U.S. News 2013 ranking of Undergraduate Engineering: After two years ranked at 19, the George R. Brown School of Engineering is ranked 16th!

“Health, Habits and the Tribe” and more!

Tomorrow we recognize four awesome faculty who have been promoted: The New Professors Lecture is at 4pm in McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall. These luminaries are: Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science Jun Lou, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Ashutosh Sabharwal, Professor of Computer Science Dan Wallach and Associate Professor of Computational and Applied Mathematics Wotao Yin. Farinaz Koushanfar, Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering was also promoted but she’s not able to give her talk this week. These promotions represent years of hard work by these folks so I’d like to see a large, appreciative crowd in the auditorium to hear about their work. And if you listen to these 15 minute rapid fire talks, you’re invited to the reception afterward! Read the titles and abstracts at http://enr.ice.edu/eventslist.aspx?EventRecord=18392.

What can you do in one weekend to change the world for the better?
Next weekend Rice is hosting Houston's first Cleanweb Hackathon and software developers, designers and industry experts who work on resource challenges in energy, water, waste, transit and food will be on campus for some serious collaborating to find solutions to problems in these areas. The fee is discounted for students (it's $20). All students are invited to participate but you need to register by Wednesday to get a spot. You can find out more about this event here: http://engineering.rice.edu/NewsContent.aspx?id=858995330. You'll get a t-shirt (of course) but also free food from area restaurants all weekend and the chance to meet and work with some sharp people on some sticky problems.

Talk about a Screech!
Organizers of the Research Screech report that they had over 100 grad students sign up for the competition! That is GREAT NEWS—thanks for the overwhelming response! I’m looking forward to hearing those pitches and to having lunch with the winners (October 10).
One way to spread the good word about the engineering program at Rice is for our students to win a lot of **NSF graduate research fellowships and National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowships**. There’s an information session this Wednesday at 4pm in Keck 100. Seniors and graduate students in their first two years are eligible to apply. Chemistry professor Ken Whitmire, who has been on the review panels for several years will talk about the inside scoop and what reviewers look for. For more information, see the flier online at [http://engineering.rice.edu/uploadedFiles/School_of_Engineering/Current_Students/Graduate_Students/NSFinfosession.pdf](http://engineering.rice.edu/uploadedFiles/School_of_Engineering/Current_Students/Graduate_Students/NSFinfosession.pdf).

We’re planning a big party for **Centennial** weekend with interesting things to look at and do. It starts at 4:30 pm on Friday, October 12 and you can sign up now to attend at [https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/rice-engineering-centennial-reception/](https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/rice-engineering-centennial-reception/). The REA will be presenting its Outstanding Alumni awards at 4pm, including a well-deserved one to **Bart Sinclair** for his service to the School of Engineering. All engineering faculty, staff, students and alumni are invited to attend.

**Michael Deem**, professor of bioengineering and physics and astronomy, has been selected as a 2012-2013 Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar. He is one of 14 academicians appointed to deliver public lectures and discuss research efforts at 80 American colleges and universities over the next year. Congratulations, Michael! You can read more about this honor at [http://engineering.rice.edu/NewsContent.aspx?id=8589935322](http://engineering.rice.edu/NewsContent.aspx?id=8589935322).

**Photo of the Week**

There were tons of companies looking for Rice Engineers at the Career Expo last Tuesday. I hope those of you who went made some good connections for internships and real jobs!

Here are the events scheduled for this week:
TODAY
CAAM
Richard Rankin, Rice University
“Computable Error Bounds for Finite Element Approximations of Linear Elasticity Problems”
3 p.m. in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18245

CEE
Abdollah Shafieezadeh, Ohio State University
“A Probabilistic Framework for Risk Management of Infrastructure Systems”
3:45 p.m. in 201 Ryon Engineering Building
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18706

STAT
Justin Esarey, Rice University
“State-dependent Dynamic Systems: A Model and Application to ‘Naming and Shaming’ for Human Rights Abuses”
4 p.m. in 1070 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=17788

TUESDAY
Dean of Engineering
New Professors Lecture
4 p.m. in McMurtry Auditorium Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18392

BIOE
Ravi Birla, University of Houston
“Models for 3-Dimensional Cardiovascular Tissue Constructs”
4 p.m. in 280 BRC
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18728

WEDNESDAY
ECE
Umit Batur, Texas Instruments
“Imagining Research”
4:15 p.m. in 3076 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18751

FRIDAY-SUNDAY
CS
CleanWeb Hackathon
8 a.m. in McMurtry Auditorium Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18387

FRIDAY
BIOE
HHMI Med Into Grad Translational Research Seminar Series
11:15 a.m. in 280 BRC
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18770

Office of Faculty Development
Nancy Hopkins, M.I.T.
“Addressing the under-representation of women faculty in science and engineering at MIT”
2 p.m. in 100 Keck Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18650

These events are scheduled in the coming weeks:

Dining with the Dean for Undergraduates:
Oct. 3: ChBE
RSVP by Monday, Oct. 1

Oct. 24: CEE
RSVP by Monday, Oct. 22

Nov. 20: CAAM
RSVP by Friday, Nov. 16

Sept. 26
Nanopatterning with Thin Polymer Films
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18718

Oct. 4
Research SCREECH
http://rcel.rice.edu/screech

Oct. 10-14
Rice University Centennial Celebration
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18398

October 10
Research Screech winners lunch with Dean Thomas

Oct. 12
REA Outstanding Alumni Presentations
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18325

School of Engineering Centennial Reception
RSVP at https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/rice-engineering-centennial-reception/

Have a great week!  Go Owls!

Ned
William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering