It’s an exciting time at the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE), and as you flip through this issue of the CEE Alumni Newsletter, you will see we are truly charting a new course. A recent anonymous gift will send countless students around the world for international educational experiences. This endowed gift will fuel students’ ability to compete in a global marketplace for years to come.

Another notable event was our signature Alumni Outing in Las Vegas, which was a great success, and the next stop is New York City, the weekend of May 2-4, 2008. What’s more, the latest U.S. News & World Report rankings prove we are seen as a leading academic program within our academic communities, and our alumni are leaders in a fast-changing industry.

With fall semester now in full swing, we find ourselves bigger than ever with more than a thousand students and sixty-one tenure-track faculty. Like the School, our students are also navigating a changing world. The job placement rate and co-op participation are both climbing. Students continue to donate their time and talent to revive areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina and to erect Habitat for Humanity homes. In addition, nearly fifty CEE students at the undergraduate and graduate levels participated in international study.

I invite you to join us on this fast-moving journey by learning more about where we are going and how we will get there. That’s just what’s on the agenda for the Alumni Outing in New York, among other activities, so I hope you’ll pencil us in for May 2-4, 2008 and check the alumni Web site (www.ce.gatech.edu/alumni/events) for updates and registration.

We hope to see you at the Homecoming Tailgate party this fall, but if you miss it, give us call. We are always happy to hear from you!

Go Jackets!

Joe Hughes
Chair
Anonymous Donor to Help CEE Undergrads Gain Global Experience

From Philanthropy Quarterly, Spring 2007

Georgia Tech has truly gone global. With a campus in France, a new and growing joint degree program in China, as well as thousands of students studying and working abroad every year, Georgia Tech students and faculty are engaged with countless counterparts around the world.

This unprecedented level of international activity was acknowledged recently when Georgia Tech received the Senator Paul Allen Award from the Association of International Educators in recognition of its efforts to internationalize the campus. The award recognizes colleges and universities that show outstanding excellence in internationalization efforts as evidenced in practices, programs, philosophies, and policies.

Internationalization initiatives at the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) are taking a giant leap forward thanks to a recent $4 million commitment from an anonymous donor. The commitment, to be paid over a five-year period, will create an endowment fund whose income will be used to support the international activities of undergraduate students in the School.

“The impact of this program will be nothing short of huge,” says Joe Hughes, professor and chair of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. “This very generous donor and I both believe that as important as international academic experiences are now, they are going to become even more important in the future as our students consider how to maximize their competitiveness in the global marketplace.

“Beyond that,” Hughes continues, “I think this program will also have an immaterial impact on the School’s reputation and truly distinguish us from our peers. Funding of this magnitude will enable us to plan international student programs for the long term, allowing us to develop a genuinely comprehensive plan for preparing students engaging international academic experiences for our students. The donor realizes the amazing impact this gift is bound to have on the lives of our students and how grateful the entire CEE community is for this incredibly generous commitment.”

“The importance of international academic experience is something the donor came to appreciate long ago.

“My husband was always disappointed that our children didn’t have the experience of studying abroad,” said the donor, the widow of a prominent Tech alumna. “When I met recently with [CEE Chair] Joe Hughes and heard him talk about the fact that American college students just don’t have a good grasp of the entire CEE community they’ll be facing, it made me think immediately of what my husband had said years before about studying abroad. I thought about it and decided that I wanted to provide an incentive for Civil Engineering students to get international experience, which is going to be so important for their futures. I hope the experiences the students have as a result of this program will give them a realistic competitive edge that will last a lifetime.”

Gifts from the awards program will be made to CEE students in good standing academic performance, who are also U.S. citizens. Funds will be available to cover a variety of costs related to international academic experiences including travel, housing, and living expenses. The awards can be used for an array of academic experiences including, but not limited to:

• one or two semesters of study at a foreign university as part of Tech’s International Plan;
• traditional study abroad, usually ten to twelve weeks;
• more narrowly focused research projects that might require only one or a few days at an international site.

To inquire about making a gift to the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, contact Director of Development Laura A. Sonnevile at 404.499.3772 or lsonnevile@technologicalinnovations.org.

I wanted to provide an incentive for Civil Engineering students to get international experience, which is going to be so important for their futures.” - Anonymous Donor
ot of college, I decided to go into the field of estimating in order to get a quality perspective on many different construction projects. In fall 2005, I accepted an offer from Skanska USA Building as assistant estimator in their Preconstruction Department.

During my first company review, I told my boss I had a goal of becoming a LEED Accredited Professional within the year. He said it was a great idea, but it wasn’t a requirement because accreditation was a lofty goal. Coincidentally, I was chosen to head our new LEEDestorship in its Preconstruction Department.

John W. Keys, CE 1964, was recently commended by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) for Lifetime Achievement in Government as part of ASCE’s Outstanding Projects and Leaders (OPAL) awards, recognized among many of the forefront awards for program civil engineers.

Culminating a career dedicated to improving water infrastructure, ASCE recognized Keys’ solutions-focused leadership of the Interior Department’s Bureau of Reclamation—the nation’s largest wholesale water supplier and the fifth largest electricity utility in the seventeen western states. Retiring as the sixteenth Commissioner of the Interior, Keys was ultimately selected for the breadth of service throughout his career, which led to the enhancement of the health, safety, and economy of the U.S. and the world.

While showing appreciation to ASCE during a speech at the OPAL Gala in Washington D.C., Keys accepted the award on behalf of three groups: his family; the Bureau of Reclamation; and the faculty and administration at Georgia Tech. The latter, according to Keys, “took a dumb kid from a farm in Northeast Alabama and gave him the tools for success.” Keys closed his remarks, saying, “Thank you [President] Wayne Clough, [Civil and Environmental Engineering School Chair] Joe Hughes and Georgia Tech.”

Residing in Moab, Utah, Keys is a member of the External Advisory Board for the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Georgia Tech. In addition, water may have been his forte as a civil engineer, but Keys has mastered both the air as a commercial pilot for organizations such as Angel Flight and the playing field with a thirty-year tenure as a noted college football referee.

What is LEED?

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System® is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. LEED Professional Accreditation distinguishes building professionals with the knowledge and skills to successfully steward the integrated design and LEED certification process.

LEEDership Starts Early for 2005 Graduate

By Jimmy Mitchell, E.I.T. LEED-AP, CEE 2005

John W. Keys

ASCE Salutes Alumnus with OPAL Lifetime Achievement Award

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ANAK: Secret Society of Undergraduates Honor Professor and Associate Chair

This spring, Associate Chair Reginald Des Roches was awarded the coveted ANAK Award, considered the highest honor the undergraduate student body can bestow on a Georgia Tech faculty member. The secret ANAK society, founded in 1908, is an organization that honors juniors and seniors who display exemplary leadership, outstanding character, and a true love for Tech. ANAK works to identify campus needs and develop ways in which they could be met. Today, the group undertakes these initiatives in secrecy, keeping the Institute’s improvement at the core of its mission. To recognize efforts with similar spirit, the annual ANAK Award has been given since 1942, and annually since 1947, to a faculty member at Georgia Tech who has demonstrated outstanding service to the

ANAK Legacy at CEE

Reginald Des Roches has joined an elite group of leaders in Georgia Tech’s history, and a legacy of past ANAK Award winners from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

1956 James H. Lucas
1970 Paul G. Meyer
1998 Laurence Jacobs
1999 Mahoera S. Philoho
2003 Larry Kahn
2007 Reginald Des Roches

*Photo courtesy of Bob Bland, IM 1961, and Georgia Tech Archives   •   ** Photo courtesy of Georgia Tech Archives

CEEs to Take a Bite Out of the Big Apple

The 2008 CEE Alumni Outing will be held May 2-4, 2008 in New York City.

A Tradition is Born: Vegas Alumni Outing a Success; Next Stop New York City!

In March 2007, your fellow alumni of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Georgia Tech met for a weekend in Las Vegas, launching an Alumni Outing tradition.

Receptions for networking and reconnecting at the renowned Bellagio were topped off by an excursion to nearby Hoover Dam to celebrate that otherwise “quiet” CEEs all have in common – fascination with civil and environmental engineering feats.

School Chair Joe Hughes also addressed the group on the future of the profession and the state of the School. Initiated by Hughes with the goal of engaging CEE alumni in all corners of the country, the outing will be set in a different location every year, with the next one taking place May 2-4 in New York City.

Steel Bridge Team Victorious

The months, one regional victory, and about fifty practice runs culminated May 25-26 when Georgia Tech’s best bridge-builders competed for a national title at the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)/American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) Student Steel Bridge Competition. In the end, the Jackets took 14th place out of 45 of the nation’s best teams.

Held at California State University-Northridge in Los Angeles, the invitation to nationals was automatic when the team state first place in the regional competition hosted by the Georgia Tech ASCE Student Chapter April 12-14 in Atlanta. The team received remarkable support from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering staff, faculty, and administration. Funding for the cross-country travel was contributed by School Chair Joe Hughes, and faculty and staff expertise played a key role in implementing the students’ design.

“Our could not do this without our shop technician Andy Udel; he was involved with the bridge from start to finish,” says veteran team member Richie Kmack. "We’re grateful to Dr. Larry Kahn and Dr. Don White for their valuable technical advice and encouragement."

Finally, detailed arrangements for a smooth trip to Los Angeles were made entirely by the 2006-2007 Georgia Tech ASCE Student Chapter president Clif Bishop.
## CEE at Georgia Tech:  
The State of the School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students enrolled in fall semester 2007; second-largest program in the country</td>
<td>1,088</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tenure-track faculty</td>
<td>61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Million in philanthropic commitments since June 2004</td>
<td>$13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degrees awarded in academic year 2006-2007</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree granting programs in civil engineering; environmental engineering; and engineering science and mechanics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Million in new research awards garnered in FY 2007</td>
<td>$8.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Of students enrolled are either a woman or a minority</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus locations - Atlanta and Savannah</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Million in scholarships awarded to CEE undergrads in academic year 2006-2007</td>
<td>$2.2</td>
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