2014 CO-OP HALL OF FAME

September 26, 2014
11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Purdue Memorial Union
East/West Faculty Lounges

Hosted by the Office of Professional Practice
OPENING REMARKS
Eckhard A. Groll
Reilly Professor of Mechanical Engineering
Director, Office of Professional Practice

STUDENT WELCOME
Aaron Lemcherfi
President, Professional Practice Ambassadors

PURDUE WELCOME
Suresh Garimella
Executive Vice President for Research & Partnerships
Goodson Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering

INDUCTION CEREMONY
Mike Piggott
Director of Community Relations

CLOSING REMARKS
Aaron Lemcherfi
President, Professional Practice Ambassadors
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Welcome to the 5th Annual Purdue University Cooperative Education Hall of Fame induction event. Today we honor a distinguished group of inductees, who represent an extraordinary cross-section of achievements and leadership.

Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann, Cindy Farrer, Janet Goings, and Rebecca Kopp Levine are Co-Op Program alumni whose common beginnings have led to unique careers and a wide array of fields. Whether through an engineering career, public service, or law practice, these inductees have distinguished themselves and made a lasting impact on the world around them. I am sure they would all agree that part of their success as a Co-Op participant and professional is due in large part to outstanding faculty mentors such as Robert “Bob” Davis. Bob has played an integral role in recruiting and ensuring success of a great number of Co-Op students at Purdue during his years of service.

I invite you to read more about these five honorees, who embody the very best of Purdue – extraordinary people celebrated for their impact on the world. I also want to express my continued strong support of the Co-Op Program, which as I see it, was far ahead of its time and is likely to be a model for many similar efforts in the future of higher education.

I am pleased to share that the Co-Op Program continues to see major growth year-over-year, with more than 1,100 students currently enrolled in the program. Since 2010, the overall student participation has increased by 62%. Participation is sure to grow further with the expansion of programs within the School of Nursing and the Department of Psychological Sciences.

Please join me in congratulating this year’s inductees for their outstanding contributions to advancing the Cooperative Education Program.

Mitchell E. Daniels Jr.
President
Purdue University
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we gather to celebrate the 2014 Cooperative Education Hall of Fame inductees, it is exciting to reflect on how far the Co-Op Program has come. First established as a pilot program in the School of Mechanical Engineering by Professor Frederick B. Morse in 1954, the Co-Op Program that began with eight students and seven industry partners has evolved into the Office of Professional Practice and currently serves more than 1,100 students. Approximately 500+ employers are partnering with us to ensure our students receive the type of work integrated learning experience that we feel gives them a significant advantage as they graduate and embark on their professional careers.

The Office of Professional Practice does not only offer the 5-session and 3-session Cooperative Education Programs but also global work abroad programs, including the award-winning GEARE (Global Engineering Alliance for Research and Education) program and summer research experiences at our international partner universities. The GEARE program integrates a minimum of four semesters of language, a minimum of two work sessions (one domestic and one subsequent international work session), one semester of study abroad, and a global design team project into the 4-year undergraduate curriculum. Many of our students combine the GEARE program with a Co-Op program by conducting one of the work sessions and one of the academic terms in a country of their language choice. In addition, the Office of Professional Practice offers a professional master’s (or Master’s Co-Op) program in collaboration with Engineering Professional Education (EPE).

Another exciting aspect is the fact that the number of academic disciplines participating in cooperative education programs is growing. During the academic year 2012-2013, the College of Pharmacy and the Krannert School of Management added the 3-session Co-Op program. During the academic year 2013-2014, the 3-session Co-Op program became available to students in the School of Nursing and the Department of Psychological Sciences. The addition of these programs indicates the growing interest in Professional Practice Programs on the Purdue campus and the need to make such programs available for all Purdue students. OPP is now facilitating cooperative education programs in 48 academic majors covering eight colleges on the Purdue campus.

Thank you very much for joining us today as we celebrate five exceptional people whose accomplishments clearly indicate why the Cooperative Education Program at Purdue University has been so successful over so many years.

Eckhard A. Groll
Reilly Professor of Mechanical Engineering
Director of the Office of Professional Practice
ROBERT “BOB” DAVIS (ChE)

EDUCATION
• B.S. ’68, Chemical Engineering, Purdue University
• MBA ’74, University of Chicago

PROFESSIONAL CAREER
Davis began his professional career in 1968 as a field engineer with the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company. After earning his MBA with honors, he started a career with Air Products and Chemicals as a sales engineer. Over the next 33 years he rose through the ranks to direct several cutting-edge businesses while maintaining close recruiting and advising relationships with Purdue.

In 2007, Davis retired from Air Products and Chemicals to become the Assistant Head of the School of Engineering Education at Purdue, and later the General Manager of Purdue Engineering Consulting, LLC (Now the Purdue Enterprise Company, LLC). During his tenure at Purdue, he has instigated many changes to improve student services, increase course offerings, and help to build stronger faculty-industry relationships.

Davis now serves as Managing Director of the Purdue Enterprise Company, LLC and the Director of Engineering Entrepreneurship at Purdue.

CO-OP ADVOCATE
Throughout his career, Davis has been a strong advocate for experiential education and the industry-academia interface. He has worked closely with faculty and administration to revise programs and create strategic plans, as well as mentored and recruited countless students to pursue opportunities that apply their education in real-world environments.
LT. GOV. SUE ELLSPERMANN

EDUCATION
- B.S. ’82, Industrial Engineering, Purdue University
- M.S., Industrial Engineering, University of Louisville
- Ph.D., Industrial Engineering, University of Louisville

PROFESSIONAL CAREER
Upon earning her bachelor’s degree from Purdue, Ellspermann established a career in engineering and management at Michelin and Frito-Lay. While earning her master’s degree and doctorate in industrial engineering at the University of Louisville, she established Ellspermann And Associates and began a 20-year consulting practice. She later became the founding director of the University of Southern Indiana’s Center for Applied Research and Economic Development.

In 2010, Ellspermann was elected to represent Dubois, Perry, Spencer, And Warrick counties in the Indiana House of Representatives before being elected in 2012 to serve as the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Indiana with Governor Mike Pence.

As Lieutenant Governor, Ellspermann manages six state agencies that span the fields of agriculture, community development, tourism, and entrepreneurship. She also serves as President of the Indiana Senate and chairs the Indiana Counter Terrorism and Security Council.

CO-OP ALUMNA
Ellspermann worked as a co-op for General Motors while at Purdue. “I graduated during the recession in 1982,” she said. “It was the first in those years that engineers were going without job offers. However, as a co-op, I had multiple offers. Those two years of quality work experience provided me a significant competitive advantage over other graduates.”
Farrer began her career with General Motors as an industrial engineer and advanced her way through the company and its subsidiary Delphi. She eventually became plant manager for a four-plant Delphi operation in Mexico and one of only a handful of women running manufacturing plants in the country at the time.

In 2006, Farrer joined Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies (now Allegion) as director of global quality and operational excellence. She currently serves as the Vice President of Americas Operations for Allegion, overseeing all manufacturing plants and supply chain activities in North and South America.

Farrer received the Women in Manufacturing STEP Award in 2013, the Shingo Prize for Manufacturing Excellence, and the Donald J. Almquist Award for Extraordinary Accomplishment. She is a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt and is active in the Society of Women Engineers and the Allegion Community Relations Board.

Farrer was a co-op with General Motors as a student. She especially enjoyed rotating to different areas for each session, providing her with experience in many different areas. Her experiences led her and fellow co-op students to launch a cost-reduction initiative called SCRAP which became an ongoing program across her GM division.

EDUCATION
• B.S. ’84, Industrial Engineering, Purdue University
• M.S. ’91, Industrial Engineering, Purdue University

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

CO-OP ALUMNA
EDUCATION

• B.S. ’82, Electrical Engineering, Purdue University
• M.S. ’87, University of Michigan

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

After completing her co-op program at General Motors, Goings has spent her entire career with the company. Starting as an associate engineer in product technology assessment, she held increasingly higher positions in various departments of the company, including Advanced Engineering, Creative Design, Marketing, Strategic Planning and Research & Development. Her contributions have included the development of advanced automotive control systems, new vehicle concepts, the launch of OnStar, growth market strategies, technology introduction strategies and the implementation of design thinking at GM.

Goings was involved in the creation of employee resource groups at GM, including founding the women’s employee resource group and eventually serving as its chair in 2003-2004, and has served on the board of GM PLUS, GM’s LGBTQ resource group. She has been a member of GM’s Purdue University Relations team for many years, enjoying the opportunity to stay involved on campus and to champion Purdue students and research at GM.

Goings currently serves as the Associate Director of Human Systems Experience, where she leads the company’s efforts in advanced user-centered design, design innovation, and experience design in GM’s Research & Development organization.

CO-OP ALUMNA

Goings was a co-op with Delco Electronics, a division of General Motors. What has really stuck with her over the years is the continuing series of “aha!” moments in the grand synergy between work and school. Seeing concepts she learned in class applied at work and, conversely, learning in class about the theories and concepts behind what she did on her co-op experiences are what she credits most for her academic success.
PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Shortly after graduating with her chemical engineering degree, Rebecca decided to pursue a career in law. Soon after obtaining her J.D. from Temple University she began practicing law in Ohio as a litigator. She presently defends businesses with regards to workers’ compensation and employment law matters. Her engineering degree has been useful in advising her clients how to maintain safe workplaces.

In 2010, Rebecca began practicing as an attorney at Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, commonly known as Porter Wright, and has been of counsel at the firm since 2012. She represents and counsels employers in the management and defense of workers’ compensation claims and employment law issues at the administrative and court levels. She advises employers on the complicated intersection of workers’ compensation, accommodation, and leave of absence issues.

Rebecca has received the Ohio Rising Stars in Workers’ Compensation Award in 2012 and was included in the 2015 Best Lawyers of America for Employment Law - Management. She has served as the president of the Purdue Alumni Club of Cleveland for the last seven years, where she has been dedicated to helping Purdue alumni and students find jobs and connect with each other. She is also active in the community, serving on multiple boards and committees.

CO-OP ALUMNA

Rebecca was a co-op with Air Products and Chemicals (recruited into the company by fellow Hall of Fame Inductee Bob Davis), which she credits as her favorite undergraduate experience. As a student, she was highly involved in the Society of Women Engineers and founded the Chemical Engineering Student Advisory Committee.
2013

William Nelson
Winthrop A. Gustafson
Hannis Thompson
John Grutzner
Keith Hawks
Rick Bried

2012

Lawrence Cargnino
(posthumous)
Robert Squires
(posthumous)
John Storm
Kathy Kilmer

2011

James Mason
James Barany
(posthumous)
Renee Fieldhouse
Ron Haddock
Not pictured:
Norman Gildorf

2010

Frederick Morse
(posthumous)
Neal Houze
Leonard Wood
(posthumous)
Thomas Malott
Earliest recorded attempt to establish a formal Cooperative Engineering Education Program. The proposal did not meet with much enthusiasm on the part of the department head at the Board of Trustees meeting. Also, the “catastrophic economic conditions” made the program impossible.

Registrar recommended that the possibility of initiating a program be explored. A committee chaired by Professor G.W. Bergren was created to study the matter.

The first formal Co-Op Program started with the School of Mechanical Engineering with eight students and seven employers.

Civil Engineering joined the Co-Op Program.

Electrical Engineering joined the Co-Op Program.

By April, the program had grown to 50 employers with 161 students. Industrial Engineering joined the Co-Op Program during the summer semester.

Chemical Engineering joined the Co-Op Program.

Aeronautical Engineering joined the Co-Op Program.

Agricultural Engineering joined the Co-Op Program.

Materials Engineering joined the Co-Op Program.

Nuclear Engineering, School of Agriculture, School of Management, and School of Science joined the Co-Op Program.

Interdisciplinary Engineering and School of Technology joined the Co-Op Program.

School of Consumer & Family Sciences joined the Co-Op Program.
Nearly 1,000 students and 400 employers were participating in the Co-Op Program by the 25th anniversary.

School of Education and School of Liberal Arts joined the Co-Op Program.

Colleges of Pharmacy and Nursing joined the Co-Op Program.

Psychological Sciences joined the Co-Op Program.

The Office of Professional Practice serves eight colleges and 48 different disciplines. There are more than 1,000 students and 600 employers participating in the Co-Op Program. OPP offers 3-Session Co-Op, 5-Session Co-Op, Master’s Co-Op, a global program (GEARE), internship programs, and research experiences.
Purdue’s Professional Practice Programs have been growing since 1954 and enrollment over the last five years is up 75%. This great progress is due to the increased effort in developing and maintaining programs that are beneficial to our students.

While students are away from campus on their work assignments, they must also be registered for a course at Purdue, for which they are charged a fee. This Professional Practice Registration Fee covers part of the added cost to the university for administering this special program and maintains the student’s full-time status, a necessity for anyone with financial obligations. Purdue’s Board of Trustees recently approved a proposal to lower this fee from $914 to $400 per student per work session.

Our goal is to grow the participation in Professional Practice Programs from just over 1,000 students to 1,500 students per academic year during the next five years. Even though the registration fee has been lowered, it remains a barrier to some students. The Office of Professional Practice and its students are starting an endowment fundraising campaign called the OPP Impact Fund to ultimately eliminate the Professional Practice Registration Fee and to run the office independent of university resources.

The OPP Impact Fund will enable us to greatly increase the number of students we serve and also generate the necessary funds to develop courses, grow the Co-Op Program in other Colleges and Schools, cover the annual expenses of OPP, and provide critical resources needed for the creation of innovative student development programs and enhanced services.

For additional information or to make a donation to the OPP Impact Fund, please contact:

Hilary Butler
Director of Development, College of Engineering
Phone: 765-494-6383
Email: habutler@prf.org
The Cooperative Education Hall of Fame was created in 2010 to recognize individuals who have had a significant influence on our Professional Practice Programs, as well as alumni of our programs that have demonstrated unparalleled excellence in their field to serve as shining ambassadors of the opportunities that experiential education grants. Individuals are nominated and approved by the Professional Practice Advisory Council, a group of Purdue faculty that aid in the oversight and implementation of our Professional Practice Programs across campus.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

The Office of Professional Practice would like to thank Ron Haddock, Tom Malott, and Bill Nelson for their invaluable and meaningful support of our office and our programs. Your generosity will have a lasting impact on students for years to come.