Dean Gillott Steps Down; Interim Dean at E&CS Helm

In a move that stunned the campus and surrounding community, Dr. Donald H. Gillott announced his resignation last February as dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science, effective upon appointment of his replacement. Gillott had been dean for 17 years.

Gillott has now resumed teaching on a part-time basis in the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Department, where he began his CSUS career in 1968 as professor and chair. Gillott will also continue to advance excellence in precollege education as administrator/CEO of Christian Brothers High School.

Gillott's imprint on the School is definitive and enduring. "Dean Gillott has devoted himself tirelessly to building what is recognized as the top engineering school of the California State University system," CSUS President Donald R. Gerth said. Among the School's programs that have gained statewide and national reputations during Gillott's term are the Human Engineering Laboratory, Assistive Device Center, Minority Engineering Program, Project Success, Cooperative Education Program, and Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program. This year, E&CS-based educational equity programs will touch the lives of nearly 4,000 students from first grade to graduate school.

Gillott attributes his successful tenure as dean to the School's outstanding faculty and staff, who supported his efforts. His farewell message (page 2) highlights some of the accomplishments that form his legacy to CSUS. Many of these were achieved thanks to an extensive and effective web of relationships that he developed as an active member of the region's engineering and business communities. Gillott remains dedicated to the University and has pledged to support its continued growth "as an alumnus of the deanery and as a continuing member of the campus community."

J. Kent Butler Appointed Interim Dean

Dr. J. Kent Butler, former associate dean of the College of Engineering at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, has been appointed interim dean of E&CS. He assumed his new duties in August, and will serve for the 1993-94 academic year.

An administrator, professor, researcher and consultant, Butler received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from Arizona State University. Following brief teaching stints at Willamette University and New Mexico State University, he joined the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo faculty in 1977 and served as associate dean of the College of Engineering from 1986 to 1992. He has received NASA/ASEE and National Science Foundation research grants.

In addition to his impressive academic achievements, Butler has held positions at or consulted for such major companies as Motorola Semiconductor, North American Aviation, Boeing Aircraft Co., and Computer Aided Manufacturing, International. His primary academic interest is in quality management and reliability.

As a senior member and past chair of the Pacific Southwest section of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE), Butler is dedicated to improving education in engineering and computer science. He is interested in examining undergraduate curricula with the goal of reducing graduation requirements. He noted that while engineering schools at the UC campuses have the legal minimum number of required units to graduate with the BS degree, engineering schools in the CSU system are at the California legal maximum. Our crowded curriculum was a response to funding formulas—a less than rational way to establish a quality curriculum.

At CSUS, he has been very impressed by the dedication of the department chairs, faculty and administrative staff to providing excellence in undergraduate engineering education. He noted that the Capital Campaign Challenge, which CSUS recently announced, will present new opportunities to increase private sector involvement and contributions to E&CS. "I plan to work with E&CS Development Director Barbara Caretto to broaden and deepen our ties to industry," he said.
Message from Outgoing Dean Gillott

After serving as dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science at CSUS for the past 17 years, I have chosen to resign from the position. These years have been the most satisfying of my career and I truly treasure the excellent relationships I have enjoyed with students, alumni, faculty, staff, and colleagues from the communities we serve. In almost every case, these valued professional associates have become my personal friends. These relationships, which have meant so much to me, will continue long after I have left the dean’s position. I want to devote my last “Message from the Dean” column to a reflection on these past 17 years, with emphasis on the important roles my professional colleagues played in the successes we all have enjoyed.

The first major educational equity effort on this campus was initiated by E&CS in 1977 with the introduction of the precollege Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program. Our MESA Center has developed into the largest in California with approximately 3200 participants from grades 1 through 12. It has become a model for many other educational equity efforts across the nation. Our commitment to educational equity continued with the establishment of the Minority Engineering Program (MEP). The MEP provides the needed support for minority students enrolled in engineering and computer science, creating an environment through the building of an academic community which contributes to the success of these future professionals. The success of MEP is marked by the fact that approximately 20 percent of the School’s enrollment consists of MEP students whose retention rate is very high. The extension of these programs as part of the School’s educational equity pipeline includes Project Success, which provides extensive financial support to selected MEP students; MEGA, which encourages graduates to pursue graduate study; our Women’s Programs; and Cooperative Education. Two years ago we introduced BEST (Business Education Science Team), a program modeled after our MESA program but available to all elementary, middle, and high school students in the Sacramento area. BEST is totally supported by industry and the region’s public schools.

We all can take pride in these accomplishments. Earlier in spring 1993, I received a letter from the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME), accompanying a grant. I wish to quote from one sentence of the letter: “Dean Gillott, the National Engineering Workforce Commission data indicates that the [CSUS] School of Engineering and Computer Science is among the highest performing institutions in the retention of minority students.” We can brag that in doing so, we raise seven dollars of outside funds for every one dollar of state funds to run our educational equity programs.

The E&CS Cooperative Education program has been so successful that we submitted a proposal to the U.S. Department of Education to obtain funds to permit the University to expand the program across the campus. The University will receive $397,743 from this grant over five years to carry out that objective.

This School was one of the first in the entire CSU system to introduce “Computer-aided Design” into its academic programs. While still occupying the original engineering facility, we saw the need for a major renovation to accommodate this new technology. Because the State of California was unable to provide funds for older building renovation, we sought support from the private sector. A local developer, Joseph Benvenuti, with assistance from other contractors, totally renovated one wing of that building at no cost to the taxpayers. This major in-kind contribution moved this School into the computer age. As a by-product, our capability in CAD led the CSU engineering deans to form a System-wide committee which focused on computer-aided productivity in our engineering schools. Called the CAPE (Computer-Aided Productivity in Engineering) committee, this support group has become a major force.

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Important School Phone Numbers
(Area Code: 916)

Dean’s Office 278-6366
Civil Engineering 278-6982
Construction Management 278-6616
Computer Science 278-6834
Computer Engineering 278-6844
EE Engineering 278-6873
Biomedical Engineering 278-6916
Mechanical Engineering 278-6624
ME Technology 278-7081
ECS Computing Services 278-7350
MEP Program 278-6699
Project Success 278-5468
Cooperative Education 278-7234
Assistive Device Center 278-6422
Women’s Programs 278-7877
MESA 923-0844
Career Development Office 278-7091
ECS Alumni Office 278-6629
CSUS Alumni Office 278-6295
Alumna Katherine Ferrara in Forefront of Ultrasound Research

Very early detection and more accurate diagnoses of dangerous tumors and vascular diseases are the primary goals of research conducted by Dr. Katherine Ferrara (BS EEE'82, MS EEE'83) of the CSUS Electrical and Engineering Department. With the support of the School of Engineering and Computer Science and over $860,000 in recent grants awarded by the National Science Foundation, The Whitaker Foundation and the National Institutes of Health (Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and National Cancer Institute), Ferrara is investigating methods of improving medical applications of ultrasound.

Rather than just beginning with the current understanding of a returned signal from ultrasonic transmission into the body, or making assumptions about the efficacy of any particular instrument or strategy, Ferrara's approach is to start at the level of basic scientific study. "We are doing a fundamental reevaluation of the information in an ultrasound pulse, reflected by particular structures within the body. Using that information, we can develop models for the signal and search for the optimal strategy to detect a particular pathological condition," she said.

Ultrasound potentially offers several advantages over existing technology, particularly for detecting and treating tumors that form close to the skin such as breast and prostate cancers. Mammography, the current modality of choice, is able to identify tumors of 1 cm³, but has a low specificity. Approximately 85 percent of tumors test benign following excision. While ultrasound is not sufficiently sensitive to differentiate normal and abnormal tissue, Ferrara believes it has that potential. With more sensitive ultrasonic techniques capable of distinguishing malignancy, unnecessary surgical procedures could be avoided. If the vascular formations that appear early in the disease to supply nutrients for the cancerous tumor can be identified, the chances of successful treatment will increase. Moreover, since ultrasound is non-ionizing, it is safer than mammography. Her research could lead to the development of minimally invasive surgical techniques that use instruments guided by images generated by ultrasonic signals.

Ferrara was first trained as a physical therapist at the University of Pittsburgh and then worked with children with disabilities. Always interested in mathematics and physics, her interest in pursuing engineering study was kindled by contact with engineer colleagues working on assistive devices for children. As a researcher for the General Electric Medical Systems in Rancho Cordova, she wanted to explore other areas of physics and statistics in greater depth. Nearing completion of her doctoral program at UC Davis in 1989, Ferrara came to the CSUS School of Engineering and Computer Science, where she is now an associate professor in the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Department.

Ferrara enjoys the independence of an academic position, which allows her to determine her own research directions. She finds that university research aims at optimal problem solutions unconstrained by concerns over profit or product. An inspiring teacher, she considers faculty research of enormous value within the teaching context of CSUS, since it improves instruction by bringing fresh ideas and advanced technology to students who otherwise would not be exposed to them. Ferrara is particularly concerned about motivating the CSU system's very diverse students to pursue the Ph.D. by involving them in meaningful research. As a step in that direction, her grants provide funding to include six undergraduate and graduate students as research assistants.

Advisory Committee Scholarships Aid Graduate Students

The Environmental and Water Resources Engineering Advisory Committee has established a scholarship fund to assist graduate students in those fields. Approximately four $1000 scholarships are awarded each year to persons who are applying for admission or who are already admitted to the graduate MSCE programs in environmental and water resources engineering. Awards are made on the basis of career goals and financial need. Alumni, faculty, friends and consulting engineering firms contribute funds for the scholarships.

In this time of escalating fees, scholarships enable students to decrease the time spent working at off-campus jobs and increase the time spent on studies. "We appreciate what (Office of Water Programs Director) Ken Kerri is doing at CSUS. These scholarships make it possible for students to get through the program," said Orin Bennett, executive vice president of Pomas Corporation, which funds one of the scholarships.

For additional information, contact Professor Kerri at (916) 278-6142.
Competitions Showcase E&CS Students

Whether they win, place, show or just participate, competitions give E&CS students the chance to "strut their stuff" against individuals and teams from other universities. Our students entered various vehicles, papers, devices and even a kinetic sculpture in 1992-93 contests. Many emerged victorious.

Senior mechanical engineering student Alan Nakahara designed a revolutionary three-speed wheel for wheelchairs, garnering an award from the American Society of Aging in an annual international student contest for new technological developments benefiting the elderly. He worked in association with CSUS professors Rory Cooper and Leo Dabaghian in the Human Engineering Laboratory.

A group of civil engineering students showed that minds can triumph over heavy matter, winning overall second place with "Rowed Warrior," their entry in the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Regional Concrete Canoe Competition last April at Folsom Lake. (CSUS hosted the Sixth Annual National ASCE Concrete Canoe Competition, held on June 24-27 at Lake Natoma.) Students have since exhibited their vessel at schools and fairs.

CSUS students display "Rowed Warrior," their concrete canoe, before placing second at the ASCE regional competition last April. Students also constructed the pole frame and tepee.

Tim Jackson's paper, "Transmission of Electronically Generated FSK Using a 1300 nm InGaAsP Fabry-Perot Laser Diode," won the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Region 6 Paper Contest in Reno last May. He received a $100 check, an HP DMM multimeter, and a chance to compete in the WESCON Regional Contest on September 29 in San Francisco. At the same IEEE Region 6 meeting, "The 4 Mouseketeers," CSUS' micromouse team, finished second. Samer Theodossy, Marwan Mukhtar, Richard Cuny and Sami Washed made their micromouse (an electronic device that can "learn" its way around a maze) "smart" enough to negotiate a complicated maze in an overall time of 35 seconds. They shared a cash prize of $75. The winning mouse, from University of Nevada, Reno, posted an overall time of 22 seconds; UC Davis was third with a 4.03-minute overall time.

David VanSickle, a graduate student in biomedical engineering, won the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society's western regional student competition. His paper, "Demonstration of a Methodology for Wheelchair Acceleration Analysis," was selected from 20 entries. He and eight other regional winners will compete for national honors at the Society's annual conference in October.

Many other teams and individuals have gone "back to the drawing board" — or computer — for 1993-94 competitions.

NWAA Summer Camp

The Fourth Annual National Wheelchair Athletes Association summer training camp, which Professor Rory Cooper (BME) established under U.S. Olympic Committee sponsorship, was held at CSUS from June 2-10. Calibrating a dynamometer for testing during the camp are (from left) Dr. Cooper, BME graduate students David VanSickle and Greg Ensminger and Professor Rick Robertson (Health and PE).
New IDEAS from School of Engineering and Computer Science

A dynamic group of students, faculty and community volunteers based in E&CS disregards disciplinary lines to turn ideas into realities.

The group originated in spring 1992, when Dr. Rory Cooper (Biomedical Engineering) asked for volunteers to build an electric vehicle to keep up with and film the athletes who would come to CSUS in June for the annual National Wheelchair Athletes Association Training Camp. Dr. Cooper and his colleagues were studying the athletes’ movements in order to develop improved wheelchairs. Twenty student volunteers, representing CSUS programs in mechanical, electrical and electronic, and biomedical engineering, physics, and mechanical engineering technology had the vehicle designed and built in time for the camp.

The students were thrilled to work on a project from conception through completion. Moreover, working in industry-style multidisciplinary teams provided “real-world” engineering experience. The group called itself “IDEAS” and decided to use this approach for other projects which they would solicit from students, faculty and the Sacramento community.

The first “Project Fair” in September 1992 drew 53 proposals, of which 40 were undertaken by the end of the 1992-93 academic year. A sampling: a smoke removal device for a plastic surgeon; several competition vehicles (supermileage, mini-Baja, human-powered); kinetic sculptures; and a solar boat.

Centered within the Mechanical Engineering Department, IDEAS is chartered by CSUS Associated Students and has grown to 80 participants. Although voting members are all students, the charter allows 40 percent “others” — alumni, faculty and community volunteers — to participate. Members are drawn from engineering, biology, environmental studies, English, journalism, communications—even history. Some, like Prof. (and alumnus) Dave Sinclair (BSME ’79; MSME ’86) of American River College, teach at other institutions. Their skills in marketing, public relations, art, and fundraising complement technical and scientific theory and applications.

Besides designing and fabricating devices and vehicles, the group has pursued other interests. Last spring IDEAS members joined 30 other Sacramentans in the national “Electric Vehicle and the American Community” contest which is concerned with building the infrastructure that must precede large-scale marketing and popular acceptance of electric vehicles. Other IDEAS teams organized the Mayor’s Cup human-powered vehicle race through Old Sacramento; coordinated a luncheon featuring Ray Bradbury during the Sacramento Lung Association’s Clean Air Is Not Science Fiction Week; conducted a study of how to transport 800 people from CSUS to the Radisson Hotel without using single-driver automobiles; and volunteered for Summer Sprint (page 8).

IDEAS has several projects for 1993-94; this fall’s second Project Fair will inspire others. IDEAS will join groups from McClellan, SMUD and other organizations to build the “Spirit of Sacramento,” a practical electric vehicle (i.e., not designed for racing) for the Phoenix 500 competition next March. To learn more about robotics, a 15-member IDEAS team will “reverse engineer” a potentially valuable, but currently nonfunctioning, robot arm donated several years ago. To demonstrate that engineering can be fun as well as practical, a CSUS team is building “Top Fun,” a human-powered vehicle that is really a kinetic sculpture of an aircraft.

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Concerned about the state’s economic

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Spink Corporation Awards Scholarships

The Spink Corporation presented Joseph E. Spink Memorial Civil Engineering Scholarships to CSUS juniors Todd Rozendal and Mark Harrison at a luncheon in their honor at the company's Sacramento corporate offices on May 12, 1993.

Company President Bruce Henz awarded $500 to each of the men, who are specializing in structural engineering in the CSUS School of Engineering and Computer Science. Officers of the 67-year-old Spink Corporation established the annual scholarships in memory of the company's founder in 1989, to encourage outstanding civil engineering majors at CSUS. The Guy West Bridge, named for the first CSUS president, is one of many landmark Spink projects familiar to Sacramentans.

Besides maintaining 3.9-plus GPAs at CSUS, Rozendal and Harrison have found time for extracurricular activities, Rozendal on the CSUS track team and Harrison as a volunteer tutor for the CSUS math department.

Co-op Program Goes Campuswide

The Cooperative Education Program in E&CS, which last year received the Outstanding Program Award for Northern California from the California Cooperative Education Association, is now serving the entire CSUS campus. CSUS received a five-year, $397,743 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to fund the expansion.

During the 1992-93 academic year, 138 students took advantage of opportunities to gain valuable work experience with 75 employers. Eighty-nine students were E&CS majors, 14 were from Arts and Sciences, 25 from Business Administration, and 10 from Health and Human Services.

Enthusiasm for the program is running high: Co-op staffer Maria Mejorado expects to double the number of participating employers and student positions for 1993-94. "I am optimistic about the impact that we can have on campus, and look forward to expanding the program," she said.

The Co-op Program administration has moved from E&CS to Room 203 in Lassen Hall (the former Student Services Building); the telephone number is 278-7234. Services to E&CS students will not be interrupted by the change in office locations.

CLYMESS Nurtures Future Engineers, Computer Scientists

By some estimates, the U.S. Latino population will reach 30 million by the year 2000. The organizers of CLYMESS (Chicano/Latino Youth Math, Engineering, and Science Symposium) are determined that this growing population will be well represented in math, science and engineering fields.

The third annual residential symposium drew 43 Chicano/Latino 8th, 9th and 10th graders from local public and private high schools to CSUS on August 7-12. Participants were immersed in history, literature, culture and drama; enjoyed hands-on demonstrations of math, physics and structures; and were exposed to math, science and engineering careers, professionals and facilities. They also learned about choosing a college and financing their education.

Unlike other programs that focus only on superachievers with extraordinary GPAs, CLYMESS targets students who show potential for and interest in science, engineering and math. CLYMESS aims to nurture and channel their talents through activities that promote self-esteem, career awareness, and academic and problem-solving skills; offer practical information and guidance; and foster involvement in a supportive network of professionals and students from university and community college campuses.

Directed by Jose Cornejo and housed in E&CS, CLYMESS is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization funded entirely by public and private industry and individual contributions. Their generosity and the services of staff volunteers enable students to attend at no cost. This year's industry supporters included Caltrans, State Water Resources Control Board, Chevron, Blue Diamond Growers, Society of Women Engineers, Caltrans Sacramento Rideshare, Wells Fargo, Teichert Foundation and Pac Bell.
E&CS Alumni Group Invigorates Chapter

An enthusiastic cadre of 10 E&CS alumni has been meeting over the past seven months with the interactive goals of increasing E&CS Chapter membership and offering activities that will keep E&CS grads involved with the School. This “Founders Group” is drawn from both private industry and government agencies and includes a wide spectrum of age and experience.

Working with the CSUS Alumni Association staff, the E&CS Alumni and Development director, the E&CS IDEAS group and a committee of alumni representing many majors and community organizations, the group staged the Spring Alumni College (“Fueling the Future: The Drive for Clean Air”). Fall semester events included the Second Annual Alumni Picnic on Sept. 19 at the CSUS Aquatic Center, and a forum on electric vehicles on Oct. 4, in conjunction with a committee drawn from the Sacramento American Public Works Association Chapter and E&CS faculty.

One of the group’s first acts was to draft new by-laws to replace those from 1977. These reflect the board’s intention to have a more participatory organization to get the chapter moving. Instead of officers, the new E&CS alumni board is headed by five committee chairpersons: Business Affairs (Orin Bennett), Professional Programs (Scott Edrington), Advancement (Peter Ouchiida), Membership (Ismael Briseño) and Social (John Schimandle). The group believes that short terms of office (one year) and fluid, task-oriented committees will draw more active participation. The entire group meets about every eight weeks to plan events and take care of Chapter business; committees meet more frequently as the need dictates.

With 276 members, the E&CS Chapter is second only to the Business Administration Chapter in size. Bringing more members together with one another and with current E&CS faculty and students benefits everyone involved. Significantly, one-third of CSUS Alumni Association membership dues goes to the chapters designated by members, and supports chapter activities.

The group is looking for some energetic E&CS grads who want to help shape the Chapter’s future. Barbara Caretto, Director of Alumni Relations and Development for E&CS, handles meeting arrangements and will happily add you to the group. Please call her at 278-6629.

The Greening of Engineering & Computer Science

Divots flew last spring as supporters of E&CS teed off to support their favorite programs.

On May 7, the second annual Don Gillott Classic Golf Tournament drew 72 players to the Sunset Whitney Country Club, raising nearly $3,000 for scholarships for students in both the CSUS Minority Engineering Program (MEP) and precollege MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) programs. AT&T and PG&E were the major industry sponsors. Cole, Yee, Schubert & Associates, NEC Electronics and Bechtel were tee sponsors, and Apple Computer, Cellular One, Hewlett-Packard, CSUS (formerly Hornet) Foundation, and E&CS also provided support. The tournament was named for former Dean Gillott as a tribute to his successful effort to advance the educational equity effort in the Sacramento region, which has surpassed all comparable efforts in California.

The second annual Carson Classic Scramble Golf Tournament last June added $11,000 to the $12,000 scholarship endowment fund established last year to benefit CSUS Construction Management students. The tournament is a project of Eugene Sr. (Kit) and Hannelore Carson of KIT Contractors, Inc. and members of the Carson family to help CM students stay in school. The event attracted hundreds of participants from the local construction community to the Carson ranch in Georgetown for the tournament and an outstanding barbecue dinner.

IDEAS

Continued from page 5

future, IDEAS is trying to generate interest in engineering and science, particularly among very young female and underrepresented students, by bringing their project-oriented approach to the schools. IDEAS will draw students from the educational equity programs based in E&CS to participate in a variety of design-oriented activities. In the “Design-A-Saurus” project, elementary school students will design their own dinosaurs to respond to specific environmental conditions. IDEAS also wants to organize a mentoring program.

Several faculty and students from UC Davis, Chico, American River College and University of the Pacific have expressed interest in collaborating with CSUS faculty and students on these and other projects. Top fun is sure to follow.
MESA Summer Institutes Teach Teachers New Techniques

Fifty-two Sacramento-area teachers came to E&CS in July to learn innovative techniques and strategies for teaching mathematics and science in grades K-8.

Supported by the Sacramento City Unified School District, CSUS, and the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), the third annual MESA Summer Teachers Institute drew teachers committed to inspiring children — particularly those from historically underrepresented groups — to pursue college-prep mathematics and science studies and, later, university majors in math-based fields.

“The importance of the way the Institute is structured is that we have immediate practicum opportunities for the participants. Every morning they work with the students in classrooms [in the concurrent MESA student programs] and in the afternoons they get more training, which is then applied the next day,” said Jim Harold, who directs both the Institute and the Capitol MESA Center (see related story). “Furthermore, these teachers must go back to their schools and provide in-service training [on Institute materials and methods] for their colleagues.” This requirement greatly increases the impact of the Institutes, which 220 teachers have attended over the past three years. Institute teachers meet monthly during the academic year for follow-on seminars, which still attract many teachers from prior years.

The Institute was divided into two parts — science and mathematics — with 12 sessions each.

Besides studying a variety of scientific and mathematical principles and concepts, teachers learned to integrate and apply them using various approaches and materials that emphasize student discovery of conceptual interconnections through active participation in activities. Institute teachers also learned to be proactive instead of reactive in their classroom management style; to integrate science and mathematics with other curriculum areas, including written and oral language development and expression; and to boost student performance through cooperative learning styles. Teacher Mary Anne Armstrong of Charles Peck Elementary School and the Northern California Mathematics Project, who directed the K-4 math section, regarded the Institute as a great opportunity for teachers “because we bring in the newest ideas and information.”

Teachers in the 1993 Institute represented eight different school districts in the greater Sacramento area, with the largest contingent from the Sacramento City Unified District. They received stipends and eligibility for continuing education units and credit in their districts for their participation. MESA staff conducted the Institute in cooperation with the Sacramento School District staff training and summer school offices.

Young Women Sprint to E&CS

Rather than while away the summer lolling on malls, a group of 14-to-18-year-old women came to E&CS to design an environment to support 100 settlers on Mars for five years. A second group performed autopsies on Apple computers and printers and resuscitated them.

The 1993 Summer Sprint program offered 29 young women two creative, hands-on courses that joined the realms of art, technology and science, each lasting two weeks: “Making the Matrix: Elegant Solutions” and “What’s Inside an Apple Computer.” According to Louise Chiatovich, director of E&CS Women’s Programs, Sprint’s purpose was to encourage more women to pursue nontraditional careers in science and technology.

Sprint coordinator and instructor Maryellen Burns thinks that many young people avoid preparing for these careers because of an academic emphasis on science and mathematics in the abstract. Sprint’s project-oriented approach enables students to discern the purpose of studying these subjects by seeing their application, inspiring them to learn more. Approaching science and technology through art and design is entirely unconventional, yet “art is one of the underpinnings … and the creative process is the earliest part” of work in these disciplines, Burns said. “Careful planning, artful language and good design unite engineering, urban planning, architecture, interior design, fashion, theater, and many other fields.”

Planning the mission to Mars required students to consider those fields as well as psychology, sociology and anthropology in designing a Continued on page 10
Local Students Prep for College and Careers at CSUS

E&CS hosted 377 precollege students in summer academic enrichment programs aimed at preparing them for advanced studies in math, science and engineering. Government agencies, school districts and industry supplied the resources for exciting classes, projects and trips unavailable in conventional school settings.

The Capitol MESA Center, co-sponsored by CSUS and UC Davis, administered three concurrent programs for MESA students entering grades 3-6, 7-8 and 9-12. MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) provides academic enrichment, peer support and motivational activities for over 3200 Latino, African American and American Indian students in grades 1-14 in the Sacramento area.

The Sacramento City Unified School District supported the four-week elementary program, which used materials from the Northern California Mathematics Project, UC Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science and the Sacramento Area Science Project to introduce 300 children to interesting math and science topics using a practical, applications-oriented approach. Students tackled writing assignments that were specifically designed to strengthen and refine their English language skills.

Thirty-five students in the five-week, U.S. Department of Energy-funded Summer Young Research Scholars PREP (Prefreshman Engineering Program) used experimental instructional materials and methods to learn introductory science, algebra and geometry topics, and learned scientific writing and word processing in CSUS computer labs. They then chose topics, worked in teams to research them, and visited related high tech industry sites.

Teachers attending the MESA Summer Science Institute assisted regular teachers, providing a very favorable 10-1 teacher/student ratio for both of these programs.

For 42 9th-12th graders, MESA Summer Scholars PREP offered five weeks of challenging classes and labs in math, chemistry and physics problem-solving, computer graphics and programming, and amateur radio. English language and math reviews helped students prepare for fall SAT exams. A grant from the U.S. Department of Energy funded a class that introduced students to research techniques and technical writing. Those completing PREP received 10 elective credits at their home high schools. The Grant Joint Union High School District helped fund the program and provided bus transportation to CSUS.

Sponsors Hewlett-Packard, Intel, NEC Electronics, SMUD, California Air Resources Board, Department of Water Resources, Water Resources Control Board and Caltrans, hosted tours of their facilities and sites, providing a glimpse of “real-world” professionals at work applying math, engineering and science principles.

E&CS Women Get Space, Mentoring

E&CS women now have a “home away from home” in the Women’s Programs Office. Space made available by the relocation of the Co-op Program, which occupied most of Room 1204 in the old engineering building, will be converted to a place where E&CS women can study, have meetings, meet with mentors and faculty, or just “hang out.”

Only 8-10% of practicing engineers in the U.S. are women, a situation that many agencies and organizations are now trying to remedy. Despite this extreme underrepresentation, “sometimes there is no recognition that there is a problem,” commented Louise Chiatovich, who directs the E&CS Women’s Programs Office. “This failure reflects the larger problem that we are trying to address as a nation: Young women are often frightened away from science, engineering and mathematics studies by cultural bias and feelings of isolation.”

Many of the 435 women in E&CS — about 17-18% of the School’s enrollment, have expressed these feelings. In response, the Women’s Programs Office established a Mentoring Program to provide peer support, role models and networking opportunities. Under the program, new students are paired with upper division women who help them with survival skills and networking. A new industry component will feature two-hour job shadowing visits with professional engineers and computer scientists. (Chiatovich is looking for more industry volunteers, who can contact her at 278-7877.)

“Having a room of their own will define the existence of a program that is committed to encouraging women,” Chiatovich commented. She plans to install a small library and conference table for meetings and seminars in the new space, and will continue to coordinate mentoring and other programs from her present office.
SPRINT
Continued from page 8
“biosphere” for settlers. As examples, the women decided that crew members should be married couples ("spouses are best friends, so people won’t be lonely"), come from different countries ("they’ll learn more by having different points of view"), have excellent interpersonal skills ("they’ll have to share everything"), represent selected professions ("unfortunately, even those dealing with death and divorce"), agree to contraception ("children create too much stress") and have frequent "vacations" from the harsh Martian landscape to Earthly oceans and forests (in the form of virtual reality headsets and visits to a micro-environment of familiar vegetation and birds). The students in the Apple computer class joined the Mars project by defining the kinds of computer applications and equipment that the biosphere would need.

The young Sprinters brought differing motives, interests and talents to the program. Shareen Goldbahar of El Camino High School, who had already decided to become an engineer, wanted to "do creative work related to engineering and make some good contacts." Through Sprint, she met some CSUS engineering students who invited her to redesign the front end of their electric vehicle; they were so impressed that they invited her to remain involved as a member of their team.

The Mars mission quickly became a community project, as students' relatives and family friends in complementary professions—a set designer, a media technician, artists and engineers—volunteered their expertise. Teachers were assisted by CSUS faculty and staff and by volunteers from the downtown Matrix Gallery. Many students stayed well beyond the end of the class sessions to complete individual projects in an "open design lab" and to prepare a multimedia exhibit of their work at the Matrix, which will donate its Alternative Gallery space for three weeks beginning October 15.

Students' reactions to the class were very positive: According to Golbahar, "We all learned how things worked, but we looked at the totality instead of at parts … and the class opened up new doors for people who weren’t sure what they wanted to do.” Carissa Rolfe of McClatchy High School found that "although a lot of our projects seemed unrelated, the same process is involved." The success of Sprint has inspired Chiatovich and Burns to seek grants for similar programs next summer. A combination of resources from the CSUS Foundation, individual businesses, student fees, and the School’s Office of Women’s Programs made Sprint possible at CSUS.

E&CS Alumni Chapter Co-sponsors Clean Air Event

The E&CS Alumni Chapter and the CSUS Alumni Association co-sponsored last spring’s Alumni College, held on May 8 during Clean Air Week. "Fueling the Future: The Drive for Clean Air" was the topic of the event, which drew faculty, alumni and students to discuss issues surrounding alternative fuels and vehicles and their impact on clean air goals.

In addition to panel and roundtable discussions, more than 30 experimental vehicles were displayed, including bicycles, wheelchairs, electric cars, solar-powered vehicles and flexi-fueled commuter cars. Many of these were built by students.

Among the highlights of the Alumni College were presentations and discussions led by: William Fairbaim of McClellan Air Force Base, about a program to convert half of McClellan’s fleet to electric by the year 2000; Prof. Chris Tomine, CE, on current air quality issues; and Prof. Joseph Hamraean, MET program coordinator, on vehicle energy efficiency. An electric vehicles update was presented by Patrick Kennedy, SMUD marketing specialist, and a roundtable discussion, led by the marketing director of SMUD’s Clean Fuels Program, Lori Koba-Lee, covered marketing infrastructure and availability of alternative fuels.

Visitors inspect vehicles displayed at the Spring 1993 Alumni college.
Faculty and Staff News

Prof. JOHN BALACHANDRA, EEE, had his "Proposal to Install an Interactive PC-Based Computer-Controlled Energy Management System..." funded by the City of Los Angeles.

Profs. ANDREW BANTA and NGO THINH, ME, have been awarded a matching grant by the National Science Foundation to create an Instructional Co-generation Laboratory. The facility will be used for instruction by the ME and MET programs.


Prof. KEITH BISHARAT, CM, in partnership with the CSUS Real Estate and Land Use Institute (RELUI), is developing the curriculum for a one-year certificate program for the Sacramento Builders Exchange. As a member of the Associates Council of the Building Industry Association (BIA), he established the format and objectives for an October workshop which will articulate the ways in which private industry can encourage economic development in the Sacramento region.

Versatile Prof. FRED BLACKWELL, CSC, recently passed the National Commodity Futures Examination, which allows him to consult as an official Commodity Trading Adviser in his spare time. Also a consultant on the zen of slugs and how to win slug races, he won two consecutive races in the 25th Banana Slug Race at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park in Northern California. What a slugger!

LOUISE CHIATOVICH, Women's Program Office, received grants from the Community Colleges Board of Governors and the Etna Union High School District for LINKS and Project TEAM, respectively.

Prof. ALBERT COOK, BME, received a grant from the California Department of Developmental Services for "Development of an Assistive Technology Support Network."

Prof. RORY COOPER, EEE, will receive the Early Career Achievement Award from the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering's (IEEE) Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society at the society's annual conference in October. He received a letter of congratulations from Vice President Al Gore for this achievement. He has been elected to the board of the Spinal Cord Research Foundation. Cooper serves as associate editor of the new IEEE Transactions on Rehabilitation Engineering, which circulates worldwide. Cooper received grants from the U.S. Dept. of Education for "CSUS Rehabilitation Engineering Training Program" and from Hines VA Hospital in Chicago to study wheelchair propulsion accidents.

Prof. LEO DABAGHIAN, ME, received a research fellowship from the Federal Highway Administration.

Prof. and alumna (MSEE'89) CYNTHIA DESMOND, EEE, has completed her doctoral at UC Davis and has joined the full-time faculty. The paper that she delivered at the 183rd meeting of the Electrochemical Society last May in Honolulu, HA, “The Effects of Process-Induced Defects on the Chemical Selectivity of Boron-doped Silicon Etch Stops,” has been accepted for publication in the Journal of the Electrochemical Society.

Prof. NIKROUZ FAROUGHI, EEE, presented and published his paper, "C-Testable Syntactic Arrays," in the Proceedings of the Third Great Lakes Symposium on VLSI (GLS-VLSI'93), pp. 22-26, March 5-6, Kalamazoo, MI.

MADELINE FISH, Minority Engineering Program, received grants from the Intel Foundation for the MEGA (MEP Encouraging Graduate School Attendance) program and from UC Berkeley for MEP.

Prof. LESTER GABRIEL (Emeritus), CE, received a grant from Pacific Corrugated Pipe Co. for his "Proposal to Determine the Effectiveness of Rib Insert in Spiral Rib Pipe..." and another from Birch Horton, Bitter & Cherot for "Study of Models of Pipe Failure."

Prof. JOSE GRANDA, ME, spent Summer 1993 in the Automatic Industrial Control Laboratory of the University of Lille in France, where he worked with a team that designs control systems for industrial manufacturing.

Former Dean DONALD H. GILLOTT, EEE, named Person of the Year by the Sacramento Muscular Dystrophy Association's Committee to Promote Business/ Education Partnerships, was honored by that group and a large number of invitees from CSUS and the Sacramento area community at a July 14 luncheon. The committee cited Gillott's innovative leadership in establishing active partnerships involving CSUS, the business community, and precollege educational programs.

CAROL A. HALTERMAN, former secretary in the Mechanical Engineering Technology and Construction Management programs, "officially" retired after 19 years at CSUS (13.5 of them in E&CS), but is still working temporarily for the CSUS Co-op program.


Prof. MAHLON HELLER, EEE, received a UC grant for "Lateral Guidance Activity" and a three-year grant from the California Department of Transportation for the research and development of a prototype shadow vehicle. He attended a workshop on Transportation Systems given by the California Consortium for Transportation Research and Development at USC on September 23, 1993.

Former Assistant Dean LARRY HILL left E&CS to direct the expanded CSUS Cooperative Education Program.

Prof. MELVIN E. HOLLAND has succeeded Prof. VISHNU L. AGASKAR as chair of the Civil Engineering Department. Dr. Agaskar has returned to full-time teaching.

Prof. RALPH HWANG, CE, received grants from the California Office of Emergency Services for "Inundation Mapping."

Prof. KENNETH KERRI, CE, moderated the American Public Works Association's

Continued on page 12
workshops on “Best Management Practices for Storm Water Permit Compliance” for construction, industrial/commercial and municipal activities in Sacramento, April 29 and 30, 1993. He was appointed to the International Advisory Board of the Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration. Kerri spent five weeks last summer in Scandinavia, Latvia and other European locations. In June, he was with a WHO Working Group developing guidelines for the operation and maintenance of urban and rural water supply and sanitation facilities for developing countries. He was invited to Latvia, where he worked with University of Riga faculty on the development of a graduate environmental engineering program, and visited the indoor Russian-designed Riga water treatment and modern, Swedish-designed wastewater treatment (including biological nutrient removal) facilities. The trip ended in Trondheim, Norway, where he presented a paper, “Training Program for the Operators of Small Wastewater Treatment Plants,” at the 2nd International Specialized Conference on Design and Operation of Small Wastewater Treatment Plants, sponsored by the International Water Quality Association. Prof. FLOYD LECUREUX, Center for Computer-Aided Design, presented his co-authored paper, “Effect of Water to Ablative Performance under Solid Rocket Exhaust Environments,” at the 29th Joint Propulsion Conference sponsored by AIAA/SAE/ASME/ASEE in Monterey, CA, June 28-30, 1993. He also attended the 4th Annual Total Quality Symposium —Making the Transition to Education, Kansas City, MO, July 27-30, and the 8th Annual EUIT summer meeting sponsored by EDUCOM in Smoaks, CO, Aug. 4-6, 1993.

Prof. MEI LUI LUC CSC, will have her paper, “Explantion-Based Learning in an Intelligent Tutoring System Design,” published in the Proceedings of the First Chinese World Congress on Intelligent Control and Intelligent Automation, which she attended in Beijing, August 25-30, 1993. She also served as a program referee for the IEEE Transactions on Computers, and attended the 14th International Conference on Application and Theory of Petri Nets, Chicago, June 23-25, and AAAI’93, the 11th National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Washington, DC, July 12-15 1993.

Prof. LESTER LUTHER, ME, received funding from GenCorp Aerojet for courses in statistical process.

Prof. MIROSLAV D. MARKOVICH, EEE, presented a seminar, “Grounding Grid Design in Electric Power Systems - Theory and Practice,” to engineers employed by utility companies and consulting firms, at CSUS on August 11-13, 1993. He will repeat the seminar presentation in January 1994 at the University of Hartford for a similar group from states east of the Mississippi River, and on other dates in Southern California, New Mexico, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Dr. Markovich wrote and published the seminar proceedings, which are available through him.


Prof. DONALD W. NOSTRANT, CM, was recently retained as a Primavera scheduling expert by a top-10 environmental engineering firm. Professor Nostrand, who has 24 years of combined academic and industrial construction experience, held two Primavera scheduling seminars on campus over the summer.


Prof. S. K. RAMESH, EEE, was one of six recipients of the 1992-93 CSUS Outstanding Teacher Awards. He will be honored at a luncheon in conjunction with the University Association of Research Scholars on October 30, where he will make an invited presentation. In July he was elected a Senior Member of IEEE, a distinction shared by only 8 percent of 320,000 IEEE members. He was awarded a laser beam analyzer system by Spiricon Inc., in response to a proposal to upgrade the Optical Engineering Lab at CSUS.

Prof. DONALD L. STEWART, CM, attended a week-long computer estimating seminar last June in Portland, OR, for Timberline estimating specialists. He is preparing the computer in the Construction Management Lab for his estimating classes, in which Timberline, Excel, and MC2 will be used.

Prof. RICHARD THAYER, CSC, received funding from SMC, Inc. for an SMC student project and for release time.

Prof. AJIT VIRDEE, CE, received funding from California Statewide Health Planning & Development for training courses in seismic analysis.

Prof. DON WARMER, CSC, received a grant from California Statewide Health Planning & Development for “Freestanding Cardiac Catheterization.”

Prof. DU ZHANG, CSC, presented his papers, “Perspectives in Knowledge Base Verification” at the Fifth International Conference on Software Engineering and Knowledge Engineering, Redwood City, June 16-18, 1993, and “Knowledge Base Verification: Issues and Approaches,” at the Workshop on Validation and Verification of Knowledge-Based Systems, AAAI’93, Washington DC, July 12-15, 1993. “A Knowledge-Based System for Performance Tuning of UNIX V3.3,” with Prof. JAMES KHO and R. Velez, will be published in the Proceedings of the First Chinese World Congress on Intelligent Control and Intelligent Automation. He attended (and refereed papers for) the Fourteenth International Conference on Application and Theory of Petri Nets in Chicago, June 23-25, 1993. He refereed papers for the IEEE publications Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering; Transactions on Computers; Parallel and Distributed Technology; Software; and Computer Society Press.
Alumni Notes

ANTHONY (TONY) F. ANDREONI, BSMET’91, is working as an air pollution specialist for the Air Resources Board of the California EPA in Sacramento. He is working on a master’s degree in the environmental engineering program of the Civil Engineering Department at CSUS.

ISMAEL BRISEÑO (BSEE’90) was recently promoted to associate electronics engineer in Caltrans’ Division of New Technology.

KEVIN D. BRUNE, BSCPE’89, is a senior software engineer at Betz Laboratories in Horsham, PA. He recently left Motorola (where he met his wife) and relocated to be a lead software architect for embedded software at Betz.

JENNIFER L. CONLI (STAAB), BSMET’85, is at home in El Paso, Texas raising her two daughters with husband JOSEPH J. CONLI, BSMET’86, who works for the U.S. Customs Service.

DAVID A. COUSINS, BSCE’69, is a redevelopment project specialist for the Culver City Redevelopment Agency in Culver City, CA.

SCOTT A. CREASON, BSCM’86, is custom jobs manager for Granite Construction Co. in Sacramento.

ROSEMARY DAVI, BSME’93, REINHOLD GEDEIT, BSEE’93, and SAMER THEODOSSY, BSCPE’93 were among 13 graduating seniors to receive CSUS Senior Achievement Awards last May.

KYLE W. ECHARD, BSCF’88, is a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, serving aboard the USS Guam, a nuclear submarine.

TODD W. GREENWOOD, BSCE’86, Registered Traffic Engineer (CA), works as a project manager for Omni-Means, Ltd. in Stockton. He prepares EIRs, Office of Traffic Safety studies, regional traffic models, and traffic impact assessments.

KEVIN D. LONG, BSCE’92, is working as a WRC engineer for the California Regional Water Quality Control Board in Fresno.

WILLIAM H. LUGG III, BSME’91, is a configuration manager and software engineering environment engineer with a group at McClellan AFB that is developing a VASIC computer complex to manage the stores of the F-111 G/F aircraft.

SAM M. MILLER, BSMET’84, took an early retirement from his job as a senior engineer for Pacific Bell and has been teaching conversational English at the Attorney Language Institute in Osaka, Japan for the past year.

EDWARD E. THORP, BSME’84, is on the technical staff of Hughes Aircraft Co. in El Segundo, CA.

We mourn the recent passing of DAVID M. HIGGINS, BSCF’89. Family and friends from the ASCE Younger Member Forum are establishing a scholarship fund in his name. Contact MARK CAREY, BSCE’91 at (916) 483-7771 for information.

Career Services Available to E&CS Alumni, Students

Whether you’re job-hunting or head-hunting, Cici Mattiuzzi will provide a variety of services to assist you. Mattiuzzi directs E&CS Career and Professional Services from Engineering 2008 (278-7091).

During the academic year (September–June), the Alumni Job Club meets weekly on Mondays from 2:30 PM to 6:30 PM. Alumni share their leads, identify resources for gathering company information, develop strategies for locating employment in a recession, practice interview techniques, write resumes, and trouble-shoot problems. Guest speakers from organizations that employ engineering and computer professionals have been invited.

Alumni pursuing career opportunities or seeking to fill current positions in their organizations can access the JETS job database. User-friendly JETS typically includes 300 or more current openings from a wide array of government, business and industry sources. Alumni with models and appropriate communications software can use JETS from home.

Current salary information, corporate files for research and samples of resumes and cover letters are just a few of the many resources available through Mattiuzzi’s operation. The 1993/94 E&CS Career Fair is set for March 4, 1994. Alumni and students attending the Fair will be able to contact 40-60 employers and attend seminars on many career-related topics.

Spring 1993 Commencement

During 1992-93, 321 E&CS students earned BS degrees and 92 earned the MS. Graduates listened raptly as Dean Gillott delivered his final commencement address.
CSUS Engineering Specialty Center Grant Extended

The Engineering Specialty Center (ESC) at CSUS, funded for two years by a grant from the Chancellor's Office to facilitate cooperative endeavors among the CSU engineering schools, has received funding to continue its operation for another year. The Center was established by the Computer-Aided Productivity in Engineering (CAPE) Committee, under the leadership of director Dr. Floyd LeCureux, to divide the responsibility for obtaining engineering software and provide training to CSU engineering and other schools.

Among other activities, the ESC negotiates site licenses for software needed by the schools. The Center is currently negotiating with Borland International, Inc. for a CSU system-wide site license that will give each participating campus the legal right to copy and load all of Borland's commercial software products on all campus-owned DOS computers. The software will be available for use by faculty, staff, and students.

For the past two years, CSUS has been a licensed distributor for IMSL software, a programming tool for statistical/numerical analysis and graphical output that works with FORTRAN and C languages. To date, there are eight CSU campuses that have purchased the paid-for-life-of-the-machine licenses through our special distribution license. This arrangement offered considerable savings compared to the normal yearly license.

Another service provided at CSUS is the InfoServer system. All campuses that utilize DECNET and are equipped with a DECGlue or X-window environment can gain access to the system. The InfoServer system is being expanded to include an additional workstation that will run on the RISC operating system and support four more CD-readers. In addition to VMS and Ultras on-line documentation, VMS software, and DECshare that are currently in our CD-ROM collection, more Ultras (VAX and RISC) software will be available. The Center conducts demonstrations on accessing the system on an on-request basis.

Various engineering schools have been hosting training seminars on engineering software throughout the year. Upcoming events include a CADKEY training at CSU, Chico on October 23 and a Silverscreen workshop at CSU, Fullerton on January 21 & 22, 1994.

All of the services provided by the ESC are free to CSU faculty, staff and students. An ESC brochure or further information on the Center and its services can be obtained from ESC Coordinator Cecilia Swift, at (916) 278-5413, swiftc@csus.edu; or from ESC Director Floyd LeCureux at 278-5413, lecureux@csus.edu.

Outgoing Dean
Continued from page 2

the CSU system on computer issues as they relate to engineering and computer science education. Our own director of computer services, Dr. Floyd LeCureux, has chaired CAPE since it was first formed in the early 1980s.

In the 1987-88 period, it was suggested that the School mount a major fund-raising program in conjunction with the construction of the new E&CS Building. The University had not yet positioned itself for major fund-raising programs and there was concern about our chances for success. However, we did succeed and raised millions of dollars. In fact, we exceeded our campaign goals. Our students and the entire community have benefited from that effort because those private funds permitted the University to equip the new E&CS Building with state-of-the-art laboratory and computer equipment.

The quality and reputation of our academic programs have improved tremendously over the years and today E&CS is recognized as one of the top engineering and computer science schools in the nation. With the recruitment of a diverse faculty in the late 1980s and with a uniquely competent and dedicated faculty, our students receive an education second to none.

In a letter to the CSU Chancellor, David Hubka, a manager of manufacturing for Hewlett-Packard, wrote that the quality of our graduates makes us one of the prime schools from which HP recruits nationally. He wrote that we are consistently in the top ten for numbers of graduates hired by HP and that this places E&CS alongside schools like MIT, Stanford and UC Berkeley in HP's hiring success list.

We accomplished these goals by augmenting our constantly diminishing state funds. We believe in enhancing our resources. If you take a constructive look at our financial statement, you will find that this School has been the leader in putting many millions of dollars into the coffers and our balance sheet is very, very positive. Yes, you — our alumni and friends — have truly made a difference in the success of this School of Engineering and Computer Science. As I leave the dean's position, I want to thank all those who supported our School and me during this period, especially our alumni and friends from the greater community. I will remain active in the life of this University and of the community I love so much. I know that our interactions will be positive and productive in the future as they have been in the past. Thank you one and all for being so supportive of my efforts as I attempted to provide effective leadership to such an important resource to this community; but most of all, thank you for the confidence you placed in me and for counting me as your friend.
## A Message to Alumni

from Orin Bennett  
**Chairman, Business Affairs Committee**

The School of Engineering and Computer Science is changing; our new interim dean has been installed; the School is suffering from some negative publicity; the suffering is shared with the rest of CSUS and, for that matter, with all other CSU campuses; and funding from the State of California continues to decline. These issues need our attention.  

The most important things that you as E&CS alumni can do are RECRUIT STUDENTS and assist in FUND RAISING. The rumors about overcrowding, reduced availability of classes, and unreasonable cost increases are not true. We need to pass along the true status of the School to potential students and potential contributors.  

Our School of Engineering and Computer Science is one of the best in the CSU system and, in many ways, better than UC system engineering programs. You should be proud of your school; it has become a great success. Get involved with your Alumni Association and help perpetuate the success.

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## You Are News!

What are you doing now? What do you think about this newsletter? What articles would you like to see? After all, this news is for you, so if you’d like to share some information with your former classmates and us, just fill out the following survey. Thanks for your help, and we appreciate your donation of a stamp and envelope!

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Comments: ________________________________

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Please send this to: Dean’s Office  
CSUS School of Engineering and Computer Science  
6000 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819-6023

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## Yes, I want to be involved in the CSUS Alumni Association Engineering and Computer Science Chapter!

Categories of membership (check one):  
☐ $35 Annual Individual  
☐ $45 Annual Joint Spouse  
☐ $350 Life Individual  
☐ $400 Life Joint Spouse  
☐ $40 Annual Friend Individual  
☐ $50 Annual Friend Joint Spouse

Thanks for your membership!  
Please mail this form and your check to:  
CSUS Alumni Association  
6000 J Street, Adm. 203  
Sacramento, CA 95819-6024  
or call (916) 278-6295 or 1-800-SAC-GRAD

Name ________________________________

Name at graduation, if different ________________________________

Street Address ________________________________

City/State/ZIP ________________________________

Employer ________________________________

Employer Address ________________________________

Title ________________________________

Home Phone ________________________________  
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Class Year ______ Degree ________________________________  
Major ________________________________
To the Finest Dean I Have Ever Known

An open letter from former E&CS Assistant Dean Larry Hill

I have known Don Gillott for nearly 20 years. For nine of those, I worked with him every day. He took on — with drive and optimism — the challenges, the honors, the good times and the bad times of a major professional school. He almost always won by making his staff and faculty winners. He is a friend and a leader.

Don never met the dream he didn’t like. No plan was too grand, no challenge too hard, no risk too great. He landed himself in pickles too complex to fathom, only to emerge stronger and rise to new heights. He persisted by force of will, energy and a positive attitude to make real his dreams.

Don never met the student he didn’t like. No student request, no matter how outrageous or self-serving, went unheard. No student was ever turned away no matter how small the request. Every student, faculty or staff member was always free to walk into Don’s office, yet he always had the time to talk. Why? Because Don solved problems, delivered results and commanded respect so people seldom had to come more than once.

Don never met the budget he liked.

Don stretched, leveraged, combined and expanded every budget he touched. Budgets to Don were beginnings, not limitations. Forming partnerships, getting people to work together and using resources wisely, Don managed to get more for each state dollar than any person I have ever known. I will never forget the meeting Don and I held with a program director who had just been informed that her entire program budget was eliminated by the Chancellor’s Office. With shock on her face she asked, “Do I have a program? Do I have a job?” Don cheerfully replied, “Of course you have a program and a job. You just don’t have a budget.” She left happy and confident. Three years later, her budget (which she raised with Don’s help) was four times the one that was eliminated.

Don Gillott has stepped down as dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science at CSU, Sacramento. CSUS will never be the same. But Sacramento, if it is wise, will find an important role for this man. Success follows him as surely as the roar of the hometown crowd follows a bottom-of-the-ninth, gamewinning home run.

“Super” HP Workstation Grant to CSUS

Hewlett-Packard has granted six Series 700 workstations and related equipment valued at over $151,000 for an open laboratory to support computer and electronic design courses in the CSUS Computer Engineering, Computer Science, and Electrical and Electronic Engineering programs.

“Thanks to Hewlett-Packard’s generosity in donating a cluster of HP RISC machines, CSUS will be able to advance its capabilities in the areas of signal processing, VLSI design and computer architecture. Hewlett-Packard’s gift included the very powerful, industry-leading model HP 735 — a real ‘super’ workstation,” said Prof. Ron Becker, coordinator of Computer Engineering at CSUS. Students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels will use the equipment.

The School’s grant application was coordinated by Robert Wharton (BSEE’83, MS’87), HP development engineer.