thursday, September 17**
MATLAB seminar

**September 22 – 23**
Rice Global Engineering and Construction – XVII Annual Forum
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23060](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23060)

**Thursday, September 25**
Joan Brennecke - T.W. Leland Lecture in Chemical Engineering
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22742](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22742)

**Thursday, October 9**
Michael Franklin – K2I Distinguished Lecture
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22460](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22460)

Have a great week!
Ned

Edwin L. Thomas
William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering