Happy holidays!
The fun just never stops in the George R. Brown School of Engineering. Here we are in the holiday season and our feathered friend is in a festive spirit. I want to wish all of you a safe, happy holiday season. Click here for our very cool holiday e-card: http://engineering.rice.edu/uploadedImages/School_of_Engineering/temporary_images/holiday2012_02.gif.

Faculty and Staff: See you at the Engineering and Science Holiday Party!
It's going to be Tuesday, December 18 in Duncan Hall so hang up your tools, turn off your computers and join your colleagues for a little holiday cheer. RSVP at https://engrice.wufoo.com/forms/m7p5a3/ by this Thursday, December 13.

Service Recognized
Congratulations to Wade Adams, associate dean of engineering for research, who has concluded his stint as a member of the board for the Materials Research Society. During Wade’s time on the board, the MRS went through some important changes that improved the functioning and reach of the organization. Wade was honored for his service with a wrist watch and plaque.
Another Grand Prize Winner!
Congratulations to Professor Lydia Kavraki, Noah Harding Professor of Computer Science and her research group, whose Open Motion Planning Library won the grand prize in the Open Source Software World Challenge organized by the government of South Korea. Lydia’s Physical and Biological Computing Group bested 55 teams from 23 countries in the competition. In the picture, you see Mark Moll (far right), research scientist in Lydia’s group, accepted the prize and gave a talk on the OMPL.

State of Entrepreneurship – a minute of your time...
RCEL is eager to find out how you feel about how Rice is doing on fostering entrepreneurship on campus. They want to use your feedback to improve the state of entrepreneurship at Rice so take a few moments to share your thoughts in this very short survey:

https://riceuniversity.us.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1FuZ0i7MK6rL8wJ.

Those ECEs are the ONLY ones with a seminar this coming week so they are the last ones for 2012:

THURSDAY
ECE
Ronen Talmon, Yale University
“Nonlinear Signal Processing Based on Empirical Intrinsic Geometry”
4 p.m. in 1064 Duncan Hall
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19177

These are some of the major events are scheduled in the coming weeks and next semester:
Tuesday, December 18, 2012
School of Engineering and School of Natural Sciences Faculty and Staff Holiday Party

2013 and beyond...

Wednesday, February 13, 2013
“Computing in the 21st Century”
http://events.rice.edu/index.cfm?EventRecord=19214
Thursday, April 11, 2013
2013 Engineering Design Showcase and Poster Session
http://oedk.rice.edu/events

Good luck to our students taking finals this week and Happy Holidays to all!

See you in the new year!
Ned

Edwin L. Thomas
William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering