Thomas Williams, a budding engineer from Jackson, Mississippi, works on the construction of a new C-based material. Maybe Thomas will join the new CQM!

New Materials Center! CQM

Last week a great new research center at Rice was announced: the Center for Quantum Materials. This is a “multidisciplinary effort to solidify Rice’s leadership in the exploration of high-temperature superconductors and other exotic materials . . .” Being a materials guy, I really like this move! The center director is Qimiao Si of Physics and Astronomy and includes a bunch of engineers. You can read more about the center here: http://engineering.rice.edu/RCQM/.

Getting Ready for Important Visitors!

Over the past two weekends there has been a lot of activity in Ryon Lab and if you walk through it now, you’ll see that somebody has been doing a lot of heavy lifting! I want to thank the clubs that cleaned out
their old junk, **EBW, Solar Car and Robotics**, and everyone else who helped. I think they must have cleared out several tons of old stuff this weekend. This is all in preparation for an NSF site visit connected to a proposal with **Pedro Alvarez**, professor and chair of CEE and **Qilin Li**, CEE associate professor as co-PIs. On October 23 and 24th a team from NSF will be visiting to determine if this proposal (a BIG one for CEE and Rice!) will advance to the next level of consideration for funding. It is VERY IMPORTANT that when they are here everyone in all labs is super conscientious about wearing lab coats and safety glasses. They will be touring some labs and we want to be sure that everyone everywhere is being compliant with these requirements. Of course, this should be the case every day! Please be sure also to keep these areas we have cleaned out clear of debris!

**New Leadership Certificate Approved by Faculty Senate!**

It looks like **Sentil Natarajan**, ECE major, is celebrating the fact that after a unanimous Faculty Senate vote, RCEL's Certificate in Engineering Leadership has been approved! Actually, Sentil was on the Leadership Reaction Course. The RCEL Certificate is now the **only** four-year engineering leadership certificate in Texas, and one of only a handful of academic engineering leadership programs in the country (joining MIT, Northwestern, and Cornell). Congratulations RCEL!

**REA has $$$. Send them a Proposal!**

Our great friends in the REA are now taking proposals for the REA grant program to support any undergraduate or graduate student-led projects. So put your ideas down on paper and get some money to make them happen! Applications are due November 14th and can be found here: [http://alumni.rice.edu/rea/grant-program](http://alumni.rice.edu/rea/grant-program). There’s $8K in this pot, so step up and apply! If you have questions, contact Eric Vu at [ericvu@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:ericvu@alumni.rice.edu).

**Time to SCREECH! Grad Students!**

The Screech is the best graduate student event all year, IMHO, and right now, there are not enough students signed up to pitch their research. I highly encourage you to distill your research into a 90-second, pithy summary and tell your colleagues what it is that makes your work so exciting! The deadline to sign up has been extended to tomorrow, October 7th, so go here: [http://goo.gl/aanvWN](http://goo.gl/aanvWN) and sign up. By the way, the date has been changed, too. New date:
Thursday, October 30. You can watch some pitches from the past here: http://screech.rcel.rice.edu/ (click on Event History).

Undergrads: Elevator Pitch Signups Now!

The deadline for registering for the 6th Annual Undergraduate Elevator Pitch Competition is October 15th, so if you want to tell the world about your great project in 90 seconds and win cash prizes, you need to get busy! Find out more and register at http://oedk.rice.edu/ep-student. Someone on each team will get coaching for making the pitch and this is a valuable experience. Step up and pitch, people!

Calling All Rice Engineer Makers!

There’s a Houston Mini Maker Faire coming November 1 and they’ve given us some space to show what Rice students can do! It would be very cool to have a lot of design projects there. They’re expecting about 5K people to attend so you’ll get a lot of exposure and probably meet some interesting people. If you want to participate, there’s a form you need to fill out: http://goo.gl/hQwFjS. Somebody will get back to you with more information.

Nominate Excellence!

The Association of Rice Alumni Laureates Program honors notable alumni, faculty members and volunteers whose service to the university has been outstanding and they’re taking nominations now. I know there are engineers out there who deserve to be honored for their service to the university. Now’s the time for them to get the recognition they deserve! To nominate for the Gold Medal (highest honor for extraordinary service), click here: http://goo.gl/2ZmHCJ. To nominate Distinguished Alumni, click here http://goo.gl/7Xu3Ny and for Meritorious Service, click here http://goo.gl/PQFQ0Y. The deadline is October 31.

Companies on Campus

For more information on these events and sessions like how to use LinkedIn in your job search, see http://ccd.rice.edu.
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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>4pm: Tubular Labs</td>
<td>4pm: PSS Logistics Services</td>
<td>4pm: Wood Mackenzie</td>
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<td>6pm: Quorum Business Solutions</td>
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**Events and Opportunities**

**Big Summit—Nano Topic**

The Smalley Institute is hosting a meeting of researchers from Norway and the U.S. at the NorTex Nano Summit next week and they invite students to enter their poster competition. If you do research into nanotechnology and you have a good poster, you could win $1,000 to travel to Norway! There will be a number of industry participants in the summit, too, so this could be a good place to make some internship or job connections! For more info on the summit, see [http://nortexnano.rice.edu/](http://nortexnano.rice.edu/) and for more on the poster session, see [http://goo.gl/cE6eVv](http://goo.gl/cE6eVv).

**How to Start a Startup**

OwlSpark invites anyone interested in entrepreneurship to take advantage of a new resource they’re bringing to campus, “How to Start a Startup” from Y Combinator and Stanford who describe it as “Everything we know about how to start a startup, for free, from some world experts.” Weekly sessions will stream live and the first one is Friday at 3pm in Farnsworth Pavilion in the RMC. For more information, see [http://owlspark.com/](http://owlspark.com/). Guaranteed: startup excitement, snacks and an interesting livestream lecture!
This will be a must see event. Bet you didn’t know that Rice engineers helped in a very major way to get the Valley started. Google ROLM and educate yourself!

Here are the events scheduled for this week:

**TODAY**

**CAAM**
Andrew J. Schaefer, University of Pittsburgh  
“How to Value a Prearranged Paired Kidney Exchange? A Stochastic Game Approach”  
3:00 pm in 1064 Duncan Hall  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22933](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22933)

**STAT**
Lawrence D. Brown, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
“Semi-Supervised Inference with Numerical Dependent Variables for Means, Covariances and Linear Prediction; General Theory”  
4:00 pm in 1070 Duncan Hall  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22600](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22600)

**ECE**
Hamid Schricker, MedHelp  
“Beyond the Device: Behavior Change and Technology”  
4:00 pm in 1049 Duncan Hall  
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23343](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23343)
TUESDAY
Center for Theoretical Biological Physics
Aryeh Warmflash, Rice University
“Stem Cell Systems for Studying Self-Organized Developmental Patterning”
12:15 pm in 1060 A/B BRC
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23414

BIOE
Laura Suggs, University of Texas at Austin
“Microenvironmental Effects on Cell Phenotype and Function”
4:00 pm in 280 BRC
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22750

WEDNESDAY
CAAM
Yalchin Efendiev, Texas A&M University
“Multiscale Model Reduction Techniques for Flows in Heterogeneous Porous Media”
4:00 pm in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23323

THURSDAY
Ken Kennedy Institute for Information Technology
K2I Distinguished Lecture - Michael Franklin, “Making Sense of Big Data with the Berkeley Data Analytics Stack”
4:00 pm in McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22460

FRIDAY
ECE
Friday Lunch Talk: Tyler Schultz, Epic
12:00 pm in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23193

ECE
Luis San Martin, Halliburton
"Multi-Component Induction Downhole Tools and Resistivity Anisotropy Measurements For Advanced Evaluation of Subterranean Formations 698/699 Eligible"
4:00 pm in 1049 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23527

Here’s a list of upcoming major events.

Dining with the Dean
October 28—CHBE Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/zzfi26i1frrz7m/
November 12—STAT Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/zy8rk7r0zl0moa/
November 14 – CS Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z19jo4rm168s407/
November 21—CAAM Undergraduates https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/z1ae67gw0kr6eqx/
Monday, October 13 – Tuesday, October 14
De Lange Conference: Teaching in the University of Tomorrow
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22719

Wednesday, October 22
Houston Spaceport Frontier Lecture: “Under Construction: Paving the Road to Space Settlement”
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23482

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

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

Thursday, October 30
SCREECH!
And hey, the application DEADLINE is October 1 @ 11:59pm!
http://screech.rcel.rice.edu/

Thursday, November 6
K2I Distinguished Lecture – Stanley Williams
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=23375

6th Annual Rice Undergraduate Elevator Pitch Competition
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=22716

Have a great week!
Ned

Edwin L. Thomas
William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering