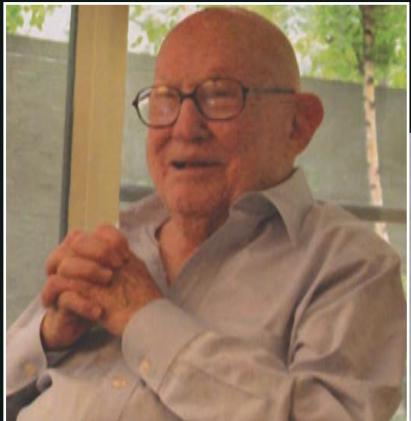


INDUSTRIAL & SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

# I S E      N E W S

SUMMER 2011

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In Memory  
Major General John R. Alison  
(1912 - 2011)  
(BS IE 1936)



**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA

# CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN



Dear Alumni and Friends,

It is with sadness that we note the passing of alumnus Major General John R. Alison. We honored him with the inaugural Alumni Leadership Award in the fall of 2009, a small token of appreciation for this American hero. You can read more about his remarkable life in this issue, the Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 issues. Our condolences go out to his wife Kathleen and sons.

Another academic year has come to a close. It is hard for me to believe that I have been here for four years! One of the perks of this job is shaking the hand of each graduate from our undergraduate program as they walk across the stage while their name is being called (often to the loud cries from family and friends!) at the Spring Commencement. At the end of the ceremony, I often feel like a college football coach, wondering how we are going to replace all of the talent that is moving on. But like any powerhouse program, the next class steps up and it is as if we never lose a beat.

As with previous classes, this one appears to have a bright future, or, to continue the football analogy, is filled with first-round draft picks. According to a response rate of 86% to our end of year survey, 67% of the class is heading to industry, 6% is headed to government work and 16% are headed to graduate school. While in past years, one or two employers have swooped in to hire a large percentage of graduates, this class is employed by over 20 different companies. These firms include ABB, Abbot Labs, Accenture, Amazon, American Express, Anheuser Busch, Costa Farms, Credit Suisse, Cummins, ExxonMobil, General Electric, General Mills, Johnson Controls, Lockheed Martin, Nielsen, Parker Hannifin, Pepsi, P&G, Schlumberger and SumTotal Systems. Procter & Gamble led in hiring four students while Accenture, Amazon and GE followed with three each.

Another interesting fact about this graduating class is its mobility. Of those headed to work, 62% are headed out of state. A number are headed to nearby Atlanta (with Accenture, Lockheed Martin and Pepsi), but our graduates have also landed in Boston, Charleston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Houston, Las Vegas, Milwaukee, New York, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C. I believe the sheer number of companies hiring our students – and their willingness to locate them across the country – speaks to the quality of our students and program. I am also encouraged to see more companies hire our students (ABB, Amazon, Costa Farms and Parker Hannifin are new this year) as diversity is welcomed in this fragile economy.

The Department continued its tradition of celebrating the year with our Annual Spring Banquet. Congratulations to our 2011 ISE Leadership Award Winners: Mr. Roger Broderick, Mr. Andy Crawford, Mr. Juan Galan, Jr. and Mr. Harold Haldeman. Our Hall of Fame now has 13 members! All of the new inductees attended the banquet to provide words of wisdom and meet our other student award winners. Former inductee Mr. Glenn Renwick also attended the banquet as he was named a UF Distinguished Alumnus at Commencement on May 1.

You can read about a number of other award winners in this issue, but I am happy to announce that Emeritus Professor Donald Hearn and his wife Joyce have provided a generous gift

to endow our annual graduate award. Going forward, students will be recognized with "The Donald and Joyce Hearn Graduate Research Award."

Congratulations are also in order for Dr. Yongpei Guan and Dr. Keith Stanfill. Stanfill, Director of the Integrated Product and Process Design (IPPD) Program – an interdisciplinary capstone course – has been promoted to Engineer. He joined UF in 1999 as an Assistant Engineer to run the IPPD program, which is housed in the ISE Department.

Guan, who joined the Department in 2009 after starting his academic career at the University of Oklahoma, has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. He has won both the NSF CAREER and ONR Young Investigator awards and currently directs the Computational and Stochastic Optimization Laboratory.

In closing the academic year, I would like to take a moment and thank the industrial and government sponsors of our programs. We thank Coca-Cola, Costa Farms, the Navy, Nielsen, Northrop Grumman, Rockwell Collins and Voalte for sponsoring senior projects in the spring. We also thank Shands for continuing to provide projects in the healthcare sector. (In the Fall, we had support from the Coca-Cola, Costa Farms, Nielsen, Northrop Grumman, Rockwell Collins and Woodgrain Distributors.) Additionally, we thank BAE Systems for sponsoring our end-of-year banquet.

Finally, we also want thank all of our alumni that have given back to the Department, both with their time and money. Over 25 alumni visited Gainesville this past year to spend time with students. Additionally, we had 29 alumni make a donation to the Department for the first time, bringing our total number of alumni donors for the year to 65. If you have never given to the Department, I ask that you consider a gift. Contact Tasha Martin, our Director of Development, or visit our website (392-352-1464, ext 2055; [tlmartin@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:tlmartin@eng.ufl.edu)) for more details. This support directly benefits our students and programs and is greatly appreciated. We were able to send dozens of our students to conferences across the country with this support.

As always, please keep in touch. If you have an update, please feel free to contact me (392-352-1464, ext. 2002; [hartman@ise.ufl.edu](mailto:hartman@ise.ufl.edu)) or Tasha Martin. I plan on visiting a number of alumni in Florida this summer, so drop me a line if you would like to have a cup of coffee!

Also, be sure to get connected online. We have a LinkedIn ISE Alumni Group that is growing daily. It is a great way to keep track of your fellow alumni. Just visit [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com), as it is free and relatively painless to start. Finally, we are currently revamping our website so we can continue to bring you the latest news and information about the Department. It should be unveiled in July ([www.ise.ufl.edu](http://www.ise.ufl.edu)), so be sure to login soon.

GO GATORS

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. C. Hartman".

Joseph C. Hartman  
Professor & Chair

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



Robert Williams



Sheldon Anderson

## ANDERSON FOLLOWS WILLIAMS LEAD THOUGH NSBE

We often feature stories about students leading the organizations housed in ISE, such as APM, IIE, INFORMS and Ambassadors. However, there are also a number of organizations that function at the college level, such as SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers) and SWE (Society of Women Engineers). One such organization is NSBE, the National Society of Black Engineers, which has been led by an ISE student, Robert Williams, for the past year and will be led by another ISE student, Sheldon Anderson, this coming year.

Williams initially attended UF with the hopes of being a journalist. Upon arrival, he decided he wanted to develop his technical expertise through engineering while refining his business skills. "ISE offered the chance to develop technical expertise via engineering while honing my business prowess," said Williams. "It was the perfect fit for me."

He joined NSBE in his freshman year while making the transition from journalism to engineering and the move has opened many doors. He received his first internship with GE Transportation through the national convention. Since then, he has interned with IBM, Rolls Royce and Procter & Gamble. He has also taken advantage of leadership opportunities, serving as Publications Chair, Secretary and eventually, President. "I learned about leadership and gained some hard-earned life lessons that I would not trade for the world," said Williams, reflecting on his time as President. Williams plans to complete his M.S. in ISE at UF before heading out to work full time. Ultimately, he aspires to be an entrepreneur by developing a trans-media entertainment business to develop cutting edge video games, graphic novels and movies.

Unlike Williams, Anderson headed to Gainesville strictly to be an engineer. "The biggest reason why I chose to attend the University of Florida was the idea of attending one of the most challenging and highest ranked Colleges of Engineering in the nation right in my own home state!" said Anderson.

He began his UF career in the summer of 2008 in STEPUP (Successful Transition through Enhanced Preparation for Undergraduates Program). It was during that summer where he was exposed to NSBE, moving from Conference Planning Chair to Treasurer to President this coming fall. His highlight was attending the national conference in St. Louis this past spring. "The most valuable part of my (convention) experience was seeing my peers realize their potential, which led them to research, internships, and opportunities that they would have never seen had they not been able to attend," said Anderson.

While President, Anderson plans to further strengthen and build support for STEPUP and its mission. This is partially driven by his love of teaching – he serves as a Mentor to STEPUP students as well as a College of Engineering Tutor. Additionally, he has served as a First-Year Florida Peer Leader and Mentor. This program helps new students adjust to life at the university through a number of courses covering topics from study habits to diversity.

Anderson also has sights set on his future. He has interned with GE Healthcare in manufacturing and is currently working for Procter & Gamble in supply chain management. As he also has interests in his minors (Sales Engineering and Business), he is open to the future. "With all of these experiences, I hope to have an impact in some way on all of these career paths," said Anderson.



# SPRING, 2011 GRADUATES

**THE DEPARTMENT** conferred 59 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, 88 percent of those graduating with an undergraduate degree had "a home" after graduation. This comprised of 66 percent heading to industry, 16 percent heading to graduate

school and six percent heading to positions in the government. Companies hiring more than one student included Accenture, American Express, General Electric, Lockheed Martin, Nielsen, P&G and Schlumberger. In all, graduates were heading to 22 different companies for employment. Nearly all those headed to graduate school were staying put either in ISE or Florida's Business School. Note that this data was compiled from an 85 percent response rate to our survey.

One Ph.D. student, **Alexander Veremyev**, defended in the spring under the guidance of Dr. Stan Uryasev. Veremyev has accepted a Post-Doctoral Associate position in ISE at the REEF Facility located in Shalimar, Florida working with Dr. Vladimir Boginski.

## B.S. in Industrial & Systems Engineering

Abu, Aleahue I  
Adrian, Nelson E.  
Aka, Stephanie M.  
Ayoush, Jehad R.  
Behlau, Robert A.  
Bernet, Kyle D.  
Blanco, Marissa L.  
Bodolay, Ryan S.  
Bozeman, Dennis E.  
Cepeda, Richard  
Christopher, Landyn P.  
Coello, Luis F.  
Cox, Danielle A.  
Dean, Kristin Ashley  
Dickerson, Kristin N.  
Francis, Anthony R. II  
Frasier, Diana R.  
Fraxedas, John A.  
Freshcorn, Matthew J.  
Gonzalez, Patricio A.  
Guerrero, Soledad  
Halac, Ezequiel  
Hill, Angus Wade  
Hussmann, Stephanie  
Hutto, Daniel C.  
Jones, Crystal J.  
Kantzios, Anna Nikole  
Kempler, Kelsey S.  
Lenner, Courtney Beth  
Liang, Crystal P.  
Licht, Nicholas Peter  
Lopez, Justin T.  
Medoff, David J.

Miano, Alice E.  
Milgram, Jaime  
Mills, Ryan J.  
Milne, Samantha Ann  
Morrow, Phillip R.  
Mugaburu, Jose M.  
Ngamwongpaiboon, Supam  
Nguyen, Ken  
Odrobina, Laura E.  
Padro, Michael M.  
Pimentel, Tatiana G.  
Plat, Fernando  
Ross, Michael J.  
Rusconi, Marcelo  
Saberin, Nuri  
Schumaker, Lawrence I.  
Stettner, Daniel  
Tomlinson, Brittany D.  
Van Strander, Jessica  
Vandenheever, Susanna  
Vasquez, Joshua Neil  
Vu, Van Tuong  
Walsh, Kevin B.  
Zegarra Jose S  
Zupofsk, Christopher

## M.S. in Industrial & Systems Engineering

Alberti, Gordon R.  
Alfonso, Ovidio  
Anand, Siddharth  
Archer, Jeffrey B.  
Atallah, Mutaz M.  
Atkinson, Andrew D.  
Baboolal, Faaria

Bazzana, Ashley M  
Beilstein, John R.  
Benchimol, Esther  
Bernedo, Patricia S.  
Bhangdiya, Sumit  
Biswas, Utsav Arun K.  
Bodhe, Anand Arum  
Boritzki, Brenda  
Brock, Brooke E.  
Bruckart, Robert C.  
Bueso, Enamorado V.  
Bys, Jason K.  
Carr, Donna  
Chen, Wen Fei  
Chen, Xiao  
Cleaver, Rebecca M.  
Cunningham, Adam  
Dailey, Michelle  
Dean, Kristin Ashley  
Defaz-Silva, Shirley  
Delee, Jan E. Rogers  
Doss, Arum Varma  
Gellatly, William D.  
Grover, Saurabh  
Groves, Kevin  
Hanks, Robert  
Harris, Nathan W.  
He, Xueqi  
Hill, Bradley T.  
Hong, Sukhwa  
Horowitz, Salomon  
Hung, Wei-Che  
Inamke, Namrata V.  
Joshi, Ritesh  
Kalinchenko, Konstantine

Kantaumong, Issarasa  
Lambdin, Jennifer  
Landry, James F.  
Langston, Bradley J.  
Larosa, Joel J.  
Lo, Hui-Wen  
Makesh, Viginesh  
Martinez, Miguel  
Miller, Geoffrey  
Moreno-Drexler, Pier  
Mueller, Walter T.  
Nachtigal, Joshua  
Ouyang, Yixi  
Pal Krishnendu, Kesh  
Pankiewicz, Oliver K.  
Parrotta, Jarrod J.  
Patel, Mehul N  
Patel, Nabeel Dawood  
Patil, Pankaj S.  
Pawlowski, Stephen J.  
Perez, Vargas L  
Pillalamarri, Venkat  
Prabhakaran, Ashwin  
Rajendhiran, Vignesh  
Ram, Krishna  
Rodriguez-Triana, A.  
Saminathan, Sundaram  
Sandford, Joanna R.  
Sammontrikul, Opart  
Sebastian, Sandheep  
Shinde, Samiksha V.  
Sisley, Richard T.  
Sivasubramanian, N.  
Smith, Consuela  
Song, Ziqi

Srinivasan, Arjun  
Stacy, Steven D.  
Thottakkara, Paul F.  
Wu, Di

## M.E. in Industrial & Systems Engineering

Belleme, Cynthia M.  
Branch, William M.  
Brunson, Katie D.  
Colon, Zambrana M.  
Cooper, Jeffrey S.  
Crawford, Colleen H.  
Csonka, Paul Robert  
Delos Santos, Daniel  
Ekberg, Christopher  
Higa, Corey T.  
Kort, Denton A.  
Marshall, Jason M.  
Miranda, Felipe G.  
Moreno, Victor A.  
Redmerski, Scott  
Regan, Elizabeth Ann  
Rivera, Troy  
Sheilds, Matthew S.  
Stern, Eric Raymond  
Valencia, Silvia  
Walker, Clint M.  
Walsh, Kevin B.  
Williams, Joseph D.  
Yazghi, Najilae M.



# *A Spring Celebration*

**The ISE Department continued its tradition of celebrating the end of the academic year with the annual spring banquet.**



Nearly 200 students, parents, friends, guests, faculty, emeriti faculty and alumni met at the Hilton Conference center just off campus for honors and awards. The event was sponsored by BAE Systems.

The 2011 ISE Alumni Leadership Award winners were announced by ISE Advisory Board Chair Roger Madariaga. Roger Broderick, Andy Crawford, Juan Galan and Harold Haldeman were all inducted into the ISE Hall of Fame. You can read about them on the following page. The Hall of Fame, which was started at the 75th Anniversary celebration in the Fall of 2009, now has 13 members from three classes.

The Department also bestowed its annual honors on its students. The Leavenworth-McClaskey Scholarship, which is awarded to an outstanding undergraduate student with an interest in quality control and quality management, was awarded to **Elizabeth Gillett**. Gillett has served as the president of APM this past semester and is working with GE Aviation in Jacksonville this summer.

Three scholarships were awarded to Sales Engineering students. **Michael Schra** won the Gordon Byrnes Sales Engineering Scholarship. He has interned with the FDIC and Lockheed Martin and plans to graduate this coming fall. The Harbert Gregory Sales Engineering Scholarship was awarded to **Elizabeth Krall**. Krall just completed her second co-op rotation with GE Industrial Solutions, where she plans to work after



graduating next spring. The final Sales Engineering scholarship, sponsored by e-Tech Services, was awarded to **Daniel Argov**. Argov has been working with GE Energy in the field of sales and expects to do so after graduating next year.

At the graduate level, **Shahrzad Farshi** was named winner of the Patterson Award. Shahrzad earned her undergraduate degree in Mathematics and French from Wellesley College. She worked for GE Appliances and Dassault Systems before attending UF to earn her master's degree. She has also been an instructor at Sante Fe College.

For years, the Department has bestowed Graduate Research and Teaching Awards. We are pleased to announce this year that thanks to a generous donation by **Mrs. Joyce Hearn** and Emeritus Professor and former Department Chair **Dr. Donald Hearn** that going forward, our winners will now be awarded THE DONALD AND JOYCE HEARN GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD.

Two research award winners were named this year: **Neng Fan** and **Siqian (May) Shen**. Fan has been working at Los Alamos National Laboratory this past year in the D-6 Risk Analysis and Decision Support Systems Group. He has accepted a full time position with Sandia National Laboratory" after graduation. Fan has been advised by **Dr. Panos Pardalos**. Shen will assume her new role as an Assistant Professor of Industrial and Operations Engineering at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor this fall. Shen has been advised by **Dr. J. Cole Smith**. The teaching award went to **Chrysafis Vogiatzis**. Vogiatzis has an information technology guru, teaching C++ this past year. He is working with Dr. Pardalos.



# ISE HALL OF FAME

## CLASS OF 2011

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.



**Mr. Harold D. Haldeman**  
**B. Industrial Engineering 1950**

Mr. Harold Haldeman was born in Tampa, Florida in 1924. His family moved to Sanford, Florida, a suburb of Orlando, Florida where he was raised.

In 1944, Haldeman served in the U.S. Navy as an Aviation Electrician for two years and later attended the University of Florida, earning his engineering degree. As a student, he was always interested in both engineering and business, serving as an officer in the Society for the Advancement of Management – a precursor to the Institute of Industrial Engineers. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Upon graduation, Haldeman made his mark in logistics in the paper industry, efficiently moving wood products to market. Within two years of graduation, he became general manager of Forest Products Corporation of Ft. Lauderdale and shortly thereafter was named President and CEO. He also served as the Florida manager for American Forest Products.

His wife Marguerite, a member of the Orlando Symphony, and he have enjoyed life in South Florida, often sailing or on cruises. They are members of the Lauderdale Yacht Club. They have named ISE in their estate in support of student scholarships.

He and his wife attended the 2011 Spring Banquet. Upon receiving his award, Haldeman stressed two points to the students: (1) Give your best effort in everything, regardless of the task; and (2) it can take a lifetime to build a reputation, but you can lose it in a second.



**Mr. Andy Crawford III**  
**B. Industrial Engineering 1961**

Mr. Andy Crawford graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1961 and he and his wife promptly headed to Lancaster, Pennsylvania for his first job with Armstrong Cork Company as a Staff Engineer. He then went on to be a Senior Staff Engineer with Brunswick Sports and Vice President of Farmbest Dairies in Jacksonville, Florida.

After serving as Vice President and Director of a conglomerate that included Central Services, the largest provider of residential waste services in Orange County, Florida, and Vice President and Manager of the south-east region of Waste Resources, a public solid waste company headquartered in Philadelphia, PA, he left the corporate world in 1977 to found Southland Waste Systems in Jacksonville, Florida. Southland grew and was eventually purchased by Republic Services, owned by Wayne Huizenga, in 1995. He stayed with Republic as an Area President until 1998.

He returned to the waste disposal industry in 2001 as the Founder, Chairman and CEO of Advanced Disposal Services. It grew to over \$150 million in revenues and 800 employees and was sold to HighStar



Capital in 2006. Since then, he has returned to being President and sole owner of CAVCO, an investment and holding company in Jacksonville, Florida that he started in 1998 after leaving Republic.

Crawford is a Bull Gator and member of President's Council and former member of the Gator Boosters Board. He and his wife have been major contributors to the new Cancer Center at Shands. He lives in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL with his wife, Toni. They have two children and five grandchildren.

During his acceptance speech at the spring banquet, Crawford noted that you have to love your job. He went on to say that if you are passionate about what you do, everything else will work out.



***Mr. Juan A. Galan, Jr.  
B.S. Industrial Engineering 1966***

Mr. Juan Galan, Jr. spent 18 years with Deloitte, Haskins & Sells (now known as Deloitte & Touche), where he last held responsibilities as managing director of the Florida and Puerto Rico consulting practice. He then went on to found and be principal owner of GATO Distributor Inc., one of the top 50 Hispanic businesses in the United States.

Galan has been on the UF Foundation Board since 1991 and served as a regional campaign chairman for Dade County during the "Embrace Excellence" campaign as well as national regional campaign chair of the "It's Performance That Counts" campaign. The UF Association of Hispanic Alumni honored Galan by naming him the "Gran Caiman" for 2005.

In addition to his bachelor's degree from UF, he earned a master's degree at George Washington University while serving at the U.S. Coast Guard office Washington, D.C.

Galan and his wife, Martha, who have three daughters (two of whom are Gators), attended the spring banquet. After receiving his award, Galan recounted how there were a number of his steps in his career where he was told "no" – specifically, that he was not qualified for a given position. He told the students to evaluate every "no" as it can often be good advice, but it can often be ignored to your benefit (meaning, sometimes you should go for something that you want, even if you do not exactly fit the criteria).



***Mr. Roger B. Broderick  
B. Industrial Engineering 1967***

Upon graduating with his bachelor's degree, Mr. Roger Broderick enrolled in graduate school, but had to abandon his studies as his father unexpectedly passed away. He took over as President of Broderick & Associates and has never looked back, with over 40 successful years in the real estate industry. He holds licenses for Florida Real Estate Broker, Florida Class "A" General Contractor, and Florida Mortgage Broker. He also holds Certified Commercial Investment Member, Certified Real Estate Broker and Certified Residential Specialist designations.

A resident of Pinellas Park, Broderick was named "Man of the Year" by the Pinellas Park Chamber of Commerce. He also served on the Housing Roundtable in Washington, DC and has been a Florida legislative representative for the real estate industry.

Broderick has been a staunch supporter of ISE and its programs. He has been a member of the Department's Advisory Board for years, and in 1999, he established an unrestricted endowment to support departmental programs.

When accepting his award, with his daughter Alexis on hand at the spring banquet, Broderick urged the students to join professional groups – regardless of their eventual profession – and keep learning. He also stressed that they should not be surprised if they end up on a different career path than expected. After all, ISEs are suited for many careers.

# DEPARTMENT NEWS



Joyce and Donald Hearn



From left to right:  
Devon Parsons, Krisin Dean, Alex Brown, Kelsey Kempler and Jillian Edwards



Keith Stanfill

## Hearns Endow Graduate Research Award

The ISE Department annually recognizes its Ph.D. students at the ISE Spring Banquet with a Research Award. Dr. Donald Hearn, Professor Emeritus and former ISE Department Chair, and his wife Mrs. Joyce Hearn, have endowed the award with a generous gift. The award will now be known as "The Donald and Joyce Hearn Graduate Research Award."

## Guan and Stanfill Promoted

Dr. Yongpei Guan was promoted to Associate Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering with tenure while Dr. Keith Stanfill was promoted to the rank of Engineer this spring. Dr. Guan received his Ph.D. from Georgia Tech in 2005 and worked as an Assistant Professor at the University of Oklahoma before moving to UF in 2009. His research is in discrete and stochastic optimization with current application interests in energy grid design and operations. He directs the Computational and Stochastic Optimization Lab (CSO).

Dr. Stanfill serves as Director of the Integrated Product and Process Design (IPPD) program, an interdisciplinary, year-long senior design project course, at UF. He received his Ph.D. in 1995 and worked for United Technologies before returning to UF in 1999 as an Assistant Engineer. Since the Fall of 2005, 121 IPPD projects were completed with 681 students from 12 different academic disciplines. Of the 121 projects, 108 were repeat sponsors.

## Bagiardi and Brown Honored by IIE

ISE Junior Stephanie Bagiardi was awarded the C.B. Gambrell Scholarship by the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE). An ISE Ambassador, Bagiardi interned with HD Supply last summer and is working with Amazon this summer. In the fall, she will co-op with Disney. She expects to graduate in 2012.

ISE Senior Alex Brown received the IIE Student Award for Excellence, 2nd Place at the Annual Conference held in Reno, Nevada. Brown is expected to graduate this summer and begin work with Voalte in Sarasota. He previously interned with Disney and GE. He is the former President of the IIE Student Chapter and the ISE Ambassadors.

## Prince, Geunes and Smith Paper Named Best in OR at IERC

The paper "Optimizing Exclusivity Agreements in a Three-Stage Procurement Game" by ISE doctoral student Mike Prince, ISE Professor Joseph Geunes and ISE Professor J. Cole Smith was named the 2011 Industrial Engineering Research Conference (IERC) Best Paper — Operations Research. The OR track featured 26 sessions and 105 abstracts. Prince presented the paper on Monday, May 23 at the Annual Conference held in Reno, Nevada.



#### **Uryasev Paper Wins Award for Excellence**

The paper "Risk-return optimization with different risk-aggregation strategies," authored by ISE Professor Stan Uryasev, Ursula Theiler of Risk Training, and Gaia Serraino of American Optimal Decisions, and published in *The Journal of Risk Finance* (Volume 11, Number 2, pp. 129-146) was chosen as an Outstanding Paper Award Winner at the Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2011. The award winning papers are chosen following consultation amongst the journal's Editorial Team. Up to three titles are chosen each year.

#### **Guan Article Top Cited in Discrete Optimization**

The article "Sequential pairing of mixed integer inequalities," by Associate Professor Yongpei Guan and Georgia Tech Professors Shabbir Ahmed and George Nemhauser was the named the Top Cited Article 2005-2010 in *Discrete Optimization*. The paper was published in Issue 1 of Volume 4 in 2007. *Discrete Optimization* is published by Elsevier.

#### **Gator ISE Team Runner-up in Nielsen Case Competition**

Gator ISEs Alex Brown, Kristin Dean, Jillian Edwards, Kelsey Kempler and Devon Parsons took second place in the first-ever UF Case Competition

sponsored by The Nielsen Company. Twenty teams with students from across campus presented their solutions involving the use of social media as a tool for market research. Five teams advanced from the morning round of competition, held at the Hilton Conference Center on campus. The afternoon session led to the naming of three finalists that competed for the crown in New York City at Nielsen headquarters in early spring. Dean and Kempler graduated this spring, heading to Costa Farms and Lockheed Martin, respectively while Brown will graduate this summer and work for Voaalte. Edwards and Parsons will graduate next year.

#### **Weil Hall Renovations Progressing**

Many alumni walk the halls of Weil Hall, especially the upper floors, and note that it has not changed much over the years. It will not be that way much longer! Through a generous gift of the family of William McClintock, Room 406 has been acquired from the computing center and turned into a graduate lab. Room 411 has been converted in the Computational and Stochastic Optimization Lab. Currently, Room 401, which houses the Center for Applied Optimization is gutted and should be renewed by fall. Finally, the hallways have been spruced up with new tiles and paint. So expect something "new" the next time you visit Weil Hall.



Before and after renovations



## DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE PASSES ON

Major General John R. Alison passed away at age 98, on Monday, June 6, 2011 in Washington D.C. Alison graduated from Industrial & Systems Engineering in 1936 and joined the US Army Air Corps that same year. Alison led a distinguished military career as a fighter pilot, ultimately retiring as a Major General. Among his many accolades, General Alison is a member of both the Air Commando Hall of Fame and National Aviation Hall of Fame; served for Harry Truman as technical advisor; and was president of the Air Force Association. Alison was honored by the ISE department in the fall of 2009 as an inaugural recipient of the ISE Alumni Leadership Award and induction into the Hall of Fame. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen (Penni), two sons and three grandchildren.

## ALUMNI UPDATES



Carlos del Sol

**Carlos del Sol (BS IE 1972)** will retire from the Campbell Soup Company this summer, after 23 years of service. A member of the ISE Hall of Fame, he is currently serving as the Vice President of Global Engineering Systems. In time, he and his wife Olga, will retire in Gainesville.



Linda Hudson

**Linda Hudson (BS SE 1972)** was honored by the USO with the 2011 Woman of the Year Distinguished Service Award for her strong support of the military and its families. Hudson is a member of the USO Board of Governors. The event was held at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City in April. Hudson, the President and CEO of BAE Systems, is an inaugural member of the ISE Hall of Fame.



Dean Abernathy and Glenn Renwick

**Glenn Renwick (MS ISE 1978)** received the University of Florida Distinguished Alumnus Award at commencement in May. The nominee "must have excelled in his/her chosen field or must have performed outstanding service for the university," according to the nomination process. Renwick has served as President and CEO of The Progressive Corporation, a \$15 billion automobile insurance company, for the past 10 years. He also holds an undergraduate degree in mathematics and economics from the University of Canterbury. He is an inaugural member of the ISE Hall of Fame.



Dean Abernathy and William McElroy

**Thad Bydlon (MS ISE 1978)** is now serving as the Chief Financial Officer of TEAM International, an IT solutions provider, in Lake Mary.

**Sumit Ray (MS ISE 1991)** is the Director of Engineering and Utilities in the Facilities Services division at the University of Chicago. He previously worked for BP in Naperville, Illinois.

**Monica Chiarini Tremblay (BS ISE 1993)** is an Assistant Professor in the business school at Florida International University. She received her Ph.D. from the University of South Florida.

**Tom Tremblay (BS ISE 1993)** is President of Florida Turf Support, a firm that supplies products and services for maintaining fine turf grasses (i.e., golf courses and sports fields).

**William McElroy (MS ISE 2002)** was awarded the inaugural Engineering Service Award by the College of Engineering during commencement in May. The award was in recognition of McElroy's involvement in developing the Leadership and Innovation programs in the College and teaching courses in the program, as well as serving on the Dean's Advisory Board. He has also served as a guest speaker in a number of ISE courses over the years.

**Priscila Silva (BS ISE 2007)** and her University of Arkansas Walton College graduate student teammates took fourth place in the 2011 Rice University Business Plan Super Bowl, as reported in Fortune. Their plan, "cycleWood Solutions", is to replace high-density polyethylene bags currently used in many retail stores with lignin-based biodegradable, compostable single-use bags.

# THOMAS REFLECTS ON CHANGING WORKFORCE IN GREGORY LECTURE

He noted that today's *"Culture of One"* differs greatly from his IBM days

"I got my first job right with IBM," said David Thomas (BS IE 1972, MS ENG 1972) when addressing Sales Engineering students during the Spring's Gregory Lecture. "I know that is rare."

There is little doubt that accepting the Marketing Trainee job was the right choice, as it led to a 28-year career with IBM that saw him steadily rise through the ranks. (He admitted that his choice was not scientific, as he took the highest salary offer and was able to stay in Florida. This was important for his growing family.) Thomas initially sold mainframe systems and software, targeting CIOs that were processing data. "Nowhere do you learn more about a company than when you are in front of a customer," he recalled of the experience. And "nothing happens until you sell something," he added.

That first career decision also laid the foundation for his management philosophy of being decisive and not putting things off. "In most business decisions, you'll never have enough information and there is no right choice," he explained. "You make a decision and make it the right choice."

Thomas went on to hold 16 different positions at IBM. These included Branch Manager (Indianapolis, 1981-82), Regional Manager (Atlanta, 1984-85), President of National Distribution Division (Montvale, NJ, 1988-91), General Manager, Asia Pacific (Tokyo, 1995), General Manager, North America (White Plains, NY, 1995-96) and Senior Vice President/Group Executive, Personal Systems Group (Armonk, NY, 1998-2000).

Despite the movement up the management chain, he really stayed in sales. "I don't care what people say, everybody sells," said Thomas. "A salesman convinces other people to take action." And this was something that he had to learn to do after college. "In college, you learn how to learn," explained Thomas. "You don't really know what it takes to manage and lead people."

While Thomas referred to his career as a rugby match, and not a relay, one constant was true: "I focused on doing the job," he said, and "I trusted the IBM system: If you did well, you got noticed." It turned out to be quite a career, especially since he, admittedly, only ever had his sights set on being a Branch Manager.

His career led him to the very top levels of the business, including heading IBM Global Industries, and overseeing businesses as large as 60,000 employees and generating revenues of over \$54 billion. He got a lot out of his workforce. "I allowed people to do their job," he said. "But a good job was expected. I never wanted anything in front of a customer to just be OK," he further explained.

When IBM CEO Louis Gerstner selected Samuel Palmisano to become the next CEO of IBM, Thomas moved over to IMS Health, a leading provider of information solutions to the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors, as Chairman and CEO. He grew revenues and earnings 39 percent over four years and significantly grew its consultancy business.

Although he 'retired' as Executive Chairman in 2006, he is still a member of the Board of Directors of Fortune Brands, the Board of Directors of Interpublic Group and the Board of Trustees of Fidelity Investments. With roughly six meetings per year per Board, he remains quite active.

In his talk, Thomas conceded that times, and people, have changed. IBM had a lot of structure and a big support system. The question for today's workplace is how will the beliefs of the organization or company be translated to the workforce, which may be distributed and remote? "There is a lot more of it going to be left up to (the individual)," Thomas hypothesized, in this "Culture of One," as he defined it.



According to Thomas, building this new culture will take the following:

**Basics:** All of the basics need to be covered, from ethics to teamwork to punctuality. "Deadlines are deadlines, not guidelines," explained Thomas.

**Accountability:** One needs to deliver, not explain why a deadline was missed. "Just showing up doesn't work in business," said Thomas.

**Self-Assessment:** You have to be your own self critic, especially in this "culture of one."

**Communication Skills:** Written communications are just as important as verbal, but clarity is the key. "You have to have the ability to convince others," he explained.

**Have Fun:** "If you can't laugh at yourself, it's going to be a long road."

Ultimately, in this "culture of one," it will take discipline. But that is something for this generation to figure out. And it will, because "what makes a company successful is the base of talent in that company," explained Thomas. "Companies are starved for talent."

For now, Thomas is enjoying his "retirement." He admitted that he does get to play a fair amount of golf. But he also admitted that he does not reflect back on life at IBM too much. Asked if he wondered about life without IBM, he quickly shook his head. "But I do think about if I hadn't married so well," he answered with a heartfelt smile.





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## Innovation & Reunion Weekend

### SAVE THE DATE

Friday, September 16 - Innovation Symposium & Awards Reception  
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Registration coming soon

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