What a week that was!
We had faculty being honored at big events, undergraduates pitching their projects and lots of meetings! It's no wonder this guy wears a hardhat!

Will Pitch for Food (or Cash Prizes)!

On Thursday evening, McNair was rocking with great engineering ideas - about 40 undergraduate engineering teams pitched their design projects to a group of engineers and other business leaders in the Undergraduate Elevator Pitch Competition sponsored by the OEDK, RCEL and Rice Alliance. An all female team of bioengineers won the $1,500 first prize sponsored by BP. Congratulations to Jessica Williams, Kathleen Wiest, Lindsay Miller and Becky Zaunbrecher.

You can see the complete list of winners at http://oedk.rice.edu/ep. Thanks to everyone for making this the largest ever and most successful EP Competition!

Grad Students, This One’s for You!
While I’m on the topic of the business of design, the Business Venture Collaborative will be held Nov. 29 starting at 5:30pm. This event will give graduate students in engineering and business a chance to discuss opportunities to collaborate on technology commercialization projects. 5 minute pitches followed by Q & A. I really encourage you to participate. Learn what others think of your idea, make some new friends, start a company! For more information and to sign up, go to http://tinyurl.com/boehaz7.

Faculty honors
On Wednesday I had the pleasure of seeing another of our faculty honored at BioHouston’s annual luncheon recognizing women in science. **Lydia Kavraki**, Noah Harding Professor of Computer Science and professor of bioengineering, was one of four women whose accomplishments were celebrated. Congratulations, Lydia! You can read more about Lydia’s achievements and about BioHouston at [http://engineering.rice.edu/kavraki/](http://engineering.rice.edu/kavraki/).

**Yildiz Bayazitoglu**, Harry S. Cameron Professor of Mechanical Engineering, was on the stage again this week, accepting an award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers at their annual conference. Yildiz was made an honorary member of the ASME, the organization’s highest honor. You can read about this honor and her SWE award, which she received last week at [http://engr.rice.edu/yildizasmeswe/](http://engr.rice.edu/yildizasmeswe/).

At that same ASME conference, **Pol Spanos**, Lewis B. Ryon Professor of Mechanical Engineering and professor of civil engineering, received the Charles Russ Richards Memorial Award. The Richards Award is given for “outstanding achievements in mechanical engineering for 20 years or more following graduation.” Congratulations, Pol! You can read more about this honor at [http://engr.rice.edu/spanos/](http://engr.rice.edu/spanos/).

**Programs in the Spotlight**
Congratulations are due to **Rebecca Richards-Kortum**, Stanley C. Moore Professor of Bioengineering, department chair and founder of Beyond Traditional Borders...
and Jun Kono, professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of the NanoJapan program. The National Academy of Engineering just put out a report, *Infusing Real-world Experiences into Engineering Education*, which features 28 programs around the country. Rice was the only school to have two programs in the report, further proof that *Rice Engineering Rocks!* You can read all about the report and find a link to it at http://engineering.rice.edu/NAEreport/ or click on this image of the report and go directly to it.

**Deadline Looming for NDSEG Fellowship Applications!**

If you are at or near the beginning of your doctoral studies and are a citizen or National of the U.S., you’re eligible to apply for the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship. The deadline is December 14 for this prestigious, well paid fellowship. What are you waiting for? See [http://ndseg.asee.org/](http://ndseg.asee.org/) for more information.

Here are this (short) week’s events, including the CEE one where you can have a blast! ;)

**TODAY**

**CAAM**

Jan S. Hesthaven, Brown University
“Reduced Order Models You can Trust”
3 p.m. in 1064 Duncan Hall
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18251](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18251)

**CEE**

Paul B. Summers, MMI Engineering
CEVE Seminar Series: “Design of Blast-Resistant Structures for the Oil and Gas Industry”
3:45 p.m. in 201 Ryon Engineering Bldg
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19120](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19120)

**STAT**

Francesco Falciani, University of Liverpool
“A Systems Biology Approach Identifies Novel Pathways Regulating Tumor Invasion”
4 p.m. in 1070 Duncan Hall
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=17798](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=17798)

**TUESDAY**

**CEE**

Tod A. Laursen, Khalifa University of Science, Technology and Research
CEVE Seminar Series: “Contact Mechanics on Embedded and Enriched Interfaces”
8 a.m. in 201 Ryon Engineering Bldg
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18656](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18656)

**BIOE**

Ronald G. Larson, University of Michigan
“Microfluidic Methods in Biophysics”
4 p.m. in 280 BRC
[http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18871](http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18871)
ECE
Bosheng Zhou, Queen’s University Belfast
“Investigations of Wi-Fi Vulnerabilities and Countermeasures”
4 p.m. in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19068

WEDNESDAY
CS
Aaron Hertzmann, Adobe Systems
“Feature-Based Locomotion Controllers for Physically Simulated Characters”
11 a.m. in 3076 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18834

ECE
Hui Zhang, Carnegie Mellon University
“Bringing Internet Video to Prime Time”
12 p.m. in 1049 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19045

These events are scheduled in the coming weeks:

Tuesday, November 27, 2012
Professional Master’s Students Reception
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19103

Thursday, November 29, 2012
Computer Science Holiday Luncheon
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19062

Ken Kennedy Institute for Information Technology
“Nanoelectrode and Nanofluidic Based Assays of Ion Channels, Mitochondria Membrane Potential and Apoptosis”
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19133

November 30, 2012
Last Day of Classes

Monday, December 3, 2012
Ken Kennedy Institute Distinguished Lecture Series
“What Lies Ahead for Devices and Interconnects”
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=18161

Tuesday, December 4, 2012
REA Fall Social
http://engr.rice.edu/EventsList.aspx?EventRecord=18337

Tuesday, December 18, 2012
School of Engineering and School of Natural Sciences Faculty and Staff Holiday Party

Have a great week and Happy Thanksgiving!
Ned

Edwin L. Thomas
William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering