

THE FLORIDA ENGINEER

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the
DREAM
*and the half-inch
decision that
changed it all*
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BUDGET CUT
*and how it affects your alma
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UF

THE FLORIDA ENGINEER

SUMMER 2008

PUBLISHER /
Pramod P. Khargonekar
Dean
ppk@ufl.edu



PUBLICATION ADVISER /
Cammy R. Abernathy
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
caber@eng.ufl.edu



DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS /
Megan E. Gales
mgailes@eng.ufl.edu



EDITOR / Nicole Cisneros McKeen
nmckeен@eng.ufl.edu



ASSISTANT EDITOR / Marilee Griffin
mgriффин@eng.ufl.edu



LEAD DESIGNER / Holly Gibbs
hgibbs@eng.ufl.edu



DESIGNER / John Dunne
jdunne@eng.ufl.edu



ADVISORY BOARD / Bala Balachandar,
Jennifer Curtis, Mike Foley, Joseph Hartman,
Meg Hendryx, Aaron Hoover, Angela
Lindner, Liesl O'Dell, Paul Pegher, Mark
Poulalion, Rey Roque, Erik Sander, Ted Spiker



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OFFICE OF ENGINEERING
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING
University of Florida

349 Weil Hall
P.O. Box 116550
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352-392-0984
thefloridaengineer@eng.ufl.edu
www.thefloridaengineer.eng.ufl.edu

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FEATURES

SUMMER 2008

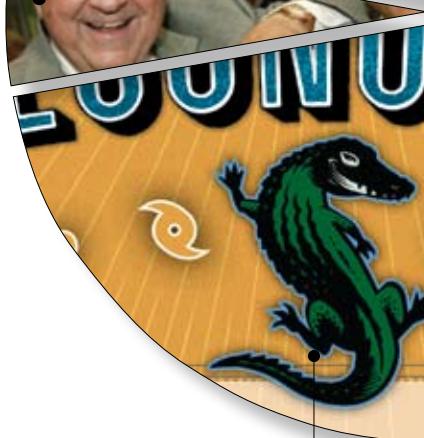
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Hjalma Johnson would have to survive his second day of college before he could be named Distinguished Alumnus Entrepreneur of the Year.



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They're less conspicuous than oranges, yet they're influencing billions of dollars in the Sunshine State's economy. Gator Engineers are Florida's lesser-known natural resource.

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Ben Franklin's magic trick isn't so tricky, so says chemical engineer and Franklin historian Seymour Block. In Block's new book he breaks down the founding father's enchantment with magic squares, the colonial sister to Sudoku.



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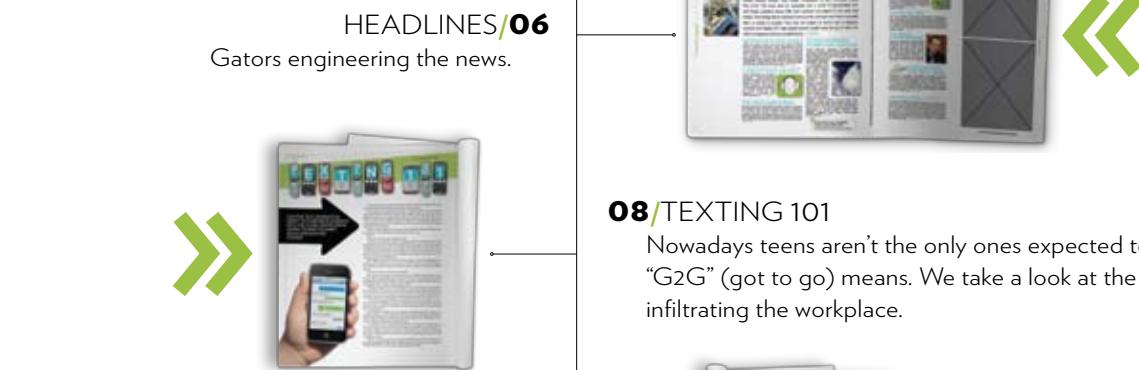
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The world's first laptop computer was the brain child of Gator Engineer Manny Fernandez, but that's only one accomplishment on a fairly long list that just keeps getting longer.

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CONTRIBUTORS

WHO THEY ARE



Indigo de Amescua

Journalist, photographer, juggler. Born in Madrid, he goes by the name Indigo while living in the states attending UF working on a master's degree in communication. His favorite artists today are: Bob Dylan, Tom Waits and Nick Cave. Yesterday: Cat Power, Aretha Franklin and Miles Davis. Tomorrow: Jonathan Richman, Howlin' Wolf and Jorge Ben. He has worked for *Vanity Fair Spain* and the Benicassim's International Music Festival. He loves photos of Terry Richardson, Cartier-Bresson, the desert, motorbikes and neon lights.



Jim Harrison

Jim Harrison is an award-winning graphic designer and artist from Gainesville, Florida. Specializing in corporate communications and brand identities, he has created logos, posters, identity systems, brochures, Web sites, annual reports and other unique items for a wide variety of local, regional and national clients. His work has earned numerous local silver, gold and best of show Addy awards, as well as a national SAPPi Paper "ideas That Matter" grant. Harrison is also known for creating the "Gainesville Fruit Company" series of art prints featuring Gainesville landmarks.



Betty Cortina

Betty Cortina was named one of New York's most powerful women a few years ago. Cortina started at *The Miami Herald* and was soon hired by *People* magazine, where she began her career in magazines. The first story she filed for *People* was about murdered Tejano singer Selena. The overwhelming response to the magazine's coverage inspired *People en Espanol*. She went on to *Entertainment Weekly* and eventually found herself as the founding news editor at *O, The Oprah Magazine*. Cortina's most significant role has been at *Latina*, where she served as editor-in-chief. During her tenure she doubled circulation and advertising revenue. She recently left *Latina* and spent the spring 2008 semester teaching magazine management and feature writing at UF's College of Journalism and Communications.



John W. Cox

John Cox's resume reads like a lifetime of achievement awards. He is 23. He won the Hearst Journalism Award for in-depth writing in *The Independent Florida Alligator* called "Student Death Still Unsolved." He received the Scripps Howard Foundation's Top-Ten Student Journalist \$10,000 award; the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Student Magazine Contest; the Jim Murray Memorial Foundation Scholar \$5,000 Award; the Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling Media Award for the *Alligator* series, "Out of Luck;" and the Hearst Journalism Awards Certificate of Special Merit in Feature and Profile Writing and in June was named National Champion in the William Randolph Hearst Writing Competition.



Wayne Garcia

Wayne Garcia has worked in Florida journalism and politics for nearly 25 years. He is currently political editor for the *Creative Loafing* alternative-weekly newspaper in Tampa, where he writes an award-winning column and blog, *The Political Whore*. He previously wrote for the *St. Petersburg Times*, *The Tampa Tribune*, *The Gainesville Sun*, and *Warfield's Tampa Bay Review* business weekly. From 1996-2004, he was a partner in Repper, Garcia and Associates, a bipartisan political and public affairs consulting firm headquartered in Tampa Bay, and was consultant to more than 100 political campaigns. Additionally, he has served as an adjunct professor of journalism at the University of Tampa and the University of Florida. He is completing coursework toward a master's degree in journalism at the University of South Florida-St. Petersburg.



John Marvel

John Marvel is a journalist and educator in the San Francisco Bay Area. He spent eight years at ESPN the Magazine and ESPN.com. Educated at Boston University and Metropolitan State College, he spent his early journalism years on the *Houston Post*, *Arizona Republic*, *Denver Post* and *Rocky Mountain News* sports staffs. He was a reporter and sports columnist at the *Contra Costa Times* and lead sports columnist at the *Peninsula Times Tribune*.



William McKeen

William McKeen is a professor and chair of the UF Department of Journalism, as well as the author of six books and editor of four more. His latest book, *Outlaw Journalist*, is a biography of the late writer Hunter S. Thompson. He is working on an anthology about childhood in Florida. *Highway 61* is a memoir of a 6,000-mile road trip with his college-aged son. *Rock and Roll is Here to Stay*, a mammoth music history, appeared in 2000. McKeen has written four other books: critical biographies of Tom Wolfe, Hunter Thompson, Bob Dylan and the Beatles. He has written for *Gourmet*, *Maxim*, *American History*, *Holiday*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, and the *World Book Encyclopedia*. He was a copy editor and reporter at several newspapers, staff editor at *The Saturday Evening Post* and production editor at *The American Spectator*.

PICTURES
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STORYTELLING

WHAT THEY DO

A LETTER FROM THE DEAN

live FROM 300 WEIL HALL

WITH PRAMOD KHARGONEKAR

INTERVIEW BY NICOLE MCKEEN

**>>YOU ASKED THE QUESTIONS,
HERE ARE THE ANSWERS.**

Unscripted, unrehearsed and upfront answers
to your most pressing questions.

THE FLORIDA ENGINEER



Photos: Dean Khargonekar by David Blankenship, television and photo illustration by Megan Gales, background by iStockphoto.com

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN YOUR JOB? Keeping the faculty, students and staff motivated, energized, encouraged and enthusiastic — especially during this time of budget cuts.

SPEAKING OF THE BUDGET AND THE CUTS, WHAT REAL EFFECT IS THIS GOING TO HAVE ON THE COLLEGE?

LEGE? The College enjoys a great reputation. It is still an attractive engineering college to come to for students and faculty. However, for the short-term, as far as faculty go, there are no resources to recruit faculty. But when the economy improves, we will be in a good position.

WELL, WHAT ABOUT THE COLLEGE'S NATIONAL RANKINGS? CAN WE RISE IN NATIONAL RANKINGS WITH SUCH A DAUNTING BUDGET CRISIS?

Our ranking for graduate education is 24th for private and public institutions and 14th for public. We have risen significantly in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings in the past seven years. There are very few engineering colleges that have seen this kind of rise. However, we are very ambitious. Our approach is to do the right

things from academic and research perspectives. We've hired more than 90 faculty since 2001. But there's a lot more we can do, like ensuring the success of our junior faculty, growing graduate programs and — for Ph.D. students interested in becoming faculty — facilitating and nurturing that desire. Also, improving the undergraduate program is essential. We've invested a lot in research. The new Nanoscience Institute for Medical and Engineering Technologies will present huge opportunity for the College and University. There's also the J. Crayton Pruitt Family Department of Biomedical Engineering and the new Biomedical Sciences Building. But, the perception of the University is a challenge. I am cautiously optimistic. With a balanced approach, the improvement should continue.

DO YOU RECOMMEND STUDENTS PURSUE GRADUATE DEGREES? Pursuing graduate education is a very good idea.

Engineering is becoming more and more complex. So yes, if it makes sense for the individual and it's feasible, a graduate degree is a good idea. It doesn't have to be immediately after graduation, but it is a very, very good investment.

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE CORPORATE WORLD. WHAT IS THE COLLEGE DOING TO PREPARE YOUNG ENGINEERING GRADUATES FOR THE POLITICS OF CORPORATE AMERICA? Each program puts a special emphasis on soft skills like ethics, communication and teamwork. The university environment is removed from the world of corporate politics. So through the education in the humanities and social sciences, all of this provides a strong foundation for students to succeed in the corporate atmosphere. We do bring students together with industry members throughout their college experience.

SOME SENIOR ENGINEERS SAID NEW HIRES DON'T WANT TO GET THEIR HANDS DIRTY AND HAVE A

DIFFICULT TIME APPLYING THEIR ACADEMICS TO ACTUAL PROBLEMS. HOW CAN WE PREVENT THIS TREND FROM AFFECTING FLORIDA ENGINEERS?

I am aware of this concern. Our College does still offer very strong lab experience undergraduate education. We are also emphasizing design experience. The Integrated Product & Process Design program is an excellent example of the real-world design experience. The program is linked directly to industry. In each department we have an advisory board helping with curriculum. We need to be diligent on this issue. Active involvement from alumni can be very beneficial here.

OK, SO BEYOND CONTRIBUTING MONEY, WHAT ARE THE BEST WAYS FOR GATOR ENGINEERING ALUMNI TO HELP THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND KEEP IT AMONG THE BEST IN THE U.S.?

Get connected. Visit the departments. Meet the department chairs. Offer the students your expertise. You see the world from a very different perspective than we do in academia. Get to know each other. Find areas where we can improve. Look for new opportunities to work together. It can all be of great benefit for everyone. I hope that you will derive something of value to help improve your professional future.

HOW DO WE INCREASE THE POOL OF ENGINEERING STUDENTS TO BE MORE COMPETITIVE ON A GLOBAL SCALE?

The pipeline, that's the first place. We need to do a lot more work in making engineering more attractive to younger children — middle and high school. Once they come to UF we need to give them a balanced education with strong fundamentals. But this is not enough. Our students need a keen awareness of global trends. The ability to work in global teams and the ability to lead that will distinguish our students. Also, being highly competitive, highly independent, and savvy about the global economy will allow our students to work with employers and customers around the world.

ON A LIGHTER NOTE, WHAT ABOUT YOU? DID YOU ALWAYS WANT TO BECOME A TEACHER? Yes. Since I was 16 or 17 years old.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST LOVE IN LIFE? I have always been an avid reader. I enjoy learning. I am really happy when I am learning something.

WHAT DRIVES YOU TODAY? Using my God-given talents and energy to improve anything that I come in contact with. I like to use my abilities to improve student experience, faculty success and be involved in things that will stand the test of time. I am very much a team player. I want to make the team play better by being on it.

HOW DO YOU LIKE BEING A FLORIDA GATOR?

It's great to be a Florida Gator. I love the University of Florida. I am a graduate of UF, so I am a Gator in at least two ways — as an alumnus and as faculty member. I am very pleased and grateful for my graduate education and the opportunity to lead the College. I am very pleased with the progress the College has made during my tenure. It has exceeded my wildest expectations. ☘

H E A D L I

GATOR ENGINEERS IN THE NEWS



WINNING BRIDGES

UF's student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers hosted the 17th annual National Student Steel Bridge Competition at the O'Connell Center May 23-24. The event drew 42 universities and a crowd of approximately 650, said chapter president Jimmy Falls. Each university was judged on 1/10 scale steel bridges. Each bridge had to withstand 2,500 pounds, and each team had to assemble theirs as quickly as possible. They were also judged on factors such as lightness, economy and display. UF's team placed second overall, made the top 10 within five of the six categories and were awarded \$3,000. —M.W.G.

MOVING UP IN THE RANKS

After two years at No. 26 in the U.S. News & World Report graduate rankings, Gator Engineering moved up two spots to a three-way tie for No. 24. In rankings determined by department heads of other universities, UF's materials science and engineering program was ranked No. 8 in a tie with Georgia Tech. Pramod Khargonekar, the college's dean, said he was particularly pleased the college moved up to No. 14 among public universities, up two slots from last year. —N.C.M.

CREATING QUIET

Gator Engineering students created noise-canceling headphones that can be used during an MRI. Part of the IPPD program, this project presented an extra challenge: no metal could be used because it interferes with MRI equipment. —N.C.M.



THE NUCLEAR SURGE

As the search for alternative energy sources continues at a feverish pace, Nuclear Energy is set for a comeback. In January, the *Tampa Tribune* reported expanding nuclear engineering departments across the country. UF's Department of Nuclear & Radiological Engineering has more than doubled its enrollment in the past decade. —N.C.M.

GOOD MORNING HURRICANE SEASON

Good Morning America's co-anchor Sam Champion experienced hurricane-force winds firsthand recently at the University of Florida, where Gator Engineers simulate hurricanes to improve construction practices.

The GMA crew came to Gainesville June 3 and broadcast live four times during the two-hour show. Civil and Coastal Engineering assistant professor Forrest Masters simulated a Category 4 hurricane with eight industrial fans connected to four marine diesel engines and a 5,000-gallon water tank. Assistant professor David Prevatt demonstrated how retrofits can help older homes better stand up to strong storms. Several other media organizations have come to visit Gator Engineering hurricane researchers in recent weeks, including The Weather Channel, FOX News, and several area newspapers. —M.E.G.



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N E S

SUMMER 2008

AND THE WINNER IS... DIESEL FUEL

William Lear sets the record straight about diesel-guzzling vehicles, citing the efficiency of diesel engines even though the cost is usually higher. Lear, an associate professor in the department of mechanical & aerospace engineering, is an expert on energy systems. —N.C.M.



COMPUTE THIS

UF's was awarded a Center for Automatic Computing, a national research center, by the National Science Foundation. The area center helps industry by automating and engineering IT systems, thus bringing about large savings in recurrent personnel costs and preventing large economic losses due to system crashes. —N.C.M.

THE GATOR ENTREPRENEUR

Japanese business mogul Sachio Semmoto (Ph.D. EE '71) tells *Forbes* magazine he owes much of his success to his time at UF. *Forbes* wasn't the only magazine to recognize the entrepreneurial greatness of this Gator Engineer, he was also featured in the *Economist* in February. —N.C.M.



FLYING SAUCERS— THE REAL DEAL

Mechanical Aerospace Engineering associate professor Subrata Roy invented a circular, spinning aircraft design reminiscent of the spaceships seen in Hollywood films. The "wingless electromagnetic air vehicle," can be used for surveillance and navigation. While possibly soaring through other atmospheres, the aircraft is an ideal exploration vehicle for Saturn's sixth moon. —N.C.M.

ORANGE AND... GREEN?

Florida Gov. Charlie Crist signed a bill in June that places UF at the front of a statewide effort to develop biomass, solar and other renewable energy technology, reported *The Gainesville Sun*. The bill, which formed the Florida Energy Systems Consortium, provides five state universities with funding and asks them to bring together their areas of expertise. UF, which is heading the consortium, was given \$15 million — more than any other university. —M.W.G.

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Can the text generation adapt to corporate America? Or is the older crowd simply going to have to DARFC (duck and run for cover)?



There used to be a time in corporate America when the biggest saboteur of potential was the botched cover letter or pitch query.

One simply can't count the number of rising stars who never landed in their dream jobs at ESPN because they couldn't spell my name correctly. Brilliant resumes came addressed to Marvell, Marvele, Marvelle, Maryle or, my personal favorite, Marble. These packages were immediately deep-sixed to the garbage, even if the candidate seemed to be the next Donald Trump, Steve Jobs or Rick Reilly.

But now there appears to be a new issue within the battle of the generations in the real world, and it is driving both sides crazy.

LOL ...

Funny? U got that rite. Problem? TTYL.

The lexicon of e-mail, instant messaging and text shorthand has been descending on the job world during the past few years. Those hitting the workplace for the first time out of college were likely born in the mid-1980s, so cell phones, e-mail and text messaging are tools they have grown up with. Older executives, managers and colleagues are playing catch-up, so it has become a generational dilemma.

BFF might mean Best Friend Forever to the 21-year-old applying for a job with Dow Chemical, but the 45-year-old VP with six advanced degrees reading the e-mail just spent 45 minutes trying to figure out what the hell it means.

But instant messaging, texting and the art of SMS occasionally have also found a place. IMing someone is a quick alternative to picking up the phone or walking down the hall, which can be perceived as time-wasters. Need an immediate answer, and the IM can be your BFF.

"IMing is a great tool in the workplace," says Gary Kurtz, CEO of Kurtz Entertainment. "It can save your ass when you need something ASAP, but it can also be a crutch. It's OK to sit in your office or cube all day getting stuff done. But there's something to be said for person-to-person contact, too."

The key for the generations to succeed and co-exist is simple: use common sense. If a colleague is using text-speak and it's nothing that's going to embarrass the company or themselves, hey, who cares? It's 2008 and we just have to deal with it.

But if SSDD or RBAY start to creep into important memos, reports or communications to the CEO, well, it's time to have a talk about professionalism in the workplace. QYB isn't a sign of the times, it's a reflection on the writer's ability to either get real or grow up.

"I sometimes have to catch myself while in business conversations so that I don't slip in any of the Internet lingo I've grown so accustomed to," says Ryan Wong, a recent UC-Santa Cruz graduate and a direct marketing specialist. "I don't think 'I did it for the lulz' is something a manager or a VP would like to hear."

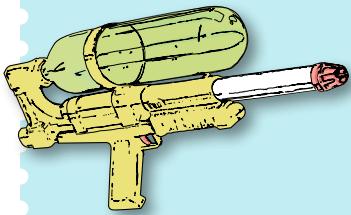
Of course, chances are the executive wouldn't get the "lulz" reference. If they did, it might be L8R for the offending party. Or the response might be LMAO. Who knows? Someday it might simply be NBD.



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Did you know?

The Super Soaker® was invented by mechanical engineer Lonnie Johnson by accident. According to Johnson Research and Developments Web site, "This wildly successful toy was brought into being in 1982 when Lonnie Johnson, founder and president of Johnson Research, was experimenting at home with another invention, an environmentally friendly heat pump. He attached a high-pressure nozzle to the bathroom sink and when it shot a powerful stream of water across the bathroom into the tub, his first thought was, 'This would make a great water gun!' Acting on that idea, he made a water gun prototype for his daughter. It proved to be a huge success with her neighborhood friends, he began the search for a potential manufacturer. After several false starts, the Super Soaker® was licensed in 1989 to Larami Corp. In 1995, Larami sold Super Soaker® to Hasbro Corp. With the Super Soaker®, Hasbro remains the undisputed dominator of the water gun market in the world today. The competitive advantage of this toy has been maintained worldwide by an array of intellectual property rights owned by Lonnie Johnson." —N.C.M.



ENGINEERING GOES POP!

ENTERTAINING WITH ENGINEERING

Two of the country's most famous unofficial engineers visited UF in April and wowed the audience with tales of their exploits while giving their thoughts on engineering.

The Benton Engineering Council and UF's branch of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers teamed up with ACCENT, UF's student government speaker's bureau, to bring Jamie Hyneman and Adam Savage, stars of the Discovery Channel's hit TV show "MythBusters," to the Stephen C. O'Connell Center on April 14.

The performance nearly filled the O'Dome, which holds 12,000. Audience members were even sitting behind the myth-busting duo because there were no more seats facing the stage.

At one point in the presentation, Hyneman and Savage asked if there were any engineers in the audience. They were greeted with a chorus of cheers and hollers.

"I could tell by the audience reaction there were a lot of engineers in the audience," said

Brian Sapp, past president of IEEE.

In the rest of their presentation, which was moderated by a UF physics professor, Hyneman and Savage shared what they've learned from the 550 myths they've tested, 2,000 distinct experiments they've conducted and 2,200 explosions they've witnessed since the show began.

—Deborah Swerdlow



Inventor,
Chemist, Engineer,
Entrepreneur, Husband,
Father, Mentor,
Philanthropist,
Billionaire,
Gator — this is Jerry
Zucker

(QUINT) ESSENTIAL ENGINEER

Gator Engineer Jerry Zucker, who passed away in April, made the world better through philanthropy and science. Zucker was chief executive of the Hudson Bay Co., and founder of The InterTech Group, the genius behind PBI — a high-performance fiber and polymer with extreme heat resistance. PBI is used by NASA shuttle insulation, firefighter protective gear, automotive braking, aircraft and flame-resistant clothing used in the military and NASCAR.

Zucker's adolescent success seemed to reverberate through his short 58 years. He engineered his first invention while still in high school — a revolutionary tracking design system for NASA involving telemetry and guidance that won him top prize at the

international science fair. He worked on television technology involving the bluescreen. He invented a prong system for toilet paper production, using tiny holes to secure the last square to the rest of the roll instead of using glue that ultimately shreds the paper when it is first opened (tail-tie system). He then developed the PBI formula in the '80s, almost two decades before it really became successful. He's also responsible for insulation used in cryogenics.

Zucker, a practical joker, carried tubes of polymers in his pocket so he could demonstrate science to his favorite audience — children. He would empty the cylinder of powder into a glass of whatever liquid was near just to show how the polymer

could transform the liquid into a solid. He was dedicated to the hope, wonder and success of children.

"He loved making a difference in people's lives, especially children," said his widow, Anita Zucker, who is a graduate of UF's College of Education.

Education and science were his muses — they were his loves.

Anita, who has taken over The InterTech Group as chairwoman and chief executive, said her husband is being memorialized by having a middle school named in his honor. The Charleston, S.C., School Board voted to name the school the Jerry Zucker Middle School for Science and Math. It will open within the year.
—N.C.M.



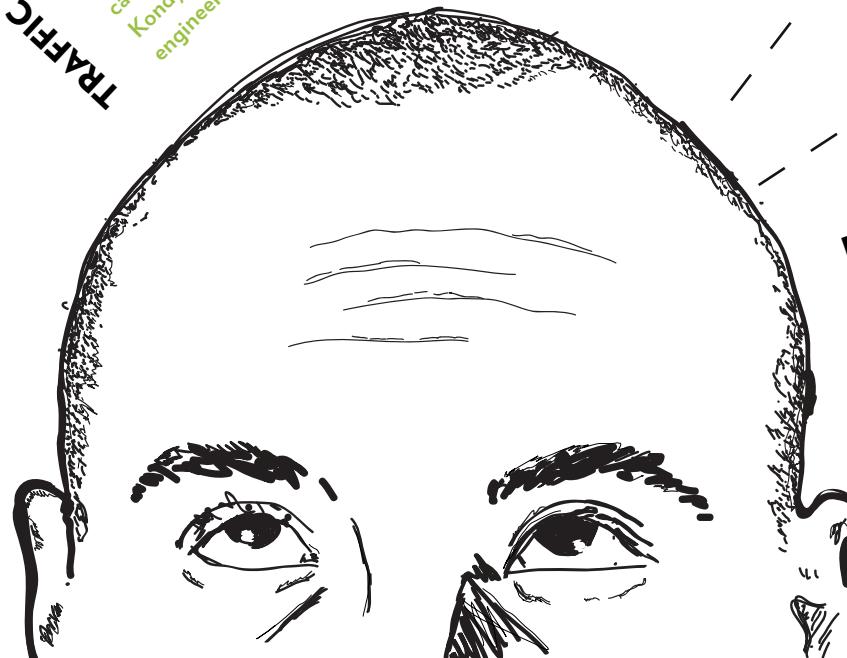
THE COOLEST* RESEARCH YOU NEVER KNEW EXISTED

BY MARILEE GRIFFIN

* gator engineering

I This research could change the way you drive. It aims to minimize traffic congestion on the freeway by identifying the behaviors that trigger it. This research is unique because it focuses on the driver's behavior from inside the vehicle. A car equipped with cameras monitors a driver's reactions and surroundings while the driver changes lanes, passes, merges, etc. Since each driver's characteristics can influence whether traffic streams are cooperative or competitive, each driver is asked to "think out loud" while they drive on the freeway, to capture their reasoning.

The Cool Factor? "This research bridges the gap between individual drivers' actions and characteristics with the significant problem of congestion." / Alexandra Kondyli, Ph.D. student, civil and coastal engineering



EPILEPSY IMAGING



ASEDRA

ASEDRA is a software enhancing the effectiveness of the typically low-quality nuclear radiation detectors used every day to protect U.S. airports and borders. By sifting through the noisy, low-resolution signals produced by these inexpensive detectors costing 10 times as much, ASEDRA has been patented, and is being commercially developed.

The Cool Factor? "This product would greatly enhance the security of the United States against terrorist attacks." / Glenn Sjoden, associate professor, nuclear and radiological engineering

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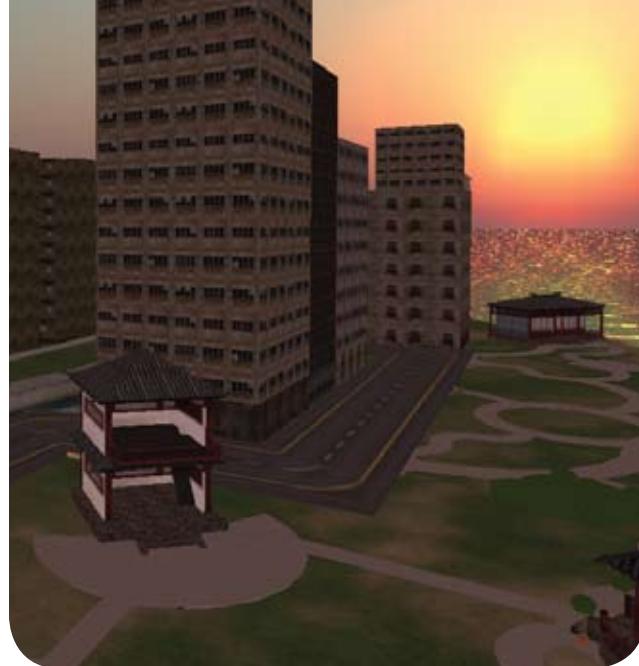
The Cool Factor? "This product would greatly enhance the security of the United States against terrorist attacks." / Glenn Sjoden, associate professor, nuclear and radiological engineering

SECOND CHINA

III

You can visit Second China while playing Second Life (an Internet-based 3-D virtual world where you can "live" as a virtual version of yourself). Second China is a government-funded project helping prepare travelers to visit China. Different scenarios — like a teahouse, office or taxi — are set up to test language skills and cultural know-how. A companion Web site helps you navigate Second China by teaching these things. So when you arrive for a virtual meeting, you'll know to respond when Lu the receptionist says "Ni hao."

The Cool Factor? "We can use the power of 3-D and what people normally associate with video games to teach culture." / Paul Fishwick, professor, computer and information science and engineering



THE TERMINATOR PROJECT

IV

Inspired by how metal "healed" itself in the Terminator movies, researchers have developed a fully functioning, tin-based prototype that can "recover" when damaged. A high-strength metal is reinforced with shape memory alloy wires — a special type of

metal that can return to its original shape after becoming deformed. This process closes cracks in the metal, which is heated until liquid beads of sweat form at the crack's surface. The liquid covers the crack, which "heals" as it cools. The research could be applied to NASA vehicles, which are used in remote locations where it is difficult to fix broken parts.

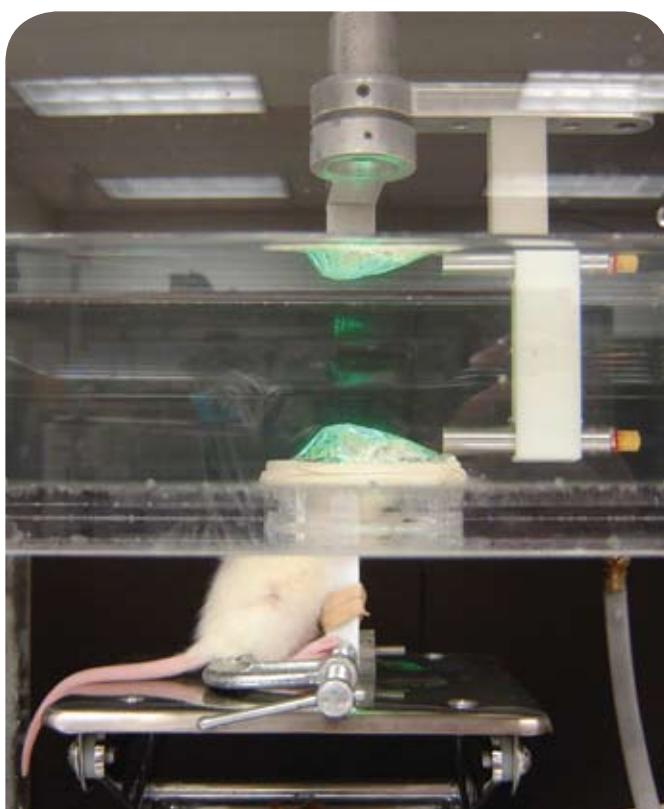
The Cool Factor? "Metals and structural materials are considered to be inanimate. However, when you watch the healing process, this metal object seems to come alive. Maybe the idea of a cyborg doesn't seem so crazy after all!" / Michele Manuel, assistant professor, materials science and engineering

SUMMER 2008

V

A new technique that has been successful on rats creates a map of the brain's activity by vibrating it with laser light, revealing the part of the brain involved in an epileptic seizure. The technology, which is being developed for humans, will function like a hat — making it particularly useful for children, who pose a problem for MRI scans because they can't remain still for long periods of time.

The Cool Factor? "Lasers have never been used before to generate an ultrasound. Children will really benefit from this research." / Huawei Jiang, professor, biomedical engineering



THE SAVVY ENGINEER

BY MARILEE GRIFFIN

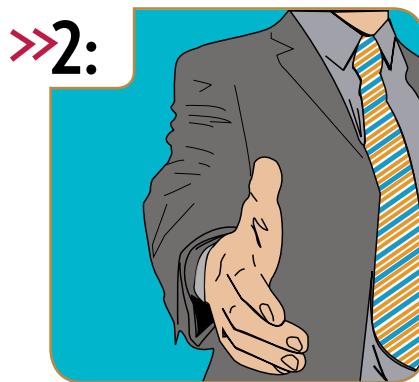
THIS INSTALLMENT – WE BELIEVE YOU CAN FLY

WHETHER YOU'RE FRESH OUT OF COLLEGE OR JUST TRYING TO MAKE A FRESH START, THESE ENGINEERING EXPERTS HAVE SOME TIPS TO HELP YOU SOAR IN THE WORKPLACE.



>>1:

Learn it all. There are aspects of business, project management, people management and leadership that you don't know. Be a sponge.



>>2:

Meet the peers in your company. "Get out of your chair and build yourself a network. Engineering is not an individual sport."

>>3:



Under-promise and over-deliver.



>>4:

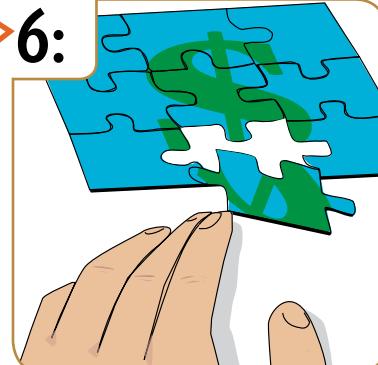
"Ten percent of the people do 90 percent of the work. Align yourself with that 10 percent."



>>5:

"Don't just hang out with engineers." Instead, try having lunch once a week with someone from business development, marketing or operations. You can learn a lot, especially from people who are close to the customer.

>>6:



Young engineers are often cubby-holed into one component of a project, but they should determine what impact that component has on business. "If you can understand what your boss' boss' concerns are, you will be much more valuable to your company."

D. Wayne Klotz is the president of the Texas-based engineering firm Klotz Associates Inc. and president-elect of ASCE.

Pramod Khargonekar is the Dean of the College of Engineering and an Eckis Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Cammy Abernathy is the associate dean for Academic Affairs and a professor of Materials Science and Engineering.

Erik Sander is the college's director of Industry Programs and teaches the graduate-level course "Entrepreneurship for Engineers."

Engineering Florida's ECONOMY



There are nearly 40,000 University of Florida engineering graduates all over the world, with more than 18,000 of them in Florida. And when it comes to the state's economy, Gator engineers and their handiwork can be found in every corner and sector — with some pretty impressive price tags attached. An upgrade to Orlando's wastewater and water reclamation system? \$57 million. A new Interstate 4 interchange in downtown Orlando? \$126 million. A planned connector between I-4 and the Crosstown Expressway in Tampa? \$548 million. Fixing the Everglades? Nearly \$9 billion. And numerous solar, gas, nuclear and biofuel energy projects and policy initiatives throughout the state? \$10 billion. The full economic value of all those engineers? Priceless.

BY WAYNE GARCIA
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JIM HARRISON
(AARON HOOVER CONTRIBUTED TO THIS STORY)

When Andre Tousignant looks at a beam being raised into place for a new Interstate 4-State Road 408 interchange in downtown Orlando, he marvels at how magnificent a 6-foot-deep steel girder with 4-inch flanges looks in reality vs. the way it appears drawn on construction designs.

But Tousignant, a 2005 University of Florida civil engineering graduate, sees much more than just a tremendous hunk of structural steel; he sees the pulse of Florida's economy.

"I look down the line and know that I helped tourists have an easier drive," said Tousignant, who is the project's field engineer with PCL Civil Constructors of Tampa.

"[I like] to know I had a role in people getting to downtown easier so they can spend their money and prevent a state income tax." The direct economic impact of the I-4 project: \$126 million. The benefit to the parents of an antsy toddler stuck in traffic on the way back from Walt Disney World, however, is incalculable.

More than 18,000 Gator Engineering graduates have Florida addresses, according to the University of Florida Foundation records. It is not known exactly how many of them are working in the field or the exact amount of economic benefit they generate in myriad projects, programs and policy initiatives. But this much is clear in anecdotal evidence: From NASA to the Everglades, from nuclear power plants to highway construction projects, from smart traffic to innovative software, the Sunshine State's economy runs on the back of UF engineering.

"It's literally hundreds of billions of dollars over the course of a lifetime for a UF engineer for those things that he and his colleagues have touched," estimated Jerry Paul, a nuclear engineering graduate and member of the College's advisory board. "It's the secondary and tertiary benefits, the recurring job base for decades into the future, the recurring tax revenue for each of those projects for our governments."

Paul's Tallahassee and Washington, D.C., consulting firm, Capitol Energy LLC is working with clients on more than \$10 billion in projects and initiatives in the energy field. He's not alone in touting the financial power of Gator Engineering.

"UF engineers form the backbone for the Florida infrastructure market," said Ken Morefield of international giant Jacobs Engineering Group's Tallahassee office. "They are in key technical and leadership positions throughout the state in virtually every aspect of our economy and in every aspect of designing, constructing and operating our state's vital infrastructure system."

Morefield, a UF alumnus, and other Jacobs UF-educated engineers, have worked on prominent public and private projects, including the Tampa Bay Water's \$625 million

three-year construction program that includes a desalination plant and a 15-billion-gallon reservoir. Even bigger, however, is its program and construction management for the South Florida Water Management District on an \$8.9 billion restoration of the Florida Everglades.

The engineering firm Kimley-Horn has more than a dozen large projects ongoing at any moment in the state, said Charles L. Geer, a UF alumnus and College advisory board member who is a senior vice president in the firm's West Palm Beach office. One of the most high-profile of those projects is the firm's work in designing and integrating the SunGuide Control Center in Miami-Dade County, the "brain" of an innovative traffic control monitoring plan called the Intelligent Transportation System, or ITS. In Miami-Dade alone, the full ITS cost \$70 million — but it came with bang for the buck. In 2005, the Florida Department of Transportation estimated that "the ITS program ... yielded \$15 of benefits for every \$1 spent on the program."

Translation: Gator Engineering helped create in excess of \$1 billion worth of economic benefit.

Coincidentally, another Gator-related engineer works on the ITS program for the entire state. At Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan, 1984 UF civil engineering graduate Max D. Crumit oversees the firm's transportation services division, which accounts for nearly half of the company's \$581 million in revenues, approximately \$93 million of which comes in Southeastern states, including consulting for the ITS program.

PBS&J projects in Florida include a planned connector between Interstate 4 and the Selmon Crosstown Expressway in Tampa. It is a \$548 million project that will remove heavy tractor-trailers from the narrow, historic streets of Ybor City and speed them from the Port of Tampa to destinations throughout the region.

And those are just the hard dollars spent in Florida. One Gator Engineer insists that the real value comes when companies bring dollars from outside the state back home to create jobs.

"We should be thinking about how many import dollars these companies generate," said Kurt Long, who grew his OpenNetwork firm into a global security software leader before it was acquired by BMC in 2005. "We want businesses in other regions of the U.S. and world writing checks that go to companies who have a Florida address." ☐

7

Engineering Hotspots



NANOTHERAPEUTICS This bioengineering UF spin-off company specializes in pharmaceuticals. It was awarded \$20 million to develop an inhaled version of a first-line therapy for bioterrorism agents. Over the last three years, the Florida High Tech Corridor has approved more than \$2.5 million to match \$7.3 million from industry to support collaborative research between UF and companies across central Florida.



ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING Harris is the largest Florida-headquartered technology company and employs more than 730 Gator graduates. These Gators have made a substantial contribution to Harris' \$5 billion in annual revenue, spanning many communications and IT markets.



DISNEY Numerous Gator Engineers also wear mouse ears, including Walt Disney World's senior vice presidents for IT and operations. They are part of an economic impact of more than \$3 billion and 111,000 direct and indirect jobs in the Orlando area.



NASA Responsibility for processing the payloads on every space shuttle flight rests with Boeing, and UF engineering graduate Mark G. Jager heads the company's Checkout, Assembly & Payload Processing Services division. The total impact of NASA on the Florida economy was calculated in 2006 at more than \$5.4 billion.



THE FLORIDA TURNPIKE Gators at Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan provide expertise to not only the Florida Turnpike Enterprise and its system of public-private toll highways, but also to the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority, and FDOT Districts One, Three, Five, Six and Seven. PBS&J is also general consultant to the statewide Intelligent Transportation Systems, which manages traffic flow.



THE EVERGLADES Gator Engineers at Jacobs Engineering Group provide program and construction management to the first two phases of the historic \$8.9 billion Florida Everglades restoration.

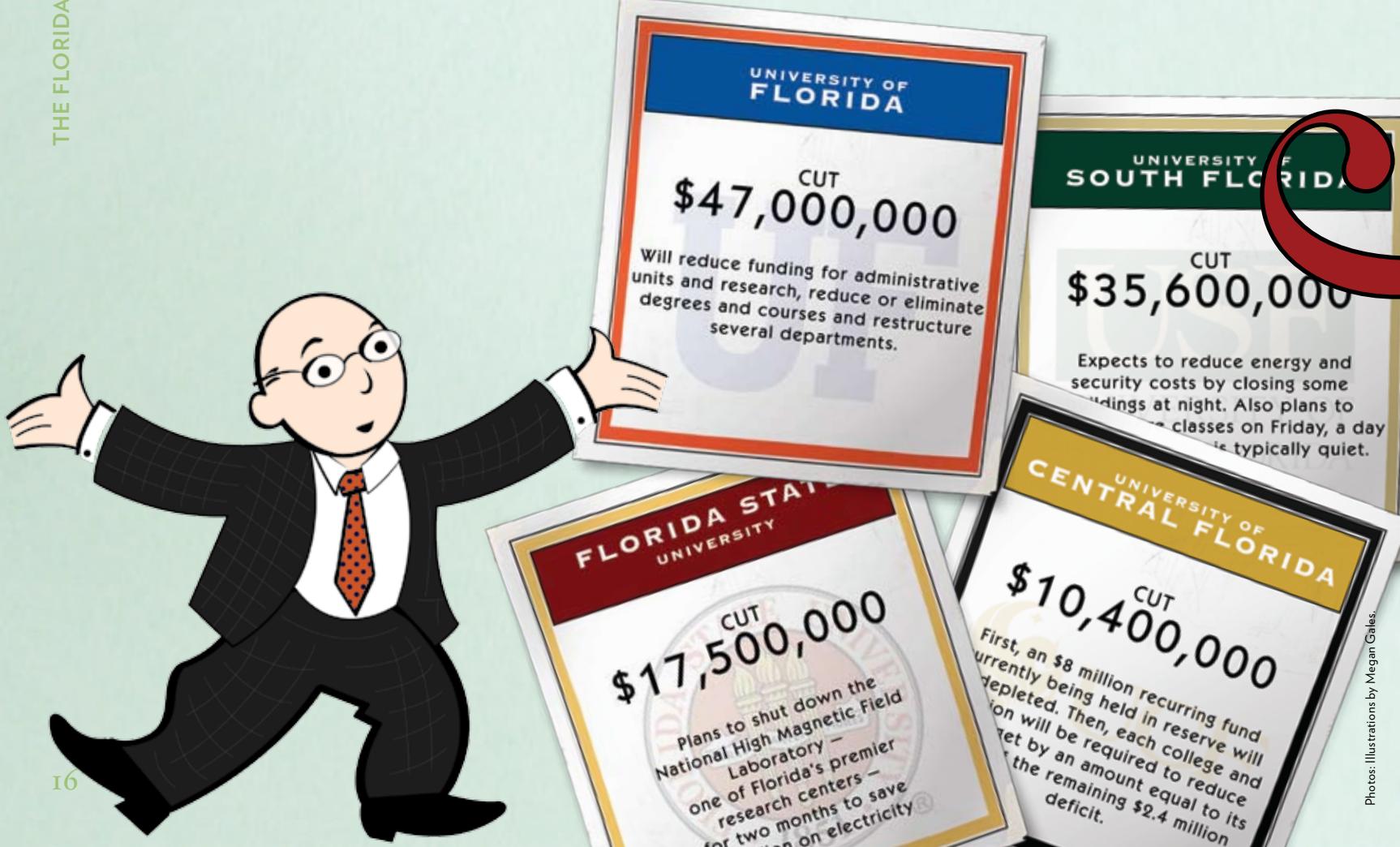


HURRICANES UF engineers are researching hurricane-related solutions, such as retrofits for a variety of Florida homes. They hope to help reduce billions of dollars in property loss and damage by testing how real buildings wear during manmade hurricane-force wind and rain.

Playing the

BUDGET

BY JOHN WOODROW COX



THE GAME

SUMMER 2008

Monopoly is a game of luck and strategy, but it's not the one we're referring to. We're talking budget cuts — massive ones — \$47 million for UF alone. The College of Engineering has been dealt its share, too, and now there's some serious strategizing to do if we don't want to lose our national ranking, our professors and so much more.

T

wo-door station wagons, vans filled with back-seat mattresses and steel V-8-powered muscle cars idled in mile-long lines, sometimes for hours, waiting for a few gallons of high-priced gas.

President Jimmy Carter pleaded with citizens to turn down their thermostats and use public transportation to save energy while American industries saw profits disappear and small-town businesses were forced to close.

And at the University of Michigan's College of Engineering in Ann Arbor, George Haddad, then chairman of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, felt the impact of a battered and bleeding economy firsthand. State funds were sparse, salary raises were non-existent, and in Haddad's first seven years on the job (1975-1982), the college hired just one faculty member.

"Those were very bad times," Haddad said. "The morale was not very good."

Now, three decades later, the University of Florida and its College of Engineering prepare for a similar chal-

lenge brought on by somewhat similar circumstances.

The Florida Legislature cut more from this year's budget than the 2007 gross domestic products of Greenland, Liberia and Saint Lucia combined. Of the economy-spawned \$4 billion laceration, about \$100 million came from Florida's 11 public universities. Almost half of that — \$47 million — was excised from UF's budget.

"The cuts are the result of weeks of very difficult discussions and decisions at the college and administrative unit levels," President Bernie Machen wrote in a statement about the new budget. "The criteria for deciding budget reductions included protecting the university's core missions of education, research and service, the goals of the university and the needs of students and the state."

While all of UF's 16 colleges saw their budgets drop by about 6 percent, the College of Engineering felt the third harshest monetary blow with a \$3.6 million reduction. Added to a \$2.7 million September cut, the college's budget fell from \$61.3 million last year to \$55 million this year.

"We are facing the most difficult circumstances I've faced in my tenure as dean," said Dean Pramod Khargonekar. "How do we keep this college going up on this path of improvement after the very severe budget cuts that we've endured? That will be the highest level challenge I see."

In the U.S. News & World Report rankings, the College's graduate school has climbed from 35th in 2001 to 24th in 2009 and reached 14th among public universities, an important factor in attracting top-level students who scour school rankings before making their college choice. National rankings typically reflect the health of an institution, which depends on attributes like student-teacher ratios, expenditures and peer assessments. Rankings are also important to a college's success because they raise its regional and national profile, attracting better professors and often bringing in more funding.

Beyond rankings, the immediate impact for Gator Engineering came in the form of eight fewer staff members, although tenured and tenure-track faculty were not affected by the layoffs.

The staff cuts, elimination of unfilled positions and a drop in technical support in labs and classrooms will leave faculty with more work and less time, said Cammy Abernathy, associate dean of academic affairs. The Col-

HOW DO WE KEEP THIS COLLEGE GOING UP ON THIS PATH OF IMPROVEMENT AFTER THE VERY SEVERE BUDGET CUTS THAT WE'VE ENDURED?

ENGINEER

**COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING**

\$3.6 MILLION

Employee Reductions
 20 faculty positions
 [vacant positions eliminated;
 no layoffs]
 9 staff positions
 [1 vacant position eliminated;
 8 layoffs]



AGRICULTURAL & NATURAL RESOURCES / IFAS

CUT
\$9.5 MILLION

HOW BIG WILL CLASSES BECOME?



LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

CUT
\$5.97 MILLION

WILL RANKINGS DROP?



lege also offers fewer classes this summer, resulting in more populated classrooms in the fall and spring, presenting faculty an even greater challenge and perhaps making it more difficult for the College to ward off other universities from trying to pick off its best professors.

"If the college cannot compete with quality faculty and research in key technologies, then they will lose the ground they've gained over the years," said Robert Sierakowski, an adviser to the dean and former UF engineering professor. "It's easier to lose ground than to gain ground."

Budget cuts at public universities tend to result in a domino effect. Take the University of Wisconsin-Madison, which has experienced cuts for nearly a decade. Tim Norris, director of the university's budget office, said the losses eliminated classes, caused layoffs, hindered the university from hiring top-tier professors, made it harder to retain valued faculty and eventually lessened the university's overall quality.

"It had a global impact on the campus," Norris said. "We have to rely more on lecturers and non-tenured faculty instructors...that's a slippery slope in terms of quality."

"If it looks like it's not temporary, they should use this to take some strategic approach rather than just use a band-aid," Norris said of UF's take on the problems. "We didn't really do that."

In all, about 430 University of Florida positions will cease to exist, which includes layoffs of about 20 faculty and 118 staff members.

UF will also reduce undergraduate enrollment by 4,000 over the next four years, and specifically within the College of Engineering, about a third of the normal number of transfer students will now be accepted per year.

For the last four months, Khargonekar and other administrators have toiled over a plan intended to prevent a major quality decline in the college, primarily for the student education. Although the plan eliminated existing positions, gave more responsibilities to current faculty and will require alternative financial support, funding for academic departments is only dropping 4.23 percent.

"We could use all the help we can get," Khargonekar said. "If people have ideas, resources, direc-

tions we can think about, I would love to hear from them. We very much welcome support."

Christian Ramirez, engineering senior and president of the Benton Engineering Council, said he knows the dean is making efforts to minimize the impact on students but also said he worries that the monetary cramps and potential faculty loss will harm the value of his degree.

"I may not feel the direct effect, but I feel for the individuals who are coming after us," Ramirez said. "It's scary."

Ramirez recommended the Legislature allow UF room for more significant tuition hikes to help cover the budget problems.

"I think the education would be taken more seriously by the students," he said. "I've heard very few opposed to UF raising the tuition."

Richard Darabi, a 2003 civil engineering graduate, said he's witnessed the economic crunch in Tallahassee, where he now works for Clifford Lamb and Associates, a land development company. Because Darabi said the problems reside in industries and universities throughout the state, he doesn't think it will divert students to other schools.

"Part of the reason I went to UF is that it's the best school in Florida," he said. "I think that will still hold true."

Haddad said he believes UF, like the Michigan 30 years ago, will weather the tough fiscal times.

"We really had to work very, very hard in the '80s to recover," Haddad said. "Fortunately, things really turned around."

UM's college of engineering went from one faculty hire in Haddad's first seven years as chair to 50 in the next five. He said state lawmakers invested in engineering, top-tier professors flocked to the school, and the university constructed the first new building for the college in 20 years.

Khargonekar said he knows UF faces a daunting dilemma but also believes that with strong alumni support and an unbending commitment to maintain quality student educations, the College will survive and excel.

"Our mission has not changed," he said. "We've got to remind ourselves that Florida will come back. When it comes back, we want to be stronger than ever." 

EDUCATION

CUT
\$955,000

NURSING

CUT
\$510,000

FINE ARTS

CUT
\$801,000

JOURNALISM &
COMMUNICATIONS

CUT
\$580,000

BRAIN DRAIN
WILL FACULTY BE
HIRED AWAY?



PUBLIC HEALTH
& HEALTH
PROFESSIONS

CUT
\$730,000

HOW MUCH
WILL TUITION COST?



WARRINGTON
COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION

LEVIN
COLLEGE OF
LAW



CUT
\$1.47 MILLION

CUT
\$1.24 MILLION

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS,
VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.thefloridaengineer.eng.ufl.edu

MEDICINE

CUT
\$2.64 MILLION

INDUSTRY

CUT
\$1 MILLION

In Search of the Next Best Thing

THE FLORIDA



The untold story of Manny Fernandez, the Gator engineer who helped change how you – and the rest of the world – thinks, acts and communicates

W

hen Manny Fernandez looks back at a few of his life's major accomplishments—heading the team that created the first mobile laptop computer, running the country's most influential technology research company, becoming chairman of UF's powerful Board of Trustees—he sums up his journey with a smile and a surprisingly simple thought: "It's all about timing."

Indeed, Fernandez, 62, has long had an impeccable sense of it. He was 16 when he decided that going through high school like everyone else would take too long, so he dropped out, took the GED, applied to UF—and got in. The only child of Cuban parents (Manny Sr. and Maria Teresa) who had fled the island's communist revolution three years earlier in 1959, Fernandez buried himself in books, studying statics and dynamics, even as he struggled to understand his English-speaking professors. "I called my father at one point and said, We have a problem. I'm getting a D," Fernandez recalls. "But my Dad said, Just keep going. There's no stopping."

His father always was his greatest coach, Fernandez says, the man who'd been a successful electrical engineer in Havana, but who in America took any paying job that came his way, holding down three at once—repairing TVs and working as a handyman during the day, washing dishes at night. Yet Manny Sr. and Maria Teresa were determined to instill in their son a sense of pride and fate, reminding him again and again that he was the hope for their family. "How could I even think about not going to school

or giving up when my parents were constantly talking about how getting an education for me was the reason they were here," Fernandez says. "Not going to school was just not an option."

Which doesn't mean he didn't have moments of doubt. As a sophomore at UF, Fernandez says he considered dropping out to work on a suntan lotion business he and a friend had launched back home in Daytona Beach. They were selling what was then a hot, new product (Hawaiian Tropic) and concept (the "native tan") poolside at local hotels. "It was 1964, I had money in my pocket, and it was fun," he says. "I thought, 'Why bother with school?'" Then one night he climbed into a taxi and recognized the driver, a guy he'd met at the pools, who had a business similar to his. "He had done well for himself, but business slowed down and his company went under. Now he was driving a cab," Fernandez recalls. "I thought: That could be me! And that's when I decided I had to get my degree."

Four decades later, the impact of that choice—as well as his focus on computers, at the time a fledgling field—is hard to overstate. He graduated in 1967, moved to Silicon Valley shortly after and by the time he was 33 had become a leader in the semi-conductor and micro-processor industry, as the CEO of a company named Zilog, an early competitor to Intel.

But it was when Fernandez started his own company, Gavilan, in 1982 that things got much more exciting. The company's one and only product was "The Gavilan," the very first mobile laptop computer.





Manny's clothing generously provided by:
Brodeur Carvell Fine Apparel

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To understand Fernandez's work at the time, you need to first understand what was happening around him. During the late 1970s and early 1980s, when he arrived in Silicon Valley, a revolution was brewing. It was a place of wonder and chaos, populated by an army of engineers and scientists, big-company suits and shaggy nerds all trying to dream up the future. There was no Apple, no Microsoft yet. And the one portable computer that had been built weighed 24 pounds.

The question floating in the air, Fernandez recalls, was: Who would be the first to develop a computer that appealed to the masses? And so the frenzied race was on, with Fernandez in the middle of it. "We were right there," he says, "right on the edge of technology with all the big guys. We worked 24 hours a day seven days a week, but I've never had more fun, never made more breakthroughs."

Fernandez, like his competitors, knew the future demanded two things. The first was a computer language that could be understood by regular people, not just tech geeks. (IBM had recently introduced the first personal computer, but it ran on a clunky language called MS-DOS.) The second was mobility. "I had this image of a totally portable office," he says. "Any business person could move anywhere and be able to work."

With big ideas swirling around his mind, Fernandez left his job at Zilog to start his own company. "My wife said, 'You're going to do what with our savings?'" he jokes. "Some people thought I was crazy when I told them we're building a computer that's 8 1/2 by 2 inches, and weighs three pounds."

But he wasn't, and in May of 1983 Fernandez and his team debuted the Gavilan at the National Computer Conference. A *New York Times* reporter who wrote about the event described the crowd gathered at his booth as one "that would have done I.B.M. proud." One booth over was none other than a young Steve Jobs, presenting his brand new desktop computer, called Lisa, the direct predecessor to Apple. "It was an amazing time," Fernandez recalls. "But I'll be honest, I was just happy my

computer was working. It was so new we weren't sure it would."

As destiny would have it, the Gavilan wouldn't become a commercial success. Fernandez and his two partners ran out of money before they could address critical technical issues. Almost everything worked well: the memory, the battery that lasted eight hours and was rechargeable in one, even the Gavilan language, which was based on the point-and-click iconography computers now rely on.

The problem was with the external drive. The Gavilan had been designed with a three-inch disk drive, but when the company that manufactured the drives for Gavilan went out of business, Fernandez was left in an impossible spot. The entire body of the Gavilan needed to be redesigned to accommodate the 3 1/2 in disks that had by then become industry standard. But Fernandez was out of money, and had no choice but to close shop. "If we would have had just \$3 million more, our story might have ended differently," Fernandez says. "I always wonder, what could we have become? Could we have become Dell?"

And yet, Fernandez's concept was downright revolutionary: his team was the first to design a modern laptop, with a screen that folds over a keyboard and a touchpad mouse amazingly similar to the ones today's portables feature. "If there was ever any vision in my life," Fernandez says, "that was it."

More than 25 years later, having learned a hard business lesson about the dangers of under-funding a project, Fernandez muses about how close he was to the movement that transformed how the world thinks, moves and communicates. He rises from the conference table he's sitting at, walks to his desk and picks up a plaque engraved with the following: "For of all the sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: It might have been." It's a quote by John Greenleaf Whittier, and "I keep it on my desk so that I remember what I learned from that experience: that whatever you do, in business and in life, you have to make sure you give yourself everything you need."

*"My wife said,
‘You're going to
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Dejected to close down Gavilan, Fernandez moved to Connecticut and found work in another field that would soon explode: technology research, the business of prognosticating whether hardware and software will stay or go, and how enterprises can use them to grow. By 1991, Fernandez had been named president and CEO of the Gartner Group, the field's most influential player, which under him grew to be worth more than \$4 billion. It was also during his tenure that the company coined the term Y2K, warning the world about the danger of not preparing computer systems for the millennium.

So where was he on the night of Dec. 31, 1999? "In Hawaii with the Gartner management team. We were on our way to our annual meeting, and while we were confident nothing catastrophic would happen because we had taken precautions and helped a lot of people do the same, at midnight we called around just to see what was going on," he says with a laugh.

While he had been CEO of two companies before arriving at Gartner, it was here that Fernandez came into his own as a leader. Michael Fleischer, who worked with him for more than a decade and who is now the company's president, says it was Fernandez's style as much as his acumen that made him special. He began meetings by asking first about an employee's family, second about their numbers. When he walked into an elevator occupied by junior-level staffers, he was known to turn to them and say "Hi, my name is Manny, I work here, too. What's your name?" He could connect with anyone

and he went out of his way to do so," Fleischer says. "His attitude was, 'I'm just like you, I just have a slightly different position at the company, but we're all in this together."

Fernandez retired from Gartner in 2001, at 55, and has since focused on investing in new technology companies (through SI Ventures, a venture capital fund run by Gartner) sitting on corporate boards (including that of Black & Decker) and helping causes close to his heart, like UF, where he was named chairman of its Board of Trustees in 2003. Before stepping down in 2007, he launched the university's \$1.5 billion Florida Tomorrow campaign and traveled across the state, to five cities in three days, promoting The Florida Opportunities Scholarship program, aimed at helping first-generation college students pay for school. "Manny believes in the power of education because he's living proof of how it can transform a life," says Jason Rosenberg, a UF alumnus who was also part of the scholarship tour. "He knows that if we can help first-generation students get to college, we can change their future and everyone else's, too. And, of course, the future is what Manny's all about."

Yet his past, a deep sense of heritage and history and pride, is what he carries with him even now. Every once in a while, his eyes well when he talks about his dad, who kept Fernandez's college degree hung framed above his desk until he passed away in 2003. He says it was his parents' struggle and sacrifice for his sake that provided the fuel for all he's accomplished. "I always knew that if they could come here and survive," he says, "whatever I did, I'd be OK." ☀



The license plate on each of Fernandez's cars displays the final scores of the '96 and '06 football and Gator championship games



Fernandez is an equal-opportunity computer user: he carries an IBM notebook and uses an IBM X30 at his office; at home, however, he uses an iMac. But when he's on the go — and he often is — Fernandez's BlackBerry is always along for the ride.

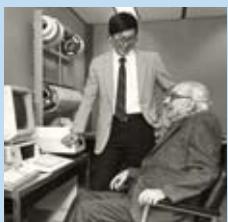
NAME Manny Fernandez No.

Growing up, Fernandez wanted to become an architect, like his grandfather in Cuba, but his dad encouraged him to go into engineering instead. However, if he were a student today, he said he'd want to be in the biotechnology business.

It's a Christmas Eve tradition for Fernandez's family to have a traditional Cuban dinner of roasted pork, black beans and rice.



Gator Engineering and the Techno Revolution



John Vincent Atanasoff creates the first electronic calculating machine—or, in layman's terms, the first computer. Atanasoff received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from UF in 1925. He developed the Atanasoff-Berry Computer prototype while a professor at Iowa State University. With its development, he pioneered four significant operating principles: the medium of electricity, the usage of the binary system, regenerative data storage and computation by direct logical action.

1942

1983

1981



Manny Fernandez and his team debut the Gavilan, the world's first laptop, at the National Computer Conference.

Philip Don Estridge leads the team that develops the first IBM Personal Computer. Estridge, who graduated from UF with a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering, built the machine with readily available hardware and open architecture—a decision that greatly contributed to its popularity.



1993



NVIDIA, a multinational corporation that manufactures graphics-processor technology, is co-founded by Chris Malachowsky, who received an E.E. B.S. from UF. NVIDIA, which is a major supplier of integrated circuits for personal computers, is best known for GeForce—a gaming product line.

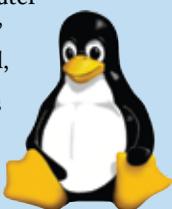
1995

Mark Adler, who received his M.S. in Electrical Engineering from UF in 1985, co-writes zlib, a software library used for data compression—which is akin to a zip file. Today, thousands of applications rely on it directly and indirectly. In the same year, Adler helped develop the image-file format PNG, which is designed for images on the internet.



2003

"Linux Kernel Development" is published. The book, written by Gator engineer Robert Matthew Love, is about understanding and developing code for Linux, a computer operating system. Love, who is the contributing editor for Linux Journal, is also an open source software developer. His book is now in its second edition and has been published in multiple languages.



2005



In response to an emerging trend on the Web, Gator grad Jesse James Garrett coins the term "Ajax." Web sites (such as Google Maps and Facebook) started combining XHTML, CSS, JavaScript and other technology to create interactive Web applications that don't require the viewer to navigate to a different page. Garrett, who co-founded Adaptive Path, a successful technology design company, started calling this technique "Ajax" (Asynchronous JavaScript And XML) and it stuck.

MoBeam is released in the U.S. MoBeam is a program that allows users to store bar codes in their cell phones and store things like movie tickets, coupons and boarding passes without having to print them out. Everyday checkout scanners can interpret the barcodes. MoBeam is the product of Ecrio Inc., a mobile phone company that's big in Japan. Rao Gobburu, co-founder of Ecrio, received his MS degree in Electrical Engineering from UF.



2008

2007



James Allchin is appointed co-president of the Platforms & Services Division. Allchin, who graduated from UF with a B.S. in Computer Science in 1973, was responsible for many of Microsoft's platforms, including Microsoft Windows, Windows Server and products such as SQL Server. Bill Gates called him "a brilliant technologist" and a "visionary."

The "Gator Tech Smart Home" has its grand opening. Located in a Gainesville retirement community, the home combines the latest computer and sensor technology in the hopes of improving the lives—and safety—of the elderly. Computer engineering professor Sumi Helal is the project's lead researcher. Among other things, the home includes a bed that monitors sleep patterns, a floor that can detect if someone falls, a pantry that monitors expiration dates, a mailbox that senses when mail arrives, a microwave that knows how long to cook a meal and a shower that regulates water temperature.





HIP To BE S Q U A R E

STORY BY WILLIAM MCKEEN
PHOTOS BY IÑIGO DE AMESCUA

Chemical engineering professor Seymour Block has spent a lifetime getting to know Ben Franklin

For his 90th birthday, Seymour Block treated himself to one of his favorite pastimes: talking about Benjamin Franklin.

"There's so much there!" Block, a small man, nearly shakes with the sound of his own voice.

"Why, I wrote down 50 topics — 50 things I could write about Benjamin Franklin alone."

So far, he's made a dent in the list. Instead of taking a day off for his birthday, he worked in his campus office on his third Franklin book, which comes out this fall. It's as ripped-from-the-headlines as you can get when you're writing about a guy who's been dead for 208 years. Turns out Franklin was a whiz with an ancestor of Sudoku, one of the most popular games in today's world.

As Block worked on his third Franklin book, he realized that the founding father's ability to master magic squares, the parlor preoccupation of his time, was very much like the popular "new" game of Sudoku. He changed his approach on a work-in-progress and Oxford University Press saw a new

audience for a Franklin book: the millions of Sudoku obsessives. "I decided I would try to make the book one that would sell," Block says, drily.

"Recreational mathematics" is a tough sell with the popular audience, but Block hopes that he can lure the hip, young Sudoku players into his book so they can learn the game's history and also come to respect once again the genius of his hero, Benjamin Franklin.

With his colleague Santiago Tavares, Block produced a manuscript about these games of logic that have lasted for centuries. (It's believed this kind of game dates back 4,000 years, to China.) In Sudoku, a nine-block grid has two to five numbers in each block and the remaining squares need to be filled with numbers between one and nine. But there are conditions: players can use each number only once horizontally, once vertically and once within each of the blocks.

That Franklin was on to this in the 18th Century is more evidence of his greatness. Block has been obsessed with Franklin since childhood.

“ WE WERE VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE FOUNDING FATHERS OF SUCH ABILITY AND INTELLECT. ”

“I started off reading Tom Swift books,” he recalls. “Then I read Edgar Rice Burroughs ... *Tarzan* . . . *Moon Maid*. It was all just . . . fantastic. But then I read *The Autobiography of Ben Franklin* and it was real stuff, real stuff I could get excited about.”

That sense of excitement led him to Penn State and a career in chemical engineering. During the Second World War, he went to work for Seagram's, on a project to help produce synthetic rubber. As part of a Seagram's professional-development program, a writing professor from the University of Louisville spoke to employees about improving their communication skills. It was the catalyst for Block's writing career.

Popular-magazine publications followed, and Block found he loved explaining complex subjects to a mass audience. Writing about bacteria in athletic facilities, he coined the term “germnsium.” He followed a scholarly path but was also firmly vested in the mass media. “I did have a little writing career,” he says.

But then he joined the University of Florida faculty in 1944, and Dean Joseph Weil frowned on the pop publications. “He didn't take to that,” Block says. “He wanted me to put all of my efforts into scholarly publications, and that was good advice.” Block published more than a hundred articles in journals, but still harbored hopes to writing again for general readers. “Eventually, I revived my writing career.”

He published the definitive work in his field (*Disinfection*, now in its fifth edition), but after what was supposed to be his retirement in 1985, he amped up his writing. He had published *Benjamin Franklin: Wit, Wisdom and Women* while still teaching full-time, and published *Benjamin Franklin: Genius of Kites, Flights and Voting Rights* a decade ago. His new book, *Sudoku and Magic Squares* (with Tavares) started as another Franklin-centric book, but was expanded because Block wanted to

reach that game-playing audience, enticing them into the tent with games and holding their interest while he extolled Franklin's genius.

“Benjamin Franklin was such a wide-ranging guy and he covered so many different areas,” Block says. Like Thomas Jefferson and George Washington, Franklin also affected the field of engineering. “We were very fortunate to have founding fathers of such ability and intellect.”

Block's expertise is so widely respected that he's done time as a talking head on the Discovery Channel, in a program devoted to Franklin.

Block's writing career has flourished since that supposed retirement. Until he was 88, he rode his bicycle to campus every day and labored on his project du jour. He'd still be riding his bike, but his physician insisted that after hip-replacement surgery, he needed to take it easy. Instead, he rides a bus part way to campus, then walks the last half mile.

Gertrude, his wife of 66 years, has the same work ethic. Though retired from the law school, she works at her campus office nearly as much as her husband. “He's too interested in what he's doing to stop,” she says. “I called him this afternoon when my bridge game was over. I was out, so I thought I'd call and see if he wanted me to come by and pick him up. ‘But it's only 4 o'clock,’ he said.”

Four surgeries in the last few years haven't slowed him. “I feel great,” he barks. “I'm ready to go for another decade.”

A couple of days after his 90th birthday, Block was scheduled for oral surgery. He had to have a molar removed.

Could I have your home number? I'd like to check in on you the next day.

Block's brow furrows. “I'll give you the number,” he says, “but I won't be home.” He stabs his desk with his index finger. “I'll be here.” ☺

SUMMER 2008

UNLOCKING The Puzzle Behind **MAGIC SQUARES**

In his third book, Block explores the Magic Square, a puzzle similar to the popular Sudoku puzzles. Here's a breakdown of the rules you need to know in order to complete your own:

THE FORMULA:

$$n \frac{(n^2 + 1)}{2}$$

I	15	14	4
12	6	7	9
8	10	II	5
13	3	2	16

- In this case, $n=4$, so the solution is 34
- 1) The sum of the four corners is 34
 - 2) The sum of the four numbers in the center of the square is 34
 - 3) The sum of 15 & 14 in the top row and 3 & 2 in the bottom row is 34
 - 4) The sum of 12 & 8 in the first column and 9 & 5 facing them in the last column is 34
 - 5) The sum of the four squares in the four corners is 34
 - 6) If you go clockwise around the square and choose the first squares away from the corners (in this case, 15, 9, 2 and 8), the sum is 34

CAN YOU
MAKE
MAGIC?
☞

YOUR TURN:

*Can you complete
this magic square?*

The answers are below
if you get stuck.

			4
II			
3			
		12	



VISIT OUR WEB SITE TO SEE OTHER
BOOKS BLOCK HAS WRITTEN.
www.thefloridaengineer.eng.ufl.edu



Hjalma Johnson shows off his Gator national championship rings, which he got to commemorate the wins for the UF basketball and football teams in '06 and '07. Johnson loves sharing the rings — he's made a hobby of letting fellow Gators take pictures with them on.

to take the exam.

Johnson won a scholarship and was soon on his way to the University of Florida — the first college anyone in his family had attended.

He was uncertain of everything except for his major.

"I wanted to be an engineer because that was my daddy's dream," he said, his voice strained with emotion. To pay the bills, his father had start working when he was only 14 years old.

But after Johnson's first Monday, that dream seemed distant. It was overwhelming to be at such a big school, and he wasn't as prepared as his classmates.

So by the time professor Neff stopped at his desk, Johnson was braced for the worst. Instead, the professor lowered his voice and told Johnson about a nearby bookstore where he could buy a "perfectly good" used set of instruments.

Professor Neff asked if Johnson could afford that — if not, he could help. Johnson said he could, and Neff excused him from class to buy the set. For the next few weeks, the professor gave Johnson one-on-one help and he ended up with a B in the class.

Not only did Johnson graduate from UF, so did his son — and soon, both of his grandchildren.

Johnson, who is president of Investment Advisors Inc. and Triple J Ranch Inc., received the Distinguished Alumnus Entrepreneur of the Year for Lifetime Achievement award in 2007.

"Part of what I've learned is that everything good that happens to you, if you're honest, you can look back and see you didn't do it by yourself," Johnson said. "My life would have been very different without Lucile Combs and professor Neff."

In April, Johnson donated \$50,000 for a laboratory to be named after professor Neff in the proposed mechanical sciences building. 

IT WAS ONLY HIS SECOND DAY OF COLLEGE BUT HJALMA JOHNSON WAS, AS HE SAYS,

A LOST BALL in HIGH WEEDS

BY MARILEE GRIFFIN
PHOTO BY JASON HENRY

Hjalma Johnson seemed to be the only student in the Mechanical Engineering Drawing class without a clue as how to solve the problem on the board. As they worked, he sat doing nothing — dreading the moment the professor would reach him and look over his shoulder.

Johnson already stood out from the other students, who wore expensive clothes and carried briefcases. But to make it worse, they had understood the professor's instructions: "bring your instruments." Johnson hadn't. Before class started, he pulled out the only instruments he'd ever used: a 12-inch ruler, a geometry compass and a 90-degree triangle.

This, he understood as he looked around, was not what professor Neff meant. As the professor got closer and closer, the fear and embarrassment was

almost overwhelming.

When the professor finally reached his desk, Johnson was almost ready to give up his ill-fated college experiment and go home. All it would have taken was one question: "Where are your instruments?"

Johnson hadn't even been planning to go to college. The seventh of eight children, he'd assumed he'd be working in the little hardware store his father opened after the mill closed in Greenville, Fla.

But Lucile Combs, his high school teacher, insisted he try. Johnson was the top of his graduating class—granted, out of 17 people—but what was more, he had the highest standardized testing scores in Madison County. Combs was adamant he apply for a scholarship, and she drove him to Tallahassee



YOUR LIFE— UPTODATE

ALUMNI UPDATES

1936

John "Jack" W. Perloff, B.S. ChE,

retired in 1983 and continues to live in Lexington, Mass. He worked for 28 years as New England sales rep for Synpol, Inc. (a division of Uniroyal). He says he works on his laptop daily cruising the Internet and writing e-mails.

He also made a CD of his improvisations taped over many years at his Yamaha grand piano.

1950

Rene M. Rogers, B.S. EE

is enjoying his 10 years of retirement from Litton Electron Devices where he served as a senior scientist working on advanced Klystron development for the U.S. Airforce. He and his wife of 56 years are busy with classes in history, literature and current events at the local senior center. He says he would have preferred to study archaeology in college if he saw any way to make a living at it. He explains his e-mail, ageseeker1, does NOT refer to his age, 81, but rather his lifelong interest in flaked stone tools and measuring the time elapsed since they were made. He also serve as a consultant and sometimes contributor to the Southwest Museum of Engineering and Computing.

Robert "Bud" D. Graf, B. ChE

was a member of a graduating class with 18 chemical engineers. Following the Korean War, he worked as an engineer in the largest P₂O₅ plant in the world at that time, which is located in Hillsborough County, Fla. He says he had the privilege of starting the first DAP plant in the world in 1958. He ended up as a vice president with the Phillip Brothers Division of Engelhard & Minerals Corp., traveling across Europe and South America. He is still married to his wife of 54 years and has two daughters. He attends home Gator football games and says the current teams are much better than they were in the late 40s'.

1951

Glenn Whitcomb, B.S. ChE, M.S. MSE '54

is married to a Mississippi beauty named Doris, and has three daughters (one a chemical engineer from Texas A&M). Now fully retired, he builds sets and acts in a local little theater, sings in the church choir, community chorus and travels a little too. He also tutors first and second grade students who are behind a grade level, helps Habitat for Humanity in home construction and is an AARP TaxAide counselor. Last year he was selected as one of five "Unsung Heroes" in Baytown for his volunteer efforts. "One of fondest memories in engineering school at UF was moving the ChE Unit Operations laboratory from Benton Hall to the old Hangar Building in my junior year. The juniors and seniors actually disconnected all the equipment, and connected the plumbing at the Hangar. That practical experience has stayed with me all my life."

Lake Gross Ray Jr., B.CCE

is the president and owner of Harbor-Ray Consultants in Jacksonville, Fla. He is a confederate Civil War re-enactor.

1953

H. Kent Busing, B. EE

is involved in ministry, primarily helping individuals follow Jesus Christ as His disciples, he says. After several years of church ministry, his focus began to center on becoming a disciple of Christ. This, he says, has afforded him the greatest satisfaction in life that he could hope for. He says he is grateful for his engineering degree, which enabled him to work and travel around the world for several years.

Robert Edwin Barnum, B. ChE

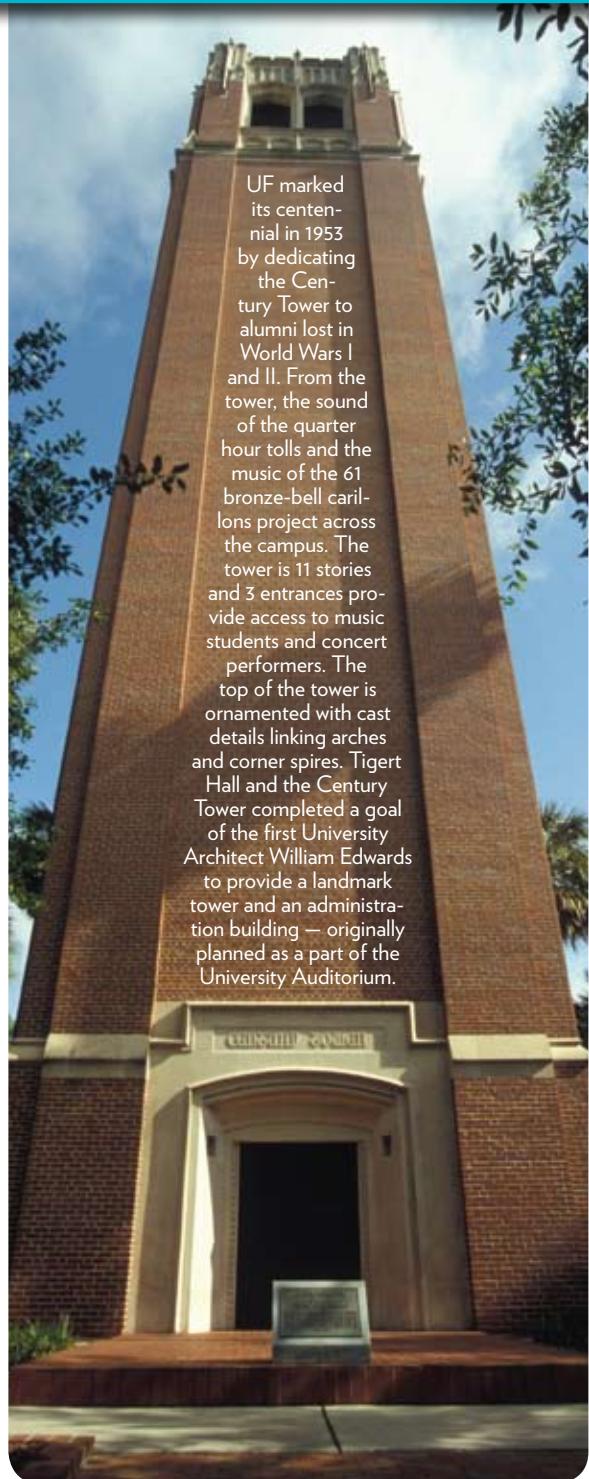
retired in 1998 from Solvay America as regional sales manager.

SEND US YOUR UPDATES!

The economy's in the toilet (see page 17) so go ahead and save \$.42 in postage. Submit your updates online — all the cool kids are doing it. You can attach pictures, share stories and tell us about big events in your life. We care, we really do — and the other Gator Engineers, they care too.

DID WE MISS YOUR UPDATE?

Look for it in the next issue.





1954

James Winter, B.CCE

is a member of the Grand Guard, and a dedicated follower of Gator sports, particularly Florida football. After graduation, he worked for Marion Engineering in Ocala as a design engineer. He is responsible

for the design of 31 miles of secondary highways, primarily the road through the Ocala National Forest from Eureka to Salt Springs. The following year he moved back to his hometown of Jacksonville, Fla., and began a career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the military branch.

1958

Paul Haylard, P.E., B.ME

is celebrating his 50th anniversary as a graduate of the University of Florida College of Engineering.

Walter L. Elden, P.E., B.EE

worked for Harris Corp. in Melbourne, Fla., and retired in 1997. He is active in his homeowners association and sings in the Daytona Beach Choral Society. He was honored in 1998 with the Citation of Honor, for promoting professional ethics from the IEEE. Elden is a widower, but is now engaged to Karen M. Volante, Ph.D., associate dean of the School of Nursing at Bethune Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Fla.

1960

Charles B. Carroll, B.S. MAE

worked for many years in New Jersey for RCA Laboratories. During that time he spent two years in an army missile battalion, and earned an M.S. ME from Drexel University. Eventually he retired from the David Sarnoff Research Center as the director of the integrated technology products laboratory — long name, but very interesting work.

James C. Flynn, B.EE

has worked more than 20 years for General Electric Co., becoming a general manager before leaving and working for companies such as Emerson and Siemens as president of divisions. Flynn owned a business and consulted during his 45-year career. He's been married to Jeannette Saunders Flynn for nearly 50 years and has one daughter, Linda Broaddrick.

Robert C. Staiman, B.MAE

spent 28 years working for the U.S. Navy in Washington, D.C. designing surface warships. He retired from the Navy in 1993 as the director of amphibious and special ship design management division. After retirement, he worked for John J. McMullen Associates, Naval Architects and Marine Engineers as a project manager until retiring in 2004.

1964

Gonzalo Alday, B.S. EE, M.S. E'66

retired from IBM after 38 years in 2004.

Hamilton S. Oven, Jr., P.E., B.CCE, M.E. EES '68

retired from Fla. Department of Environmental Protection after 33.8 years.

1965

Alfonso Garrote, B.S. MAE

worked for 3M Co. in Minneapolis-St. Paul for 30 years. He retired and enjoying life in the Southwest Coast of Florida.

Daniel J. Williams, B.S. ABE

retired and enjoys traveling, family-tree research and gardening. He retired from Barney's Pumps Inc. headquartered in Lakeland, Fla., and was involved in selling heavy duty pumps to heavy industries. His wife of 44 years also graduated from UF with an education degree and retired after 35 years of teaching. They met at UF while singing in the Glee Club.

1966

Elias Luque, B.S. ChE

retired in 2002 after working for Texaco Petroleum Refinery in Colon, Republic of Panama for 35 years. Since retirement, he's worked as an energy consultant in a power generating plant and in a sugar mill as a consultant for a project to blend ethanol and motor gasoline to make gasohol. He's been married to Gema for 40 years, has a son and two daughters. He received a master degree in business administration from the USMA University in Panama and his last publication appears in *Hydrocarbon Processing Magazine* as referenced: Martin, G.R., Luque E., Rodriguez R. "Revamping Crude Unit increase Reliability and Operability," *Hydrocarbon Processing*, June 2000 pp 45-56.

1957

Dan Honig, B.S. MAE

is an air force veteran and lived in Flavet three. Honig built a multi-division public company which he sold in 1972. He then went to law school at George Washington University. He's a member of the D.C. and Maryland Bars. While in law school he and his wife Diane built four hotels in downtown Washington, which they operated. Honig was the CEO of the hotel company while he practiced contract law. In 1982, the hotels were sold to the Taj Hotel Co. of India. The Honigs moved to Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., where they now reside. They also live part time in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

1959

Dr. Fred L. Robson, B.A. NRE

is looking forward to joining the grand guard next year. He retired from United Technologies Research Center in 1994 and formed his own consulting firm, KraftWorks Systems, Inc. He is also trying to find time (and money) to finish restoring his Ferrari 250 GT as well as getting a 1978 March Formula 3 on the track for some vintage racing this year.

Sumner Waitz, PE, B.CCE

works for his private practice of Waitz & Moye, Inc. Consulting Engineers. He has been in practice for 45 years. He recently completed a design of a 4.5 MGD Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant for Jacksonville Beach, Fla. He's been married for 55 years to Joan M. Waitz and has three children: Linda Sue (Waitz) Bloom and Risa (Waitz) Datz are both Gators, and Ira Waitz, VP Monroe. He also has three granddaughters, all of whom are Gators too.

1962

Clifford Perry, B.S. EE

retired seven years ago from MITRE in Mass. with 19 years of service. He worked for 20 years at Honeywell in the space program. He said one of the most interesting programs was the Viking program that put the first lander on Mars. All the worker's names now sit on the side of the Lander on Mars.

1963

Billy W. Surles, B.S. EE

retired from the U. S. Navy in 1984 after 20 years of active duty as a surface warfare officer. He served on ships home ported in Mayport, Fla.; Pearl Harbor; San Diego; and Okinawa. In 1971, He received a master of operations research degree from the U. S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. After his Navy retirement, he started work for Logicon, Inc. which was acquired by Northrop Grumman a few years ago. Today he works as a senior information assurance analyst for Northrop Grumman Information Technology.

Curt Whitney, B.EE

retired from BellSouth Cellular Communications in 2000 as director of operations after working at Bell Telephone Labs, Southern Bell, BellSouth Mobility, and Houston Cellular Tel Co. He is living in the mountains near Cullowhee, NC.

Joe Denny Wills, B.S. ChE

took a career "sabbatical" in 2004 to volunteer for U.S. Peace Corps and was rejected for health reasons. He joined AmeriCorps on the rebound and served a one-year term on assignment with the local Alachua Habitat for Humanity as a construction site supervisor and earned college expenses. He utilized the college expenses stipend by returning to UF in 2005 as a graduate student in the College of Design, Construction and Planning and continues, now as a Ph.D. student. He will have turned 70 when he graduates in 2010. Wills wants to teach construction management at the university level, possibly as a Gator professor.

Paul H. Grisby, B.ISE

retired from the research labs at Eastman Kodak, Rochester, NY, in 1991 where he worked as a photo systems engineer for 28 years.

Randall G. Deane, B.ISE

is president of Lifetime Financial Services. He also received an MBA from University of Tennessee. He has been selected as one of the top 100 financial planning firms by Barron's.



Awards were given to Rick Simonian & Steve Sablotsky for their accomplishments and contributions to both the College of Engineering and the engineering world.

1967

Guillermo J. Anton, B.S. E.C.E.

works as a systems engineer for Florida Power and Light Co.

Paul E. Goldman, B.S. ISE, 1969 M.E.

has worked in many operational areas of Hewlett Packard's medical systems business, including R&D, marketing, manufacturing, engineering management, field operations and general management. His career progressed through executive levels and he became general manager of various divisions within the medical products group of HP. He says he was very fortunate and blessed to have known Bill Hewlett and Dave Packard. Goldman also received an M.S. in engineering management from Northeastern University in Boston and an executive MBA from Harvard Business School.

1969

Henry Clay Hudgins III, B.ISE

retired from Fluor Corp. in 1991 after serving as the director of manufacturing engineering at their Greenville, S.C. office. He is enjoying retirement: fly fishing, bird hunting and shooting sports (skeet, trap and sporting clays).

Lawrence R. Brady, B.S. EE

retired from Alcoa, Inc. in 2005.

Michael Rapp, B.S. EE

just retired from Hewlett-Packard/Agilent Technologies after 38 years. More golf, charitable work and grandchildren are good things, he says. He has five children and two grandchildren. He was the first child in his family to attend UF and four of his siblings followed in his footsteps and graduated from UF.

They are all big Gator fans and attend games as much as possible.

Phil Marcoux, B.S. EE

works for the TPL Group in Cupertino, Calif. TPL recently acquired the company he started, ChipScale, Inc., where Marcoux was CEO and named inventor of several of the company's patents. His interests include new businesses, sea kayaking and watching his son play soccer for UC Davis.

1972

Gary M. Cohen, M.S. MAE

retired from The Boeing Co. in March 2008 after a 26 year career working on projects in defense, space and commercial airplane groups. His wife, Edith F. Cohen, 1971, M.S. immunology, has chronic kidney disease which was diagnosed in May 2007 and began dialysis in Dec. 2007.

Richard Diego Santangelo, B.S. MSE

works for the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington.

1973

Dennis E. Gilkey, B.S. CCE

works for Gilkey Organization, LLC specializing in development advising and investments. He's the commissioner of The Century Commission for Sustainable Florida and also served as president/CEO of Bonita Bay Group for 9 years. Last year he started his own company.

Diego Gabriel Gonzalez-Auriolos y Navarre, B.S. MAE

is a senior principal engineer for Aspen Technology, a leading company in the software industry for process design of chemical plants.

Gerardo B. Fernandez, B.S. EE

is a self-employed consultant with Fernandez Consulting Group working as a business consultant for engineering and architectural firms. He also served as a Gov. Bush appointee to the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board from 1999 to 2003. He has a new grandson, David Walter, and is also doing resort development real estate in the Dominican Republic.

Larry B. Voss, B.S. MAE

is an engineering manager for AMO Wavefront Sciences, LLC. He is in charge of the research team developing optical instrumentation for use in ophthalmic correction application. In April, his team introduced the iDesign Ophthalmic Aberrometer at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery in Chicago. Voss retired from U.S. Air Force in 1997 as a lieutenant colonel and command pilot. He is very proud of his two new grandsons, who are 17 months and 4 months old.

1974

Robert J. Behar, B.S. CCE, 1975 M.E.

works at R.J. Behar & Co., Inc. as a civil engineer. He won the Florida Engineering Society Broward Branch 2008 Engineer of the Year.

1963

Richard "Dick" Troop, B.EE

is semi-retired and is senior adviser to Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, an international law firm headquartered in California. He worked as an electrical engineer for Northrop and Hughes after graduating from UF. After graduating first in his class from Loyola of Los Angeles School of Law, he joined Nossaman Waters as a lawyer. He became a partner in 1973 at McKenna Fitting & Finch. Along with three friends, he founded Hill Wynne Troop & Meisinger in 1975. He says he and his wife are avid "adventure travelers," and have been to Tibet, Patagonia, Bhutan, the Pyrenees, Indonesia, Micronesia, Fiji, Cocos, Maldives and the Andaman Islands. They stay state-side for about a month skiing, mostly in Aspen. They have three sons.

1968

Rhett D. Farrior, B.S. MAE

retired in 2000 from civilian service with the Department of Army. His last job was project manager of the Army's HELLFIRE Missile Project Office in Huntsville, Ala. He also worked as an aircraft test engineer with the Army, and before that was aero engineer with the Navy, having engineer cognizance over their fleet of UH-1 helicopters.

Sumner Waitz, PE, B.CCE

works for his private consulting practice of Waitz & Moye, Inc. He has been in practice for 45 years. He recently completed design of a 4.5 MGD Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant for Jacksonville Beach, Florida. He's been married for 55 years to Joan M. Waitz and has 3 three children: Linda Sue (Waitz) Bloom and Risa (Waitz) Datz are both Gators, and Ira Waitz, VP Monroe. He also has three granddaughters — all of whom are Gators, too.

1970

Ronald E. Boenau, B.CCE

works at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration in the International Mass Transportation Program. He encourages those involved in providing mass transportation products, supplies or services to review the opportunities for U.S. firms in the international transportation market.

1971

Frederick J. Krishon, P.E., B.S. CCE, M.E. '72

spent most of his career employed by the consulting firm of Law Engineering and was posted in Tampa, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Houston, San Diego and Atlanta. He was senior vice president and director of facility services for the corporation. He started a consulting practice, Krishon Consulting Group, Inc., which provides engineering consulting services in a variety of areas to public and private clients. Some career highlights include five years in Saudi Arabia as director of Saudi Operations and serving as concrete consultant during construction of the University of Riyadh (King Saud University), as well as the management of emergency response and recovery activities at Cal State Northridge after the Northridge Earthquake and at Ground Zero after the WTC disaster. I also was responsible for the design and development of a cutting edge software application for facility asset management that is currently being employed by the U.S. Navy. He finds being a Gator on the west coast is fun, where it is unique to wear orange and blue — and of late, he says he gets nothing but respect.

Thomas G. Corley, P.E., B.S. CCE

is employed with Siemens Water Technologies and is business manager and director of operations of the biological and clarification segment. He is responsible for three locations which include almost 450 employees. His wife is a CPA in Florida and Georgia; his daughter, Elizabeth A. Corley, has a B.S. CCE, M.S. CCE, M.S. EES and a Ph.D. in environmental policy. She is an associate professor at Arizona State University.

Tim Brodeur, P.E., M.S. EES

started his career with City of Daytona Beach and has since worked with three other consulting engineering firms before joining Boyle Engineering Corp. in 2002. He has been very active in AWWA (American Water Works Association), Fl water and Pollution Control Operators Assoc. and Water Environment Federation. He chairs the water resources committee for the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers, the private branch of the Florida Engineering Society. In 2006, he was elected to the Seminole Soil & Water Conservation District and is currently the chairman. He is married to Rene Brodeur (UCF grad) and they have one son, Jason, who received his B.S. and MBA from UF. Jason is married to UF grad, Wendy.

1976

Michael A. Ponzo, B.S. ChE, M.E. ESE '78

works at SI Group, Inc., a private chemical company in Newport, Tenn., as the manager of environmental, health, safety and security. He and his wife Anne still practice and teach Cuong Nhu martial arts, which they learned while attending UF. Ponzo's oldest son, Tony, graduated from Tennessee Technological University with a B.S. ChE. The Ponzos also have triplet sons who are all starting their second year as engineering students. Two are at TTU and one is at the University of Tennessee.

Ronald "Ron" L. Shelton, B.S. MAE

retired from Oak Ridge National Laboratory where he was a program manager for the U.S. Department of Energy's Rebuild America program. He plans on providing consulting engineering services for energy efficiency in new and existing buildings.

1978

Bill Michael, B.S. MAE

is a minister in Lake Worth, Fla. and just completed a master's in philosophy from New Covenant University. He worked as a power plant engineer for 20 years after graduating from UF. From 1978 to 1984, he worked at Duke Power Company Lee Steam Station. Then, from 1984 to 1998 he worked at City of Lake Worth Utilities.

John Laszcz, B.S. ISE

works for IBM as a sales executive in the server and technology group. He's been with IBM for 25 years. He earned a master's degree in manufacturing systems at Georgia Tech in 1984. He met his wife at IBM (she's an industrial engineer from Auburn).

Luke Miorelli, P.E. B.S. CCE

is president of M.E. Construction, Inc. in West Melbourne, Fla. The firm is a commercial and industrial design build firm with 20 employees. He is a senior member of the National Academy of Forensic Engineers, recognized in federal, circuit and county courts as an expert in engineering, construction and estimating. Miorelli has been married 26 years to Jan Liacopoulos Miorelli, an FSU graduate — a mixed marriage. They have two sons: Sam A. Miorelli (a UF mechanical engineering senior) and Mitchell G. Miorelli (a UCF freshman). Miorelli is also active in Rotary International — he was 2005-2006 Rotarian of the Year Eau Gallie Rotary Club.

Marlene H. McKetty, Ph.D.

is a medical physicist at Howard University Hospital in the Department of Radiology.

William Trump, B.S. ECE

has worked with several contractors at the Air Force Eastern Range and the Kennedy Space Center. This past year, he finally moved into AF Civil Service as a systems engineer doing sustainment and modernization projects. The Eastern Range, the "Worlds Premier Gateway to Space," manages all rocket launches, including the Space Shuttle, on the east coast of Florida. Duties include radar and optics tracking, data capture and possible range safety destruction of errant vehicles. Trump has a 17-year-old daughter considering a career in engineering. He also has two young children, Matthew, 8, and Victoria, 5. Trump says he thinks Matthew is going to be an engineer: "Every time I come home from work, he's taken something else apart. The problem is, he can't seem to put them back together. He's quick to tell his mom, "Don't worry. Daddy can fix anything."

1981

Barbara Crain Looney, B.S. ISE

is the global supply chain manager for Dow Chemical Co.

Keith B. Jackson, B.S. CE

has been a professional engineer in Florida since 1986. He is part of the new leadership at Engenuity Group in West Palm Beach.

1971

**DAVID M. THOMAS,
B.S. ISE, M.S. '72**

retired as chairman and chief executive officer of IMS Health. Before joining IMS, he was senior vice president and group executive at IBM.

Thomas returned to UF in February to share his experience and success with engineering students.

1975

Siddhartha Kamath, P.E. B.S. MAE

works for the Florida Department of Transportation as a program manager in the project management office. He is the chair of the Tallahassee section of ASME, the past president of Tallahassee Toastmasters Club and a casual musician with Capital City Band of Tallahassee Community College. He has been married for 30 years to Anjali, a dentist. Their son Rahul is an engineer and their daughter, Sareeta, is an accountant.

1977

Richard A. Pomeroy, B.S. EE

is working at Lockheed Martin - simulation, training and support in Orlando. He was promoted to marine systems test manager Oct. 2007.

Stephen A. Ulm, B.S. CE

works for Faller, Davis & Associates, Inc. in Tampa, Fla. as a senior engineer. He's doing a little of everything — from computers to construction assistance — and says their company has quite a Gator population. His two children are both students at the University of Florida (one is in the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences and the other is a civil engineering student).

1980

Gregory A. Nelson, B.S. ChE, 1982 JD

chairs the Intellectual Property Practice Group at Akerman Senterfitt.

Lloyd Reshard, B.S. EE

is working for the Air Force Research Lab developing technology to support the global war on terrorism. Reshard says he and Alan George got the Center for High Performance Reconfigurable Computing started a year and a half ago.

Timothy Palm, B.S. EE

works at GE Security in Bradenton, Fla. as a lead engineer in the global component engineering department working with other GE divisions in the U.S., Spain and Ireland. His daughter is presently going to Manatee Community College, where she is majoring in business and is on the dean's list. He says he doesn't think she'll become a Gator, but he loves her just the same.

1982

Jody Beasley, B.S. ChE

works at Panasonic Battery Corp., where she is director of technical engineering. She recently celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary and has three sons and a daughter-in-law.

Scott A. Reynolds, B.S. CISE

is founder and chief software architect of Analytical Graphics, Inc. Reynolds, along with his partner Paul Graziani, was winner of the 2005 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award for Greater Philadelphia & Central Pennsylvania.

1983

Alan Robert Joughin, B.S. ABE

works in Silicon Valley for the AutoFarm division of Novariant Inc. and designs GPS automated steering systems for agricultural vehicles such as tractors, sprayers and harvesters.

Carol (Weber) Carlson, B.S. MAE

is working and living in Colorado and is training for the Steamboat Springs half marathon.

Jean E. Davis, B.S. ME

works for SEA Ltd. as a mechanical forensic engineer investigating mechanical failures.

José Aurelio Lara, B.S. MAE

started with the Panama Canal Commission in 1988 (then a U.S. Government agency). In 2000, the Autoridad del Canal de Panama became an agency of the Panamanian government. He is currently a mechanical engineer with the power branch, where they generate power for the operation of the Panama Canal by running three plants (one thermoelectric and two hydroelectric). He is married and has two children: Ana Cristina, 19, who is taking an intensive English course at FSU to get ready for college; and José Aurelio, 16, who is still in high school in Panama. He likes physics, so he'll probably be an engineer too... though Lara says it's not his fault.



Ray Spicochi, B.S. CHE

works as a project manager for Tropicana Products (a division of Pepsico, Inc.) at the Bradenton, Fla., facility. He has managed juice blending, pasteurization and aseptic storage systems installations. He is married, has two sons — one is a recent B.S. MAE graduate, and the other will be a UF freshman in the fall (he also interested in an engineering degree).

Kathleen Chapin Thomas, M.S.

NRE focused her degree in medical physics. She married Ray G. Thomas in November 1982 and they have one daughter, Sarah, who is going to graduate from the IB program at Eastside High School in June. Sarah plans to attend Emory University as a biology major and hopes to apply to medical school.

Thomas has worked at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville, Fla. since she graduated; first as the nuclear medicine physicist and recently as the hospital radiation safety officer. She has also been the information manager in the radiology service for the past 19 years.

Patrick Simpkins, D.B.A., B.S. EE

works at the Kennedy Space Center for NASA as the director of engineering. He is working to ensure the safety of shuttle flights, the space station and expendable rockets — all while designing and building the launch systems for the new Constellation Program to go back to the Moon and on to Mars.

Regina Bobo-Jackson, P.E., B.S.

CCE is the owner and president of a small civil engineering firm named Gator Engineering Consultants, PA. This year they will celebrate their 20th year in business. Bobo-Jackson is married and has five children: four girls and one boy.

1984

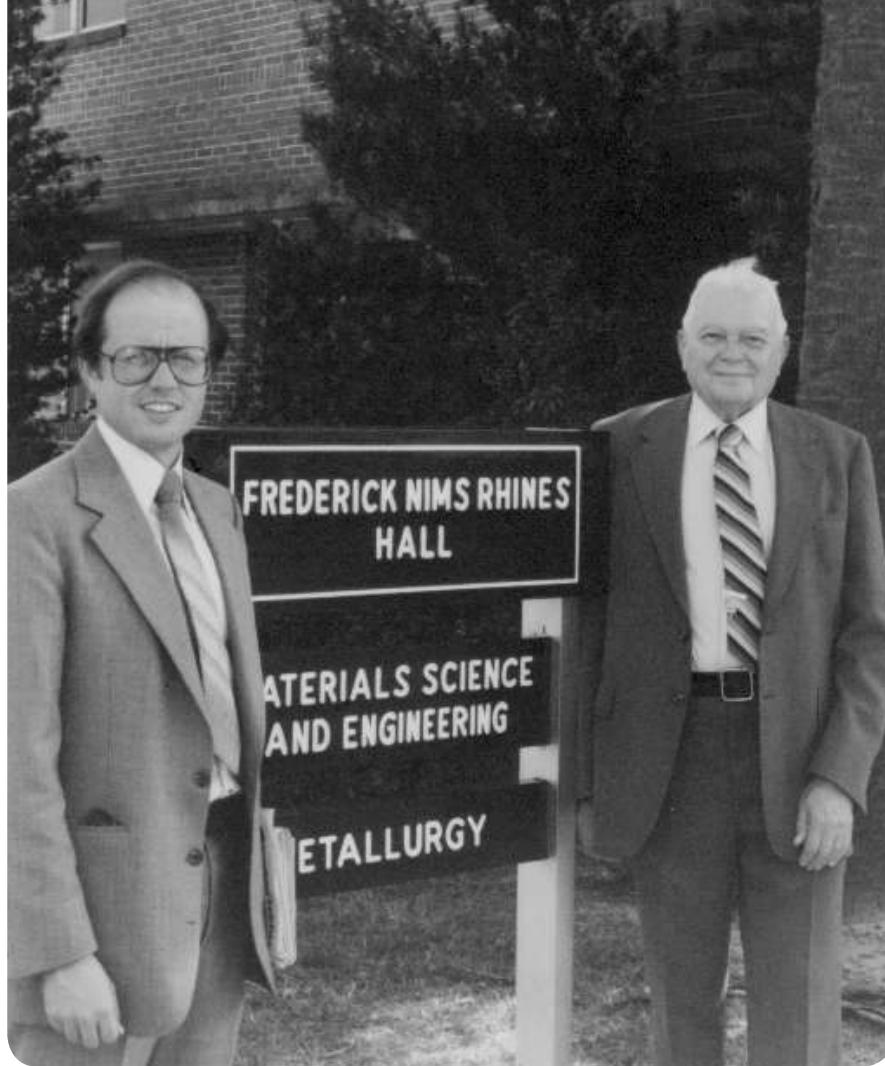
Cindy Davis Ragan, B.S. CISE

became a CISSP in 2005. Before that she worked for UF, but left in 2006 and moved to an island in Arkansas where she and her husband bought a property management business. She started working for Wal-Mart in the information systems division in the security compliance department in Bentonville, Ark.

Larry Fineberg, B.S. MAE

works for NASA at the Kennedy Space Center in the mission integration branch of the launch services program. Engineers in his branch manage the integration of a mission's spacecraft to its assigned expendable launch vehicle. Per mission, this task lasts on average about four years; from mission inception through spacecraft separation, post launch. They typically work on at least two missions at a time. In the past, they worked on the Mars Rover missions (Spirit and Opportunity), the Mars Phoenix Lander and Pluto New Horizons. Previously,

Fineberg worked for Boeing as an engineer on the space shuttle main propulsion system. In this role, the group represented the design center during all mission phases — from powered flight through landing — and during vehicle checkout on the ground. But Fineberg says the best news of all is that his son was accepted into the Gator Nation. He started this summer. He'll be the fourth Fineberg to attend UF. However, Fineberg wonders if his son will have to pay for his old outstanding parking tickets?



Wally (left) and Frederick Rhines at the unveiling of the MSE building, 1979.

The Rhines Legacy

Although he's not a UF graduate, it would be difficult to separate Walden Rhines' life from the University of Florida. When he was 11, his father, Frederick Rhines, passed up an endowed chair position at Carnegie Tech, and moved his family to Gainesville to found the Department of Materials Science.

Meanwhile, Wally grew up alongside the department — meeting the prospective professors and eating dinner with students. But when it came time for college, his father encouraged Wally to have the full experience and leave home.

By taking his father's advice and leaving Gainesville, Wally Rhines wound up with a materials science Ph.D. from Stanford — and a newfound respect for what his father had accomplished at UF. Rhines, who has served on several boards, including Stanford's MSE Industry Advisory Board, is still convinced of one fact: "It's clear to me that Florida has the greatest materials science department in the country."

He wants to keep it that way. That's why today the Rhines Hall isn't his father's only namesake. In 2007, Wally and Paula Rhines pledged \$600,000 to the MSE department to establish the Frederick R. Rhines professorship.

1985

Charles Goldberg, B.S. ME
is the director of quality assurance for complaint handling at Cordis, a Johnson & Johnson Company.

Keith Stanfill, PE., B.S. MAE, M.E. MAE '91, Ph.D. '95
is the director of the UF IPPD program. He says he has the best job on campus and loves helping our outstanding students make the transition from student to professional. He assists our industry partners in getting important design projects completed for reasonable costs. He is also the adviser for the UF Soccer Club and plays on an over 40s' soccer team here in Gainesville.

Malcolm Guy Minchin, NBS. CCE
works for the Florida Department of Transportation in Marianna, Fla., and is a registered professional engineer. He is married to Beth Cowart, who is also a Gator, and they have three children.

Michael B. Woodward, PE., B.S., CCE, 1986 M.E.
is a geotechnical engineer with MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc. in Jacksonville, Fla., and the manager of the geotechnical department. He has worked there since graduating from UF and is the president of the Northeast Florida Chapter of the Florida Engineering Society and will be the chapter's state director next year. Woodward is also a past chairman of the Geotechnical and Materials Engineers Council of the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers. He is married to the former Lizette Borreiro, who graduated from UF with a degree in Agriculture in 1987. They have two sons, John, 16, and Jim, 11, who would both like to attend UF. He and Lizette are involved with their Boy Scout troop as committee members and merit badge counselors.

William Leon Irvin, B.S. EE
has worked for Harris Corp., a government communications systems in Palm Bay, Fla., for more than 11 years. He is a project engineer for a series of programs including operations and maintenance support for existing communications systems and the development of new generation units for the same communications systems. He has been married for 30 years to his high school sweetheart and has two children.

1986

Carl Guichard, B.S. MAE
started with flight testing MD-80's and 90's for McDonnell Douglas Aircraft from Long Beach, Calif. He was lead engineer on the first C-17 and then the flight test department manager of the "loads" aircraft P1 (which was the first production vehicle off the assembly line). He helped redesign the fuselage to be "assembly lean", was the 54th person to join the Delta IV team, oversaw project management for the booster testing at Stennis Space Center and then stayed working for Boeing. Now he is the owner and leader of Team Global-E, competing in the new Automotive X-Prize to build and race a 100 mpg vehicle with today's emission standards.

Charles Hudgens Dickson, B.S. CISE
is a project manager with Hewitt Associates. He earned his MBA from LeTourneau University in 2000 and his PMP certification in 2005.

David Frauman, B.S. ISE
is engineering manager for Pylon Manufacturing Corp., a windshield wiper manufacturer. He is married to Debra and has three boys: Stephen, Jason and Andrew. He has also played ultimate frisbee for more than 25 years.

1987

John C. Apostle, B.S. EE
is president of TriaSys Technologies Corp., in Chelmsford, Mass.

John E. Ellis, B.S. CCE
owns and runs three companies: Legacy Engineering, Inc., Old South Drilling Co., and Ellis Engineering, Inc. He married Rhonda while attending UF. The Ellis' have six children, which all are home-schooled.

Robert Bruce Sieck Jr., B.S. CISE
works for Harris Corp., in Melbourne, Fla., as a senior software engineer who writes programs for ground communication with satellites. He has been married since 1993, has a 12-year-old boy and two nine-year-old twin girls. Sieck met his wife at Gator Growl in 1990 while visiting his sister, a student at UF. His wife was visiting her brother, also a student. You could say the Gators and Jeff Foxworthy brought them together.

1988

Carl Guichard, B.S. MAE
started with flight testing MD-80's and 90's for McDonnell Douglas Aircraft from Long Beach, Calif. He was lead engineer on the first C-17 and then the flight test department manager of the "loads" aircraft P1 (which was the first production vehicle off the assembly line). He helped redesign the fuselage to be "assembly lean", was the 54th person to join the Delta IV team, oversaw project management for the booster testing at Stennis Space Center and then stayed working for Boeing. Now he is the owner and leader of Team Global-E, competing in the new Automotive X-Prize to build and race a 100 mpg vehicle with today's emission standards.

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1989

Louis Bertone, B.S. ISE, 1969 M.E.
works for Lockheed Martin as a staff manufacturing engineer, supporting the build of turreted target systems for the U.S. Military.

Sara Dolgin Kaplan, B.S. ISE
is the quality assurance manager for MicroLumen, Inc., a leading manufacturer of high performance medical tubing. She lives in Tampa with her husband and two daughters.

1990

Brenda Robinson, PE, M.E. CCE
just received her Ph. D. in civil engineering with a major in structural engineering from Florida State University in April 2008. She is also president and CEO of B. Robinson Corp., an engineering and construction firm headquartered in Tallahassee, Fla. Robinson is a professional engineer in Florida, Georgia and Illinois. She is a State of Florida Certified General Contractor.

1991

John Grady Austin III, B.S. NRE
joined the Nebraska Public Power District as the emergency preparedness manager for the Cooper Nuclear Station in Brownville, Neb., in Feb 2008.

Kenneth J. Terrell Jr., B.S. CISE
has worked as a software engineer, systems engineer and database administrator for 15 years. He now is a commercial property appraiser.

1996

Luis Sierra, B.S. MAE
earned a M.S. ME from Georgia Tech in 1987 and an MBA from the University of Chicago in 1990. He has been working for Amoco, now BP, since 1990 in a variety of roles. He is vice president of sales, marketing, supply and logistics for a large chemical unit within BP serving the packaging, film and fiber industries. His work takes him around the world, and he hasn't been back to campus since his little brother graduated with his B.S. EE in 1992. He is married with three great kids (and Gator fans) and works with Junior Achievement in predominantly disadvantaged, Latino communities.





1991

SCOTT W. DEAN, B.P.E. B.S. CCE, M.E. '93

was promoted to associate vice president and officer-in-charge of HNTB Corporation's Lake Mary office.

Steven Lonnie Day, PE, B.S. MAE

opened his own business, Day Consulting, Inc., in Pensacola, Fla. and provides HVAC, plumbing and other mechanical design services for large commercial, institutional, government and industrial facilities throughout the southeastern U.S.

Tom Godowsky, M.S. ISE

is a senior manufacturing engineer at Lutron Electronics in Coopersburg, Pa. He and his wife Nancy reside in Allentown. His daughter Jessica is a senior at the University of Pittsburgh, his daughter Amber is a sophomore at Pennsylvania State University and his son Jeff is a senior at Parkland High School.

Virgil C. "Lee" Lewis, P.E., B.S. CCE

is regional manager and principal with AVCON, INC., an engineering and planning firm specializing in airports and transportation facilities throughout Florida. He has served as the regional manager of the Northwest Florida office in Niceville for more than 10 years.

1994

Daniel Dvorak, B.S. MAE

works for Analex, a NASA contractor, on NASA's Launch Services Program. This program launches unmanned NASA missions like the MARS rovers or DAWN mission to the asteroids, etc. He's been married since 1994 to his college sweetheart and they have three children ages 6, 7 and 9.

Diane (Tice) Underhill, B.S. ChE

after 12 years of corporate life, she changed gears and is now a math teacher at Neenah High School in Neenah, WI. The kids love to hear about how she actually used math in a "real" job.

Jennifer (Chize) Porter, B.S. EES

is a senior engineer with Boyle Engineering Corp., Palm City, Fla. Porter was nominated by Gov. Crist to attend the 2008 Business and Professional Women's Leadership Summit in Washington D.C., and was named chair of the Florida Engineering Society's K-12 Committee. The committee facilitates getting engineers into classrooms to introduce students to engineering. This allows students with a proficiency in math and science to learn engineering is a challenging and rewarding career with a variety of different disciplines. The K-12 Committee has developed a database of engineer volunteers throughout the state who are excited about making presentations to classes or participating in other career-related events. Teachers can access this database and contact engineers in their area.

Ravin Navalrai, B.S. ISE

owns several businesses: KWEST Communications, a retailer and wholesaler of cellular products and services, and TAX TIME, which provides instant tax services and refunds to the public. He is getting married this September.

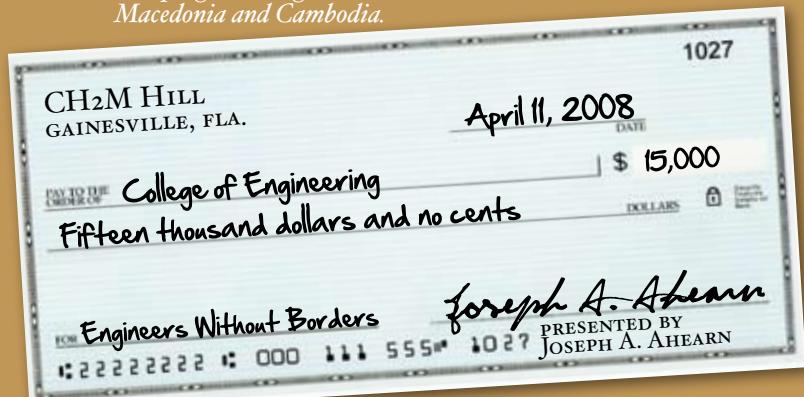
Srinivasen Thirumoorthysamy, M.S. CISE

is a vice-president of consulting delivery with Apps Associates. He and his wife recently welcomed their first baby, Nathren Srinivasen.

Richard Randall Rogus, B.S. EES, M.E. EES '98

received his P.E. in Texas. He is senior project manager for CH2M Hill in San Antonio, Texas.

CH2M Hill, always a generous supporter of Gator Engineering, is helping UF's Engineers Without Borders continue its work in Macedonia and Cambodia.



1992

Francisco Ortiz-Landazabal, M.S. CCE

has worked in Florida and Virginia on a number of bridge projects. He says he is married to a lovely French lady and has two children, Santiago and Nohelia. He also spent two years in France learning how French engineers deal with geotechnical issues. Now in Pennsylvania, he is president of Geotechnical Consultants and Services, where he provides consulting services for design and construction of foundations.

Jeffrey Michael Halley, B.S. CISE

works in the IT field in Gainesville after 11 years in Jacksonville. He is married to Tammy and recently welcomed their daughter Sarah into the world.

Parham Alaei, M.S. NRE

works at the University of Minnesota as an assistant professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology since 2001. He was just promoted to associate professor.

Teresa Lillian (Griffith) Nieten, B.S., M.S. CISE

works for Interoptek, Inc as the lead software engineer and primarily works on autonomous behaviors for unmanned systems. Nieten welcomed a future Gator in February 2006.

Maurice Tobon, M.S. CCE

has accepted a position as director of engineering for Palm Beach County Water Utilities.

1993

Alan D. Stokes, ACTAR, B.S. CISE

owns a Forensic Consulting Firm based in Gainesville, Fla., and says he loves working on such an interesting mix of cases — from bullet trajectory to train accidents. He's married to Andrea E. Williams Stokes, a fellow Gator.

Bill Finn, M.S. MAE

is stationed in Korea as a navy captain (promoted in July 2007) and oversees Navy Shore Installation and Engineering programs. His wife and three kids are enjoying this tour and have had a lot of opportunities for travel.

Chris Bruce, B.S. CCE

says his first job out of graduate school was a GIS technician. He is working as GIS Manager for The Nature Conservancy in Virginia — which he says is the perfect job. He and his wife just had their first baby, Jonas.

John Michael Fernandes, B.S. ISE, M.S. '96

is a product marketing manager at Intel Corp., in Santa Clara, Calif., where his team drives marketing activities leading up to the introduction of new microprocessors and chipset products for notebook computers. The products are featured under the Intel Centrino Processor Technology brand and can be found in more than 80 percent of notebook computers worldwide. Fernandes earned his MBA from UC Berkeley and recently welcomed his first child, Joshua.

Michael Lehlbach Jr., B.S. ISE

worked at Energizer for four years and then at Dell for four years before becoming a stay-at-home dad. His wife, Beckie (Pugh) Lehlbach, (B.S. BA, '07), still works at Dell. They have two children, Piper and Lawson, and love to come back to UF.

Stephen Shelfhout, M.S. MSE

works at Naval Surface Warfare Center — Panama City Division — as a project engineer on U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps projects. He's been married for 23 years and has two children — one of whom is attending UF.

1995

Al Armendariz, M.E. EES

is an assistant professor at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, in the School of Engineering, in the Department of Environmental and Civil Engineering. He teaches and researches the control of air pollutants and protection of the atmosphere.

1996

Amy Y. Lee, B.S. ME

took a position as manager of communications for a subsidiary of Saint-Gobain Corp. She leads a team responsible for internal and external public relations, as well as marketing communications for the company.

Brian Charles Anderson, B.S. NE

works for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission performing safety reviews on the designs and operating plans for new nuclear power plants.

1997

Corwin Chamberlain, M.S. EES

was promoted to Virginia Water Protection Program Manager for the Piedmont Region with the Virginia Dept of Environmental Quality in Aug. 2007. Chamberlain also retired from the U.S. Navy Reserve in May 2007.

Heather (Dunning) Chaput, B.S. EE

worked as a technical sales and marketing professional for Texas Instruments in Dallas and then for the Yankee Group in San Mateo, Calif. She married Michael Chaput, an electrical and computer engineer from Michigan State. Heather is a stay-at-home mother to two boys, ages 4 and 13 months.

Jeremy Marks, B.S. EE

works at Maxtena where he is the CTO, CFO and co-founder. He earned his M.S. EE from Georgia Tech in 1999 and his MBA from UF in 2003.

Karim Elhaidari, B.S. MAE

is working for Honeywell in Phoenix, Ariz. on the new Boeing 787 flight controls. He is involved in the development of the flight crew simulator for that aircraft. He earned an MBA from ASU in 2004 and a private pilot's license.

Matthew Wade Tilman, B.S. ECE

works for JDSU, a telecommunications equipment manufacturer. After receiving an MBA from UF in 2005, he started an environmental services company, EnviroFlux, in Gainesville. They work with UF's Office of Technology Licensing to license technology for measuring groundwater contamination.

Oscar Bernal, B.S. CCE

works for the U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps as an officer in charge of construction for a \$110 million construction program. He was awarded the Young Member of the year for 2007 by the Society of American Military Engineers, San Diego Post. He also received the Navy Commendation Medal for superior performance as officer in charge of construction from April 2006 to April 2008. He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander on Aug. 1, 2007. Bernal says he and his wife were blessed with a third child April 6, 2008. Sebastian weighed 7 pounds and 13 ounces and was 19 inches long. The Navy has afforded Bernal the opportunity to attend graduate school, and he is attending the UF Warrington College of Business as an option A MBA candidate (class of 2009).

Paul Mabry, B.S. CCE (surveying and mapping)

started Hub-Zone, a small business three years ago in Seattle. He recently presented a session on applications of LiDAR to land development at the ACSM National Conference in Spokane, Wash. His company was featured in the May issue of "Point of Beginning" in an article about terrestrial laser scanning of a historic schooner in Seattle, WA.

Victor Jarosiewicz, B.S. MAE

works for an investment banking and business valuation firm in Winter Park, Fla., and also received an MBA from Rollins College. Jarosiewicz earned both the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and the Accredited Senior Appraiser (Business Valuations) credential. He is on the board of directors of the CFA Society of Orlando, and is co-chair of the planning committee for the 2009 CFA Institute annual conference (to be held in 2009 in Orlando from April 26 to April 29). He says he keeps tabs on ASME and SAE, of which he was a student member and participated in the SAE Mini Baja challenge in 1997-1998. He married a fellow Gator, and now they have a little boy. Jarosiewicz knows that, with his last name, his 2-years-old son will be the starting kicker for the 2024-2027 football team!



1997
LARITA BUCHANAN
GWIE, M.S. EE
works for Texas Instruments as an analog design engineer. Gwie just celebrated her 10-year anniversary at TI and was married May 6, 2006. She recently had a little girl, Eliana, on Jan. 25, 2008.

Brian Posner, B.S. EE

says he has landed a dream job. He is senior avionics systems design engineer with ATK Launch Systems in Promontory, Utah. His responsibilities range from internal database design to launch tower umbilical layout to rocket assembly, electrical mate and stack. He leads working groups from ATK, NASA, Boeing, Lockheed Martin and several subcontractors. The work is interesting and challenging but he says nothing will compare to the day they finally have hardware to launch. Outside the office, he founded and runs the Salt Lake Valley Gator Club. They have more than 70 members and are making a difference in the land that gave the Gators Coach Meyer.

Jason A. Huggins, PE, B.S. MAE

works at Armstrong World Industries' Pensacola Ceilings Plant, where he is the engineering manager and a member of Tau Beta Pi's Executive Council, where he serves with fellow Gators Solange C. Dao, B.S. CCE '95, and Jonathan F.K. Earle PE. He enjoys his family and fishing on my boat the "Intimi-Gator".

Leon Mandelbaum, B.S. ISE

works for Capgemini as a senior consultant in the Oracle-CRM practice. He married Blythe Greenberg and has a daughter, Peyton Grace.

Steve Birchfield, B.S. CISE

works for the Tennessee Valley Authority in the Financial Services organization in Chattanooga, Tenn. He is responsible for budgeting, planning, reporting, benchmarking and financial systems. He is married to Colene, a 1996 UF graduate, and they have two boys; Ryan, 7, and Kyle, 5. The family is looking forward to catching the Gators in action in Knoxville.

1998

Chad Campbell, B.S. Che

works for Eaton Corp., as a technical sales engineer. In 2003, he earned an MBA with a concentration in operations, marketing and finance from the University of New Mexico. In 2007, he received a promotion to area sales manager in Las Vegas and received a sales award for record breaking sales in the area.

Dan Moyer, B.C. CE

works as a project manager for CPH Engineers. He has become a company shareholder and is getting married on Oct. 4, 2008.

George L. Porter, B.S. EES

works for JEA as a sewer planner. He was previously working in the engineering consulting field. Porter has been married for seven years and he and his wife are expecting their first child this summer.

Michael J. Wright, PE., B.S. EE

lives in Sanford, Fl., and is married to Heather McKenney. He is president of Power Grid Engineering, LLC. He left the electric utility company after 8 and a half years to start his own engineering firm, which designs protection and control systems for high voltage power systems across the U.S. Wright also earned an MBA from Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., in 2004.

Sean J. Hamblet, B.S. CCE

works for an engineering consulting firm in California called Psomas. His emphasis is transportation design and he recently won the "Eagle" award on a project he worked on for Caltrans. Life since college — part of which was spent as a soldier and officer in the Army — has had him everywhere from Germany to California. He says skiing, mountain biking, hiking and climbing mountains take up much of his free time.

1999

Aaron Planski, B.S. Che

lives and works in Roanoke, Va. and has been there for more than two years. He works for Optical Cable Corp. as a cable process engineer. He says he has a lovely wife and two amazing kids; Sofia, 3, and Miles, 1. In addition to attending UF, he grew up in Gainesville and will forever be a Florida Gator. In fact, his license plate reads "ALIG8R."

Aneesh A. Mehta, B.S. EE, M.S. EE 03

works at Volpe and Koenig, P.C. in Philadelphia. He is a patent attorney working on patent prosecution, licensing, and due diligence. His father is a professor in the UF Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering.

Caleb Hunt, B.S. EE

works for Farmland Foods (subsidiary of Smithfield Foods) in Kansas City as their corporate environmental engineering manager. He and his wife, Erin (B.S. E.E. '96), have a 2-year-old girl and 7-year-old son.

Erin Gorman, PE, B.S. EES

is director of science and engineering and co-founder of Climate Options

2000

Capt. Scott R. Sweeney, B.S. MAE

works in the National Reconnaissance Office as the executive officer for the director of advanced systems and technologies and is responsible for developing technology that will advance both current and future overhead satellite reconnaissance systems necessary to meet the needs of the intelligence community and of the Department of Defense. He is married to Kathy Sweeney, (B.A. BA '01), their first baby Gator is due any day now — and yes, they say the first Gator baby shirt has been purchased.

JeMan Yeon, Ph.D.
is a design engineer for Volvo CE-Road Machinery.

Robert J. Brock, Ph.D. EES

works for NOAA Fisheries Service as a fisheries biologist. The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea and the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries organization approved Brock to the chair of the ICES-NAFO joint working group on deepwater ecology.

2001

Brian Anderson, Ph.D. CCE

is part of the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. He was promoted to associate professor with tenure and is raising two children with his wife Elizabeth, (M.A. MC '98).

Jim Mellman, B.S. ES, Ph.D. MSE '07

works for Pfizer in their global research & development department in Cambridge, England where he does materials testing and development for plastics and flexible barrier packaging. Mellman says it's great to apply his skills as a materials scientist, and it's great to be a Florida Gator.

Pablo Ross, P.E., LEED AP. B.S. MAE

works at Enerdyne Engineering, a consulting firm, as a project engineer in charge of overseeing all aspects of the design process for mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection systems in commercial buildings. Last year, Ross became a registered Professional Engineer in the state of New Jersey and has a green building certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. He has been married to his high school sweetheart for three and a half years. Ross also says he spent \$15 in quarters on a claw machine in Atlantic City just to get a Gator mini-basketball. It now proudly stands on his office window. When he saw it, he says he had to have it.

2003

Alexander Sierra, B.S. MAE

changed his name from Alejandro to Alexander and he works for Haas Automation as a sales engineer, where customers include companies like Raytheon, BOSE, Boston Scientific, Textron and many small machine shop owners. His customers show him what and how they make their products, and then ask for recommendations for a better, more efficient system. Then he provides a CNC solution. "Every day I walk into a factory, it's like being in an episode of the Science Channel's "How It's Made." I get to see the manufacturing process for very neat things related to all kinds of industries: aerospace, medical, automotive, you name it."

Andrew B. Dickinson, B.S. CCE, M.S. CISE

works for Amazon.com as a software developer on a service called the "Elastic Compute Cloud." Amazon EC2 is the rapidly growing industry of Cloud Computing (AKA Utility Computing or Compute-on-Demand). He was awarded an "Amazon Inventor Award" for a patent of which he was a co-inventor. He says he is able to apply the skills he learned at UF across a broad range of topics at Amazon.

Brian Simoneau, M.E. CISE

works at Freedom Scientific in St. Petersburg, Fla. as a software developer.

Burt Blair, B.S. CISE

works at Blackboard Inc. as a senior consultant. He says Blackboard was a perfect match coming out of school. Not only do they use the same technology stack (Web Application, Java Servlets, Relational Database backed), but the company was a great pick personality-wise. Blackboard has a very relaxed atmosphere, yet is very aggressive and competitive in the eLearning market. He had the opportunity to go through an IPO and a large merger (both on the good side) in his first two years with the company. He lives and works in Washington and bought his first home in May of 2007.

Erik Hartmann, B.S. ISE, M.S. ISE

works as an industrial engineer for Northrop Grumman Corp. in St. Augustine, Fla., and was recently appointed as the lead IE for broad area maritime surveillance. He set up a program working with UF industrial engineering students to perform student projects at Northrop Grumman and has hosted more than 10 student teams. Hartmann married his wife Lindsay in 2005. They met at UF and she majored in finance.

Group. The group was started by Gorman and three other Gators. The company provides regulatory services for the Global Emission Market.

Gregory Harrell, PE. B.S. CCE, M.E. '01

has worked as a structural engineer with HNTB since Jan. 2001 and lives in Tampa, Fla. His wife, Susan (B.A. Psychology '00), gave birth to their second daughter, Theresa, on Nov. 11, 2007. Their older daughter, Celeste, turned 3 in April.

Hieu H. Huynh, B.S. CCE

works for Nodarse & Associates, Inc., as a geotechnical engineer in their West Palm Beach office. He is active in church and has participated in numerous volunteering activities for the Palm Beach Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers, as well as the Palm Beach County Gator Club. He is also active with Toastmasters.

Jessica Allen McIntyre, M.E. CCE

works for Moffat & Nichol in Tampa, designing urban waterfronts and marinas. In 2005, she became a U.S. delegate for the Young Professional Commission of PIANC-AIPCN (International Navigation Association) where she now serves as secretary of the commission and the Young Professional Observer on the Recreational Navigation Commission. She and her husband David have two children — Keenan, 3, and Scott, 1.

Kenneth Webster Fuqua Jr., B.S. NRE

works for E. I. Hatch Nuclear Power Generating Plant as the senior reactor engineer. He navigates the reactor by determining the acceptable power level, control rod pattern, core flow and fuel thermal limits. Fuqua also works to be a good husband and father, as he is married with two children. He teaches senior high Sunday school and plays bass in the church praise band.

Lars E. Noris, B.S. MAE

is the lead safety engineer in the energy management development department of The New Chrysler LLC., for interior and exterior impact protection.

2002

Fred Harmon, B.S. CE

works for Sage software in Alachua, Fla.

Jeremy Doerrfeld, B.S. EES, B.S. EE '04

works for United Space Alliance at the Kennedy Space Center as a project engineer working on the avionics for the first stage of the new Ares launch vehicle. He is leading the integrated product team for the data acquisition and recording unit which will be used to acquire all of the first stage's operational flight instrumentation and record it to solid state memory. His wife, Christina Riley Doerrfeld, (B.A. BA '03), is the assistant city clerk of Cocoa Beach.

John Weldon Nicholson, B.S. EE, B.S. CEN

works for Lenovo in ThinkPad as a product engineer, which is to say technical field support. ThinkPads are (and always have been) developed in Japan, so he interacts with the developers on a daily basis. His specialty is in software, and he supports BIOS, drivers, and general operating system issues. After graduating in 2002, he moved to Raleigh to attend North Carolina State University graduate school (though he says he still bleeds orange and blue). He received an M.S. in computer engineering. Afterwards, he landed a job at IBM ThinkCentre Product Engineering (this time working with desktops) and continued to attend NCSU part-time while working on his Ph.D. He plans on graduating next May. He married his high school sweetie 2.5 years ago and they are expecting their first child.

2000

BRIAN FISHER, B.S. MAE, M.S. '02, PH.D. '04

and his wife Dawn moved to Maryland, where he did a three-year post-doc at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

His work focused on the study of fire suppression with ultrafine water mist. He completed that position in Dec. 2007 and immediately moved to Livermore, Calif., to begin work as a post-doc at Sandia National Laboratories. He works in the engine combustion group and is focused on fuel effects in direct-injection diesel engines. In April 2007, he and his wife (B.S. in Food Science and Human Nutrition '99, PharmD '03) welcomed their first child. The healthy and happy Nathan Patrick Fisher was born on April 12.





\$600,000 Endowment

Gator grads Bud and Dr. Kimberly Deffebach (who received her B.S. from UF in 1988/CLAS), established a \$600,000 endowment. Half of the fund will support energy research. The remainder will be split evenly between GatorTRAX and STEPUP—Gator Engineering programs that encourage high schoolers to study engineering and support incoming minority freshmen.

“We met at UF and we both had great years there. We both have a great love for the University, and we care about seeing it grow and succeed.”

Bud Deffebach

BUD DEFFEBAUGH B.S. EE, 1988

HOW DOES AN ALUMNI GIFT GET DIVVIED OUT? HERE'S A LOOK AT ONE GENEROUS DONATION AND A BREAKDOWN OF HOW MANY PEOPLE IT HELPED

The Bud and Kim Deffebach ENGINEERING OUTREACH FUND

This portion will go toward the Engineering GatorTRAX Math Excellence project, which provides students in grades 6 - 12 with opportunities to learn mathematics with hands-on activities.

\$150,000



The Bud and Kim Deffebach ALTERNATIVE ENERGY FUND

This portion will go toward supporting programs in sustainable energy, particularly those at the Florida Institute of Sustainable Energy. The endowment will go toward faculty support, research, travel, seminar programs and student support programs.



\$300,000

The Bud and Kim Deffebach STEP-UP FUND

This portion will go toward STEPUP, which stands for Successful Transition through Enhanced Preparation for Undergraduate Programs. This is a multi-faceted program designed to promote academic and personal success among minority freshman engineering students. The program combines faculty- and peer-mentoring with team-building, industry involvement, and academic-enhancement classes in engineering foundation courses.

\$150,000



*The power to
benefit:
60,000
people*

*The power to
benefit:
18 MILLION
people*

*The power to
benefit:
680
people*

Garett Raines, B.S. CCE

is an attorney in Brandon, Florida. He says he uses skills developed as a civil engineer working on product liability cases in a five-lawyer firm. The attorneys at his firm include a former biomechanical engineer, a former electrical engineer, and a former medical doctor. Raines is married with a 7-year-old daughter.

Justin Peacock, B.S. CISE

works for PSS World Medical, a Jacksonville based pharmaceutical and medical supplies distributor, as a liaison between upper management and IT.

Konstantinos Chatzinas, M.S. CISE

just received an MBA from the University of Minnesota and plans to return to Greece and resume a professional career there and become a successful entrepreneur.

Manish Kumar Dwivedi, M.S. MAE

got married this year and is living a peaceful life, but is missing UF and Gator football games.

Michael W. Hermanson, M.S. CCE

is in the U.S. Navy's Civil Engineer Corps and was deployed to Iraq where he's the officer in charge of 55-person team performing contingency construction in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was recently promoted to Lieutenant Commander. Hermanson has been a licensed professional engineer since 2004 and a certified project management professional since 2006. He is married with three kids and lives in Chesapeake, Va. He is planning to visit UF this summer as part of a family vacation.

Michelle Toledo Harrison, B.S. CCE

works as a project engineer at HNTB — a transportation firm that designs roads — in Orlando. She is married to Neil Harrison, B.S. MSE '02, M.S. MSE '05. Neil's dad, grandfather, sister and brother also attended UF, as did her brother. So, when they had their first child in January, he was provided with an awful lot of Gator paraphernalia.

Robert L. Bullinger, B.S. CCE

works at Keith & Schnars, P.A. in Lakeland, Fla. as a transportation designer. He received the "American Society of Civil Engineers" and the "Young Engineer of the Year" award. He and his wife of eight years Tatiana have two children, Brian, 6, and Kurt, 2 1/2.

Zivin Park, M.S. ECE

works as a patent agent for a law firm and is pursuing a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering.

2005**Adirjana Maria (Curcic) Hunt, B.S. CHE**

married another Gator engineer, Daniel Nelson Hunt, B.S. ISE, and they have a 19-month-old daughter — Hailey Dian. Curcic-Hunt works for Florida's Natural (the orange juice company) in Lake Wales, Fla., as a food scientist.

Amy (Mathis) Beard, B.S. CHE

is a Ph.D. candidate in chemical engineering at the University of South Carolina, working on hydrogen storage for fuel-cell vehicles. She was elected president of the chemical engineering graduate student organization at USC. She says she found a passion for baking and has taken up coed dodge ball.

Jacob Bryan, B.S. MAE

works at DRS Technologies, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. as a mechanical engineer. He says he is the youngest engineer at the local branch. Several of his designs have been featured on CNN (SBInet and driver vision enhancement programs).

Joe Herdiska, B.S. ISE, M.E. '09

works for Lockheed Martin as a systems engineer for an airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platform. He received a Special Recognition Award for an early delivery of artifacts critical to hitting the deadline for critical design review.

Lauren Jasper, B.S. MAE, M.S. BME '07

started her first job post-college in April 2008 at Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics in Memphis, Tenn., where she is product development engineer for the Hip Development Group.

Madhavan S. Essayanur, Ph.D. MSE

works at MEMC Electronic Materials Inc., as an R&D scientist. Essayanur had a son in July 2007 and can't wait to tell him about Gator football.

Phillip Chapman, B.S. EES

is a U.S. Air Force pilot flying C130s and will be stationed at Yokota AB, Japan come September. He says his experiences at UF prepared him for

Jundong Liu, Ph.D. CISE

works as an assistant professor for the Russ College of Engineering and Technology at Ohio University and received the White Research Award, which recognizes continued and sustained achievements in research, scholarship and the creation of new knowledge in each department of the college.

Sarah Jones, B.S. CISE

works for BAE SYSTEMS in Burlington, Mass., as a senior software engineer. Her group produces software that controls manned and unmanned aerial vehicles. She was elected as section representative for the Society of Women Engineers Boston section for the second year in a row, and was promoted to senior software engineer.

Valerie Bonilla, M.E.

works part-time from home in consulting for Innovative Waste Consulting Services in Gainesville and a full-time mommy to 15-month-old Leandro Gabriel.

Michael J. Procopio, B.S. CISE, M.S. CISE

married Shannon Brender, (B.S. '02). He also earned his Ph.D. in artificial intelligence and machine learning at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He works as a senior member of the technical staff at Sandia National Laboratories.

2004**Amy Tamayo, B.S. CHE**

lives in Houston, Texas and works with Air Products, where she was promoted to an account manager selling to energy and petrochemical customers in Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma. She is married to Jason Smith, a chemical engineering graduate of Georgia Tech.

Cara Christeson Malek, B.S. Digital Arts & Sciences

received an MFA in design with a focus in computer animation from Ohio State and landed her dream job as a character technical director at DreamWorks Animation in Redwood City, Calif. She's been there for about a year-and-a-half now, and will have her first credit in this November's theatrical release of "Madagascar 2." She was married last summer to fellow Gator and longtime friend Neil Malek.

Chris Stratton, B.S. CCE

is a project manager for Frederick Derr & Company Inc. in Sarasota, Fla.

Emily Hartman, B.S. CISE

is an applications engineer working for Freescale Semiconductor in Austin, Texas, where she supports customers and field engineers on the i.MX applications processors. She says her biggest customer is Microsoft — their chip is in their Zune media player. Hartman said she decided to get her MBA and will be attending Darden at the University of Virginia. Of course, she chose Virginia mainly so she wouldn't have to change her colors from orange and blue.

Eun Seog Youn, Ph.D. CISE

is an assistant professor at Texas Tech University.

Jason Carlin, B.S. ISE

is the manager of sales analytics in sales planning and business analysis for a pharmaceutical company. Though it wasn't until after a summer internship at Lockheed Martin (where he created an arena simulation model for the supply chain logistics on spare parts for helicopters) and after he earned his master's of engineering in operations research at Cornell, that he was led to an operations research position at a sales and marketing consulting firm. The firm is working for the pharmaceutical industry and has a whole track dedicated to operations research and optimization of sales forces and marketing.

Jessica Morris, B.S. CCE, M.E. CCE '05

was selected to fill one of eight positions in the U.S. as a transportation consultant for the National Park Service. For seven months she worked with the Devils Postpile National Monument, an 800-acre unit of the National Park Service near the town of Mammoth Lakes in the mountainous Eastern Sierra region of California. There she assessed the financial and operational feasibility of the Devils Postpile/Reds Meadow shuttle system, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Volpe Center. At the close of the seven-month position, she was able to continue in the mountains as an assistant planner in the Community Development Department of the town of Mammoth Lakes.

Josh Rubin, B.S. ME

works for Medtronic ENT in Jacksonville, Fla. He designs powered tissue removal tools for use in sinus surgery and was promoted to advanced R&D engineer. Rubin is engaged to a Gator and is getting married June 14th in Las Vegas.

UP TO DATE / *alumni*

the rigors of this career field. He was promoted to 1st Lt.

Steven Singer, M.S. EE

works for Analog Devices in Greensboro, N.C., and just got married to Alison Wolff.

Tom Cowan, M.B.S. MAE

is working at Northrop Grumman Space Technology in Redondo Beach, Calif., in the mechanical engineering department. He's worked on the Space Interferometer Mission and the James Webb Space Telescope.

2006

Corey Comegys, B.S. MAE

works for RS&H Aerospace and Defense Department HVAC and Plumbing design for defense projects including a facility to house satellites during a Category 5 hurricane. HVAC designs projects for NASA, including the new Mobile Launcher for the Ares I rocket. Comegys also received an E.I. from the State of Florida and is a LEED AP.

Dan Wilcoxen, B.S. CCE

is a 1st Lieutenant and civil engineer in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Hurlburt Field, Fla., and works in the 1st Special Operations Civil Engineering Squadron as the readiness and emergency management flight commander, managing all emergency response and disaster preparedness for the installation, as well as all squadron deployable equipment valued at approximately \$3 million. He says his most memorable experience since graduating was the 137th day of deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom fall 2007. He can't discuss too much, but says it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

David Charles Thomas, B.S. CCE, M.E. CCE '08

is fielding offers and hoping he chooses wisely.

Lonnie A. Houck III, B.S. MAE

started his career with Alstom Power in Palm Beach Gardens, though the company is headquartered in Paris, France. He received his master's through UF EDGE. At 25 years old, he has already been promoted to senior engineer. The U.S. office employed 25 people when he started and Houck was the only Gator. Since then, through his works and lobbying, management has decided to make UF their primary recruitment target while expanding to 40 people, even though Houck's boss hails from MIT with a Pratt and Whitney/NASA background.

Michael T. Vento, B.S. ISE

has been working at Intel Corp., in California and Arizona since graduation, and was named manufacturing engineer in Intel's state-of-the-art Fab32 production facility in Chandler, Ariz.

Rajarajan Subramanian, Ph.D. CCE

is working for the Maryland Department of Transportation as a transportation engineer.

Ryan J. Bowersox, B.S. EE

works for Florida Power and Light Co., as a protection and control engineer. He took and passed the fundamentals of engineering exam. He says nothing tops getting to road trip it out to Arizona for the National Championship game — and he also went to Atlanta, Ga. to see that second basketball National Championship as well.

Sanjay Kumar Sharma, B.S. MAE

landed a job with Boeing on the constellation and space station programs.

Scott Crichton, B.S. MSE

works for Berg Steel Pipe Co. in Panama City, Fla., as a staff metallurgist. He can still see the orange and blue on Saturdays in the Swamp with friends who are working on their Ph.D.s'.

Thomas Pusateri, B.S. ChE

works at Vistakon as a technical coordinator and facilitates the flow of R&D projects, analyzes data from R&D projects and writes technical reports. He was married this spring and had a magnificent honeymoon in Hawaii.

Walter Douglas Kilar, B.S. EE

works as a space communications security engineer at the Cryptologic Systems Group, Lackland AFB, Texas. He was promoted to the rank of 1st Lieutenant. In 2007, he was selected for a rapid prototyping competition for the Air Force Research Laboratory, designing a tactical unmanned aerial vehicle. Incidentally, he says his senior design project was an unmanned aerial vehicle. He was excited to use his undergraduate UAV experience in a real world application. His team's design for AFRL won, and should be deployed next year.

Yasemin Merzifonluoglu, Ph.D. ISE

is an assistant professor at Virginia Tech.

2005

Andre Toussaint, B.S. CCE

is working with PCL Civil Constructors, a heavy civil contractor based in Tampa. He is assigned to the \$126 million dollar I-4 / 408 Interchange project in downtown Orlando as a field engineer. They have driven more than 38 miles worth of steel H-pile and managed to fit some very large cranes and 150 ft. long concrete beams in some impossibly tight city intersections. The first time he got to strap on his safety harness and walk along the steel girders was an experience he says he won't forget. Being a former captain of the UF Steel Bridge team and ASCE student chapter member, cemented his decision that civil engineering was the right choice. He works with several Gator grads and definitely feels that his coursework laid an excellent foundation for the work he's doing now.



Kevin Fort, B.S. ChE

works in the oil fields off Borneo for Schlumberger. He was first offshore in Brunei, now in Malaysia. Fort says there's a surprising number of encounters with members of the Gator Nation. However, being in the oilfield, he is confronted daily with LSU Tigers, and in spite of their recent national-championship success, he must remind them where it will all end this year when they visit the Swamp.

Marineida (Marie) Morales, B.S. MAE

landed her dream job in Houston, where she works at the Johnson Space Center, and is living out her childhood dream of being a flight controller in mission control. She works for the environmental control and life support systems console and is in charge of keeping the crew alive on board the International Space Station.

Mohammed Nazer, B.S. EE

works for NAVAIR ISSC Cherry Point, N.C., in support and research for the flight and depot. He recently won a good performance engineer award. Nazer is married to a doctor from Bangladesh and has beautiful baby girl. He finished his master's degree from FIT.

Stephanie S. Adkins, B.S. ChE

is in graduate school at the University of Texas at Austin in the Department of Chemical Engineering. Her research is centered on dispersions, emulsions and foams with super-critical carbon dioxide. She's published two manuscripts and is working on final publications for her thesis.

2007

Akibi Archer, B.S. MAE

is a graduate student at Georgia Institute of Technology in the mechanical engineering department. He recently won the National Society of Black Engineers Distinguished Member of the Year — the highest honor to be achieved by a member of the society.

Arjun Ratnam Balachandran, M.S. ECE

is a CPU design engineer at Intel Corp..

Christopher J. Croke, M.S. CCE

works for the U.S. Navy as a staff civil engineer for naval special warfare. He recently had a son, James "Jack" D. Croke.

David Joshua Wiener, M.S. MAE

works at Elbit Systems of America as a senior systems engineer in charge of algorithmic quality control for a satellite management program. He was promoted to team leader in charge of maintaining the designed system. He also maintains several online businesses he started at UF.

David Shields, B.S. MAE

is a grad student in the MAE department at UF and is working on getting funding for nuclear research. However, he found that he can be an astronaut. NASA is taking applications for 2009.

Etan Shaul, B.S. CE

works for Accenture as a consultant and plans to return to UF graduate school in the fall.

Hunter P. Brown, B.S. EES

works for Coastal Engineering Associates, Inc. in Brooksville, Fla. doing civil and site engineering.

Zach Jacobson, B.S. CISE

is a student at UC Berkeley in a doctoral program, studying electrical engineering.

Chelsea Marie Magin, B.S. MSE

is a graduate student in the J. Crayton Pruitt Department of Biomedical Engineering. She is also the graduate adviser for UF's chapter of the Society of Women Engineers and was responsible for creating GrOWE, the Graduate Organization of Women Engineers which won a national SWE award. It has attracted new graduate members and led to a series of workshops and events for graduate students and undergraduates interested in pursuing a graduate education.

2008**Brittany Cooley, B.S. ChE**

works at Mosaic Co. as an engineer.

Carlos Manuel Torres Jr., B.S. EE

is attending a research internship at the National Institute of Standards and Technology via the NIST Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship program and will be using MATLAB to investigate and simulate electron transport in graphene — specifically, the electron interference due to single atom impurities. After his internship he'll start his research on spintronics and quantum computing at UCLA where he'll pursue his graduate degree in electrical engineering.

Chris Connors, B.S. CCE

graduated and would like to pursue graduate studies at UF. He also said the faculty is first rate, and feels privileged to have met some really great people at UF.

Daniel Kessler, B.S. MAE

was hired by General Electric and starts July 14th in their Edison Engineering Development Program.

Daniel Schoonover, B.S. EE

is continuing his education at UF, going for a master's in electrical engineering. He says he plans to continue doing research throughout his grad experience — that is, assuming he can get some funding!

Gabriel J. Lopez-Bernal, B.S. CCE

is working with the Corradino Group in Doral, Fla., as a transportation planner and is working on some smart growth presentations as well as a new land use plan for a local community. Lopez-Bernal will be attending Tufts University, beginning to work towards a masters in urban and environmental policy and planning.

Jimmy Samaha, B.S. CISE

is starting at internship at the Vineyards of Naples and will be attending Columbia University this fall to pursue a M.S. in engineering management systems — specializing in revenue and risk management.

Katherine Marilena Mouzakis, B.S. EES

works at CH2M Hill as a staff engineer.

Martin E. McBriarty, B.S. MSE

is working in the lab for Jacob Jones, in UF's materials science and engineering department. McBriarty will be attending graduate school at Northwestern University and pursuing a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering. His research will focus on the development of energy materials like thermoelectrics or fuel cell components.

Surachai Charoensri, M.S. ISE

focused his graduate school work on operations research and he is awaiting admission to a Ph.D. program.

Thomas Alan Weeks Jr., B.S. CCE

works for Community Asphalt Corp., as a project manager managing two FDOT projects estimated at \$20 million. He coordinates all the necessary work as well as estimates future projects.

Thomas McLaughlin, B.S. ECE

works at Micro Systems Inc., in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. as a radio frequency engineer. He designs and tests radar transponders, telemetry receiver transmitters and associated test equipment.

Tracy Richardson, B.S. ChE

just started a new career as a shift coordinator at Buckeye Inc. and recently moved to Perry, Fla. with his son.

Travis Gibson, B.S. ChE

works for Tropicana in Bradenton, Fla.

Jeremy Morton, B.S. CCE

is working for CPH Engineers, Inc., in Sanford, Fla. He designs and inspects storm water systems, grading and drainage, utilities, and roadwork. Morton is marrying a Gator and moving to their new house. He credits the University of Florida, because without that experience he would have neither.

Joseph Ming-Ju Tsai, M.S. MSE

is a graduate student at Colorado School of Mines.

Kenneth Wilson, B.S. Digital Arts & Sciences

works for the University of Florida's Entomology and Nematology Department as a videographer.

Kenny Bernardo, B.S. MSE

is a materials, processes and physics engineer in the non-metallics and composites group in the integrated defense systems division of the Boeing Co., in Mesa, Ariz. This is the primary site for production and development of the Apache AH-64D attack helicopter. They also provide support work for the F/A-18 Superhornet and the up-and-coming 787 Dreamliner.

Lauren Milne, B.S. ISE

works for GE Healthcare in the operations management leadership program. She says "moving to Milwaukee in the middle of winter was a rude awakening for this Gator."

Mathieu Davis, B.S. MAE

is interning with Corning Inc., in New York and will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall to pursue a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering with an emphasis on orthopedic bio-mechanics. He was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, as well as a National GEM Consortium Fellowship to work with Corning Inc.

Patrick Chung, B.S. EE

works for Northrop Grumman — in Melbourne, Fla., as an electro-mechanical design engineer. He is involved in playing basketball for different leagues in the Melbourne and Palm Bay area.

Robert Anthony Lingis, B.S. EE

works at Andromeda Systems, Inc. in Orange Park, Fla., as a systems engineer and is expecting his first baby — a boy.

Salvatore Torre Jr., B.S. EE

is pursuing a master's degree in electrical engineering at the University of Florida.

Stephen Cano, B.S. CE

works for Walt Disney World as an analyst with the guest and organization database team. He will be getting married on Nov. 29th this year to a fellow Gator alum and computer engineer — his college sweetie Alicia Cosenza.

Vamshi Akkunuru, M.S. MSE

works in a particle characterization and strategic marketing group, Beckman Coulter Inc., in Miami. He is working on developing new applications for an instrument that measures particle size and zeta potential.

Young-Ki Chang, B.S. ISE

is working for the U.S. Congress.

Edwin F. Mojena, B.S. CCE

joined Marlin Engineering in November 2006 as transportation department design manager. Edwin was recently appointed assistant vice president of production. He is responsible for transportation design, municipal services and field survey.

2001**LACEY ANNE EDWARDS ASHKAR, B.S. ECE**

married Alexander Ashkar. Ashkar was literally the boy-next door when she lived in Gainesville's "student ghetto." At the time, Alex was two years ahead of her in the electrical and computer engineering department, and his tutoring quite possibly saved her from retaking Circuits I. He earned his (M.S. EE, '01) degree the same time she earned hers. Another master's degree and almost six years later, they tied the knot in Orlando and couldn't resist sharing a little Gator pride at the wedding.



YOUR LIFE— UPTODATE

FACULTY UPDATES

ECE & CCE

Slatton won one of the nation's most prestigious awards for outstanding young scientists and engineers — the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, or PECASE, award. He is an assistant professor in Electrical & Computer Engineering and Civil & Coastal Engineering. The White House describes the award, which comes with a five-year \$1 million research grant, as "the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on outstanding scientists and engineers beginning their independent careers."

Slatton, 37, said the goal of his research is to develop a new approach to measuring and predicting how signals — not just electronic ones, but also light and sound waves — travel through complex environments, such as cities and forests.

The research will help the military improve its communication and remote-sensing abilities in forested and urban environments.

**CHE****TIM ANDERSON**

Anderson, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs and professor of Chemical Engineering, received AIChE's Warren K. Lewis Award for scholarly contributions to engineering education research and innovation, dedication to career development of new engineering faculty and stewardship of chemical engineering education.

MSE**GENE GOLDBERG**

Goldberg, Genzyme Professor of Materials Science & Engineering, was elected a Fellow of Biomaterials Science and Engineering by the International Union of Societies for Biomaterials. He is being honored for his pioneering work on Intraocular Lenses and Novel Surgical treatments.

CISE**CHRIS JERMAINE**

Jermaine, Assistant Professor of Computer & Information Science & Engineering, was selected to receive an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship — the first time a College faculty member has won this prestigious award.

MAE**SIVARAMAKRISHNAN (BALA) BALACHANDAR**

Balachandar, Powers Professor and Chair of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering, was selected a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for his 23 years of experience in large-scale simulations of transitional and turbulent flows. He has made fundamental contributions to understanding of thermal convection, structure of bluff body wakes, wall turbulence, modeling and simulation of two-phase flows.



ANDERSON



BALACHANDAR



GOLDBERG



HINTENLANG



JIANG



KALMAN

NRE**DAVID HINTENLANG**

Hintenlang, Professor of Nuclear & Radiological Engineering, was elected as a Fellow of American College of medical physics for his distinguished contributions to the field of Medical Physics.

BME**HUAIBEI JIANG**

Jiang, Professor of Biomedical Engineering, was elected to become a Fellow of SPIE, an international society advancing an interdisciplinary approach to the science and application of light. He received this fellowship for specific achievements in diffuse optical tomography and fluorescence tomography.

ECE**RUDOLF KALMAN**

Kalman, Professor Emeritus of Electrical & Computer Engineering, was selected by the National Academy of Engineering to receive the 2008 Charles Stark Draper Prize for the development and dissemination of the optimal digital technique — known as the Kalman Filter — that is pervasively used to control a vast array of consumer, health, commercial and defense products. This is the most prestigious award given by the NAE.

FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

1920	Harold F. Ward <i>Miami FL</i> 04/01/1972	Henry Haild Zeder, B.S. ME, <i>Delray Beach, Fla.</i> , April 1, 1981	1922
<i>John D. Almond, Jr.</i> BSEE <i>Fort Pierce FL</i> 04/17/1990	Eric R. Boswell <i>Houston TX</i> 04/01/1981	1924	Robert Trimble, Jr. BSCE
<i>Alenton FL</i> 03/12/1984	1926 Elmer Maynard Adkins BSEE <i>Asbury Park NJ</i> 02/01/1979	<i>Alva H. Wilson</i> BSCE <i>Laguna Beach CA</i>	
1987	1928 Thomas W. Bostwick BSME <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 12/01/1977	<i>J. Davis Brandon</i> Tampa FL 09/28/1994	1929 Charles
	<i>or BSCE Savannah GA</i> 07/01/1982	<i>Captain Joseph E. Waugh</i> BSCE <i>Durham NC</i> 01/29/1990	1930 Joseph W. Beachem BSCE <i>Saint</i>
	<i>FL</i> 02/01/1976	<i>William Wallace Boyd</i> BSEE <i>Clermont FL</i> 08/01/1980	1931 Tracy R. Walsh BSEE <i>Dallas TX</i> 10/16/1987
			1931 John H. Wilson BSEE <i>Gainesville FL</i>
1932	<i>Dow G. Beck</i> MSEE <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 10/24/1975	<i>Charles William Waring</i> BSEE <i>Ellaville GA</i> 12/01/1973	1933 Jo-
	<i>nan BSME Miami FL</i> 02/01/1977	<i>Edmund L. Chipley</i> BSCHB <i>Boca Raton FL</i> 12/28/2007	<i>Edmund L. Chipley</i> BSCHB <i>Tallahassee FL</i>
1934	<i>Loftin Johnson</i> BSEE <i>Roswell GA</i> 07/06/2007	<i>Howard W. Smoyer</i> BSCHB <i>Tallahassee FL</i> 04/04/2008	1935 Wilbur H. Turner
	<i>FL</i> 07/29/1989	<i>Charles F. Whitcomb, Jr.</i> BSME <i>San Diego CA</i> 05/25/2003	1936 Marion S. Whaley, Jr. BSME
	<i>Miller BSME Flagler Beach FL</i> 12/06/2005	<i>Woodson C. Winfree, Jr.</i> BSEE <i>Tampa FL</i> 09/01/1987	1937 Harrison L. Kalbach BSCHB <i>Bryn Mawr PA</i> 07/07/2007
			<i>Harry N. Towson</i> BSEE <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 03/14/1988
			1939 Williams BSCE <i>Winter Park FL</i> 11/04/1988
	1941	<i>Vincent H. Waldin</i> BCHE <i>Hialeah FL</i> 11/11/1987	1943 Edward A.
			<i>EE West Melbourne FL</i> 03/09/2008
			<i>James M. Duncan</i> BCHE <i>San Jose CA</i> 12/17/2007
			<i>Homer O. Lichtenwalter, Jr.</i> BCHE <i>Punta Gorda</i>
1944	<i>Joel M. Grossman</i> BSCHB <i>Saint Pete Beach FL</i> 05/29/2006	<i>Harold L. Hull</i> BCHE <i>Jonesboro GA</i> 02/22/2008	1946
			<i>Winston, Jr.</i> BCE <i>Ocala FL</i> 10/01/1978
	1947	<i>Edmund T. Dady</i> BCE <i>Tallahassee FL</i> 03/01/2008	<i>Harry G. Williams</i> BSEE <i>Winter</i>
1985			
1948	<i>Robert J. Birdsall, Sr.</i> BSCE <i>Ocala FL</i> 07/23/2007	<i>Maurice V. Carter</i> Altamonte Springs FL 03/07/2008	<i>August</i>
	<i>BSCE Pembroke Pines FL</i> 04/20/2008	<i>Horace F. Lawson</i> BCE <i>Louisville KY</i> 02/08/2007	<i>William H. Wilson, Jr.</i> BSME <i>Murfreesboro TN</i>
1949	<i>Robert P. Bishop</i> BEE <i>Orlando FL</i> 04/01/1984	<i>Charles M. Clarke</i> BCHE <i>Meriden CT</i> 12/10/2007	<i>Hugh J. Haltiwanger</i> Jack-
			<i>/02/2008</i>
	<i>Thomas N. Kenyon</i> BSEE <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 01/07/2008	1950 <i>Richard O. Anderson</i> BSME <i>Williamsburg VA</i> 12/29/2007	
			<i>BCE West Palm Beach FL</i> 10/21/2007
			<i>Thomas D. Furman</i> MSCE <i>Pickens SC</i> 03/27/2008
			<i>Frank H. Koger</i> BSCE <i>Prairieville LA</i>
			<i>John T. Randle</i> BCE <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 12/31/2006
			<i>Leonard M. Reeder</i> MSCHE <i>Hobe Sound FL</i> 06/01/2007
			<i>Samuel M. Thompson, Jr.</i> BEE
			<i>11/15/2007</i>
			<i>James Edwin Williams</i> BSCHB <i>Kingsport TN</i> 10/01/1985
			1951 <i>Thomas B. Ard</i> BSCE <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 01/10/1993
			<i>John</i>
			<i>Wing Jr.</i> BEE <i>Sarasota FL</i> 04/04/2008
			<i>Jerry P. De Garmo</i> BSCE <i>Merritt Island FL</i> 11/06/2007
			<i>William E. Hankins, Jr.</i> BIE <i>Neffsville PA</i>
			<i>2007</i>
			<i>Randolph C. Jackson III</i> BCE <i>Friendswood TX</i> 02/15/2006
			<i>Robert L. Smith, Jr.</i> ME <i>Shreveport LA</i> 10/27/2004
			1951 <i>William</i>
			<i>Thompson III</i> BIE <i>Atlantic Beach FL</i> 02/04/2008
			<i>Robert H. Billingsley</i> BME <i>Gainesville GA</i> 01/22/2005
			<i>Charles M. Spooner</i> ,
			<i>BCE Altha FL</i> 02/22/2006
			<i>Ozzie W. Willingham, Jr.</i> BCE <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 09/30/2007
			1953 <i>Nelson E. Rosier</i> BME <i>Gainesville FL</i>
01/1972			<i>01/1972</i>
1954	<i>Ernest D. Boutwell</i> BCE <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 04/21/2005	<i>Robert L. Fairman</i> BSIE <i>Landrum SC</i> 11/21/2006	<i>Maurice</i>
	<i>Protheroe</i> BCE <i>Winter Haven FL</i> 01/14/2008	1955 <i>Robert L. Magann, Jr.</i> BSCHB <i>Tallahassee FL</i> 03/22/2008	<i>Herbert</i>
			<i>Anderson</i> BSME <i>Gainesville FL</i> 02/01/1990
			1956 <i>Charles C. Dell</i> BSEE <i>Bradenton FL</i> 11/24/2003
			<i>James H. Johnson</i> BME <i>Tampa FL</i>
			<i>16/2007</i>
1957	<i>Bradley K. Bailey</i> BSEE <i>Dunedin FL</i> 03/27/2008	<i>Richard W. Goodrum</i> BME <i>Midlothian VA</i> 11/03/2007	1958
			<i>1958</i>
			<i>Annie E. Kazaleh</i> BSCE <i>Galveston TX</i> 12/03/2007
			<i>Reagin F. Parker</i> BSEE <i>Lakeland FL</i> 08/25/2004
			1959 <i>John M. Brown, Jr.</i> BIE
			<i>Staples FL</i> 03/06/2008
			<i>Curry A. Lindsey</i> BME <i>Sun City Center FL</i> 06/19/2004
			<i>Robert A. Moore, Sr.</i> BEE <i>Canton GA</i> 11/06/2007
			<i>Patrick</i>
			<i>C. Moran</i> BSCE <i>Peachtree City GA</i> 10/05/2002
			<i>Phil H. Sendel</i> BCE <i>Palm City FL</i> 08/25/2004
			1960 <i>Peter Bataskov</i> BEE <i>Hol-</i>
			<i>lywood FL</i> 11/01/1977
			<i>George L. Kalil</i> BEE <i>West Palm Beach FL</i> 08/29/2004
			<i>William J. Keffer</i> BSCE <i>Tampa FL</i> 12/20/2007
			<i>James</i>
			<i>G. Kidd</i> BIE <i>Orlando FL</i> 11/17/2004
			<i>Richard B. Williams</i> BSME <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 10/30/2007
			<i>Alonzo P. Zipperer</i> BSEE <i>Graham NC</i>
11/17/1992			<i>11/17/1992</i>
1962	<i>George A. David</i> BCE <i>Saint Augustine FL</i> 04/30/2008	<i>Robert A. O'Donnell</i> BCE <i>Fort Worth TX</i> 02/01/2008	
			<i>Jerry D. Williams</i> BIE <i>Reynolds IN</i> 07/01/1966
	1963	1963 <i>George O. Rogers</i> BSME <i>Powder Springs GA</i> 11/24/2007	<i>Harold A.</i>
			<i>Wayne, Jr.</i> BCE <i>Ft Lauderdale FL</i> 01/02/1978
	1964	<i>Homer F. Hutchinson, Sr.</i> BCE <i>Elm City NC</i> 02/26/2008	<i>James B.</i>
			<i>Kneale</i> ME <i>Easton MD</i> 01/26/2008
	1965	<i>Ronald D. Bentley</i> BSEE <i>Albuquerque NM</i> 06/13/2005	<i>Patrick F. Donahoe</i>
			<i>ME Santa Fe NM</i> 03/22/2004
	1966	<i>Donald W. Booth</i> MSE <i>Huntsville AL</i> 06/28/2007	<i>Aime S. Deregi</i> PHD <i>Boyd</i>
			<i>MD</i> 09/25/2006
			<i>Herbert E. Keeler</i> BSME <i>Seminole FL</i> 03/22/2005
			<i>James L. Vincent</i> ME <i>Brownsville KY</i> 01/17/2002
			1967
			<i>Francisco J. Freire</i> BSCHB <i>Miami Beach FL</i> 03/22/2008
			<i>Samuel D. Harkness</i> PHD <i>Mc Murray PA</i> 12/13/2007
			<i>Joseph H.</i>
			<i>Moran</i> ME <i>San Jose CA</i> 02/14/2008
			<i>Alfred W. Seale</i> ME <i>Haines City FL</i> 04/04/2005
			<i>Joseph F. Thompson</i> ME <i>Orlando FL</i>
01/01/1988			<i>01/01/1988</i>
1968	<i>Douglas A. Johns</i> BSEE <i>Lake Worth FL</i> 07/09/2007	1971 <i>Richard John Bacon</i> BSEE <i>Wallkill NY</i>	
			<i>03/15/2008</i>
			<i>John G. China</i> BSEE <i>Seminole FL</i> 09/05/2007
			<i>John M. Church</i> BSEE <i>Oviedo FL</i> 11/08/2007
			<i>Stephen L.</i>
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			<i>David D. Mulligan</i> PHD
			<i>Covington VA</i> 12/19/2007
			<i>Thomas C. Riggins</i> BSME <i>Gainesville FL</i> 12/08/2007
			<i>Harry C. Stone</i> BSCE <i>Penney Farms FL</i> 04/04/2008
	1972	<i>Tsao-Yi Chiu</i> PHD <i>Tallahassee FL</i> 12/03/2007	1973 <i>Richard G. Connell, Jr.</i> PHD
			<i>Gainesville FL</i> 11/07/2007
			<i>Larry W. Varnadore</i> BSCE <i>Ocala FL</i> 02/26/2008
			<i>Charles E. Williams</i> ME <i>Tampa FL</i> 03/01/1985
	1974	<i>Lawrence T. Fitzgerald</i> PHD <i>Summerfield FL</i> 02/15/2008	<i>Lee A. Winter</i> MS <i>Orlando FL</i>
			<i>05/15/1990</i>
	1975	<i>Charles Roger Blake</i> ME <i>Gainesville FL</i> 08/12/1984	1976 <i>Stephen Taylor</i> BSEAE
			<i>Lakewood CA</i> 01/06/2008
	1977	<i>Lawrence Y. L. Tseng</i> MS <i>Springfield NJ</i> 09/01/1990	1978 <i>John C.</i>
			<i>Hooker, III</i> BS <i>Charlotte NC</i> 01/22/2008
	1980	<i>William C. Forbes</i> BSME <i>Tallahassee FL</i> 12/25/2007	1981
			<i>Robert S. Gallagher</i> BSCHB <i>Jacksonville FL</i> 12/19/2007
			<i>Mary Jones</i> MS <i>Stuart FL</i> 05/13/2008
	1982	1982 <i>Walter E. Anderson</i> BLS <i>Gainesville FL</i> 05/30/2007	
			<i>John C. Lazar</i> ME <i>Malabar FL</i> 06/06/2004
	1984	1984 <i>Michael D. Miller</i> BSEE <i>Raleigh NC</i> 10/11/2007	
			<i>1986</i>
	1986	<i>Crispin L. Fowler</i> BSCE <i>Tampa FL</i> 11/29/2007	1988
			<i>Philip W. Kremp</i> BSCE <i>Odessa FL</i> 10/20/2007
	1991	<i>John P. O'Keefe</i> BSCE <i>Miami Beach FL</i> 02/27/2000	
			<i>Kenneth A. Rose III</i> BSEE <i>Bradenton FL</i> 03/19/2008
	1993	1993 <i>Juan C. Cordoba</i> BSME <i>Neptune Beach FL</i> 06/08/2007	
			<i>Brian A. Quann</i> BSCHB <i>Clawson MI</i> 10/18/2006
	2001	2001 <i>Nicola D. Hemp</i> PHD <i>Montgomery Village MD</i> 07/06/2007	
	2003	<i>Brian R. Stile</i> MS <i>Rockledge FL</i> 11/21/2007	

ONCE IN A WHILE

As the budget mess unfolds and the state's economy gasps for air, I think about my grandfather. He was the third of five sons born in-country to leathery Italian immigrants. Edward Toppino was in eighth grade when he went to work. The five sons were charged with working for my great-grandfather and his one bulldozer. The six of them worked the roads and bridges of Overseas Highway until the six-man team became a main supplier of demolition and road work in the Florida Keys over the last 50 years.

Whenever we complained as kids (or as adults, for that matter) about cleaning, homework, or something we didn't want to do, Papa would melodically say, "I could hang by my thumbs for a week if I had to." Maybe he couldn't actually hang by his thumbs for a week, but we understood. With determination, some tenacity and a splash of passion, you can deal with anything. Because, well, it could always be worse, right? I call up that handy phrase frequently. I use it in the office (usually more than once a day around *The Florida Engineer* deadline), my four children know it well — though I don't think they've bought into it — and yes, it is even on my Facebook page. It usually adds a bit of hope for a choice of seemingly dire situations.

But even with the University and College's slashed budgets, faculty being courted with lucrative job offers from other universities, and the outlook, though a bit dreary, this is not anything UF and the College hasn't faced before. We've had WWII drain the student population, budget cuts, a mass murderer threaten the safety of our community, and yet still we managed to produce engineers like Manny Fernandez, Hjalma Johnson and loads of others who have achieved so much in the name of Gator Engineering. We've also provided a legacy for generations of Florida Gators.

So as doom and gloom hovers, the wounded university struggles, but does what only an institution of our caliber can do — begins to heal and moves forward.



Nicole C. McKeen

NICOLE CISNEROS MCKEEN, EDITOR / nmckeен@eng.ufl.edu

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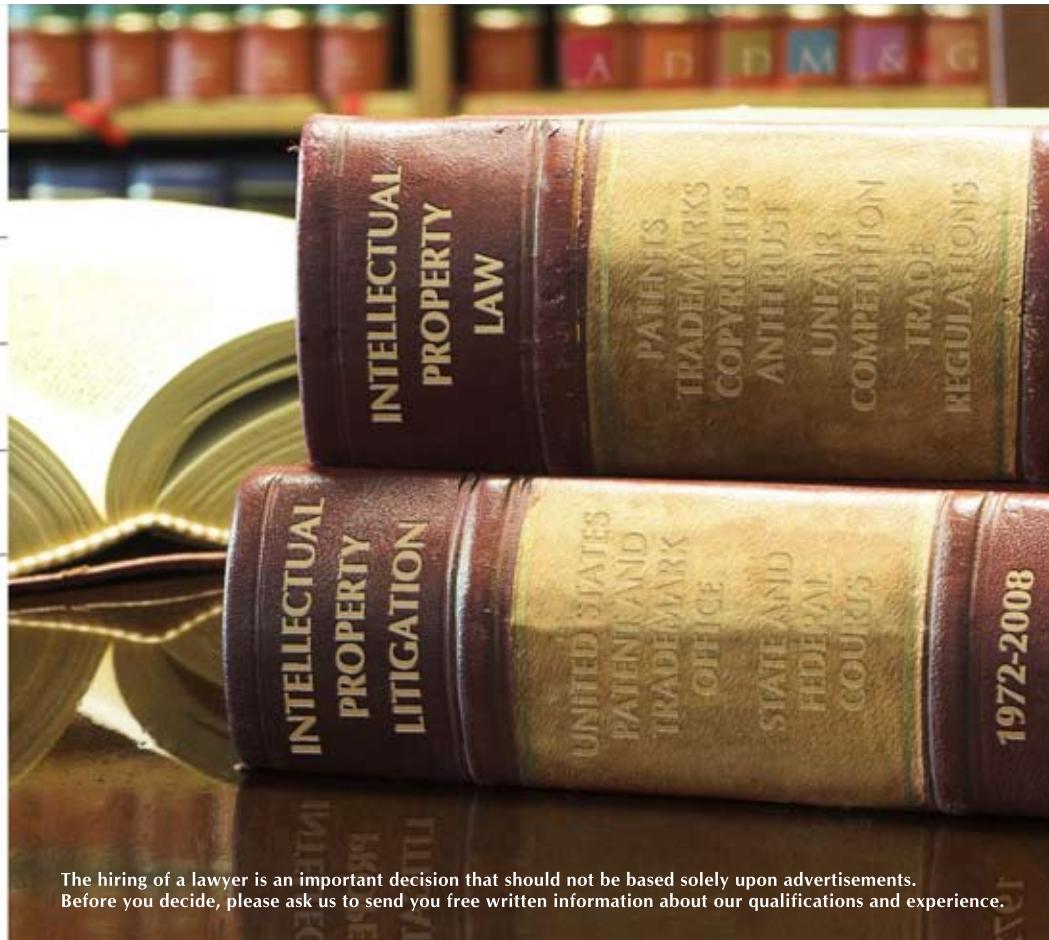
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- Where would I be without Margie Williams?! Don't you just love her??!
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