2017 Inductees

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Emily E. Muhlberger
Anne McKay Walker
Catherine Weems
Matthew Weems

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Bernie Marcus
WELCOME
Gary S. May, Dean & Southern Company Chair

GUEST SPEAKER
Tom Foreman, CNN Correspondent

INDUCTION
Council of Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni
Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni
Engineering Hall of Fame
Dean’s Appreciation Award

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CLOSING REMARKS
Gary S. May
Congratulations and Welcome to the 2017 College of Engineering Alumni Awards Induction Ceremony. For more than 20 years, we have taken time to recognize some of our greatest assets: our alumni. It gives me great pleasure to welcome our newest inductees and applaud your accomplishments.

Tonight our inductees stand as testament that in the College of Engineering we inspire dreams, improve minds, ignite curiosity, and define the promise of tomorrow. Our honorees, now and in the past, are true role models for future generations of engineers.

Your professional successes enhance the reputation of Georgia Tech and its graduates, and they allow our college to maintain excellence in engineering leadership. Your efforts every day help achieve our mission and strengthen our global impact and visibility.

Thank you for being a part of our family and for the honor you bring to Georgia Tech, to the College of Engineering, and to your field. Thank you for your unwavering support and pride in being a graduate of Georgia Tech. Lastly, thank you for making a difference in our lives and in the lives of the next generation. Best wishes to each one of you for continued success, both professionally and personally.
Welcome to one of the College of Engineering’s most important celebrations. Since 1994, we have used this occasion to recognize and honor the many accomplishments of some of the Institute’s most distinguished engineering alumni. I extend my most sincere congratulations to those being honored here tonight. The professional success, leadership prowess, and community involvement of the awardees serve not only as inspiration for our younger alumni and current students, but also as a vital aspect of Georgia Tech’s enduring reputation for excellence, innovation, and the way we prepare our graduates for leadership positions.

High standards, hard work, perseverance, and entrepreneurial drive are all hallmarks of the graduates of the Georgia Institute of Technology. While tonight’s honorees are all at various stages in their careers, they share and demonstrate these characteristics. Each in their own way has had a significant impact in their respective fields, be it academia, government, or industry, and tonight I am exceedingly proud to see them receive awards.

As living examples of the Georgia Tech ethos, tonight’s honorees have something else in common: an unmatched technological education, along with the ability to think critically and address complex challenges, and the determination to improve the human condition and positively impact our world.

On behalf of the entire Georgia Tech community, I want to thank each of our award recipients for all you have done and continue to do for your own organizations, the Institute, and our nation through your service and commitment to excellence. I hope you enjoy this exciting evening as we all celebrate the outstanding achievements of the recipients of the College of Engineering Alumni Awards.
The Council of Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni Award recognizes alumni who have distinguished themselves through professional practice and/or service to the Institute, the engineering profession, or society at large. They are on the “fast track” and have made rapid advancement within their organizations, and they have been recognized for early achievements by others within their profession, field, or organization.

**José M. Bern**  
B.S. CE ’95  
Vice President, Empresas Bern

José received his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering in 1995, and he also holds an MBA from Georgetown University. He currently serves as vice president of Empresas Bern, a real estate development and construction company in Panama. The company participates in direct and joint venture developments of commercial and residential properties, executing in-house the complete package including architecture, foundations, structure, glazing, cabinet work and commercial placement of properties. Education is the cornerstone of his family’s foundation, the Bern Foundation, which operates three nonprofit private schools for low-income families in Panama. Active with Georgia Tech, José currently serves on the Advisory Board of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

**Kristen H. Brosnan**  
B.S. MSE ’99  
Technical Operations Leader, Metals Discipline, GE Global Research

Kristen received her bachelor’s degree in materials science and engineering from Georgia Tech in 1999, and she holds a master’s degree and doctoral degree from the Pennsylvania State University in materials science and engineering. Kristen is currently the technical operations leader of the Metals Discipline at GE Global Research. Previously, as the leader of the Ceramics Laboratory at GE Global Research, Kristen and her team delivered key ceramic technology for GE Power and GE Aviation gas turbines. At General Electric, Kristen is also a featured science blogger for the GE Global Research external website and co-leader of the GE Women’s Network-NY Capital District Hub, which aims to attract, develop, and retain women at GE. She is active in her professional society, the American Ceramic Society, by mentoring student leaders. Through her roles at GE and the American Ceramic Society, Kristen has been an advocate for diversity in the STEM professions and a leader in STEM outreach to young women.
Emily graduated from Georgia Tech with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering in 2004 and returned for an MBA in 2009. She is a senior business process manager and a Six Sigma Black Belt for McKesson. Her responsibilities include coaching more than 50 Green Belts and their projects, providing Six Sigma training and executing cross-functional process improvement projects. Emily serves on the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering Advisory Board and is a Scheller College of Business Ambassador. Prior to joining McKesson, Emily worked for Coca-Cola Refreshments, Bank of America and Siemens, and she holds a patent for an electrical fastener at Siemens.

Annie received a bachelor’s degree in industrial and systems engineering from Georgia Tech in 2002. She serves as vice president of over-the-counter merchandising for Walmart US. She began her career with Walmart in 2002 as an industrial engineer, and after spending two years with the Store Engineering team, she supported the replenishment division in several capacities. Annie’s latest role in replenishment was serving as senior director of replenishment for the General Merchandise division. In 2012, Annie transitioned from Replenishment to vice president for merchandise execution, and she became responsible for developing and implementing strategies that support and drive the merchant strategy through to store execution. Annie sits on the board for the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial & Systems Engineering.

Catherine graduated from Georgia Tech in 2014 with a bachelor’s degree in chemical and biomolecular engineering. She is a process engineer for LyondellBasell, one of the world’s largest plastics, chemical, and refining companies. In that role, she supports the Aromatics Unit at LyondellBasell’s Channelview Complex outside Houston, Texas, where she is responsible for unit optimization, process troubleshooting, ensuring process safety, development of capital projects and execution of unit turnarounds. In a previous role, she supported the Isopropanol Unit at the Channelview Complex as a process engineer. She also supports LyondellBasell’s community involvement, having served as a Junior Achievement site coordinator and Global Care Day project leader. Catherine and her husband, Matt, continue their connection to Georgia Tech through the Houston Alumni Association and on-campus recruiting.

Matt received his bachelor’s degree in chemical and biomolecular engineering in 2014. He moved to Houston to work at ExxonMobil in Baytown, Texas, and currently, Matt is a manufacturing improve engineer and supports ExxonMobil’s synthetic lubricant business. In previous roles, Matt has planned projects and led polypropylene production and growth efforts. While Matt enjoys the technical aspects of the job, he also finds other ways to get involved. For example, he is a founding member of Baytown’s Inclusion Network. He and his wife, Catherine, continue their connection to Georgia Tech through the Houston Alumni Association and on-campus recruiting.
The Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award recognizes alumni who have provided distinguished contributions to the Institute, profession, field, or society at large. Candidates are highly placed executives and are actively involved in engineering, management, industry, academia, or government.

Spring earned a bachelor’s degree in materials engineering from Georgia Tech in 1992 and returned for a master’s degree in international logistics and supply chain strategy in 2015. She also has an MBA from the University of Washington. Spring currently works for Boeing Commercial Airplanes as the director and chief engineer of payloads engineering. Previously, Spring was the director and chief engineer for the 787 modification center, focused on optimizing modification costs through streamlining engineering, supply chain, and operations support functions. She has also served as director of service engineering, responsible for supporting safe flight of the 707, 727, 737, 747, 757, 767, and 777 worldwide fleet. Spring’s other Boeing assignments include various management and engineering positions in Interiors Engineering, Customer Engineering, and Manufacturing Engineering. She is also a current director and past managing partner with Orbis Engineering, Inc, a contract engineering firm. She stays connected to Georgia Tech by serving on the School of Materials Science and Engineering Advisory Board and the Women in Engineering Advisory Board. Spring serves as a mentor at Boeing, Georgia Tech, and several Seattle area high schools, and she is also a mentor/coach for Washington FIRST robotics Team Reign (the only all-girls robotics team in the tri-state area).

Jim earned a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from Georgia Tech in 1983, and he received a J.D. and an MBA from the University of Georgia in 1988. He is president and CEO of Novare Group, a real estate investment and development company based in Atlanta that he founded in 1992. Novare has invested in or developed self-storage facilities, office buildings, adaptive re-use projects, and high-rise apartments and condominiums. In 2002, the company delivered its first high-rise development, Metropolis, which has been widely credited with sparking residential demand that helped transform Midtown Atlanta. Jim serves on the board of directors of Brand Properties, Buckhead Coalition, Midtown Alliance, Central Atlanta Progress, and Georgia Advanced Technology Ventures, and he is a trustee of the Georgia Tech Foundation, Inc. He has been recognized with lifetime achievement awards from the Atlanta Commercial Board of Realtors in 2000, Georgia State University’s J. Mack Robinson College of Business in 2006, and the Urban Land Institute in 2015. Jim is a member of the Hill Society at Georgia Tech and has endowed a scholarship at the University of Georgia School of Law that has one requirement: The recipient must be a Georgia Tech graduate.
Jimmy received his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from Georgia Tech in 1976. He is owner and vice president for risk management with Republic National Distributing Company (RNDC). He began his career in Greenville, S.C., with J.E. Sirrine Co., an engineering company with specialties in pulp and paper. He achieved professional registration in 1980, and for the next 10 years, he worked with Milliken and Company, a leader in textiles and chemicals. From 1990 to 1994, Jimmy was a partner at a local construction company, where specialties included industrial construction, water and wastewater treatment plants. He has since returned to the family business, which had an interest in industrial laundry across four states in the Southeast (sold in 2000) and interest as a wholesaler for wine and spirits: National Distributing Company and Republic National Distributing Company. The company has business interests in more than 20 states across the nation, making it one of the country’s largest wholesale wine and spirits distributors. Jimmy and his wife, Helen, established the James A. Carlos Family Chair in Pediatric Technology, a partnership between Georgia Tech and Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta.

Paul received his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from Georgia Tech in 1968, as well as a master’s degree in engineering from Tulane University. He serves as CEO of Woodward Design Build, an integrated design and construction firm working in commercial, institutional, manufacturing, hospitality, and residential markets. He is also CEO of Woodward Interests, a real estate development firm involved in the multifamily and hospitality markets. Paul started his career as a structural engineer and as a construction estimator and project manager. Since he became president of Woodward in 1987, the firm has grown into the largest design and construction firm in Louisiana and the central Gulf Coast region. Since its founding in 1995, Woodward Interests has been responsible for $125 million in development and has been a joint venture partner in an additional $280 million in development in the New Orleans area. Paul is presently part of the team developing the Four Seasons Hotel and Residences in downtown New Orleans. His contributions to Georgia Tech include support of the renovation of the Jesse W. Mason Building and sponsorship of the Corporate Affiliates Program. He serves on the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering Advisory Board.
Fort earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Georgia Tech in 1983 and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has also earned the Chartered Financial Analyst designation. Fort is the chairman and CEO of Sentinel Trust Company, a wealth management firm in Houston, Texas, that he founded in 1997. Sentinel serves 35 families with investment and family office services and is responsible for $3.4 billion of its clients' assets. Fort started his career designing downhole oilfield equipment for Schlumberger. He then moved to managing the assets of the Flowers family, including investments in privately held engineering, manufacturing, banking, and mining businesses. Fort is a trustee of the Georgia Tech Foundation and serves on its investment committee. He and his wife, Beth, have endowed a scholarship in the President's Scholars Program and a graduate fellowship in the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering.

Larry received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in 1986 from Texas Tech University and master's and doctoral degrees in electrical engineering from Georgia Tech in 1989 and 1991, respectively. He is director of research at Google, leading an advanced research and development effort behind the Google Assistant. From 2009 to 2014, he was the chief scientist of the Microsoft Speech products team and later a Distinguished Engineer in Microsoft Research. In 2009, he co-founded the initiative that led to Microsoft's Cortana personal assistant. From 2005 to 2009, he was vice president of Search & Advertising Sciences at Yahoo!, responsible for the creation, development, and deployment of the algorithms powering Yahoo! Search, Yahoo! Sponsored Search, Yahoo! Content Match, and Yahoo! display advertising. From 1998 to 2005, he was with Nuance Communications and served as vice president of research and development. He began his career as a researcher at the Stanford Research Institute, initially in the field of acoustics and later in speech research with the Speech Technology and Research Laboratory. He is a Fellow of the IEEE with more than 100 scientific publications, and he holds more than 50 U.S. patents.
Andrew received his bachelor’s degree in aerospace engineering from Georgia Tech in 2007. He went on to earn a master’s degree in mechanical engineering from Mercer University, a second master’s degree in military science from the Air Command and Staff College, and a graduate certificate in composites from UCLA. Andrew is a senior structural integrity engineer at the Northrop Grumman Corporation’s manned aircraft design center of excellence, and he continues his education as a doctoral student in aerospace engineering at the Florida Institute of Technology. Andrew has dedicated his career to the safety of service men and women flying into harm’s way. His current work and research are in the methods of determining the airworthiness of composite aircraft structures. Andrew served in the Air Force Civilian Service, managing the C-17 Globemaster III aircraft structural integrity program. During his service, Andrew received the Air Force civilian achievement award, the Air Force civilian command award for valor, and the Air Force Material Command technology and engineering management award. Ever appreciative for the impact Georgia Tech continues to have on their lives, Andrew and his wife, Stephanie, have entrusted their legacy to the Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering.

Elaine earned a bachelor’s degree in industrial and systems engineering from Georgia Tech in 1985. She is president and CEO of EnerVision, where she leads the company’s nationwide consulting and business development efforts. She has more than 30 years of consulting experience in areas including strategic planning, power supply planning, utility rates, marketing, and economic analysis. Elaine is one of the founders of EnerVision, started its power supply business line, and currently leads its management consulting business line. Elaine’s affiliations include the Council on Industrial and Systems Engineering, the Georgia Tech College of Engineering Advisory Board, the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial & Systems Engineering Advisory Board, the Institute of Industrial Engineers, and the Women’s Energy Network – Greater Atlanta Chapter.
John David Ratliff
B.S. ISyE ’81
CEO,
Covance Drug Development

John earned his bachelor’s degree in industrial and systems engineering from Georgia Tech in 1981, and he received his MBA from Duke University in 1985. John currently serves as CEO of Covance Drug Development, the world’s most comprehensive drug development company and the only provider of full-spectrum drug development services from early-stage research to regulatory approval and beyond. Previously, John was president and CEO of HUYA Bioscience International. His healthcare industry experience also includes almost 10 years at Quintiles, the world’s largest provider of product development and integrated healthcare services, where he served as chief financial officer before becoming president and chief operating officer. Prior roles throughout his career include CFO at Acterna and positions of increasing responsibility during his 19-year tenure at IBM. John supports entrepreneurial endeavors such as Remarque Systems, a provider of risk-based monitoring software solutions; Undercover Colors, a drug-detection consumer product line; and T3D Therapeutics, Inc., a clinical stage drug development company engaged in the development of a new orally administered treatment for Alzheimer’s disease.

Teresa H. Shea
B.S. EE ’81
Executive Vice President/
Director of Cyber Reboot,
In-Q-Tel

Teresa received her bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Georgia Tech in 1981 and her master’s degree in electrical engineer from Johns Hopkins University. She joined In-Q-Tel after a distinguished 32-year career with the National Security Agency (NSA). Teresa held several key leadership assignments during her career at NSA, culminating in the role of director of signals intelligence. In this position, she was the principal signals intelligence advisor to the directors of NSA, the director of national intelligence, countless military officers, and high-ranking government officials. She led a global, multifaceted organization during a critical period of operations to identify and thwart terrorist plots, support the military in combat operations, and produce intelligence on strident adversaries. Teresa is the recipient of honors including the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Civilian Service, the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal, and two Presidential Distinguished Rank Awards. At In-Q-Tel, Teresa is leading a new lab effort focused on improving the state of cyber security called Cyber Reboot. Her goal is to radically change how we think about cybersecurity in partnership with the intelligence community, the private sector and academia.
Moe earned his bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering from Georgia Tech in 1986. He enjoyed a 28-year career in management consulting and business leadership, serving as a partner with first PwC Consulting and later IBM Global Business Services. With a deep background in supply chain management, strategy, and operational consulting, he has served in multiple North America leadership roles including retail industry leader, business analytics & optimization service line leader, and supply chain service line leader. During his career, Moe has primarily focused on assisting industry-leading clients in achieving business transformation via development of strategies, operational designs, leverage of information technology and organizational change adoption. Today, Moe serves as an executive-in-residence at the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial & Systems Engineering, and he supports Georgia Tech via ISyE Advisory Board membership, Capstone Design student advisement, and endowment funding.
Engineering Hall of Fame

Membership in the Engineering Hall of Fame is reserved for individuals holding an engineering degree or an honorary degree from Georgia Tech. Those chosen have made meritorious engineering and/or managerial contributions during their careers.

John Brock
B.S. ChE ’70, M.S. ChE ’71, Ph.D. (Hon.) ’16
CEO, Coca-Cola Enterprises

Robert L. Dixon, Jr.
B.S. EE ’77
Senior Vice President and Global Chief Information Officer, PepsiCo (retired)

John received his bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from Georgia Tech in 1970, and he earned his master’s degree in the same field in 1971. In 2016, he received an honorary doctorate, one of the highest recognitions the Institute can bestow. He joined Coca-Cola Enterprises as CEO in 2006, before becoming company chairman in 2008. Under John’s leadership, Coca-Cola Enterprises sold its North American operations to The Coca-Cola Company and acquired bottling operations in Norway and Sweden, forming the world’s third-largest independent Coca-Cola bottler in 2010. Previously, John was CEO of Interbrew, headquartered in Brussels. John and his team led the merger of Interbrew with AmBev of Brazil in 2004 to form InBev, the largest brewer in the world by volume, and John was named CEO. John also worked for Cadbury Schweppes’. In 2000, he became chief operating officer of Cadbury Schweppes’ and chairman of Dr Pepper/Seven Up Bottling Group’s Board of Directors. Later that year, John was named Beverage Industry’s Executive of the Year. His other roles at Cadbury Schweppes’ include president of the international beverage division, president of the European beverages business, and president of North America, where he led the acquisition of Dr Pepper/Seven Up. John started his career with Procter & Gamble. He serves on the board of Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and the Board of Visitors for the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University, and he serves as director of the Buckhead Coalition. John is also serving on the Georgia Tech Foundation Board. John and his wife, Mary (who also received an honorary Ph.D. from Georgia Tech), served as co-chairs of the Institute’s most recent capital campaign and are members of the Hill Society.

Robert graduated from Georgia Tech with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering in 1977. Upon graduating, Robert began a 39-year career that influenced the direction of three iconic Fortune 50 corporations. In 1977, Robert joined The Procter & Gamble Company (P&G), one of the largest consumer goods companies in the world, where he served for 30 years in roles of increasing responsibilities in supply chain, brand management and information technology (IT). In 1982, Robert moved to Cincinnati, Ohio; switched careers and joined the Management Information Systems function. In 1999, he was appointed vice president and led the IT teams for all business units worldwide. At P&G, Robert gained notable experiences as a business transformation leader with his award-winning work on SAP enterprise software solutions. In 2007, he joined PepsiCo as senior vice president and global chief information officer. As CIO of PepsiCo, he led the global function that delivers all information technology and security solutions for one of the world’s largest food and beverage companies. Robert drove business transformations by moving over $50 billion of business processes to SAP and digitizing PepsiCo’s value chain from seeds to consumption. Through Robert’s years of servant leadership, his organizations have contributed over $2 billion of business value by reducing structural costs, driving top line growth, and improving productivity and speed to market. He joined Anthem, Inc.’s Board of Directors in 2011. Robert is a member of the College of Engineering’s Advisory Board and past member of the President’s Advisory Board. Robert and his wife, Sheree, recently gave a generous gift in Dean Gary May’s name.
Fred received a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from Georgia Tech in 1962. In the early 1980s he attended the Harvard Business School Owner/President Management (OPM) three-year program. Fred is the president and CEO of Baskerville-Donovan, Inc. (BDI), a 90-year-old regional engineering firm providing services in the fields of water/wastewater, civil, transportation, and military engineering in the southeastern United States and Latin America. The United States Army Corps of Engineers selected the company as Firm of the Year for essential airfield work in Manta, Ecuador. BDI is also credited with securing the largest FEMA grant awarded in the state of Florida, which was used to relocate a 20 MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant from a flood plain to an upland location 25 miles away—a $340 million effort. As a community leader, Fred served on the Board of Gulf Power Company, a subsidiary of the Southern Company. He also served as the Chairman of Baptist Health Care Board and Chairman of the Florida Chamber of Commerce Board. Fred and his wife, Susie, funded a civil engineering President’s Scholarship and the Hydraulic Teaching Laboratory in the Mason Building. Fred is a current member of the Hill Society, and he served as a member of the Class of 1962 50th Reunion Committee in 2012, which raised over $28.5 million. He is a past trustee of the Alumni Association and served on the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering Advisory Board.

Alan received his bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering from Georgia Tech in 1970. He subsequently received a master’s degree and a doctoral degree in industrial engineering, also from Tech, in 1972 and 1974, respectively. Upon finishing graduate school, he started an academic career by accepting a position as assistant professor of industrial engineering at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. There, he taught a variety of industrial engineering courses and conducted research sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation in transportation safety. Drawing on his Georgia Tech training in human factors engineering and ergonomics, he conducted some of the initial research into human responses to precautionary information and the motivation of safe behavior as a component of systems. In 1978, he accepted a management position with the JI Case Company in Racine, Wisconsin, where his responsibilities focused on the safety of users of agricultural and construction equipment. In 1982 Alan and his wife, Patsy, started a consulting company that grew to become Dorris and Associates International (DAI). Over the past 35 years, DAI has provided management advice, product-design guidance, accident analysis, and litigation support to companies, governmental agencies and law firms in the application of behavioral science findings to product design. Alan is an emeritus member of the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial & Systems Engineering Advisory Board and a former member of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association Board of Trustees. He is also a member of the Hill Society. Recently, Alan and his wife established the Patsy and Alan Dorris Chair in Pediatric Technology, a partnership between Georgia Tech and Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta.
Michael graduated from Georgia Tech with a bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering in 1958, and he received one of the highest recognitions the Institute can bestow, an honorary doctorate, in 2016. He also holds an MBA from Harvard Business School. Michael is the founder of Caribbean Capital & Consultancy Corp., a Puerto Rico-based private merchant bank that seeks to make active investments. Previously, he co-founded Tennenbaum Capital Partners (TCP), a leading specialty credit investor. Prior to TCP, he managed various departments of a major investment bank. Michael is a member of the Smithsonian Institution National Board and a member of its Investment Committee, and he is founder of the Tennenbaum Marine Observatories. He founded the Tennenbaum Interdisciplinary Center at the Neuropsychiatric Institute at UCLA, where he created the Michael E. Tennenbaum Family Endowed Chair in Creativity Research. He was a member of the Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel and is a recipient of the Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award. He has also been a vice chairman of the Board of Governors of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America and was chairman of its Investment Committee; he is now a life member of its Board of Governors. He is founder of the Tennenbaum Institute for Enterprise Transformation at Georgia Tech. Michael served as a member of the Georgia Tech Advisory Board and as a trustee of the Georgia Tech Foundation, Inc., where he was chairman of its Investment Committee; he currently is trustee emeritus. He is a member of the Hill Society.

John graduated with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering in 1971. He was recruited by three of the largest builders of prime movers, all for being a field service engineer on massive engines and turbines, far exceeding his childhood dream of doing exactly that. After several years traveling the United States and a number of other countries, he moved to a design firm focused on power plants, water systems, telecommunications and defense systems. He had the opportunity to work in each business and then took over management of the engineering information technology development for a decade, during which he designed and led development of the first fully integrated, data centric, object-oriented power plant design system. As the Chief Technology Officer and Chief Knowledge Officer for the organization, he consulted with clients and even competitors on moving engineering toward full digitalization. In 2002, he became a White House Fellow sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and worked out of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. After his fellowship, he remained in Washington until 2010 as a consultant to the Department of Homeland Security helping to guide its S&T build out. John retired as senior vice president after almost 40 years with Black & Veatch, but he continues to consult and mentor young people wanting to become part of the engineering future.
Al received a bachelor’s degree in aerospace engineering from Georgia Tech in 1964, and he received one of the highest recognitions the Institute can bestow – an honorary Ph.D. – in 2010. Additionally, he received his MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He is chairman and CEO of SEI Investments, a financial services company he founded in 1968. SEI is a leading global provider of outsourced asset management, investment processing, and investment operations solutions, and it helps corporations, banks, financial advisors, retirement plan sponsors, and affluent families create and manage wealth. SEI currently administers over $751 billion in mutual fund and pooled assets, including $281 billion in assets under management and $470 billion in client assets under administration. Al chaired the quiet phase of the recent $1.8 billion Campaign Georgia Tech. He is a trustee emeritus of the Georgia Tech Foundation and the Georgia Tech Advisory Board, and served as fund chair for the Class of 1964 50th Reunion Committee. He also served on the National Campaign Steering Committee for the Campaign for Georgia Tech, which concluded in 2000. Al received the Alumni Association’s 2006 Joseph Mayo Pettit Distinguished Service Award.
Philanthropist Bernie Marcus is co-founder of The Home Depot, Inc., the world’s largest home improvement retailer, and was chairman until his retirement in 2002. He has redirected his entrepreneurial spirit toward a variety of charitable endeavors. Bernie and his wife, Billi, channel their generosity through The Marcus Foundation, which focuses on Jewish causes, children, medical research, free enterprise and the community.

Both strong believers in contributing to the health of the world around them, Bernie and his wife Billi established The Marcus Institute, which provides programs for children with disorders of the brain and their families. Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta joined forces with The Institute to create the Marcus Autism Center.

To improve emergency care to trauma and acute neurological injury victims throughout Georgia, The Marcus Foundation gifted the Grady Health System for The Marcus Stroke & Neuroscience Center and The Marcus Trauma Center, which expand hospital space for trauma and brain injury victims.

The Piedmont Heart Institute received a grant from the Marcus Foundation to establish the nation’s first heart valve reference center at Piedmont Hospital. Piedmont Healthcare also received a gift in 2016 to support the growth of the Heart Institute and the renewal of Piedmont’s Atlanta campus through the establishment of the Marcus Heart and Vascular Center.

American Friends of Magen David Adom (AFMDA) received a gift from the Marcus Foundation to help Magen David Adom (MDA) build a critically needed new national blood center in Israel.

The Marcuses have also long been involved with the Shepherd Center in Atlanta, renowned for treatment of brain and spinal injuries. Bernie created Project Share to ensure that members of the military and veterans are diagnosed and cared for without financial constraint by underwriting the housing, transportation and care costs of any military personnel with brain or spinal injuries who are sent to the Shepherd Center.

With an eye on the future of science and health, Bernie played an integral role in founding the Nanotechnology Research Center Building at Georgia Tech. Work in the Marcus Nanotechnology Building focuses on creating innovative systems that include new approaches to drug delivery, cancer detection and treatment, DNA damage repair, and the detection and analysis of plaque formation for artery and cardiac disease prevention.

Bernie considers the founding of the Israel Democracy Institute in Jerusalem among his most important efforts. This non-partisan and non-political think tank deals with the complex issues facing the Israeli democratic society.

Bernie received the 2012 William E. Simon Award, given to “highlight the power of philanthropy to promote positive change.” He and Billi have received The Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service, which is given to individuals who have served with distinction in public life. Bernie was the inaugural recipient of Inc. 500’s Bernard A. Goldhirsh Award, was inducted into the Junior Achievement U.S. Business Hall of Fame, and has received the USO Patriot Award, the SeaKeeper Award for promoting the restoration and protection of the world’s oceans, and the Anti-Defamation League’s Democratic Legacy Award.
College of Engineering School Chairs

Vigor Yang
Chair and
William R.T. Oakes Professor,
The Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering

C. Ross Ethier
Interim Wallace H. Coulter Chair,
The Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory

David Sholl
John F. Brock III Chair,
The School of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering

Reginald DesRoches
Karen and John Huff Chair,
The School of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Steven McLaughlin
Steve W. Chaddick Chair,
The School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

H. Edwin Romeijn
H. Milton and Carolyn J. Stewart Chair,
The H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial & Systems Engineering

Naresh Thadhani
Chair,
The School of Materials Science and Engineering

William J. Wepfer
Eugene C. Gwaltney, Jr. Chair,
The George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering
History of the Alumni Awards

The College of Engineering Alumni Awards were created in 1994 under the leadership of Dr. John A. White during his tenure as Dean. Subsequently, he passed the torch to Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau, former Georgia TechProvost and Engineering Dean, whose outstanding service to the College of Engineering led him to receive the 2006 Dean’s Appreciation Award from then-Dean Dr. Don P. Giddens, a Tech engineering alumnus. The alumni awards program is now under the leadership of current Dean Dr. Gary S. May, who received his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Georgia Tech. Each year, the College of Engineering recognizes, with an induction ceremony, select alumni who have contributed to the profession, advanced in their careers, and enhanced the lives of others both personally and professionally. These outstanding alumni are reviewed by committees within each of the eight schools within the College and formally submitted for selection.

Special Thanks

Tom Foreman, CNN Correspondent, Guest Speaker
Alexis Coates, Student Speaker
Trevor Kelly, Student Musician
Georgia Tech Alumni Association, Ramblin’ Wreck
Georgia Tech Alumni Band
Georgia Tech Student Ambassadors
College of Engineering Staff
"Ramblin’ Wreck"

I’m a Ramblin’ Wreck from Georgia Tech and a hell of an engineer,
   A helluva, helluva, helluva, helluva, hell of an engineer,
   Like all the jolly good fellows, I drink my whiskey clear,
I’m a Ramblin’ Wreck from Georgia Tech and a hell of an engineer.

Oh, if I had a daughter, sir, I’d dress her in White and Gold,
   And put her on the campus, to cheer the brave and bold.
   But if I had a son, sir, I’ll tell you what he’d do.
He would yell, “To hell with Georgia,” like his daddy used to do.

Oh, I wish I had a barrel of rum and sugar three thousand pounds,
   A college bell to put it in and a clapper to stir it around.
   I’d drink to all good fellows who come from far and near.
   I’m a ramblin’, gamblin’, hell of an engineer!