ALUMNI REGISTRATION

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering is always interested in how our alumni are doing. We hope you will take time to complete the Alumni Update information below. Please include information on your recent professional and personal developments. Please email your information to szerin1@lsu.edu or mail submissions to Civil and Environmental Engineering, Louisiana State University, 3418 CEBA Building, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-6405.

Name: ___________________________ Year of Graduation: ________________

Home Address: _______________________________________________________

Home Telephone: ___________________ Email: _________________________

Job Title and Address: _________________________________________________

Business Telephone: _______________________

News: _______________________________________________________________

Civil & Environmental Engineering Department

Alumni Can Help Raise Departmental Rankings

By Ronald Rodi, Member of CEE Campaign Steering Committee and Chair of CEE External Advisory Board

No. 1 Learn More about Today’s CEE Department. Nearly 25% of practicing, LSU-graduated civil engineers are from the “pre-research” era of college education. In the mid-1970’s, the faculty’s primary (and almost singular) role of the dozen or so civil engineering faculty was to teach soil mechanics, traffic, structures, and sanitary engineering. Today, LSU in general and the Civil and Environmental department in particular strives for recognition as a leader in research. CEE has 35 full-time faculty covering courses of study in: Environmental Engineering Systems; Geodesy, Geoinformatics and Surveying; Geotechnical and Geophysical Systems; Transportation; Structural Engineering and Mechanics; Material Modeling and Visualization and Water Resources. Most recently, CEE has brought on distinguished faculty in the area of coastal studies and is working through the process to begin Master and Doctorate level programs in Coastal Engineering.

No. 2 Support the Cause. Any public educational institution requires a dependable revenue stream from both the state and private sectors in order to complement the income derived from research. Whether right or wrong, we all should know that higher education is not at the top of the state’s priority list. See Item No. 3 and get engaged with your elected officials.

On the private side, LSU alumni (not specifically civil engineers) are dead last in percentage of giving compared to our peer SEC schools with engineering programs. We, as a profession, are people who are most generous with their time and talent, and so committed to public service. Let’s be a TIGER with our giving!

No. 3 Cheer for the Home Team. Nearly all of us never set foot on the field or court, yet we root, root, root for the home team and sing “Forever LSU.” Let’s get excited about our academic success! We should talk among our friends and colleagues about the value of our degrees from LSU, express our personal success as a civil engineer and encourage young people to attend LSU. We should also contact legislators to support LSU and fund higher education initiatives.

“...We all have some ability to make a difference!”

Find out the latest information about the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, visit: www.cee.lsu.edu
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Our department has been busy for the past few months. Our Forever LSU fundraising campaign is in full swing. To kickoff our campaign, a fundraiser event was held at Wilfred Barry’s home, a member of the CEE Campaign Steering Committee, where alumni and friends joined to listen to the Chancellor speak about the visions of the campaign.

Two of our faculty members received recognition for their outstanding work in teaching, research, and/or service. John Pardue was a recipient of the LSU Distinguished Faculty Award for 2007. Mark Levitan was a recipient of the 2007 LSU Alumni Association Faculty Excellence Award. We congratulate them on their excellent performance.

Our ASCE student chapter continues to succeed offering a 100% pure CEE job fair last October where potential employers met with students. Plans of an expansion of the next CEE fundraiser are already in the works. The ASCE student chapter also held elections for new officers. We thank the outgoing officers for all of their hard work, and wish the incoming officers great success.

This edition of our newsletter has feature articles on our two new inductees to the Civil and Environmental Engineering Hall of Distinction - Larry McKee and Kenneth McManis. Larry McKee is currently the chair of our own CEE Campaign Steering Committee, and is still active in civic activities. Kenneth McManis is currently the department head of the Civil Engineering Department at University of Louisiana in Lafayette. He received his Ph.D. from LSU in Civil Engineering in 1975.

Our department in conjunction with the Louisiana Water Resource Research Institute (LWRRI) in conjunction with LSU Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, URS, and the LSU Hurricane Center will be holding a spring symposium: Mitigation of Storm Surge using Vegetation. The symposium will be held at the Hilton Capitol Center, located in downtown Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on April 13, 2007.

This symposium will address an important issue to state and federal coastal planners; that is subsequent to the hurricane season of 2005, Louisiana’s coastal restoration focus was altered to consider the effect of wetlands on hurricane storm surge. Wetland vegetation can help protect coastal communities by dampening waves and by the frictional resistance of the plants, themselves, reducing the energy and depth of the water. Hydraulic engineers have studied the flow through vegetation for many years, in the context of overbank flooding, but connecting these approaches with coastal restoration scientist is needed. Key scientific questions include: What are the appropriate quantitative procedures for frictional resistance and wave dampening of different wetland types? What types of wetlands provide ability to mitigate surge? Invited speakers include: Dr. Heidi Nepf from MIT and Dr. Robert Kadlec, emeritus from University of Michigan. In addition, state and university researchers will discuss research and applications of information related to the role of vegetation in mitigating storm surge.

To encourage the participation of undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty, staff and industry people, no registration fees will be charged. Participants are asked to register via the LWRRI website: http://www.lwrri.lsu.edu/MSSV07.htm. If there are any questions or comments, please contact John H. Pardue, Ph.D., P.E., and Director of LWRRI at jpardue@lsu.edu or via phone at (225) 579-6770.

YES, count me in!
I want to donate to the:

- Civil and Environmental Engineering Siess Endowment Fund
- Other: ___________________________________________

Here’s my contribution of:

- $10,000
- $5,000
- $2,000
- $1,000
- $500
- $250
- $___________

Payment:
- Check enclosed — Please make check payable to: LSU Foundation/Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Credit card (Circle one): Visa  MasterCard  Discover  AmEx
  Account number: ___________________________  Expires: __/__/ - __/__/ - __/__/
  Name as it appears on card: ________________________          Signature: _______________________ Note: If your/your spouse’s employer has a Corporate Gift Matching Program, you may be able to double or even quadruple your gift! Please contact the employer’s human resource office for more information. Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

I enclose a matching gift form for my company

Please send this completed form to:
Civil and Environmental Engineering,
Louisiana State University,
3418 CEBA Building,
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-6405

Please fill out the information on the back of this form also.

Symposium Will Be Held in Spring

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The CEE Department would like to express our appreciation for the generosity of alumni and friends. Many have donated, and we hope others will join us in this vital campaign.

We would like to offer our deep gratitude for the following special gifts:

- **Larry McKee** has committed to endow a professorship by means of a life insurance policy.
- **Stan and Hilma Cothren** have funded a graduate student fellowship and an undergraduate scholarship in CEE.
- **John N. “Jack” Carmena**, along with his brothers **Joseph Carmena, Jr.** and **Thomas N. Carmena** have endowed an undergraduate scholarship in the name of their late father, **Joseph W. Carmena, Sr.**, a 1921 CE Alumnus.

We will have more information on these generous donations and others in future newsletters.

**Thanks for Joining the Forever LSU campaign!**

The CEU Faculty would primarily revolve around his work in engineering for natural hazards, particularly hurricanes and extreme winds. He co-founded the LSU Wind Tunnel Laboratory with colleagues from Mechanical Engineering and has conducted a number of research projects using that facility. His work in the areas of hurricane sheltering and wind effects on industrial and petrochemical structures have had national impact. He chairs the International Code Council Committee developing a national standard for the design and construction of storm shelters. He also chairs the ASCE committee developing guidelines for wind loads on petrochemical structures. He serves on the ASCE 7 Main Committee and the Wind Load Subcommittee. He additionally chairs the ASCE National Infrastructure and Research Policy Committee, vice-chairs the ASCE Aerodynamics Committee, is the immediate past President of the American Association for Wind Engineering, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Applied Technology Council. In the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, his research on the effectiveness of building codes in reducing wind damage was important in assisting the state of Louisiana to pass building code reform. He has testified before the US Senate and provided congressional briefings on a number of occasions about wind and hurricane engineering issues. With support from the National Science Foundation, Dr. Levitan led a team of faculty creating curricular materials for the new field of hurricane engineering, and his CE 4445 Hurricane Engineering course is one of the department’s most popular electives. Dr. Levitan has received five teaching awards during his career.
ASCE Student Chapter Continues Success

The ASCE student chapter held their last Fall semester meeting on November 30, 2006. As is customary at this time of year, elections were held for new officers to be in charge during the 2007 calendar year. Elections were competitive this time, especially for the office of president. This shows growing interest in the chapter’s activities.

We would like to acknowledge the outstanding performance of the outgoing team, which consisted of:

President: Matt Blackwell
Vice President: Danielle Chabaud
Treasurer: Robert Nuss
Secretary: Lauren Johnson
Community Service: Stuart Adams
Fundraising: Paul Govan
Meeting Coordinator: Neil Marinello
Steel Bridge Captain: Jason Fennell
Concrete Canoe Co-Capt.: Garrett Sudley
Paul J. Kocke

To their credit, the steel bridge and concrete canoe teams maintained the tradition of winning regionally and competing nationally. The ASCE student chapter was also successful in fundraising and attracted new students to the chapter.

The highlight of the chapter’s activity in 2006 was taking the initiative to hold the first job fair in its history. This job fair took place on October 19, 2006 and was different from other employee-student interaction opportunities in the sense that it was 100% pure-CEE. The experiment went well and it was a great success by all accounts. Student participation exceeded expectations. The fair gave them the opportunity to learn about ten potential employers that participated in this trial which included Aquaterra Engineering, Conestoga-Rovers and Associates, Inc, ExxonMobil, Ford, Bacon and Davis, Jacobs Engineering, NAVY, Owen and White, SJB Group, TCB AE-COM, and US Army Corps of Engineers.

Because of this success, the students will plan to expand on their experience and invite more firms next time to help establish a regular job fair that serves student members.

We thank them all for their efforts and hope this organization keeps succeeding and setting new records.

Kenneth L. McManis
Department Head, Civil Engineering Department, University of Louisiana

Dr. McManis received his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Louisiana in 1963. He then went on to earn his Master of Science and his Ph.D. from Louisiana State University’s Civil and Environmental Engineering Department in 1966 and 1975. Upon completion of his graduate research at LSU, he was awarded the Michael Claus Memorial Award for Outstanding Graduate Research.

After years of practice and teaching, Dr. McManis joined the University of New Orleans (UNO) as an Associate Professor. He was then selected as chairman of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. He remained in this position for twenty-six years until his retirement as Professor Emeritus in 2004. He then accepted a position as professor and department head at the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette, Louisiana, which he presently serves.

In 2000, he was appointed to serve a six year term on the Louisiana Professional Engineering Contractors Educational Trust Fund Professorship (1994-2004); Who’s Who in Science and Engineering (1980). He is also a member of Chi Epsilon, Sigma Chi, and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. Dr. McManis is a registered Professional Engineer and a Professional Land Surveyor in the state of Louisiana.

Some of Dr. McManis’s awards and honors include the College of Engineering Distinguished Service Award, University of New Orleans (2004); Contractors Educational Trust Fund Professorship (1994-2004); Who’s Who in Science and Engineering (1994); LIF Engineering Faculty Professionalism Award, Louisiana Engineering Foundation; and Who’s Who in Engineering (1980). He is also a member of Chi Epsilon, Sigma Chi, and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. Dr. McManis is a registered Professional Engineer and a Professional Land Surveyor in the state of Louisiana.

Dr. McManis continues to provide service to the Civil Engineering profession. His leadership and enthusiasm make him respected by all.

Where are they now?

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John J. Plaisance
was named a National Society of Professional Engineers’ Fellow Member in the 2006 class. He graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree from LSU in Civil Engineering in 1983.

We would like to thank the treasured alumni who forward up-to-date information and addresses.
For over a decade now, Clovis Morrison, an instructor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has offered students the chance to visit local dock sites to see real life examples of what they have learned in class. This past fall semester, Morrison and the students of CE 4430, Design of Marine Structures on Inland Waterways, took a field trip to the Port of South Louisiana at Reserve. The students toured the facilities where they were able to see two ship docks at the Globalplex, Reserve Terminal. “Visiting the Port of South Louisiana’s docks showed many interesting things that linked the calculations and computer analysis that we have done throughout the class with real field visualization,” said a student who participated in the field trip. “It was benefiting to see the enormous bridge cranes and oversized forklifts so that I can visualize the loading on the platforms and accurately assess the worst case scenarios.”

At this point in their college career, students majoring in civil engineering have accumulated countless hours of classroom and self-study time in design and analysis of structures. This field trip gave students the opportunity to finally understand the practical application of their previous in-class design work. It was also a great opportunity for students to see an actual operation site and the working conditions of engineers.

Morrison said the trip was not an easy one to make. Students were asked to make themselves available for five hours to visit the sites. They were also required to make comments about their observations and experience. One student noted, “The field trip helped me to understand and appreciate the calculations we’ve done in class so far. Being able to see the docks in person helps transform numbers and sketches that we, as a class, have seen on paper to reality.”

This field trip is always a success, and this past semester was no different.

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Larry A. McKee received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Louisiana State University in 1958. Upon graduation, he began his professional career working for private engineering consulting firms in the Baton Rouge area. After gaining twelve years experience, he acquired 100% ownership of Professional Engineering Consultants (PEC) on May 1, 1970.

Upon the leadership and direction of Mr. McKee, and in the pursuit of excellence, PEC enjoyed stable and continuous growth and became recognized throughout the southeastern United States for its expertise in all phases of public works planning and development.

Mr. McKee has strived throughout his career to improve the engineering profession. He has served as president of the Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers as well as president and national director of the Louisiana Council of Engineering Companies. He is one of only two engineers, from Louisiana, to serve as National Vice President of American Council of Engineering Companies.

Mr. McKee has remained active throughout his career in civic activities. He has served as a Board Member of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce and chaired the Education Division of that organization. He has been an active member of the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge for thirty years, during which time he served as team leader of a Group Study Exchange Team which traveled to Japan for five weeks studying Japanese construction projects. He is the recipient of Rotary’s “Service Above Self” award for his work with Rotary’s Group Study Exchange Program.

In addition to his many contributions to the engineering community, Mr. McKee taught economics to second graders at Wildwood Elementary as a Junior Achievement Instructor for which he received one of his most cherished compliments. “You are a very tall man to twenty five children and their teacher in many more ways than height,” said Carolyn Lastrap, a 2nd grade teacher.

Mr. McKee also served as an adjunct professor of Civil Engineering at Louisiana State University where he is an honorary member of Chi Epsilon and a member of the College of Engineering Dean’s Club.

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The most gratifying and rewarding aspect of practicing Civil and Environmental Engineering, to Larry A. McKee, is the ability and capacity to improve the quality of life, for such a large segment of society, through planning, designing and constructing all types of public works that will endure as a treatment to his efforts long past his lifetime.

Larry A. McKee, Chair of CEE Campaign Steering Committee

Mr. McKee was appointed, by Governor Buddy Roe-mer, to the Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board where he served for six years and chaired the Board for one year.

Mr. McKee also served as an adjunct professor of Civil Engineering at Louisiana State University where he is an honorary member of Chi Epsilon and a member of the College of Engineering Dean’s Club.

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Continued on next page
IN FOCUS: EVENT HELD FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Chancellor speaks at CEE fundraiser event

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering’s part of the Forever LSU Campaign launched in earnest on November 17, 2006. Wilfred and Shelley Barry sponsored this superb event for select alumni and friends, and hosted it in their lovely home in Baton Rouge.

“The Forever LSU capital campaign was getting started, and George Voyiadjis and Don Eisenberg asked me to help with the Campaign Steering Committee. After deciding to become a member of the committee, I thought it was time to step up and publicly indicate to my peers and friends that this was a worthy cause,” said Wilfred Barry.

About thirty people were on hand to hear Chancellor Sean O’Keefe share some compelling words regarding the criticality of the Forever LSU Campaign to the future of Louisiana State University. He spoke about the high caliber of students now entering into the University and the importance of engaging alumni and friends to assure the success of the campaign.

Later, department chair Dr. George Voyiadjis shared his pride in recent CEE accomplishments, including higher national rankings. He shared his vision regarding priorities for the campaign.

Larry McKee, CEE Campaign Steering Committee Chairman, encouraged attendees to play a significant part in the department’s effort, and to contact us for more details. “The event hosted by Wilfred Barry and his lovely wife, Shelley, at their home was a very fitting kickoff for our fundraising campaign,” said McKee. “The commitment of Chancellor O’Keefe who gave us some motivational words as well as support from the College of Engineering was all very apparent during the event.”

A fine evening of food, drinks, and fellowship was capped off with a viewing of the new “Forever LSU” campaign video.

“Forever LSU provides alumni of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering the vehicle and opportunity to elevate the Department to one of the best in the nation. Providing excellence through endowed and non-endowed funding is very much doable with your help. We ask for all alumni to give very serious consideration to a major investment in the future of Civil and Environmental Engineering at LSU,” said McKee.

Several thousand dollars were contributed by attendees as well as some unable to come. Most importantly, however, it provided an opportunity to reconnect, and for those present to consider how they would like to invest in the lives of future CEE students.

This event was made possible through the generosity of Wilfred and Shelly Barry and the wonderful efforts of several SIB Group team members including: Michelle Ruxton, Ben Fritsche, Eric Borne, and David Bacci.

For more information on funding opportunities, check out www.foreverlsu.org.

L-R: Loyd Rockhold, Wilfred Barry, and Larry McKee

L-R: Wilfred Barry, Sean O’Keefe, Larry McKee, and George Voyiadjis

L-R: Wilfred Barry, Sean O’Keefe, Larry McKee, and George Voyiadjis