

INDUSTRIAL & SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

# ISE NEWS

SUMMER 2010

[WWW.ISE.UFL.EDU](http://WWW.ISE.UFL.EDU)



**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA

# CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN



Dear Alumni and Friends,

I hope you took a close look at the front cover. This is our Summer 2010 issue. That's right – we have so much going on in the Department that we decided to bring you a newsletter every semester, including Summer. The fact is, our programs, faculty and alumni are growing and we have lots of stories to tell.

And this past Spring did not disappoint for ISE stories. You can read about the specific achievements in this issue, but needless to say, Gator ISEs took over Cancun, Mexico for the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) Annual Conference. The undergraduate team of James Britton, Natalie Keller and Megan Vrenjak won the International Simulation Competition sponsored by Rockwell Automation. Recent graduates Dr. Caner Taskin and Ms. Ashley Benedict won the Pritsker Award for Best Dissertation and a Gilbreth Fellowship for graduate study, respectively. Dr. Cole Smith took away the Young Industrial Engineer Educator of the Year.

And the awards have also been arriving North of the Border. The College of Engineering bestowed a number of honors at Commencement. Natalie Keller won the Dean Earle Leadership Award, Alejandra Hernandez served as the Student Commencement Speaker and Dr. Panos Pardalos was named International Educator of the Year. Ms. Linda Hudson, ISE Hall of Famer and CEO of BAE Systems, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University.

It might seem hard to believe that these achievements could be topped, but Dr. Yongpei Guan may have outdone the lot by landing an Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Award. This prestigious honor was bestowed on 17 academicians throughout the country – representing only eight percent of those that applied for the award. The funding provided through the award will support graduate students and equipment to study large-scale stochastic optimization solution algorithms applied to problems of network design.

The Department celebrated the fantastic year at our annual year-end banquet. In addition to our traditional awards and scholarships, the 2010 Alumni Leadership Award Winners were announced. Congratulations to Ms. Erin Wallace (Walt Disney World), Mr. Carlos del Sol (Campbell Soup) and the family of Mr. Gordon Byrnes (formerly of Milwaukee Forge) for joining our Hall of Fame! Ms. Wallace and Mr. del Sol provided words of inspiration to the graduates while Ms. Catherine Byrnes Sproule, daughter of the late Mr. Byrnes, gave an overview of his life.

With the celebration, we looked to the future, which looks bright for our graduates. Companies such as Baker Hughes, Bloomberg, Cameron, Disney, ExxonMobil, General Electric, Harris, JP Morgan Chase, Lockheed Martin, NAVAIR, Navy, Nielsen, Otis Elevators, P&G and Target swooped in to hire our students. According to my exit interviews (answered by 80 percent of our graduating class of undergraduates), 85 percent had plans after graduation. This included industry (57 percent), graduate school (25 percent), and working in government (4 percent).

The Department is also growing. We hired Dr. Petar Momcilovic, a graduate of Columbia University, to join us in the fall. He is an expert in studying stochastic systems. You will learn more about him in our next newsletter. We are extremely excited that he will join our ranks. We also plan on hiring more faculty next year – so the future is truly bright.

In our fall issue, we plan to report on how our faculty and students are engaged in research in the energy sector. Specifically, a variety of our faculty members are solving problems with regards to the design and operation of electricity generation and distribution networks. These are becoming more interesting, and more complicated, with deregulation and real time information. These so-called “smart grids” are truly becoming a reality, and Industrial and Systems Engineers are playing a strong role in bringing them online. If you are working in this area, we would like to hear about your experiences and see if you want to participate in our efforts.

As Spring represents the end of the academic year, I would like to take a moment and thank our industrial and government sponsors of our programs. We thank the Army, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Nielsen, Northrop Grumman, Parkson, Polypack, Rockwell Collins and Voalte for sponsoring senior projects in the spring. We also thank Shands and the College of Medicine for providing projects in which our students could be exposed to issues in healthcare. (In the Fall, we had support from the Army, Cameron, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Nielsen, Northrop Grumman, Parkson and Rockwell Collins.) Rockwell Collins has also provided additional funding to help support the development of a lab for the senior design course. We also thank Cameron, e-Tech Services, Texas Instruments and Otis Elevator for sponsoring the Sales Engineering program. We also thank Nielsen for sponsoring our end-of-year banquet. Finally, we also thank all of our alumni that have given back to the Department. This support directly benefits our students and programs and is greatly appreciated.

As always, we want to hear from you. If you have an update or something to share, please drop me (392-352-1464, ext. 2002; [hartman@ise.ufl.edu](mailto:hartman@ise.ufl.edu)) or Tasha Martin, our Director of Development, (392-352-1464, ext 2055; [timartin@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:timartin@eng.ufl.edu)) a line. Visit our website ([www.ise.ufl.edu](http://www.ise.ufl.edu)) as we are working to continuously put new content about students, faculty, alumni and programs online. I also encourage you to join our LinkedIn ISE Alumni Group. This is a great way to reconnect with fellow alumni and provides a forum to discuss issues of relevance to the Department. I am always looking for alumni feedback, so this is an easy way to get it in a hurry! Set up an account on LinkedIn ([www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)) - its free and easy – and start connecting. If you have any trouble, just send us a note and we'll help you through the process. Let's keep in touch!

GO GATORS

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Hartman  
Professor & Chair

352-392-1464  
[hartman@ise.ufl.edu](mailto:hartman@ise.ufl.edu)

# STUDENT NEWS **IN THE SPOTLIGHT**



## **HERNANDEZ SENDS GRADUATES OUT IN STYLE**

Alejandra M. Hernandez took the stage at commencement this past spring – not just to shake the hands of the Dean and Provost for making it through her undergraduate years – but to deliver a speech as the Spring Commencement 2010 Student Engineering Speaker. This was a fitting end to her undergraduate engineering career that took root in high school.

Emigrating from El Salvador with her family 10 years ago, Hernandez attended “The Center for Advancement of Hispanics in Science and Engineering Education” in Washington, D.C. during two summers in high school. “After coming back from my first summer in Washington D.C., I was extremely excited to know what major I wanted to pursue in college,” she said. “I had a dream!” But her dream of becoming an engineer was nearly shattered when she realized she could not pay for her education. She worked hard and was rewarded with a Bright Futures Scholarship to UF, which eliminated most of those

worries – and she was off to pursue her dream.

Those trips to D.C. cemented her interest in engineering – and also her interest in helping minorities succeed in engineering. She started giving back immediately through her affiliations with SWE, IIE and SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers). “I found my passion in SHPE and since then, I have served in various leadership positions,” said Hernandez. These roles included Secretary and President of the UF Student Chapter; Vice Regional Student Representative; and Undergraduate Representative on the National Board of Directors. This final role led to developing a strategic plan for enhancing service and value for all undergraduate members throughout the nation.

In addition to taking on these extracurricular roles, Hernandez excelled in the classroom. This led to internships with EMC Corporation in Boca Raton and Procter & Gamble in Lima, Ohio. She recently accepted a full time position with the P&G plant in Lima. “I know that I made a difference during my internship,” she explained, noting nearly a half-million dollars in projected savings from her packaging and recycling efforts at the plant that produces liquid detergent. And she is not worried about working in a plant, in a small town. “The Lima plant is their largest manufacturing site in North America,” she explained. “And its not too far from Corporate,” referring to P&G Headquarters down the road in Cincinnati.

During her farewell speech at graduation, Hernandez told the new graduates to persevere. “If we trip while reaching for our high ideals, let’s always get back up and continue persevering like a Gator engineer does,” she said. “Because it is great to be a Florida Gator!”

In addition to starting her professional career, Hernandez vowed to stay active in SHPE. Also, true to her word, she agreed to provide a scholarship for young, minority engineers starting next year.

## **SPRING, 2010 GRADUATES**

THE DEPARTMENT conferred 62 undergraduate and 64 graduate (M.S. and M.E.) degrees this past May. Despite the difficult economy, graduates remained in high demand. According to our exit surveys, 86 percent of those graduating with an undergraduate degree had “a home” after graduation. This comprised of 57 percent heading to industry, 25 percent heading to graduate school and four percent heading to positions in the government. Companies hiring more than one student included Cameron, Disney, ExxonMobil, Lockheed Martin, Nielsen and P&G. Schools for graduate study outside UF ISE included Columbia, Duke, Georgia Tech and Rensselaer Polytechnic, as well as Florida’s Business School. Note that this data was compiled from an 80 percent response rate to our survey.

### **B.S. in Industrial & Systems Engineering**

Askaryan, David K. Dayhoff, Patrick S.  
Baca, Salvador E. De Jesus, Lisaja J.  
Bernedo, Patricia S. Dinardo, Gregory D.  
Bird, Christina I. Fernandez, Jennifer  
Bischof, Brenton C. Frazier, Kelli Liles  
Britton, James C. Galatioto, Adam W.  
Burnup, Skyler B. Garitty, Michael J.  
Buzaglu, Jossie Gipson, Jake Michael  
Chasteen, Zachary D. Gonzalez, Anastasio J.  
D’Souza, Jason Edward Grasso, Joshua G.  
Dassum, Adrian Gonzalo Grimmer, Danielle M.  
Davila, Angel M. Heitsch, Amanda Kate

Hernandez, Alejandra M.  
Hess, Lauren Judd  
Holliday, Joseph H.  
Horowitz, Salomon  
Keller, Natalie F.  
Lemus, Juan M.  
Lyngved, Erik John  
Matheus, Luis E.  
Maxsween, John A.  
McCoy, Lindsey L.

### **M.S. in Industrial & Systems Engineering**

Allen-Sierpinski, S.  
Anand, Anjana  
Beauregard, Kevin J.  
Brydson, Elizabeth  
Campbell, Kevin M.  
Cooksey, Mitcheal A.  
Day, Patrick  
Gates, Russell Eric  
Icyuz, Ilksen E.  
Jain, Aman  
Jarina, Emily J.  
Johns, Jeremy R.

### **M.E. in Industrial & Systems Engineering**

Bernard, Robert A.  
Briske, Richard W.  
Catania, Stefanie A.  
Clarke, Ryan  
Fernandes, David

Moody, Scott Allen  
Morales, Ingrid  
Moreno-Drexler, Pierin  
Mullersman, Mark S.  
Orr, Britton J.  
Pabon, Maria C.  
Partridge, John B.  
Phillips, Trisha Jo  
Pocaterra, Kathryn E.  
Pulido, Juan D.

Judge, Erin Martha  
Kalpathi, Chalapati  
Khare, Pranav Vidyad  
Koka, Praveen  
Kottimugalur, Jayara  
Kuberanathan, Kaushi  
Lampe, Richard D.  
Latorre, Leonardo  
Li, Yunpeng  
Lian, Grant  
Mampetta, Anoop M.  
Massey, Daniel Ray

Queen, Jason Scott  
Ratchinsky, Michael V.  
Reich, Sarah Kristine  
Riba, Rodrigo J.  
Rivero, Cristina  
Sanford, Joanna R.  
Scharifker, Andres J.  
Schultz, Ashley R.  
Sicard-Gregory, Neville  
Soler, Janice N.

Menendez, Fernando J.  
Millon, Felipe  
Moskal, Joseph D.  
Muralidharan, Vijay  
Newhartz, Marc  
Pacheco, Angelica  
Padhye, Kshitij S.  
Park, Young Woong  
Phillips, Trisha Jo  
Rajendran, Vijay A.  
Rameshkumar, Gokul

Marsee, Shawn R.  
Marty, John D.  
Matus, Scott Dade  
Morris, Amnon Terry  
Pabon, Maria C.

Soto, Diego F.  
Stern, Barrie S.  
Taheri, Shawn J.  
Taylor, Heather N.  
Thomas, Jean M.  
Torres, Michelle C.  
Vieth, Nicholas R.  
Vrenjak, Megan Rose

Roa, Henriquez A.  
Rodriguez, Martha E.  
Sancetta, Dianne M.  
Shah, Tarang N.  
Shahane, Rohit S.  
Small, Krista  
Spencer, Kerri L.  
Sridhar, Bharadwaaj  
Sridhar, Deepta  
Sundaresan, Sathyana

Perkins, Alan F.  
Silva, Omar  
Snopkowski, Misty M.  
Taylor, Jason C.



# ISE Annual Spring Celebration

They say spring is the season of change. While the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering has held an annual spring banquet for quite some time, this year marked a significant change: this year's Alumni Leadership Award Winners were announced. Congratulations to Ms. Erin J. Wallace, Mr. Carlos M. del Sol, and the late Mr. Gordon M. Byrnes for being named to the 2010 Class. In accepting her award, Ms. Wallace stressed the importance of staying connected and giving back to the Department after graduation. Mr. del Sol recollected his journey as a youngster from Cuba with only a bag of clothes in hand to his schooling at UF, reminding the graduates to remember from where they had come. The late Mr. Byrnes was represented well by his family, with daughter Ms. Catherine Byrnes Sproule and grandson Gordon Byrnes in attendance. Mrs. Sproule gladly recounted her father's life story and thanked the Department and College for the honor.

These members join the 2009 Class in what is being affectionately referred to as the UF ISE Hall of Fame. Advisory Board Members Bill Nulty and Roger Madariaga helped Chair Joseph Hartman present the awards, which will be given out annually at the banquet.

The award winners were well received by the audience, which easily topped 200 people, including graduates, family, friends, faculty, students and alumni. For the past two years, the event has been held on the evening before graduation in order to afford the opportunity for all graduates to bring their parents or guardians along for the celebration.

The Department also bestowed its annual honors on its students. Ph.D. student Steffen Rebannack won the Graduate Student Teaching Award. Rebannack, advised by Dr. Panos Pardalos, plans to join the faculty at the Colorado School of

Mines this fall. This year's Graduate Student Research Award was shared by Petros Xanthopoulos, for his work in the area of Data Mining for Biomedical Applications, and Kwanghun Chung, for his work in nonlinear and integer programming. Xanthopoulos, also advised by Pardalos, plans to graduate next year. Chung, advised by Dr. J. P. Richard, plans to head to CORE, a research center for operations research in Belgium, before heading back to Korea where he hopes to teach. Kristin Dean, currently a master's student participating in our 4/1 program (combined B.S.-M.S. program), received the Patterson Scholarship, generously provided by Emeritus Professor Dick Patterson and his wife Carolyn. Dean is interning for IBM this summer in her hometown of Austin, TX. Both her mother and father are UF ISE alumni.

At the undergraduate level, Brittany Morgan received the Leavenworth-McClaskey Scholarship. An active member of SWE and the UF marching band, she has excelled in the classroom. Elizabeth Krall, recently serving as an Intern in Sales and Marketing with General Electric, won the Gordon Byrnes Sales Engineering Scholarship. Salomon Horowitz was awarded the Harbert Gregory Sales Engineering Scholarship. He is joining our M.S. program in the fall after interning for Cummins Engines in Tennessee this summer. Alex Brown won the e-Tech Services Sales Engineering Scholarship. A former IIE President and ISESAC member, Brown has interned numerous times with Disney and is working with GE Healthcare this summer.

The Department is grateful for Nielsen and their sponsorship of the event. Kelli Frazier, Natalie Keller, Lindsey McCoy and Megan Vrenjak are all joining the company after graduation.



# ISE HALL OF FAME

## CLASS OF 2010

This award recognizes graduates of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering in the College of Engineering at the University of Florida that have achieved a distinguished record of leadership in his or her chosen profession or life's work, whether in the academic, corporate, entrepreneurial, non-profit, government or military sector; and performed outstanding service to the department, college, university or profession. It is expected that the awardee is a person of such integrity, stature, demonstrated ability and renown that the faculty, staff, students and alumni of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering will take pride in, and be inspired by, his or her recognition.



*Gordon M. Byrnes*  
*B. Industrial Engineering 1942*

Gordon M. Byrnes was born and raised in Massachusetts in 1919 before moving to St. Petersburg and eventually enrolling at the University of Florida, graduating from the Department of Industrial Engineering in 1942. Recognized early for his leadership skills, he was as a member of the Reserve Officer's Training Corps, and served in the University's last mounted artillery unit. He was also a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, serving as Chapter President during his senior year.

Upon graduation, he reported for active duty with the Navy and was sent to Cornell University for diesel engineering training where he met Cornell student, and eventual wife, Marion Sexauer. The two were married in 1943 in Richmond, Virginia. Mr. Byrnes served for four years as an Engineering Officer aboard the U.S.S. Atherton, which escorted destroyers during WWII in the Atlantic theater. As a veteran, he continued to serve with the Naval Reserve and was transferred to the Retired Reserve in 1956 as a Lt. Commander.

When discharged from active service in 1945, Mr. Byrnes accepted a position as a mechanical engineer with Allis-Chalmers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he and his wife settled to raise their growing family. In 1948 he began working for Milwaukee Forge and Steel Company, a manufacturer of steel forgings for the construction, farming and power transmission industries. He rose through the company, eventually serving as President and CEO for 27 years. Upon his retirement, Mr. and Mrs. Byrnes returned to St. Petersburg. He was a proud parent of four and had 10 grandchildren.

In 1998, Gordon Byrnes made a major gift to the College of Engineering to support the Sales Engineering program. Each year, approximately 150 students participate in the program and a number have received scholarships funded by his gift.



*Carlos M. del Sol*  
*B.S. Industrial Engineering 1972*

Carlos M. del Sol is Vice President of Global Engineering Systems for the Campbell Soup Company, responsible for the corporate engineering function supporting operations worldwide. During his tenure with Campbell since 1988, he has held the positions of Director, Advanced Engineering Systems, with responsibility for the implementation of new manufacturing systems and the application of technology to upgrade existing systems, and Group Director, Engineering Systems.

Prior to joining Campbell, Mr. del Sol earned a B.S. in Industrial Engineering with honors from the University of Florida. Upon graduation, he joined General Electric and graduated from GE's two year Manufacturing Management Program.

He is Vice Chairman of the Campbell Soup Foundation and served as a Trustee of the Board of the United Way of Camden County, NJ. He promotes the involvement of high school students in the area of technology through his association with the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotic Competition as a team sponsor for the Camden County Technical School and as a judge at the national competition. He was recognized with the Camden County, NJ Prominent Hispanic Award. Mr. del Sol is a member of the University of Florida College of Engineering Dean's Advisory Board.

He met his wife Olga while a student at Gainesville. They are the proud parents of two daughters.



*Erin J. Wallace*  
*B.S. Industrial Engineering 1982*

Erin Wallace serves as the Senior Vice President of Operations Integration Line of Business for Walt Disney Parks & Resorts. Ms. Wallace's domestic responsibilities include both the Walt Disney World® Resort and Disneyland Resort, from lodging and entertainment to industrial engineering and business optimization. Ms. Wallace began her 25-year career with Disney in 1985 as a manager of Industrial Engineering.

A native Floridian from St. Petersburg, Ms. Wallace graduated with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering with honors, from the University of Florida in 1982. She earned her MBA from Rollins College Crummer School of Business in 1993. She has received numerous awards, including the Martin K. Starr Excellence in Production and Operations Management Practice Award (2009), the Institute of Industrial Engineer's Medallion Award (2006) and the Society of Women Engineer's Upward Mobility Award (2006).

Ms. Wallace has served on the ISE Advisory Board at UF for over a decade, including a number of years as Chair. She recently joined the College of Engineering Dean's Advisory Board. She and her husband Steve, a fellow ISE graduate, have two children.

# DEPARTMENT NEWS



## GUAN WINS ONR YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Dr. Yongpei Guan was named an award recipient from the Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Program. The program “invests in academic scientists and engineers who show exceptional promise for creative study.” Dr. Guan’s proposal, entitled “Multi-stage Formulations and Solution Methods for Mixed Integer Programming under Uncertainty,” was one of only 17 proposals selected from 211 submissions.

“We support these researchers with the hope that they will become lifelong research contributors,” said Dr. William Lukens, program manager for YIP in a press release. “ONR is hugely invested in these individuals and often continues to support their research after their YIP experience through core program funding.” With the funding he has established a laboratory in ISE to study large-scale stochastic programming problems with applications in network design.

One important application in network design is the design and operation of electricity distribution networks. “As energy markets are transforming from regulated to deregulated markets, it is more challenging to design and analyze power grid systems, due to increased problem size and uncertainty,” explained Guan. The uncertainty in generation comes from forced outages for maintenance or variable output (e.g. solar power is at the mercy of the sun while wind power is at the mercy of the wind), while uncertainty in transmission comes from downed power lines. Variable customer demand can also provide tremendous volatility.

“We are currently working with students and colleagues, at UF and other universities, ISOs (system operators), and national labs to develop efficient algorithms to solve large-scale power grid system design and analysis problems under uncertainty,” said Guan. The decisions involve determining which generation assets to use (switch on) and where to route power over some period of time.

## “SIMULATOR GATORS” TAKE COMPETITION CROWN

ISE Seniors James Britton, Natalie Keller and Megan Vrenjak teamed up as the “Simulator Gators” to win the Student Simulation Competition sponsored by the Institute of Industrial Engineers and Rockwell Automation at this year’s annual conference. The team competed against 88 entries from schools around the world, solving a real-world case study using the Rockwell Automation simulation package, Arena. Three finalists were chosen (Florida, Lehigh University and the Seoul National University of Technology in Korea) to compete in Mexico. The final consisted of solving a new problem in the morning (variant of the original case study) and presenting final results in the afternoon. The problem was based on a case study of improving throughput in a manufacturing facility. The team members graduated this spring. Britton headed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to work with GE Healthcare. Both Keller and Vrenjak have moved to Tampa to work with Nielsen.

## SMITH WINS YOUNG IE IN EDUCATION AWARD FROM IIE

Dr. J. Cole Smith was awarded the Dr. Hamed K. Eldin Outstanding Young Industrial Engineer in Education Award from the Institute of Industrial

Engineers (IIE). As stated by IIE, this award “recognizes individuals in academia who have demonstrated outstanding characteristics in leadership, professionalism, and potential in industrial engineering. The award recognizes engineering contributions in application, design, research, or development of IE methods by young IIE members.” The award is sponsored by Integrated Systems Technology.

## GEUNES AND SMITH PROMOTED

Drs. Joseph P. Geunes and J. Cole Smith were both promoted to Full Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering this spring. A native of Pennsylvania, Dr. Geunes received his undergraduate degree from Drexel and his Ph.D. from Penn State. He joined the Department in 1998 and currently serves as Associate Chair of the Department and Director of the Outreach Engineering Management program. His research and teaching interests are in supply chain management and applied optimization.

Dr. Smith joined the Department in 2005, after having been on the faculty at the University of Arizona. He earned his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech and undergraduate degree (mathematical sciences) from Clemson. His teaching and research interests lie in discrete optimization with applications ranging from the medical field to the military. He currently serves as the Department’s Graduate Advisor.

## KELLER RECEIVES EARLE ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Natalie Keller, senior ISE student and May graduate, was named the 2010 Dean Jonathan F. K. Earle Engineering Leadership Award winner at the College of Engineering Spring Commencement. Keller has been a leader throughout her time at UF, serving as President of both IIE and APM and more recently, chair of the ISE Student Advisory Council. She is headed to Tampa to work with Nielsen. See our Spring 2009 issue for a feature on Keller.

## HERNANDEZ SPEAKS AT COMMENCEMENT

ISE Senior and May graduate Alejandra Hernandez served as the College of Engineering Student Commencement Speaker. An active member of SHPE, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, including a member of the national Board of Directors, Hernandez heads to Lima, Ohio to take a position with Procter & Gamble. See page 3 of this issue for a feature on Hernandez.

## PARDALOS HONORED TWICE

Dr. Panos Pardalos, Distinguished Professor of ISE, was named the International Educator of the Year by the College of Engineering. Internationally recognized for his research in global optimization, Pardalos engages in numerous international activities, including organizing conferences, publishing books, and editing journals. He also actively recruits students from all over the world into our Ph.D. program which has representatives from 17 different countries.

Pardalos, was named the inaugural President of iSoGOp, the International Society of Global Optimization which was first proposed at the First World Congress on Global Optimization held in Changsha, Hunan, China,



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:  
Yongpei Guan, Team - Simulatorgator,  
Joseph Geunes, J. Cole Smith, Linda Hudson Award,  
Roger Madariaga and Jorge Madariaga, Panos Pardalos,  
Steven Rebennack

June 1-5, 2009. The professional society seeks to promote common understanding of all disciplines in related fields of global optimization, and to advance the theory and methodology for academicians and practitioners. For more information about the group, visit <http://isogop.org/>.

### REBENACK REAPS GRADUATE AWARDS

Steffen Rebennack was named a HHMI (Howard Hughes Medical Institute) Science for Life Graduate Student Mentor Award winner in the Spring. "These awards recognize excellence in graduate students who are able to mentor their undergraduates to a point where the undergraduate achieves co-authorship in peer-reviewed publications," and are awarded to graduate students across campus. Rebennack will graduate from the Ph.D. program this summer and has secured a faculty position at the Colorado School of Mines. (Fellow Center for Applied Optimization Ph.D. graduate Erhun Kundakcioglu won the award last year and is currently on the faculty at the University of Houston.) He was also

named a Franklin Ethics Fellow for participating in programs through the Poe Center for Business Ethics at UF.

### ROCKWELL COLLINS SUPPORTING LAB DEVELOPMENT Rockwell Collins

Rockwell Collins has provided a grant to help the Department develop a laboratory for its required, capstone senior design course. A strong supporter of ISE, Rockwell Collins has been sponsoring senior design projects for the past several years through its Melbourne facility. The funding, provided through the Rockwell Collins University Grants program, will help in the renovation of space and acquisition of necessary equipment to aid all students engaged in the course in completing their projects. Mr. Eric Stern, Director of the Melbourne facility, UF ISE graduate and Advisory Board member, strongly supported the grant application process. If you are interested in contributing to the laboratory development, contact Ms. Tasha Martin ([tlmartin@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:tlmartin@eng.ufl.edu)). If you are interested in sponsoring a senior design project, contact Dr. Joseph Hartman ([hartman@ise.ufl.edu](mailto:hartman@ise.ufl.edu)).

## ALUMNI UPDATES

**JOHN GIBSON** (BIE 1969), President of Citizens Fidelity Mortgage Corporation, delivered the Harbert S. Gregory Lecture in Sales Engineering this past spring.

**LINDA HUDSON** (BSSE 1972), President and CEO of BAE Systems, Inc., won the University of Florida Distinguished Alumnus Award. According to the University, a nominee must "have excelled in his/her chosen field or must have performed outstanding service for the university." Hudson serves on the Department and College Advisory Board as well as the Foundation Board of Directors. She is also an inaugural member of the ISE Hall of Fame.

**ROGER MADARIAGA** (BSSE 1973) and **JORGE MADARIAGA** (BSIE 1980) are the two desperados shown hiking in the Grand Canyon this past March.

**RON ROSENTHAL** (BSSE 1974) recently "retired" from a life of public service, most recently implementing an ERP system for the Navy, into the role of CEO of OpenTechWorks, Inc.

**CAMERON MCCASKILL** (BSISE 1992) recently joined Atheros Communications. He was previously VP of Business Development with Intelon. He holds a similar role with Atheros.

**JOSHUA BASS** (BSISE 1999) joined OpenPeak Inc. as Director of Strategy this spring. He is responsible for helping with their product development and manufacturing for products in energy management/smart grid applications, and other verticals such as security and entertainment. He was previously a Director with Florida Power and Light.

**MATT OLSEN** (BSISE 2002) is a Field Director for Northwestern Mutual in South Florida.

**ASHLEY BENEDICT** (BSISE 2003, MSISE 2006) received a 2010-11 Gilbreth Memorial Fellowship from the Institute of Industrial Engineers. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. from Purdue University in the area of human factors applied to healthcare.

**ZACHARY WETENDORF** (BSISE 2008) just completed his first year of medical school at the

University of South Florida. He is participating in a Health Systems Engineering scholarly concentration (minor) and currently researching how to educate medical students on understanding the basics (and importance) of data mining.

**Z. CANER TASKIN** (PhD 2009) won the Pritsker Doctoral Dissertation Award from the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE). His dissertation, "Algorithms for Solving Multi-Level Optimization Problems with Discrete Variables at Multiple Levels," was advised by Dr. J. Cole Smith. He is currently an Assistant Professor at Bogazici University in Turkey.

## ALUMNI WE'LL MISS

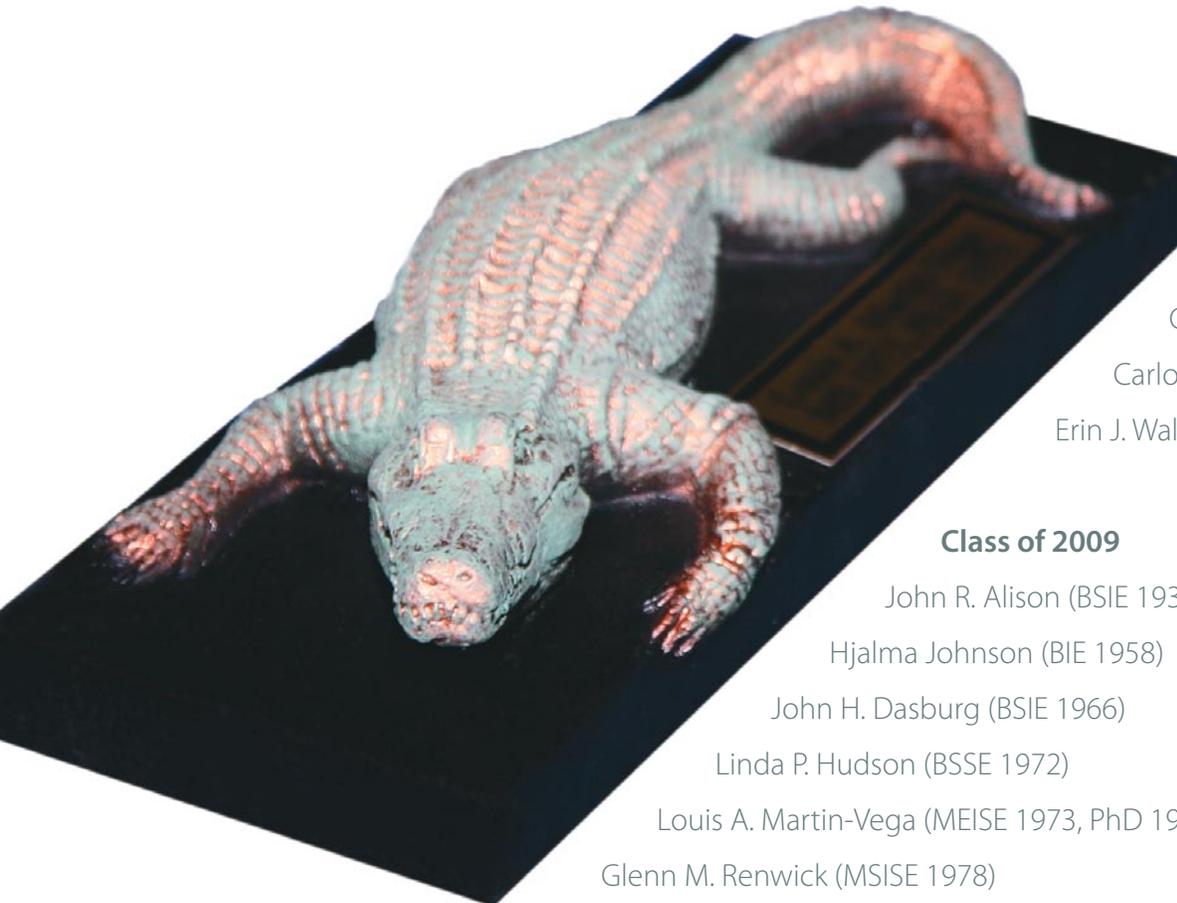
**John P. Roebuck, Jr.** (BIE 1951)  
Tampa, FL Nov. 11, 2009

**James R. Young, Jr.** (BIE 1953)  
Plant City, FL Jan. 6, 2010

**Herbert G. Yalof** (BSIE 1959)  
Quechee, VT Sept. 21, 2009

**Fletcher W. Gibson III** (BSIE 1973)  
Houston, TX Jan. 29, 2010

# ISE HALL OF FAME



## **Class of 2010**

Gordon M. Byrnes (BIE 1942)

Carlos M. del Sol (BSIE 1972)

Erin J. Wallace (BSIE 1982)

## **Class of 2009**

John R. Alison (BSIE 1936)

Hjalma Johnson (BIE 1958)

John H. Dasburg (BSIE 1966)

Linda P. Hudson (BSSE 1972)

Louis A. Martin-Vega (MEISE 1973, PhD 1975)

Glenn M. Renwick (MSISE 1978)

---