



A special honor reserved for ME alumni with an exceptional level of achievement. An opportunity for us to bring them back home, hear their career experiences, and induct them into the Alumni Achievement Award Lecture Club to stay with LSU for ever.

## THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT LECTURE

A Special Edition of The Dr. Robert W. Courter Seminar Series

**3:00pm, Friday, October 11, 2019**  
**Roy O. Martin Auditorium (1100 PFTH)**

Whether it is breaking into the good ol' boy network as one of the first female engineers on an offshore drilling rig or running to be the first female Senate President in a male-dominated Louisiana Legislature, the skills required to be successful are similar. Hear how this Senator is taking her business experience as a Shell Deepwater Asset Manager to challenge the status quo at the Capitol.



**MY JOURNEY FROM A DRILLING RIG  
TO THE STATE CAPITOL**  
and how the lessons learned  
apply in both worlds

by

**Sharon Hewitt**

**Louisiana State Senator—District 1**  
**Former Shell Oil Company Executive**  
BSME LSU 1981

Louisiana State Senator Sharon Hewitt is a mechanical engineer and a former oil and gas executive with Shell Oil Company, responsible for major assets in the Deepwater Gulf of Mexico. Hewitt began her successful career as one of the first women to work on an offshore drilling rig. At the top of her career, Sharon left her job to become a full-time mother and volunteer, earning the National PTA Life Achievement Award. In 2015, Senator Hewitt was elected to her first political office and now serves on the powerful Senate Finance Committee, is Vice-Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee, and serves as Vice-Chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus. In addition, the Senator represents Louisiana on several national energy committees and provided expert testimony in 2019 to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources on proposed oil and gas legislation. In the State Senate, Hewitt focuses primarily on fiscal policy and is a leading STEM advocate. She and her husband, Stan, live in Slidell and have proudly raised two sons. Sharon enjoys duck hunting, fishing, sports, and time at the beach.

