Welcoming New Staff

Edith Reed  Michelle Atkinson  Melissa Chaviers

There are some new staff members in the Dean’s Office and I’d like to introduce them to everyone. Most have been here quite a while but everyone may not know who they are and what they do. Our newest person is Assistant Dean Edith Reed. Edith comes to us from Case Western’s Law School where she worked for nearly 20 years. Michelle Atkinson is the new events and building coordinator. She joined us in June after 3 years with International Academy of Compounding Pharmacies. Melissa Chaviers is the executive administrator in the office. Melissa joined us in January after working at NASA for 11 years. Next time you make a call or send an email to one of these great new staffers, you’ll know a little more about them and now know what they look like!

Saturday Well Spent!

On Saturday, about 40 students from RCEL’s Leadership Lab took a trip up to Texas A&M and did the Leadership Reaction Course there. They spent the day working as teams, overcoming (physical and mental) obstacles and learning the value of planning a mission through to the end. We’ll have a story on what they experienced on the engineering web pages shortly but for now, here are a few photos of our engineers doing the LRC. Great work, RCEL! I’m sure everyone came away with some new leadership skills!

Award for Outstanding Contributions

Congratulations to George Hirasaki, the Hartsook Professor Emeritus of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, who has been awarded the 2014 Local Section Award from the American Chemical Society-Greater Houston Section. George has made many outstanding contributions to research in
enhanced oil recovery and to the life of the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. You can read more about his achievements here: [http://engineering.rice.edu/hirasaki_ACS/](http://engineering.rice.edu/hirasaki_ACS/).

**Heads Up: Ryon Lab Cleanup – MECH, CEE and Engineering Clubs**

On Saturday, October 4th, we’ll be having a huge Ryon Lab clean-up day so if you are a department or club with items that need to be discarded, see Joe Gesenhues in the OEDK for red tags to show us what goes to the dump or recycling. **CLUBS** – pay attention! Good time to create much needed space by getting rid of clutter!!

**Great Resource for Students!**

The American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) publishes a newsletter just for students, the **Accelerator**, and in it you’ll find news that affects student life, info on competitions, fellowships, scholarships, internships and more. It comes out monthly so you’re not going to be overwhelmed by email from these folks! The lead story in the latest issue is about the maker movement. Go to [http://blog.engineeringstudents.org/](http://blog.engineeringstudents.org/) to read it and subscribe. Even better—submit a story about your experience as an engineering student!

**A Nest of Great Widget Activity**

Students in ECE have created a cool spot in Abercrombie for students interested in building electronic widgets and it’s called **Ethernest**. Last week when I had lunch with the ECE students, they pointed it out as a great place to hang out and you don’t have to be an ECE student to use it! If you’re undecided about what your major will be and you have an interest in doing things **electronique** with your hands, drop in on the Ethernest and meet students who enjoy doing something technical in their spare time. You can read more about Ethernest here: [http://engineering.rice.edu/ethernest2/](http://engineering.rice.edu/ethernest2/).

**Teaching in the Spotlight**

A lot of people in higher education are focusing on teaching these days—how it has changed and will continue to change because of the impact of technology on students and classrooms. The theme for the Scientia Lecture Series this year is “Teaching and Learning in the University of Tomorrow” and this week, the panel discussion on the topic includes computer science’s Professor Joe Warren. The panel will explore how to keep the traditional classroom useful into the future. The event will be Tuesday at 4pm in McMurtry Auditorium. You can find out who else is on the panel at [http://scientia.rice.edu](http://scientia.rice.edu). Also coming up October 13-14 is
the De Lange Conference with the title, “Teaching in the University of Tomorrow.” They have an impressive lineup of speakers from Rice and across the country and it’s free to Rice faculty, staff and students if you don’t take a box lunch or $10 if you do. Engineering faculty Ann Saterbak and Joe Warren will be holding workshops, as will Tracy Volz, who now directs the Program in Writing and Communication (but we’ll always think of Tracy as an engineer!). Go to http://delange.rice.edu for more information and to register.

**Events and Opportunities of Note**

**MECH Lunch with the Dean Thursday**
I really enjoyed my lunch with ECE students earlier this month and I’m hoping to have such a lively discussion with MECH undergrads on Thursday. We’re meeting at noon in Duncan Hall room 1049. Tomorrow is the last day to sign up here: https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/zk932xs1wjycecc/.

**Join Me for Lunch Friday, BIOE Undergrads!**
On Friday at noon in Duncan Hall 1049 I’m having lunch with BIOE undergrads. I know they’re looking forward to it because several people have been signed up to attend for weeks! Let’s talk, BIOE! Sign up here: https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z130o4ws17t0bcn/ by Wednesday to attend!

**You’re Next, MSNE Undergrads!**
MSNE undergrads can sign up for our lunch together on Thursday next week. I’d like to hear what you have to say about your new department and how things are going. Sign up here: https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/zf1pqrn1gdzd6n/ by Tuesday next week.

**Workshop for KPCB Fellows Applicants**
Remember to sign up for the Kleiner Perkins Caulfield Byers Fellows program event on October 1. We want to have a lot more Rice KPCB Fellows this year so we’re having a lunchtime workshop (details below) to help you prepare for the rigorous application process. These are highly competitive positions (open to undergraduate and graduate students). Sign up for the session here: http://goo.gl/kHksSg. Space is limited and lunch will be provided. You can read about our 2014 interns, Kyle Adams and Derek Peirce here: http://engineering.rice.edu/2014_kpcb_fellows/. Find out more about the program here: http://kpcbfellows.com/.

**Opportunities Pages for Students**
We are posting new announcements on the engineering website—announcements about scholarships, fellowships, workshops, etc. Soon we’ll begin receiving word of summer research jobs for undergraduates and more, so check back often. Undergraduates go to http://engineering.rice.edu/undergradopps/ and grad students to http://engineering.rice.edu/gradopps/.
Companies on Campus
For more information on these sessions, see http://ccd.rice.edu.

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Here are the events scheduled for this week:

**TODAY**

**CAAM**
Alexander Kiselev, Rice University
“Regularity, Blow up and Small-Scale Creation in Fluids”
3:00 pm in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22929

**STAT**
Luis Carvalho, Boston University
“A Hierarchical Statistical Model and Computational Methods for Genome-Wide Association Studies”
4:00 pm in 1070 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22598

**TUESDAY**

**Rice Global Engineering & Construction Forum**
Annual Forum
8:00 am in BRC
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23148

**Scientia**
“The Traditional Classroom: What Future?”
4pm in McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23241

**CAAM**
Maarten V. de Hoop, Purdue University
Shell Lecture: “Earth as an Unstructured Mesh: The Seismic Inverse Problem, Stability and Reconstruction via Hierarchical Compression”
4:00 pm in 212 Herzstein Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23341
THURSDAY  
Dean of Engineering  
MECH Undergraduates – Lunch with the Dean  
12:00 pm in 1049 Duncan Hall  
https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/zk932xs1wjycec/  

ChBE  
Joan Brennecke, University of Notre Dame  
T.W. Leland Lecture in Chemical Engineering: “Ionic Liquids for Electrochemical Applications”  
4:00 pm in 100 Keck Hall  
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22742  

FRIDAY  
Dean of Engineering  
BIOE Undergraduates – Lunch with the Dean  
12:00 pm in 1049 Duncan Hall  
https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z130o4ws17t0bcn/  

Gulf Coast Consortia  
Trevor Cohen, University of Texas School of Biomedical Sciences  
“Discovery-by-Analogy: Large-Scale Analysis of the Biomedical Literature Through (Somewhat) Cognitive Computing”  
4:00 pm in BRC Auditorium  
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22524  

ECE/ChBE  
Zafar Kamal, BP America  
“Fiber Optic Sensing for Oil and Gas Exploration and Production”  
4:00 pm in 1049 Duncan Hall  
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23197  

CS  
Facebook Tech Talk  
4:00 pm McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall  
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23342  

Here’s a list of upcoming major events.  

Dining with the Dean  
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, October 1
KPCB Fellows Application Workshop
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23347

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

Monday, October 13 – Tuesday, October 14
De Lange Conference: Teaching in the University of Tomorrow
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22719

Thursday, October 23
Solar Eclipse Viewing
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23304

Friday, October 24
SCREECH!
Information TBD

Saturday, Oct. 25
REA Football Tailgate
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18336

Monday, October 27
K2I Distinguished Lecture – “Envisioning Communication and Collaboration”
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22459

Have a great week!
Ned

Edwin L. Thomas
William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering