Heroes on Hold
Human Space Flight Placed on Standby
It was 9:00 a.m., October 7 in Tokyo. A message from the secretary of the Purdue Club of Japan came in to West Lafayette instantly at 8:00 p.m., October 6 — the day a native son of Japan and Purdue chemist, Dr. Ei-ichi Negishi became Purdue’s latest Nobel Prize winner. The message from secretary Kenji Ikuzui (M’94): “Every TV and newspaper in Japan is talking about Purdue University.”

Not only was Japan celebrating Purdue and Dr. Negishi, but back in West Lafayette no fewer than three massive satellite trucks and throngs of reporters from every recognizable media outlet were at the Dick and Sandy Dauch Alumni Center for two major press conferences, numerous interviews, and photo shoots — all to celebrate our Herbert C. Brown Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, Dr. Negishi. It was a great day for him and for Purdue.

If one subscribes to the notion that Purdue moves mankind forward and contributes to the betterment of society, Dr. Negishi is yet further evidence and another point of pride for Boilermakers everywhere. He discovered catalytic reactions using transition metals that allow organic compounds to be synthesized widely, efficiently, and selectively for medicine, materials development, and other fields. It’s called the Negishi Coupling Reaction and has contributed greatly to developing compounds that battle viruses and cancer and to the building of other carbon to carbon bonds — backbones of organic molecules.

One reporter asked Negishi, “What’s your favorite molecule?” He replied, “I have no one favorite. I like to synthesize them all. I like to make anything that exists or can be imagined.” Isn’t that Purdue in a nutshell?

Boilermakers make things. We take an idea and make it real, whether it’s a chemical reaction or a voyage to the Moon. Boilermakers are masters of the often insurmountable challenge of making something out of nothing, forging the way forward for the benefit of mankind and society. This culture has gone unchanged at Purdue, from our founding to this very day. Boilermakers make what moves the world forward; we are pioneers.

Featured in this issue of the Purdue Alumnus are thoughts and perspectives of another important group of Purdue pioneers, our astronauts. The United States is due to halt sending astronauts up in 2011, and given Purdue’s “place in space,” our alumni are at the forefront of the manned flight cancellation debate. We’re proud to offer these perspectives, especially as the efforts of thousands of Boilermaker alumni have created the world’s preeminent space program.

I hope you read this issue, Volume 99, No. 6 with interest and cover-to-cover. Your next Purdue Alumnus will mark our 100th year of proclaiming Purdue’s achievements in print and giving voice to proud Boilermaker alumni worldwide.

Yours in Purdue,

Kirk Cerny
Executive Director and CEO
Purdue Alumni Association
Get rewarded this holiday season.

Use a fixed-rate Purdue Alumni Visa® for all your shopping needs. Then reward yourself with a gift by redeeming your ScoreCard® Rewards bonus points for great brand-name merchandise, travel or even cash back.

**Generous rewards.**
**No annual fee.**
**Apply today!**

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A fond Hansen memory
On reading about Dr. Hansen’s death and life, I was reminded of my first and most memorable memory of him. In spring 1980, the students at Harrison and McCutchon “went nuts” during finals week (for no known reason—study- ing stress?), we all poured out of the dorm chattering and shouting. While all benign, it was a mass of wired folks. Someone decided we should all go to the nearby president’s house. Several hundred marched over there late at night while still loud and boisterous. President Hansen and his wife opened their up-stairs window standing in their robes and waved at all of us and wished us well . . . and we all went home happy. It was very bizarre but they handled it so well and calmly and it turned into a wonderfully positive experience for everyone.

Chad Finn (A83)
Corvallis, OR

Kudos and concern
I just had the opportunity to read the lead article in the Sept./Oct. issue of Purdue Alumni, which tells about Jim and Roberta Graham’s participation in the Gift of Life program that I initiated in central Indiana in 1999. Thanks to you and to Jeanne Norberg, the author, for helping to publicize this very important Rotary program. I am grateful to Jim and Roberta for their many efforts in recent years to help third world children.

I am writing primarily to inquire about the name of your publication. I raise the question simply because “alumnus” is to Jim and Roberta for their many efforts in recent years to help third world children.

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was created there were two, if any, female students who had graduated from Purdue? Would it be more appropriate today to call it Purdue Alumnit? “Alumni,” of course, is the masculine plural form that, by current practice and usage, includes both genders. Since we have the Purdue Alumni Association, why not have a Purdue Alumni magazine and recognize equally our lady graduates?

Bill Hatfield, professor emeritus
West Lafayette, IN

September/October issue follow up
We hope you read the September/October “Another View” article. If you didn’t or want to learn more about the four generations of alums from the same European village, you can visit http://www.dvhh.org/deutschbentschek/Purdue.pdf

In addition, the editorial staff has learned more about the six, first-generation offspring of those immigrants and their contributions to Purdue: Two Presidents of Purdue Alumni Clubs
Four Purdue Alumni Association Life Members
One Purdue President’s Council Member
One Griffin Society Member
One Mechanical Engineering Scholarship Founder

It is easy to see how the loyalty to Purdue of these six outstanding citizens has resulted in an additional 15 Purdue graduates from the succeeding generations — so far!

Purdue has long helped set standards for excellence and value in higher education. It is distinguished for the breadth and quality of its research as well as for the caliber of its alumni.

Purdue is raising the bar again. Over the past year, the University has marked significant achievements in research and student preparedness. Among these exciting achievements is the 2010 Nobel Prize in Chemistry won by Ei-ichi Negishi, our Herbert C. Brown Distinguished Professor of Chemistry. Negishi’s research involves creating a method to build the complex organic molecules necessary for numerous purposes, from pharmaceutical manufacturing to electronics.

Thanks to outstanding faculty such as Negishi, we have reached record investment in research support — a central focus of our “New Synergies” strategic plan. Awards reached $8.18 million, an increase of $96 million.

This robust investment of research funding demonstrates sponsors’ confidence in our programs and initiatives, and in the power and expertise within our laboratories and classrooms.

To affect positive change both locally and globally, it also is essential that Purdue participate in the national conversation about the importance of research. In September, I joined Vice President Joe Biden and a group of university presidents to discuss our research accomplishments. This was a rare opportunity to share information about our pioneering approach to discovery and the impact it is making.

Video of our discussion is available at www.purdue.edu/ president.

Purdue’s place at this table is recognition of our ever-increasing national reputation in using research to jump-start innovation to move the world forward.

Also this fall, a Wall Street Journal survey of corporate recruiters ranked Purdue fourth in the nation for preparing students for the work force. We are sending graduates into the work force who are well rounded, with a strong work ethic, strong leadership skills, and real-world experience.

Recognition like this emphasizes our success as an institution in supporting, encouraging and providing the tools and infrastructure for student success.

The strong foundation Purdue has established in core areas like research and student preparedness is a broad one. Alumni are in a unique position to recognize the value in Purdue’s reputation and scope. Your character and good work, as well as your loyal support and enthusiasm, help us advance Purdue’s reputation. You are the keepers of that unique Boilermaker pride, and each of you is a key stakeholder in our success.

Hail Purdue!

President France A. Córdova
With a new home comes new furnishings and gadgets! Here are just a few of the user-friendly features you’ll find on our new site:

**Easier navigation.** You won’t get lost on our site. The top navigation always stays the same, no matter what page you’re on.

**A beautiful, dynamic home page** featuring intriguing article “teasers” from the current issue of the Purdue Alumnus.

**Alumni profiles** so you can learn more about what makes this university great — you!

**An events page** with options to download events to Outlook or other calendar software. And, you can receive an RSS feed of Alumni Association events so you’re always in-the-know about our fun activities and opportunities to get together.

**Want to find a club near you?** That’s easier now too! Just click on “Find a club near you” on the Alumni Clubs page, search by state, and you’ll be given a map with Purdue flags marking the closest clubs to you as well as their contact information.

**Don’t forget to socialize!** There are quick links at the very top of the site to all of our social networking pages, including a new Picasa Web album with hi-resolution, downloadable photos of our Alumni events.

So come on over, make yourself comfortable and explore Purdue Alumni Association’s new home. Please remember to update any favorites or bookmarks to reflect our new address.

You’re always welcome, and our door is open 24/7 online at www.purduealumni.org.
Alumni pride

Purdue Alumni Award Winners
Alumni honored at the 2010 Alumni Leaders Conference Celebration Dinner

Outstanding Young Alumni Awards
The Purdue Alumni Association is proud to honor Katherine Amick and Ken Sam as the Outstanding Young Alumni Award winners.

Katherine Amick (LA'06) is working as a communications specialist for the PFHC ministry center in Donaldson, Indiana. Since graduating from Purdue, she has served on the Purdue Alumni Club of St. Joseph Valley Board of Directors and now helps organize many programs that provide local students with Purdue scholarships as well as engage local alumni.

Ken Sam (IE'99) is a plant manager for Honeywell and currently is president of the Purdue Club of Kansas City. Before he moved to Kansas City he lived in Memphis where he was the president of the Purdue Club of Memphis. Both clubs were inactive before Sam got involved and he converted both clubs to Gold status during his involvement years. He is also a volunteer with the PART program. Aside from his participation with the alumni club, Sam has been involved with Purdue recruiting activities for Honeywell for the past 10 years.

The Outstanding Young Alumni Award was established in 1999 and honors people age 32 or younger that have given outstanding service to the University, the Purdue Alumni Association, or a local alumni club.

Boilermaker Pride Awards
The Purdue Alumni Association recognized Sue Wilson and Bob Fox as the 2010 Boilermaker Pride Award winners.

Sue Wilson (FR) joined the Purdue Club of Indianapolis board in 1997 and was elected president in 2000. Young alumni participation was an integral role in inviting new students to local Purdue Alumni Association events. She has coordinated club volunteers for the PART program, headed up the effort to secure Purdue license plates in the state of Tennessee in 1996, Bob Fox (ChE'57) grew the club to over 200 attendees. Always wanting to give more, in 2002 she was elected to the Purdue Alumni board and served until 2005. Still active with the club, Sue continues to serve on its board and as chair of the club’s highly successful scholarship program.

The Boilermaker Pride Award was established in 1999 and honors people age 32 or younger that have given outstanding service to the University, the Purdue Alumni Association, or a local alumni club.

Purdue Alumni Recruiting for Tomorrow (PART) Award
Congratulations to Robin Fichtelberg (S89), who was honored as the Purdue Alumni Recruiting for Tomorrow (PART) Volunteer of the Year Award. The selection criteria is based on the commitment of the volunteer, the number of events attended, and their ability to coordinate the help of others.

PART volunteers have represented Purdue at more than 160 college fairs around the country. They also play an integral role in inviting new students to local Purdue Alumni Association events.

Purdue Alumni recognizes Special Boilermaker Award recipients
The Purdue Alumni Association named Charles Krousgrill and James Barany recipients of the 2010 Special Boilermaker Award.

Charles Krousgrill (ME'75) is a professor in mechanical engineering students during this time. His pioneering efforts in mechanics education have earned him numerous teaching awards and international recognition.

James Barany (MS IE'58, PhD IE'61) is a professor in industrial engineering and has served over 6,000 students during his 52 year tenure at Purdue. In 2007 he received the Frank and Lillian Gilbreth Industrial Engineering Award from the Institute of Industrial Engineers, the highest honor bestowed by the IIE.

PSE Awards
Two PASE members were also honored with the Rising Star and Gold Star awards.

The Rising Star award recognizes commitment, enthusiasm, and leadership potential in a student ambassador serving the needs of Purdue alumni and current students. Celeste Morris was the honoree.

Morris is a junior from Memphis, Tennessee, majoring in animal science-pre-vet, and is a part of the PSE Advisory Board. The Golden Star award recognizes the student ambassador that has shown distinguished service, excellence, and dedication to the Purdue Alumni Association and its members. Paul Branhain was the recipient.

Branhain is a senior from Keller, Texas, majoring in nuclear engineering and physics. He is the vice president of the networking committee for the PASE Board of Directors.

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Branhain is a senior from Keller, Texas, majoring in nuclear engineering and physics. He is the vice president of the networking committee for the PASE Board of Directors.
More than $235,000 in scholarships were awarded to 231 students through your Purdue Alumni Association Clubs and Groups Scholarship Program for the 2010–2011 academic year. The 59 participating organizations across the country establish their own criteria and selection process based on academic and leadership qualities. Some of the groups award the aid directly to the student(s) while others distribute the monies through the Division of Financial Aid.
More than 125 alumni returned to campus this September to participate in reunion activities. They had the opportunity to renew relationships with classmates, return and learn during a variety of tours, explore the campus, and celebrate the Golden Anniversary of their Purdue graduation.

The highlight of the weekend was the Reunion Reception & Celebration Dinner at University Place. Alumni enjoyed a performance by the Boilerboys and had the opportunity to listen to keynote speaker John Norberg, the advancement communications manager for the University Development Office and a columnist for the Journal & Courier. Many alumni participated in the Engineer’s Yell and wore their senior cords.

Alumni Weekend in 2011 will be held September 15–17 and will honor the 50th reunion of the class of 1961. To view details and photos from the weekend, visit www.purduealumni.org/alumniweekend.

T-shirts featuring Drew Brees and the No. 15, worn by him 10 years ago, are now available for Purdue fans in West Lafayette area shops. Proceeds from the sales will support the PALS (Purdue Athletes for Life Success) Program that benefits underserved children in Tippecanoe County and is supported by the Brees Dream Foundation, the charity organization of the former Boilermaker quarterback and his wife Brittany. Brees led Purdue to the Rose Bowl at the end of the 2000 season and New Orleans to a Super Bowl Championship in 2010.

“A lot of kids in Tippecanoe County need assistance and they will hopefully benefit from the sales of these shirts,” says Brees.

The shirts, in assorted men’s and women’s sizes, were designed by a Purdue graduate, Lora Stanley, who now works for Original Retro Brand, a California company that has created the shirts.

The shirts will be available in the Purdue Pride, Follett’s Book Stores, University Bookstore, University Spirit, and online through www.originalretrobrand.com.

Prices on the shirts may vary from store to store, but $4 from the sale of each shirt will go to the Brees Dream Foundation, designated for the PALS Program.
There are some new faces at the Purdue Alumni Association. The new team members are, from left, Katie Vanvekoven, front office assistant; Joey Campbell, membership and records assistant; Emily Smith, engagement and records assistant; and April Holajter, electronic communications specialist.

A new but familiar face has joined the Purdue Alumni team. After a 39-year career with Purdue University, John Sautter is now serving as a special assistant to the CEO and executive director. He will be working on special projects, strategic initiatives, and representing the alumni association at alumni club and university events.

John served as Purdue’s vice president for housing and food services until his retirement on June 30. He oversaw operations for University Residences, Food Stores, the Purdue Memorial Union and its 192-room Union Club Hotel, Boiler Television, Elliott Hall of Music and Hall of Music Productions, Loeb Playhouse, Fowler Hall, and Shafter Center for the Performing Arts.

The Purdue Alumni board of directors selected Thomas E. Spurgeon (M’61), Peoria Heights, Illinois, as the Purdue alumni trustee nominee. His three-year term will begin July 1, 2011.

The unanimous nominee of the board, Spurgeon has served as a trustee since 2006. He is a member of the board of trustees’ executive committee and the academic affairs committee, as well as chairman of the compensation committee.

Trustee nominees must be graduates of Purdue University and be dues-paying members of the Purdue Alumni Association. For more information about the Purdue Alumni trustee selection process, contact executive director and CEO Kirk Cerny at kcerny@purdue.edu or (765) 494-5179.

Congratulations to the winning foursome of the Purdue Alumni Championship presented by University Spirit, held on Friday, September 24, at the Birck Boilermaker Golf Complex. From left, James Ballentine, Andrew Braatz, John Ostojic, and Donco Koceski were our winners with a score of 24 under par. They represented Purdue at the Acura College Alumni Team Championship at Pinehurst on November 5, 2010.

The Purdue Alumni Championship also was sponsored by BMW, Dow AgroSciences, Duke Energy, Liberty Mutual, and PEFCU. Thanks for your support!
Simeon David Brown (13 months), grandson of David Belloli (CE’78) and Cynthia Henry Belloli (EDU’77), hopes to one day be a Boilermaker himself!

Unusual Networking

Purdue alumnus Candace Yost (FT’88, ME’79), right, and vice president Carmel McKittrick (EE’71), left, attended the National Society of Black Engineers Annual Conference held in Toronto, Canada.

Purdue wrestler Tommy Churchard stands with current and incoming first-year students during a Purdue Club of New Jersey event.

Three alumnae vacationed together at Sunset Beach, North Carolina. Pictured from left are Barbara (Tower) Williams (LA’67), Susan Hartman (S’81), and Marcia (Gluys) Brock (LA’82).

Ann Stock (center) was sworn in as the assistant secretary of state for educational and cultural affairs by Hillary Clinton. Ann (LA’68) celebrated the honorable occasion with her husband, Stuart (IE’68), and friend and former White House colleague, Carolyn Carval (LA’70, EDR LA’08).
EVENTS CALENDAR

Purdue Alumni Clubs & Groups
www.purduealumni.org/clubs

Purdue Alumni Club of Ft. Wayne
Bucket Dinner
www.purduealumni.org/fortwayne
December 2
Goeglein’s Catering
7311 Maysville Rd.
Ft. Wayne, IN 46815
To get more information or to RSVP contact Sean Marquardt at (260) 486-0563 or marquardst@2stsource.com.

Purdue Alumni Club of Northwest Indiana
Game Watch and Food Drive
www.purduealumni.org/inwianaiana
November 20, time TBD
Valparaiso BW3s
Join fellow Boilermakers as they cheer on the Purdue football team as they play the Spartans and bring non-perishable food items. Food will be donated to the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana.

Purdue Alumni of San Francisco
Holiday Furry
December 5
For more information, contact Cassie Gray at sibyareaboilers@yahoo.com.

Purdue Alumni Association
www.purduealumni.org

Friday Night Bashes
www.purduealumni.org/fridaynightbashes
Rally with fellow Boilermaker fans on location the Friday night before each Big Ten away game. Local venues host the Purdue faithful as we Boiler Up for the game on Saturday! Check the website for more information and to sign up!
November 19: Purdue vs. Michigan State

Boilemaker Ball
February 25, 2011: Mark your calendars for the fourth annual Boilemaker Ball. The event will once again be held at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in downtown Indianapolis.

College/School Associations
Purdue Ag Alumni Fish Fry
Saturday, February 5, 2010
11:30 a.m.
Toyon Blue Ribbon Pavilion
Indiana State Fairgrounds
Tickets must be purchased in advance. Call the Purdue Ag Alumni Office, (765) 494-8599, or get details online at www.ag.purdue.edu/agalumni.

Pharmacy 30th Class Reunion Weekend
November 12–13
Celebrating the Classes of 1980 and 1981
For more information contact nearyd@purdue.edu or call (765) 494-2632.

Tours
www.purduealumni.org/tours
Traveling is a way to create memories that stand apart from other recollections in life. What could be better than traveling with those who share a thirst for knowledge and new experiences? Join fellow Boilermakers as we explore cultures and gain different perspectives on our world through alumni travel.

Waterways of Holland & Belgium
April 9–April 18, 2011
Come celebrate the beauty and spirit of Holland in springtime, the optimal time to find rippling fields of more than 1,000 varieties of tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths stretching as far as the eye can see. Experience the true character of life in the Low Countries cruising for seven nights along the calm canals through Holland and Belgium aboard the deluxe M.S. Amadore, one of Europe’s most state-of-the-art river vessels. Visit picturesque Volendam, an Old Dutch fishing town where residents still don traditional attire; tour the medieval Flemish cities of Antwerp, Ghent, and Bruges, a UNESCO World Heritage site; and see the impressive art collections in the Rijksmuseum, Kröller-Müller Museum, and Van Gogh Museum. Specially arranged cultural enrichments include the exclusive Village Forum™ with local residents, private canal cruises in Amsterdam and Bruges, and expert-guided excursions featuring the artful blooms of magnificent Keukenhof Gardens, the engineering marvel Delta Works, and the legendary windmills of Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Andalucia
April 11–April 20, 2011
The timeless allure of Andalucia is a sensory experience. Marvel at blue sky that stretches from Mediterranean beaches to the craggy heights of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Feel the cool shade of cobbled lanes that twist amid whitewashed Moorish hill towns. Hear the rapid click of castanets and the flip of a Flamenco dancer’s frilled skirt. Taste the zesty cuisine seasoned with rich olive oil and sweet, sun-ripened sherry.

Amalfi: The Divine Coast
April 27-May 5, 2011
Here, mountains erupt from the waters of the Mediterranean and pastel-painted buildings cascade down their sides. Travel a fabled, serpentine ribbon of road from destination to destination. Also, spend seven nights in Amalfi, Italy. Explore Campania and the idyllic town of Sorrento. See three UNESCO World Heritage sites: The Amalfi Coast; the archeological sites of Herculaneum and Pompeii; and the Greek ruins at Paestum. Cross the Gulf of Naples to spend a day on the enchanting Isle of Capri.

Watch the Purdue “All-American” Marching Band on NBC on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, as they perform in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. Purdue is the first Big Ten band to be invited to participate in the world-famous parade. A reception to honor the band’s performance will take place at 1:00 following the parade at the Grand Hyatt Hotel. The reception is open to anyone associated with Purdue University.

For more information, visit www.purdue.edu/bands.
“Some question why America should return to the moon. ‘After all,’ they say, ‘we have already been there.’ I find that mystifying. It would be as if 16th century monarchs proclaimed that ‘we need not go to the New World, we have already been there.’ . . .”

Neil Armstrong (AAE’55, HDR E’70), before the Committee of Science and Technology United States House of Representatives, May 26, 2010
Since the first shuttle was sent into low Earth orbit in April of 1981, the program has supplied people and equipment to build the International Space Station, launched interplanetary crafts, and deployed satellites and telescopes, including Hubble, which is helping to unlock mysteries of the universe. Eighteen of Purdue’s 22 astronauts were part of the Shuttle Program. A 23rd Purdue astronaut is now in training. Although its accomplishments have been great, the Shuttle Program has not succeeded in all of its prime objectives, most notably to make space travel frequent, inexpensive, and routine. And the program has been marred by two tragic accidents that took the lives of 14 astronauts.

With the end of the Shuttle Program there will be a gap in time before NASA once again launches people into space. That gap and the future of NASA have been hotly debated this year as Congress and the Administration set a new course for U.S. human space exploration. Concern that Constellation was under-funded and behind schedule led to an administrative plan to halt it, rely on the commercial sector to transport Americans to low Earth orbit destinations, such as the space station, and begin development of a new rocket and capsule for eventual deep space exploration.

In late September, after much debate including testimony from Armstrong and Cernan, there was an Administration-Senate-House compromise. In October President Barack Obama signed the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Act of 2010. It establishes an overall goal for human space flight to expand a permanent presence beyond low-Earth orbit. Next, Congress will consider an appropriations act to fund the measure. "It was far more important to have a bill that strengthens our foundation to move forward than to have no bill at all," Cernan says. "I feel the passage of the bill gives us a foundation and gives NASA some direction." The compromise extends the shuttle program one more mission from its previous planned end in early March. It extends the Space Station to at least 2020 and cancels most, but not all, of the Constellation Program. It depends on commercial companies to take astronauts into low earth orbit — and the Russians to return U.S. astronauts to the Space Station until the private sector is ready. Meanwhile, NASA will begin work on a new rocket to propel people into deep space, asteroids, and eventually, perhaps, Mars.

Purdue President Emeritus Steven Leising, former chair of the National Science Board, serves on a committee looking at the challenges of a Mars mission. He says there are many problems to overcome, but people at NASA are eager to solve them. Among the big problems is protecting astronauts from cosmic radiation during the 18-month round trip, not including time spent on the surface. Breierd briefly used the hazards of the journey to human bones, muscles, and the potential for developing malignancies. He says their response was, "Yeah, but when do we go?"

Public support for human space flight Ross, who plans to retire from NASA sometime in 2011, says the agency needs long-term focused goals and adequate multi-year funding to accomplish them — free from annual budget politics. He believes the American people will support this. "The American public is very interested in all aspects of robotic and human exploration of space, he says. "From my many years of speaking to the our citizens in every state in the Union, I am convinced that they are very supportive and that they are frustrated that the news organizations do not more fully cover all of the things that we are doing in space."

Have you ever noticed how many mysteries of the universe. Eighteen of Purdue’s 22 astronauts were part of the Shuttle Program. A 23rd Purdue astronaut is now in training. Although its accomplishments have been great, the Shuttle Program has not succeeded in all of its prime objectives, most notably to make space travel frequent, inexpensive, and routine. And the program has been marred by two tragic accidents that took the lives of 14 astronauts.

With the end of the Shuttle Program there will be a gap in time before NASA once again launches people into space. That gap and the future of NASA have been hotly debated this year as Congress and the Administration set a new course for U.S. human space exploration. Concern that Constellation was under-funded and behind schedule led to an administrative plan to halt it, rely on the commercial sector to transport Americans to low Earth orbit destinations, such as the space station, and begin development of a new rocket and capsule for eventual deep space exploration. In late September, after much debate including testimony from Armstrong and Cernan, there was an Administration-Senate-House compromise. In October President Barack Obama signed the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Act of 2010. It establishes an overall goal for human space flight to expand a permanent presence beyond low-Earth orbit. Next, Congress will consider an appropriations act to fund the measure. "It was far more important to have a bill that strengthens our foundation to move forward than to have no bill at all," Cernan says. "I feel the passage of the bill gives us a foundation and gives NASA some direction." The compromise extends the shuttle program one more mission from its previous planned end in early March. It extends the Space Station to at least 2020 and cancels most, but not all, of the Constellation Program. It depends on commercial companies to take astronauts into low earth orbit — and the Russians to return U.S. astronauts to the Space Station until the private sector is ready. Meanwhile, NASA will begin work on a new rocket to propel people into deep space, asteroids, and eventually, perhaps, Mars.

Purdue President Emeritus Steven Leising, former chair of the National Science Board, serves on a committee looking at the challenges of a Mars mission. He says there are many problems to overcome, but people at NASA are eager to solve them. Among the big problems is protecting astronauts from cosmic radiation during the 18-month round trip, not including time spent on the surface. Breierd briefly used the hazards of the journey to human bones, muscles, and the potential for developing malignancies. He says their response was, "Yeah, but when do we go?"

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Have you ever noticed how many
“With this current plan we’re going to lose the leadership position we’ve had for most of the last 50 years. We’ll see how it plays out. But it’s not a pretty picture to me. Some day humans will wish they had a presence off the face of the earth.”

Mike McCulley (MSE’70, MS MSE’70), a former astronaut and retired CEO and president of United Space Alliance

different types of products, from cars to food, use space exploration themes to advertise their products on TV and in the printed media,” he says. “Why is that? It’s because the advertisers are convinced the American public’s attention can and is captured by the use of space exploration visuals.”

Mike McCulley (MSE’70, MS MSE’70) is a former astronaut and retired CEO and president of United Space Alliance. He is concerned.

“I can’t imagine the space station surviving as a viable laboratory,” he says. “With this current plan we’re going to lose the leadership position we’ve had for most of the last 50 years. We’ll see how it plays out. But it’s not a pretty picture to me. Some day people will wish they had a presence off the face of the earth.”

United Space Alliance has been NASA’s primary industry partner in human space operations, including the day-to-day management of the Space Shuttle fleet and planning, training, and operations for the International Space Station.

On October 1, about 1,200 people were laid off or took retirement from the company as a result of the coming end of the shuttle program. Job cuts are also expected at NASA and elsewhere in the space industry.

Loren Shriver (MS AAE’68) is a veteran of three space flights. He is vice president of Engineering and Integration for United Space Alliance and is the company’s chief technology officer.

“The end of the Shuttle Program generates very mixed emotions for me,” he says. “Except for the early design activity of the Shuttle system in the early 1970s, I have been involved in almost all of the Shuttle program history since my arrival at the Johnson Space Center in 1978 to join the first Shuttle Astronaut Class.

“The very happy and proud feeling I have comes from being a part of this wonderfully productive, highly capable program that I feel provided inspiration and motivation to many people and has been a symbol of leadership in human space flight activity for the United States,” he says.

John Casper (MS AAE'67) has flown on four shuttle missions. He is associate manager for the Space Shuttle Program.

David Wolf (EE’78) has logged 168 days, 12 hours, 36 minutes, 4 seconds in space over 4 separate missions. He has conducted a total of 7 spacewalks, logging 47 hours and 5 minutes of extravehicular activity. He now consults at all levels of NASA management in development of spacelift policy and program execution.

“A first rate country deserves a first class space program,” Wolf says. “Just as the NASA of the past is in large part responsible for our current quality of life on earth, the current NASA will be responsible for our future quality of life. In our country, with its position of leadership of our planet, a balanced set of priorities must essentially include a powerful human spaceflight program. There is no force more powerful than the NASA programs to assure excellence in our country’s future.”

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden gave the Boeing Lecture on the Purdue campus in September to an overflow audience in Fowler Hall.

“We will be doing human exploration, and we plan to develop the capabilities needed to go beyond low Earth orbit, farther into our solar system,” he said. “This policy will ensure the U.S. remains at the forefront of innovation.

“In the upcoming decades we truly hope to witness the first boots on Mars,” he said. “As our first astronauts shake the red soil from their boots, they will prove once and for all that all humans are meant to explore.”

Cernan says in the years ahead there will be much more discussion about the future of human space flight and he hopes a return to the moon will one day take place.

“We are all supportive of the efforts to move forward and continue with a plan,” Feustel says. “Human space exploration is still in its infancy — more like the Flintstones rather than the Jetsons. We have a long way to go and it will happen eventually, in spite of ourselves.

“We can’t stop it. Exploration is what we do.”

David Wolf (EE’78), astronaut and consultant at NASA

“A first rate country deserves a first class space program.”

John Norberg is the advancement communication manager for the University Development Office and is a columnist for the Lafayette Journal & Courier. Photos by Hunter Freeman.
When Mike Wright starts talking about Dr. Stephen Badylak, you can practically hear his ear-to-ear smile through the phone. “Dr. Badylak saved my life,” Wright says of the director of tissue engineering at the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. “There’s no other way you can say it. I’ll probably have a longer life expectancy than I ever had before because of him. I guess I run on a lot, but I’m excited!”

Wright says he can’t help himself. He’s making up for lost time, time he thought might be lost forever. He credits his recovery, his life, and his positive attitude to Dr. Badylak, a Purdue University graduate whose pioneering work into regenerative medicine provided the cure that changed the course of his future.

Worst-case scenario

After struggling for years with intense acid reflux and a hiatal hernia, Wright was diagnosed in 2000 with Barrett’s esophagus, a thick scarring of the esophagus that often leads to cancer. In August 2009, one of his routine tests came back with unsatisfactory results. He visited the James Cancer Center at Ohio State University near his home in Columbus, Ohio, where doctors confirmed his worst fears.

“They were very up front,” he says. “They says only pancreatic cancer is more deadly, and that I’d have to do something about it, like yesterday.”

As Dr. Badylak points out, the treatments currently available for esophageal cancer often are worse than the disease. Wright began a series of six ablations, in which doctors inserted a probe into his throat and attempted to cauterize the cancerous tissue with a laser.

“I had about two to three weeks between each treatment,” he says. “Just when you feel like you can start swallowing water again, you’d have another one. I lost 52 pounds in three to four months.”

In mid-December, his doctors advised that the treatment wasn’t working fast enough. Concerned that the cancer would break through the walls of his esophagus and begin spreading into his body, they advised Wright to consent to the removal of a large section of his esophagus.

One of the patients on the segment had esophageal cancer. It was the past tense description that had Wright leaning forward in his seat that night. Surgeons had removed the cancerous tissue in the man’s throat and replaced it with a sheet of ECM, or extracellular matrix, designed by Dr. Badylak. The man, speaking to the reporter on television, noted that he was beginning to regain his lost weight, and was currently cancer-free.

“I got online and I got Dr. Badylak’s contact information and I started burning up the phones,” Wright says. “I called, I e-mailed, I faxed. Everything...
In the months since the surgery, Wright’s own esophagus, spurred by the complex restorative properties of the ECM, has remodelled itself, growing into healthy, cancer-free throat tissues. “I am 100 percent cancer-free and I’ve got a whole new esophagus,” Wright says, his voice smooth and rich. “Thanks to Dr. Badylak, with the pig intestine and the plate dust, I am going to live to see my grandkids. It’s just a miracle.”

A stroke of luck and years of work
How was Badylak able to use pig tissue to entice the human body to heal itself in ways previously unknown? The discovery and the ability to translate it into safe medical treatment, has been years in the making.

Badylak earned three degrees at Purdue University Medical School. By the mid 1990s, he would become the director at Hillenbrand. He would continue to explore work in both veterinary and human medicine over the next two decades, working as an associate professor of veterinary physiology as well as serving as the head team physician for the athletic department at Purdue for 16 years.

It was during this period of research in Purdue’s biomedical engineering center, that Badylak stumbled upon what would become ECM. “If we had thought that the ECM must be a good scaffolding material, then I would say we were pretty smart, but in fact we were more just lucky,” Badylak says.

Badylak and his research assistants were experimenting with replacing the aorta of a dog with a piece of an intestinal tissue. Each application has its own unique needs, but in fact we were more just lucky,” Badylak says.

Badylak and his team spent several more years testing ECM in the growth and replacement of various tissues, from the nervous system to muscle and bone. With each test, they found the same result. The ECM became the tissue or system it was implanted in, and stopped cells from the ECM in the growth and replacement of various tissues. From the nervous system to muscle and bone, Badylak and his work with ECM at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. The couple drove to Pittsburgh but Badylak was not in his office.

“Worried that their son’s altered hand might cause other children to tease him, the Cardenas’s scoured the internet for doctors who might be able to help reconstruct J. J’s finger at a later age, when the risk of infection might be lower. Monica Cardenas found information about Dr. Stephen Badylak and his work with ECM at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. The couple drove to Pittsburgh but Badylak was not in his office.”

Healing a child
At a church Christmas party in Hagerstown, Maryland, in 2008, Marcos and Monica Cardenas witnessed one of those accidents which in time seems to slow down. Their then 5-year-old, Juan Jose (J. J.), caught his finger in the edge of a heavy door. The end of his finger was severed.

The Cardenas family rushed J. J. to the hospital, where doctors explained that while it might be possible to reattach the severed portion of the finger, the risk of infection was too high. “We wanted them to put the piece back,” Marcos Cardenas says. “But they couldn’t do it. They say with him being so small, if it got infected, it could be really bad for J. J.”

“Worried that their son’s altered hand might cause other children to tease him, the Cardenas scoured the internet for doctors who might be able to help reconstruct J. J.’s finger at a later age, when the risk of infection might be lower. Monica Cardenas found information about Dr. Stephen Badylak and his work with ECM at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. The couple drove to Pittsburgh but Badylak was not in his office.”

“He says the treatment was only for military procedures and not open to the public yet, but I guess us being there and all, they ended up helping us out.”

Badylak put the Cardenas family in touch with a company that manufactured ECM and agreed to monitor J. J.’s treatment if they could find a doctor willing to sign off on the experimental procedure.

While the treatment wasn’t enjoyable for J. J. — doctors had to reopen his wound to insert the ECM into the tissue — it did work. New growth appeared day by day. Eventually, Dr. Badylak allowed the mother and father to apply the ECM to their son’s finger at home, to reduce his anxiety at going to the doctor’s office.

“We saw how the medicine started working on my boy’s finger,” Marcos Cardenas says. “There was new skin coming up every day. We were just amazed.”

In a 10 to 12 week period, J. J.’s finger was once again, whole. Even the nail bed had grown in normally. The finger continues to grow at the same pace as the rest of his hand and other fingers.

“He never lost any feeling to the finger,” Cardenas says. “His nail grows as normal. You can’t even see the difference between that finger and the other ones. Even his fingerprint is there. Thanks to Dr. Badylak’s willingness to do good for people, my son got his finger back. We’re so appreciative of that.”
than harvesting or manipulating stem cells, ” Badylak says. “Rather than changing how the body responds to this environment of a cell and the substrate to which those cells are adhering. ”

“It’s not going to be in a pill form, ” he says. “It’s a local application that changes how the body responds to damage.”

Robert Nerem, director of the Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory Center for Regenerative Medicine, served on Purdue’s Tissue Engineering Advisory Board during the time Badylak was working on the production of ECM. “The initial work was basically all done at Purdue,” Nerem says. “Certainly, Stephen has expanded on that since going to Pittsburgh but it is all about the microenvironment of a cell and the substrate to which those cells are adhering.

“It can be a rich set of biological signals. With a real ECM, it becomes a very important part of what’s dictating the behavior of the cell, the function of it.”

More than a decade since the first patient was treated with ECM, Badylak is still working to understand what occurs in the body to make ECM not only become the tissue it rests in, but grow or heal it as well.

“We now know that it does things like recruit your own stem cells to the site,” he says. Stem cells are cells within the body that have the capacity to become any type of cell and are not limited to only one group, such as a bone cell or kidney cell.

“It changes the body’s immune response from inflammatory to constructive remodeling,” Badylak says. “Rather than harvesting or manipulating stem cells through a complex process outside the body, ECM recruits them from the inside. It also simplifies treatment because it’s much easier to get FDA approval with stem cell research when you don’t have to harvest them.”

Using ECM kicks the body’s own innate ability to try to reconstruct tissue into high gear, but Badylak cautions that it is not a fountain of youth or miracle drug. It cannot push the body to regenerate itself if it was not well before application.

“The ECM is not going to be in a pill form,” he says. “This is a local application that changes how the body responds to damage.”

Saving those who served

“The clinical application of ECM took off when Badylak joined the University of Pittsburgh in 2001. The school offered a blend of the basic sciences with the clinicians who work at the medical school,” says Dr. Li Zhang, a research scientist in the Badylak laboratory, begins the process of recellularization of the liver scaffold. By placing a patient’s own liver cells into a three-dimensional bioscaffold, it may be possible to create new functional liver tissues for patients with end-stage liver disease.

“Once researchers became familiar with it, the idea of a lot of papers were published on it,” he says. “What we did expand was the number of people working on biologic scaffolds from a very few to a whole bunch. We had the chance to set the bar with the FDA. There are literally hundreds of products on the market made of ECM now.”

For Mike Wright, the esophageal cancer patient who has testified in front of Pennsylvania’s house and senate to lobby for more funding for education and medical research, the great dream is to see ECM developed in a way that helps others.

“Now we’re going to be saving thousands of people that had no hope. ” Wright says. “In five years, what they did to me is going to be common place. I was at a hopeless spot in my life. If it hadn’t been for Dr. Badylak coming up with the treatment in the first place, I probably would not be here.”

Changing the future of medicine

Gail Naughton, dean of the School of Management at San Diego State University, and a longtime colleague of Dr. Badylak, is the CEO of Histogen, a regenerative medicine company. Badylak chairs the scientific advisory board of Histogen and sits on the company’s board of directors.

She sees the military clinical trials as the beginning of vast applications for ECM.

“ECM has a large potential as a device coating to improve tissue integration into the wound and to prevent the foreign body reaction and inflammation currently seen with most materials on the market,” Naughton says. “I also believe that ECM as a whole, not just a collagen, will prove to be an excellent tissue filler and stimulate in-growth of a person’s own cells to more permanently fill the defect and regenerate bone, muscle and skin. The biggest challenge will be to get regulatory approval for these various applications.”

Wider approvals will come, Badylak says, as more patients benefit from ECM and live longer lives without side effects.

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For Mike Wright, the esophageal cancer patient who has testified in front of Pennsylvania’s house and senate to lobby for more funding for education and medical research, the great dream is to see ECM developed in a way that helps others.

“Dr. Badylak and his team have proven that it is possible,” he says. “Our research, who hopes to return to active duty with the Marines at some point when he is well, can’t quite explain how ECM has changed his life.

“It’s just one small part of what this stuff can do, but it’s made a big, positive difference,” he says. “With me, it seems to be working.”
Some Boilermakers’ diplomas are framed in leadership and stamped with character. Many of these are earned by the men and women in ROTC, the Reserve Officer Training Corps. These students virtually take leadership as their second major.

By Jeanne Norberg

While other students sleep in, they are up at O-dark-30 several mornings a week for a six-mile run or an eight-mile march, topped with pushups, pull-ups, lunges, crunches, and weight lifting that would make Atlas cringe.

While others enjoy a summer break, ROTC cadets might cruise the Pacific below the waves in a nuclear submarine, learn survival skills in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, parachute out of perfectly good airplanes, rappel out of helicopters, or put their leadership to the stress test at Fort Lewis, Washington. For two weekends during the school year, Army ROTC cadets take part in field training exercises at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, where cadets get hands-on experience with everything from tactical patrolling to weapons firing.

While other students party, they usher at home football games, and the next morning they are combing for litter at Ross-Ade Stadium. They learn service early, as big brothers or sisters or as companions at the Indiana Veterans Home. They build houses for Habitat for Humanity and organize and run a POW-MIA vigil. They present the colors at many athletic and academic events on campus and around town, participate in the homecoming parades and speak at veterans’ events.

Service-before-self is their true north

“It’s really neat to be with the people in ROTC because everyone holds himself or herself to a higher standard,” says Hadley Miller, a junior in Air Force ROTC. “Everyone works as hard as they possibly can and takes on any challenge. If you give them a task, you’ll know they will follow through and do it to the best of their ability. You know you can trust them.”

From the perspective of a Purdue ROTC grad who is a “few years out,” Major Gen. Erika Steuterman (LA’76, MS M’77) looks back and says, “The thing the ROTC offers that you don’t get anywhere on campus is a true network, a built-
Miller, who majors in aeronautical engineering, was drawn to ROTC in her sophomore year after watching the cadets. They challenged her, and she loves challenges.

Those challenges start with “Freshman 6,” a boot-camp type experience the week before classes start. Midshipman Mike Massel, a senior in professional flight technology from Indianapolis, remembers that week as a defining moment.

“While it wasn’t the worst possible situation, getting up at 4 a.m. to get yelled at until 10 p.m. and then studying until 12 a.m., Monday through Saturday, wasn’t exactly fun,” Massel says. “While we were standing at attention in the 90-degree heat, we watched the other freshmen having fun in their swim suits during their Boiler Gold Rush orientation, and we knew there were only two things you could do. You have to laugh, on the inside of course, at the mistakes you make, and befriend others in your squad.

Misery loves company and builds lifelong friendships
And that’s just the beginning of teamwork. They know with- out hesitation that as a team you are much stronger than you are as an individual. They study together, shoot pool and watch TV in the ROTC student lounge, pull all nighters for physics classes, mentor one another, enroll in core classes together, encourage, cheer and even sit in judgment when discipline might be necessary.

“If you don’t learn teamwork, you will likely quit,” Massel says. “We started with about 80 midshipman in my class and after the first week 20 quit, and at the end of the first year, our class had shrunk to about 40.”

About 480 students are enrolled this fall in one of ROTC’s three branches — Air Force, Army, and Navy, which has a Marine option component. They all take ROTC classes, wear their uniforms on the same day as their weekly lab course where Army cadets, for example, lead each other in a tactical exercise, planning, and executing challenging missions. They’ll also tell you they learn to endure “death-by-Power-Point presentations.”

For many, though, the hardest part is the lack of sleep. They learn to live on four to five hours of sleep many nights. More than 80 percent take technical majors and all are encouraged to graduate in four years, which usually means taking a heavier class load than their peers. Yet, it’s more attractive to them than life at the military academies.

“We are able to pursue our individual interests and can participate in student organizations and Greek Life,” said Paul Marder, senior management major from New Jersey who joined Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity. Steuterman joined Purdue Bands, served in the flag corps, and played French horn for the symphony band. “The key is time management, and caffeine probably helps, too.”

Leadership is woven throughout
As a freshman you are a leader for the people in your group, helping those having difficulty with studies or the aspects of the program, such as close order marching or protocol. As juniors or seniors, cadets are put in charge of about 20 students who they teach, mentor, and encourage. Some oversee their battalion as executive officer, manage drill teams or the tri-service color guards. Massel, for example, is his NROTC company chief petty officer, serving as the liaison between the commanding officer and the 40 members.

By the time they report to their first duty station as second lieutenants, they’re experienced leaders who can step into a very responsible job and do it well, even under pressure. During their summer emersions, Air Force and Army cadets take command in numerous stressful situations.

“Simulated explosions went off during our mock deployment when I was squadron commander,” Miller says. “Senior cadets add to the stress by yelling at you. You need to be in charge, you need to think clearly and you need to lead. It’s hard. Not everyone can.”

As Massel’s last semester and commencement approach, he realizes he looks forward to graduating with a different perspective than most Purdue students.

“Unlike most students, graduation is not our primary goal,” Massel says. “Receiving our commission as officers is the goal and graduation is a way to attain that.

That rings true for retired Maj. Gen. Craig Whelden (LA ’73), former deputy commander of the Pacific Army and now executive director of Marine Corps Bases Pacific, charged with overseeing all Marine Corps bases from California to Japan.

Whelden, who was at the Pentagon on 9/11, says he would tell graduates, “You are joining the most highly respected institution in the free world — the United States military — as validated by the post-Vietnam era, and it was hard earned. Uphold the values of this great institution whether in or out of uniform and treasure it on your sleeve. We’ve come a long way since the dark days of the Vietnam War.”

Other Purdue ROTC alumni range from the first African-American commissioned officer in the Marine Corps to the first female admiral to command a strike group.

The rings are available for seniors and the more than 12,000 Purdue alumni who were commissioned through ROTC, which first came to campus in 1888. Until 1946 male students were required to either join ROTC or band. ROTC enrollment at Purdue has ranged from 830 to 2,275 during World War II. Today, about 480 students are enrolled in all three ROTC branches. Eighty percent of the ROTC graduates will receive active duty tour. Others will serve in the Reserves or National Guard.

Midshipman Michael Massel, chair of the ring committee, says they are designed in both gold and stainless steel.

“Because of the physical nature of military life, our committee asked Balfour to design not only gold rings but also a line made of stainless steel that will hold up while deployed,” Massel says. “Ours are different than the standard class rings, which usually has a colored stone on top. Ours is distinctive.”

Other schools with a ROTC class ring, besides the military academies, include, Texas A&M, Virginia Military Institute, Virginia Tech, and North Carolina State universities.

More information about the ROTC rings is available at http://purduealumnii.org/rotc.
Quite Comfortable in Carolina

By Brian Hudgins

West Lafayette native Amanda Spencer never imagined she would be living in the low country area of South Carolina. That reality has helped her find her calling and given her more new family members than she can count.

S
pencer (CFS’03) started Spencer Special Events three years ago. Through that company, she has planned family reunions, anniversaries and numerous weddings. Spencer and her husband, Case, live in Hilton Head, South Carolina, a location they settled into when he received a job transfer.

“I have to pinch myself,” she says. “The opportunities here have been incredible.”

Before she set foot in Hilton Head, Spencer spent many days growing up in the shadow of the university.

“Growing up in West Lafayette, I took Purdue for granted,” she says. “Then once you leave, you realize what a great education you have that you can call your own. The (hospitality) industry is a lot of hard work. Purdue helps groom you for that.”

Spencer secured an internship with Marriott, which sent her to Lexington, Kentucky. That journey served many purposes. Spencer learned how to help and reassure hotel guests who were facing a variety of issues far from home.

“Through the training at Purdue and Marriott, it is great training for customer service,” she says. “I have taken those tools. How can we serve our clients or guests or vendors?”

She also gained a soulmate, Case. They met at the Griffin Gate Marriott in Lexington. When Case’s career called for a move to Hilton Head, a new door opened for Spencer.

A new calling

In 2003, Spencer took the task of being event manager for the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. She frequently planned meetings and events for chamber members and state officials.

“My boss at the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce was a great mentor and it helped guide me to the calling of social events,” Spencer says.

Working with politicians and other officials who wanted schedules to be thoroughly planned helped prepare Spencer for that switch.

“It’s a lot of hard work, whether it’s a wedding, a conference, or an event for 1,000 people,” she says. “We did a lot of seminars and conferences.”

Now, the focus is not on coordinating a conference or a seminar. Spencer is often locked in on a much more personal event: the beginning of a marriage.

“It’s an emotional time for families — a stressful time,” she says. “My greatest reward is when they come back and meet my husband and son (Griffin). When they come back, we are still part of the family.”

Spencer became part of a fellow Purdue graduate’s wedding when Beth (Anderson) Chriscinske (T’04) and Chad Chriscinske planned their wedding to be held in Hilton Head last year. The couple wanted to do a destination wedding to allow the guests to take a vacation that would be
Beth Anderson (T’04) and her soon-to-be husband, Chad Chriscinske. Spencer planned a destination wedding in Hilton Head for alumna Purdue alumnus November/December 2010. There is an additional benefit for Spencer when with her clients in search of the perfect ceremony and reception location. There is an additional benefit for Spencer when she evaluates all the pre-wedding details. She has the opportunity to taste the dinner entrees or wedding cake.

“Then, of course, we must make sure for the signature cocktail is the exact color and garnished with the perfect piece of fruit to quench the thirsts of their wedding guests,” she says.

For Beth and Chad Chriscinske’s wedding, a handful of conference calls enabled Spencer to form a plan for putting together a fun week for the visiting family members.

“She found all those awesome vendors and we had regular calls every other week,” Chriscinske says. “She mapped out the week and said ‘here you go’ and we went with it. She did it all. Just the thought of planning a wedding … I wanted to jump in head first. But Amanda paced us. She said, ‘this week we will set up the DJs and this week, we will do this’.”

Some clients look strictly for expertise in partnering with wedding vendors. Some families from other parts of the country bring their own people to help.

“We are a coordinator and coach for the entire team,” Chriscinske says. “When she calls now, it’s great. With the birth of our son, the job has changed, “Spencer says. “We are a family working with people. My parents are a dear friend. Last night, Case and I went to a local restaurant and met a person who is now a good friend. She found all these awesome vendors and we had regular calls every other week,” Chriscinske says. “She mapped out the week and said ‘here you go’ and we went with it. She did it all. Just the thought of planning a wedding … I wanted to jump in head first. But Amanda paced us. She said, ‘this week we will set up the DJs and this week, we will do this’.”

Some clients look strictly for expertise in partnering with wedding vendors. Some families from other parts of the country bring their own people to help.

“We are a coordinator and coach for the entire team,” Chriscinske says. “A lot of clients have second homes in Hilton Head and they have vacationed here. It’s special to them.”

The natural look of Hilton Head is special to Spencer. As she travels down scenic streets that showcase the South’s beauty, she enjoys all the sights that are part of the landscape. “It’s so nice that we are easy to get to with the airport here,” she says. “There are charming chapels. An island is a ferry ride away. There are historic lighthouses. It’s a romantic location. It shows a southern charm that cannot be replicated anywhere else in the country. This area is a great teammate and business partner.”

Within the process of planning a wedding and making numerous business decisions, Spencer has a wealth of business knowledge available at a moment’s notice. The Spencers are able to discuss work situations or leave those questions for later when they are away from work.

“Case jokes that his role is lifting the heavy things for me and the girls that work with me,” Spencer says. “His education is a big part of the success of Spencer Special Events. He has a great skill to lead people. We know how to discuss things and when to leave it alone. I am the hospitality major. He was business and economics (Case is a Vanderbilt University graduate.) We complement each other well.”

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Those various skills are valuable when dealing with wedding preparations that can take on any size or shape. As a newly married couple prepares for the future, Spencer is mindful of the significance.

“It’s not just a business transaction,” she says. “It’s such a personal event.”

With Hilton Head being a vacation destination for many visitors each year, many families get a side benefit of some rest and relaxation while Spencer is handling the details of a wedding or family reunion.

“I think the current economy has promoted destination weddings,” Spencer says. “People are taking weddings on the road. You don’t need a passport (for Hilton Head) and you have homes you can rent. People are looking for an excuse to go on vacation. It’s a great way to get away with your family.”

One big family

The Spencer’s own wedding was much closer to home — at St. Thomas Aquinas on campus. With both of Spencer’s parents, Dr. Larry Horstman and Jane Horstman, being Purdue alumni, there is a definite Purdue presence in Hilton Head when Spencer’s couple comes to town. Her brother, Joe Horstman, is also a Purdue graduate.

When Amanda and Case made the move to Hilton Head, Amanda found out quickly that she would have some fellow Purdue graduates on hand to help her feel more at home.

“I didn’t know anyone in Hilton Head,” she says. “I went to an alumni association event and met a person who is now a dear friend. Last night, Case and I went to a local restaurant and a couple had a Purdue license plate on their car. It started a conversation. My husband laughs and says it is 12 degrees of Purdue separation.”

The Spencers are also huge sports fans. As Amanda discusses basketball, she says about her husband’s alma mater (with laughter), “at least Vanderbilt’s colors are also gold and black.”

As Spencer continues to plan weddings for families and meet new friends, she is now a parent who is often communicating with parents of soon-to-be brides.

“How the birth of our son, the job has changed,” Spencer says. “We are a family working with people. My parents are both Purdue alumni. They come help out. What’s really neat is the clients love to meet my family and our crew.”

It is a bond that carries on after the wedding cake has been cut and the honeymoon trip is over.

“We have followed the pictures of Amanda’s baby,” Chriscinske says. “When she calls now, it’s great. With everybody that is at the wedding, she took care of everybody and you stay in touch. I can’t imagine trying to plan it on my own.”

Amanda and Case have no plans to break from the Purdue connection.

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news & notables

Purdue honors hero pilot, alumnus Capt. Chesley ‘Sully’ Sullenberger

Purdue welcomed home the Hero on the Hudson, Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger (MS LA’73), on November 12 as its guest of honor for the annual President’s Council Weekend. Just after takeoff from LaGuardia Airport on Jan. 15, 2009, a flock of geese took out both engines on his US Airways airliner. Sullenberger told his passengers to brace for a hard landing and then set the plane down safely in the Hudson River. With the Manhattan skyline as a backdrop, he stayed on board until all 155 passengers and crew were safely off the plane.

Among the honors he received at a luncheon for council members that day was the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the College of Liberal Arts, which was home to industrial psychology when he earned his Purdue master’s degree in 1973. President France A. Córdova issued the invitation to Sullenberger. He also was recognized that evening during the President’s Council annual dinner.

“Captain Sullenberger’s skill and calm in the face of a singular challenge saved the lives of everyone aboard US Airways Flight 1549 and inspired the entire world,” Córdova says. “The poise and dignity he displayed in receiving the international acclaim that has followed set him apart as a true American hero.”

Courage and honor

At a news conference the day after the landing, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg praised Sullenberger’s pilotage in the cockpit aboard US Airways Flight 1549.

“The pilot did a masterful job of landing the plane in the river and then making sure that everybody got out,” Bloomberg says. “He walked the plane twice after everybody else was off and tried to verify that there was nobody else on board.”

A native of rural Texas who learned to fly as a teenager, Sullenberger received his undergraduate degree from the U.S. Air Force Academy in June 1973. Within weeks he was at Purdue taking summer classes to complete his master’s work.

Purdue’s influence

In his book, High Flight Duty: My Search for What Really Matters, Sullenberger says his study at Purdue prepared him well for the challenges he would face.

Purdue professor wins Nobel Prize

A Purdue University chemist was awarded the Nobel Prize in chemistry for creating a method to build complex organic molecules necessary for numerous purposes, from pharmaceutical manufacturing to electronics.

Ei-ichi Negishi (pronounced “H. Na-gi-shē”), the Herbert C. Brown Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, was a co-recipient of the prize with scientists Richard Heck of the University of Delaware in Newark and Akira Suzuki of Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan. They will share the $1.5 million award.

Negishi developed metal-based reactions, called palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling, that allow for easy and efficient synthesis of complex organic compounds. Examples of applications include drug manufacturing, fluorescent marking that has been essential for DNA sequencing and creating materials for thin LED displays.

He discovered catalytic reactions using a number of transition metals that allow various organic compounds to be synthesized widely, efficiently and selectively for use in fields ranging from medicine to materials development. His work has resulted in dramatically reducing the cost of using such metals, like palladium, in the synthesis.

“Catalysts are not lost as they spur a chemical reaction. They are recycled and can be used over and over again,” he said. “These transition metals are very expensive, but when they can be used millions to billions of times, it dramatically reduces the cost and makes the mass manufacturing of special, complex materials practical.”

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), which is part of the National Institutes of Health, has supported Negishi’s work since 1979.

The Nobel Prizes will be awarded during ceremonies on December 10 in Stockholm and Oslo.

Look for a feature article about Professor Ei-ichi Negishi in the January/February issue.

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Professor appointed as a science adviser to U.N. Development Program

The United Nations Development Program has chosen a Purdue University professor to lead an effort to reduce the risks and damage from earthquakes in Haiti.

Eric Calais, a professor of earth and atmospheric sciences, is taking a leave of absence to serve a one-year term as science adviser for the United Nations Development Program, or UNDP, under its Disaster Risk Reduction Program in Haiti.

“We are delighted to have Professor Calais as part of our team in Haiti,” says Jessica Faieta, the UNDP senior country director. “His expertise and scientific advice will permit us to widen our ongoing work in helping Haiti to increase its preparedness and reduce its natural disaster risk, not only from a climatic vulnerability but also from a now very relevant seismic one.”

On Jan. 12 Haiti was struck by a magnitude 7 earthquake that caused massive destruction and killed more than 200,000 people.

“The tragic consequences of the January earthquake showed how vulnerable the country is, and earthquakes like these are not isolated events, but a permanent and unavoidable risk for the people,” Calais says. “We must develop strategies to reduce the potential for devastation and protect people’s lives. There is a great need for a better understanding of the seismic threat and ways to prepare for it.”

Improving heart health of African-Americans in Indiana

Reducing the incidence of heart disease in the high-risk African-American population in Indiana is the aim of a new $1.5 million grant at Purdue University.

“Heart disease not only can lead to premature death but also affect the quality of life for many individuals,” says Mohan J. Dutta, professor of health communication and director of the project. “Unfortunately, improvements in disease prevention are small, and this project, which will emphasize a community-driven, culture-centered approach, really positions us to bring about a paradigm shift to improve the effectiveness of public health programs. Doing so could help us address the high health disparities experienced by African-Americans by creating participatory spaces for African-American communities to voice their opinions about health issues.”

Dutta and his team will collaborate with the Indiana Minority Health Coalition and its affiliates in Lake and Marion counties during the three-year project, which is funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The research team will create a technology hub that will allow partners and patients to post information, collaborate online, offer feedback, and build technology-based community infrastructures. This health disparities hub will utilize HUBzero, a Web portal environment developed at Purdue.

During the next three years, Dutta and his team will develop and evaluate training for local leaders in African-American communities on how to develop a strategy to promote health information in the community, evaluate the health disparities hub, and assess how these changes increased and utilized the underserved African-American community’s capacity to create relevant information about heart disease. The researchers will establish an advisory panel, conduct focus groups and individual interviews, and offer workshops for local community members to create culturally tailored communication solutions on the basis of the research summary guides.

By taking this kind of community-driven and culture-centered approach, the community participates in decision making and strategy development while the academic partner plays a capacity-building role that facilitates collaboration and makes resources available to the community, Dutta says.

Rise in world rankings for Purdue engineering and technology programs

Purdue’s engineering and technology programs rose nine places in the QS World University Rankings.

Purdue’s engineering and technology programs rose nine places in the QS World University Rankings. Overall, Purdue’s ranking remained 87th, unchanged from last year’s survey, making it the state’s only public university ranked in the top 100.

In the 2010 QS rankings, Purdue’s engineering and technology programs were ranked 86th, compared to 79th in 2009, and natural sciences ranked 118th, compared to 94th in 2009.

The complete QS World’s Best Universities listings are available at www.topuniversities.com.
A Wall Street Journal survey of corporate recruiters ranks Purdue University fourth in the nation in preparing its students for the work force.

“This confirms that Purdue gets students ready to succeed in the real world,” says Timothy Sands, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. “Companies are hiring the whole student, and ours have a solid work ethic, strong leadership skills, and real-world experience. Job recruiters recognize our emphasis on internships, learning communities, study abroad, writing in the disciplines, and other programs that give our students a well-rounded education.”

In the survey’s specialty rankings, Purdue was ranked first in management information systems, second in engineering, and eighth in computer science.

In the overall rankings, Penn State University was No. 1, followed by Texas A&M University and the University of Illinois.

The newspaper surveyed 842 top recruiting executives to find the schools that best prepare students to land satisfying, well-paying jobs that also have growth potential. Responses from 479 recruiters were received. As a group, the survey participants hired more than 43,000 new graduates in the past year.

A sample of recruiter comments about Purdue, mentioned in the Wall Street Journal story accompanying the ranking, included “Longstanding relationships, great deal of executive involvement, well-rounded programs.”

“This is consistent with feedback that we receive from employers,” says Timothy Luzader, director of Purdue’s Center for Career Opportunities. “Employers have told us that they know they are getting solid students who have a proven track record.”

Beth M. McCuskey, a land-grant university veteran from the University of Wyoming, has been named Purdue University’s associate vice president for Housing and Food Services.

“Housing and Food Services is composed of a number of financially self-supporting units, so it is imperative this leader have a strong background in facilities management, budgeting and fiscal management, as well as student development and learning,” says James Almond, senior vice president for business services and assistant treasurer. “Beth McCuskey will serve Purdue well with her experience in financial operations and her dedication to student success.”

McCuskey, who is executive director of residence life, dining services and the Wyoming Union, will begin at Purdue in November. She will oversee a broad range of self-supporting units, including University Residences, the Purdue Memorial Union, Food Stores, and Hall of Music Productions. Housing and Food Services has a work force of approximately 900 full-time staff members, 2,200 student employees, and 300 resident assistants. The division also encompasses more than 31 percent of the campus square footage, houses 11,000 residents, and has an operating budget of $136 million.

“My entire career has been spent at land-grant universities, and I look forward to bringing my technical skill set to Purdue and its students,” McCuskey says. “Land-grant institutions are committed to educating students, and in my role I can reach a number of students by providing more than just a place to live or eat. The services in this division create an environment that helps students thrive academically, as well as with their peers and in their community. Additionally, we provide students the opportunity to learn valuable leadership and interpersonal skills through their jobs or resident assistant positions — skills that will last their lifetimes. I look forward to this new role and building on Purdue’s strengths.”
2010 College Football
Hall of Fame Inductee
Mark Herrmann

Over the course of his career, All-American quarterback Mark Herrmann became the most-prolific passer in NCAA history, establishing nine records, including passing yards and completions.

The Football Bowl Subdivision Class of 2010 was announced in May and includes 12 players and two coaches. The class was chosen from a national ballot of 77-All America players and seven coaches selected from a pool of hundreds of eligible nominees.

Herrmann, who played for Hall of Fame coach Jim Young from 1977 to 1980, is the 12th Boilermaker (eight players and four coaches) to be chosen for college football's ultimate shrine. Herrmann is the second Purdue quarterback to be elected in the last five years, following Mike Phipps in 2006, and the third overall Boilermaker (with Joe Metallic and Drew Brees) to be elected to the College Football Hall of Fame.

"This is wonderful," Herrmann said. "I am very pleased for Purdue University and for my teammates. I could not have accomplished what I did without my teammates and a great coaching staff.

"I had a fantastic college experience. Those four years at Purdue shaped my life, and the ongoing interaction with my coaches and teammates has continued to support me and my family year after year.

"I especially want to thank the people in the athletics department and the local community. Without Purdue's offer of a football scholarship, none of this would have happened. I have a degree from a great institution that has continued to support me and my family for many years.

Exceptional college career

Over the course of his career, Herrmann became the most-prolific passer in NCAA history, establishing nine records, including passing yards and completions.

Herrmann's career numbers — all Big Ten Conference records at the time — included 1,093 passing attempts, 772 completions (.590 completion percentage), 9,466 passing yards, 71 passing touchdowns, and 9,134 yards of total offense. The NCAA did not include bowl games in its statistics until 2002, meaning his national record numbers were 1,128 passing attempts, 711 completions, 9,188 passing yards, and 4,444 yards of total offense. He became the first quarterback in NCAA history to throw for 8,000 yards and subsequently the first to throw for 9,000 yards.

Senior Joe Metallic started the 1977 season opener at quarterback for the Boilermakers but gave way to Herrmann in the first half. Herrmann went on to start 45 of the next 46 games — missing only the opener of the 1980 season at Notre Dame with an injured right thumb.

As a senior, Herrmann was named the Big Ten Most Valuable Player and a unanimous All-America selection while finishing fourth in the Heisman Trophy balloting. He was the MVP of three straight bowl games: 1978 Peach, 1979 Bluebonnet, and 1980 Liberty.

Moved on to the professional ranks


After three weeks of conference action, the Boilermakers stood 13–4 overall and 4–2 in the Big Ten. Highlighting the non-conference portion of the schedule was a seven-match streak and two tournament titles, the Pitt Invitational and the Atlantic Challenge.

A packed house of 2,474 fans were on hand in Holloway Gymnasium to see history in the making October 8, as the Purdue volleyball team defeated No. 4 Penn State 3–2. The come-from-behind 21–25, 18–25, 25–16, 25–18, 15–11 victory was Purdue's first ever against a team ranked in the top 5 (in 39 tries) and the first ever Penn State victory since 1987 (43 matches).

The feat is even more poignant considering nine of the current Boilermaker players were born the last time Purdue knocked off the Nittany Lions on December 4, 1997.

Dave Shondell now has guided Purdue to four victories over top 10 opponents since being hired as head coach in 2003.

Designed to provide forecasts and maps of the weather around the stadium, the Purdue Police: Text Messaging At Home Football Games service will be available throughout the remainder of the home football games and will be reviewed after at the conclusion of the season.

Men's Basketball to Host ESPN College GameDay Driven By State Farm

ESPN’s College GameDay Driven by State Farm will make its first-ever appearance at Purdue’s Mackey Arena on January 22, 2011, when the Boilermakers play host to Big Ten rival Michigan State at 9:00 p.m. ET. In 2011, the popular program will expand to include an extra hour of analysis, news and features.

ESPNU will air the first ever College GameDay — returning for its seventh season — at 10:00 a.m. ET and ESPN will continue to telecast the show at 11:00 a.m. The GameDay lineup will continue to include Saturdays Primetime at 8:00 p.m. ET before the game of the week tips off at 9:00 p.m.

ESPNU’s coverage will begin one hour prior to kickoff with the ESPN College GameDay Kickoff at 11:00 a.m. ET. The show will feature the hosts and analysts previewing the upcoming slate of games and discussing other college football topics of the day.

Following the conclusion of ESPN College GameDay Kickoff, ESPN College GameDay will broadcast from the road.
Ready for the Opportunity

The 2010–11 Purdue basketball season has a chance to be special despite a preseason disappointment. The Boilermakers return an All-American in senior E’Twaun Moore who combines with classmate JaJuan Johnson as a pair of powerhouse seniors. Unfortunately fellow seniors and All-American Robbie Hummel torn his ACL (the same one he injured last season) in the practice the morning of October 16 and will miss the entire 2010–11 season. The duo of Moore and Johnson, who each surpassed the 1,000-point mark for their careers, were among the Boilermakers’ top scorers and rebounders from a year ago, while Moore also led the club in assists. While the losses of Keaton Grant and Chris Kramer will be difficult to absorb, Purdue heads into the season with one of its deepest supporting casts in recent memory. Guards Lewis Jackson and Kelsey Barlow combined to start 18 games and play more than 35 minutes off the bench in the backcourt and the Boilermakers return two more guards who gained valuable experience last season in junior Ryne Smith and redshirt sophomore John Hart. Local products Dru Anthrop and Bubba Day will also be back in practice to step up and lead.

Young Players Ready to Step up and Lead

Although the 2010–11 women’s basketball team has no seniors this year, there are three returning starters ready to lead the Boilermakers. The trio includes shooting guard Brittany Rayburn, forward Samantha Woods, and center Chelsea Jones. In addition to bringing strength as a returning starter, Woods, along with Drey Mingo, will represent the team as captains. Rayburn was the leading scorer last season at 14.6 points per game. Sophomore KK Houser has taken on a leadership role on the court with the graduation of four-year starter and Purdue all-time rebounder from a year ago, while Moore also led the club in assists. While the losses of Keaton Grant and Chris Kramer will be difficult to absorb, Purdue heads into the season with one of its deepest supporting casts in recent memory. Guards Lewis Jackson and Kelsey Barlow combined to start 18 games and play more than 35 minutes off the bench in the backcourt and the Boilermakers return two more guards who gained valuable experience last season in junior Ryne Smith and redshirt sophomore John Hart. Local products Dru Anthrop and Bubba Day will also be back in practice to step up and lead.

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In the Backcourt

The Purdue backcourt will once again be a talented and versatile group capable of jumpstarting the Boilermakers’ fast-paced transition game and executing their trademark motion offense. Moore will again be the anchor of the unit after last season saw him become just the third player since 1971 to lead Purdue in both points and assists. Moore’s effectiveness in setting up his In addition to directing Purdue’s offense, the fiery and diminutive Jackson is relied upon to be a disruptive force on the defensive side of the ball, often shadowing the opponent’s ballhandler for the length of the court. Putting heat on the ball, though, isn’t solely Jackson’s responsibility. The lanky and athletic Barlow gained extensive experience in that role last year while Jackson was on the shelf. The Boilermakers return two more guards who gained valuable experience last season in junior Ryne Smith and redshirt sophomore John Hart. Local products Dru Anthrop and Bubba Day will also be back in the fold this season. In addition to the core of veterans that return in the backcourt, freshmen Anthony Johnson and Terone Johnson will compete for spots in the guard rotation.

In the Frontcourt

Youth will be the order of the day up front as returning senior and All-American Robbie Hummel tore his ACL (the same one he injured last season) in the practice the morning of October 16 and will miss the entire 2010–11 season. Moore will again be counted upon to do so during his second season in the program. Marcus took a redshirt last season after seeing his freshman year plagued with injuries, but the Croatian big man is primed for a role in the Boilermakers’ frontcourt rotation. The Boilermakers’ lone addition up front will come in the form of Travis Carroll, the 2010 Gatorade Indiana Player of the Year. Known for his old-school approach to the game, Carroll will be comfortable with his back to the basket and displays excellent footwork in the paint on both ends of the floor.

In the Backcourt

Although the Purdue frontcourt will undeniably be led by Johnson, the Boilermakers will head into the season with a bigger, stronger, and more athletic unit up front than Painter has had at his disposal since taking the head-coaching reins.

All-around force for the Boilermakers up front, Johnson returns for his senior season a year after establishing himself as one of the game’s elite inside-out threats. Like his fellow Indianapolis native and former high school teammate, Bade can bang down low or step out on the perimeter to employ a steady mid-range game. While Bade provides a reserve compliment to Johnson, Byrd will once again be counted upon to do so during his second season in the program. Marcus took a redshirt last season after seeing his freshman year plagued with injuries, but the Croatian big man is primed for a role in the Boilermakers’ frontcourt rotation. The Boilermakers’ lone addition up front will come in the form of Travis Carroll, the 2010 Gatorade Indiana Player of the Year. Known for his old-school approach to the game, Carroll will be comfortable with his back to the basket and displays excellent footwork in the paint on both ends of the floor.

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In the Backcourt

Although the Purdue frontcourt will undeniably be led by Johnson, the Boilermakers will head into the season with a bigger, stronger, and more athletic unit up front than Painter has had at his disposal since taking the head-coaching reins.

All-around force for the Boilermakers up front, Johnson returns for his senior season a year after establishing himself as one of the game’s elite inside-out threats. Like his fellow Indianapolis native and former high school teammate, Bade can bang down low or step out on the perimeter to employ a steady mid-range game. While Bade provides a reserve compliment to Johnson, Byrd will once again be counted upon to do so during his second season in the program. Marcus took a redshirt last season after seeing his freshman year plagued with injuries, but the Croatian big man is primed for a role in the Boilermakers’ frontcourt rotation. The Boilermakers’ lone addition up front will come in the form of Travis Carroll, the 2010 Gatorade Indiana Player of the Year. Known for his old-school approach to the game, Carroll will be comfortable with his back to the basket and displays excellent footwork in the paint on both ends of the floor.

For game schedules, TV coverage information, or to buy season tickets, visit www.purdueports.com.
New pump created for microneedle drug-delivery patch

Babak Ziaie, a professor of electrical and computer engineering and biomedical engineering, says it is possible to deliver a wider range of medications than now possible with conventional patches.

“We have developed a simple pump that's activated by touch from the heat of your finger and requires no battery,” Ziaie says.

The pump contains a liquid that boils at body temperature so that the heat from a finger's touch causes it to rapidly turn to a vapor, exerting enough pressure to force drugs through the microneedles. “It takes 20 to 30 seconds,” Ziaie says.

The liquid is contained in a pouch separated from the drug by a thin membrane made of a rubberlike polymer, called polydimethylsiloxane, which is used as diaphragms in pumps.

Researchers have filed an application for a provisional patent on the device.

“Ziaie has tested prototypes with liquids called fluoro-carbons, which are used as refrigerants and also in semiconductor manufacturing.

“You need a relatively large force, a few pounds per square inch, to push medications through the microneedles and into the skin,” Ziaie says. “It's very difficult to find a miniature pump that can provide that much force.”

The work has been supported with funding from the National Science Foundation. Future research may include work to try the pump with microneedles.

Sensor important to understanding root, seedling development

A biosensor utilizing black platinum and carbon nanotubes developed at Purdue will help give scientists a better understanding of how the plant hormone auxin regulates root growth and seedling establishment.

Marshall Porterfield, a professor of agricultural and biological engineering and biomedical engineering, created a new sensor to detect the movement along a root of a plant's root surface in real time without damaging the plants.

The nanomaterials at the sensor's tip react with auxin and create an electrical signal that can be measured to determine the auxin concentration at a single point. The sensor oscillates, taking concentration readings at different points around a plant root. An algorithm then determines whether auxin is being released or taken in by surrounding cells.

“Yielding the electronic signature of these processes,” Murphy says. Although sensors using similar nanomaterials have been used in real-time measurement of auxin levels along a root surface for several years, those earlier sensors required a root patch that used arrays of tiny microneedles could deliver a multitude of drugs, and the needles do not cause pain because they barely penetrate the skin, he says.

“There's no tape — you would use it and discard,” Ziaie says.

Tiny but mighty

The patches require a pump to push the drugs through the narrow needles, which have a diameter of about 20 microns, or roughly one-fourth as wide as a human hair. However, pumps on the market are too complex for patches, he says.
Synthetic fuels research aims to reduce oil dependence

Researchers at have developed a facility aimed at learning precisely how coal and biomass are broken down in reactors called gasifiers as part of a project to strengthen the scientific foundations of the synthetic fuel economy.

“A major focus is to be able to produce a significant quantity of synthetic fuel for the United States air transportation system and to reduce our dependence on petroleum oil for transportation,” says Jay Gore, the Reilly University Chair Professor of Combustion Engineering.

The research is part of work to develop a system for generating large quantities of synthetic fuel from agricultural wastes, other biomass or coal that would be turned into a gas using steam and then converted into a liquid fuel.

Other aims are to learn how to generate less carbon dioxide than conventional synthetic-fuel processing methods while increasing the yield of liquid fuel by adding hydrogen.

Other findings to be detailed in a research paper being prepared for the Journal of the American Chemical Society.

“We want to show that our system is flexible for using coal and biomass,” Gore says. “The aim is to create a sustainable synthetic fuel economy. What’s daunting is the size of the problem — how much oil we need — how much energy we need.”

Findings published last year showed carbon dioxide might be reduced by 40 percent using the technique. And new findings will be detailed in a research paper being prepared during a January meeting of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics in Orlando.

The research is based at the University’s Maurice J. Zucrow Laboratories.

Decoding the composition

By comparing oyster shells with the material that connects the animals to each other, the researchers were able to determine its chemical composition. The results showed that the adhesive had almost five times the amount of protein and more water than what is found in the shell.

“The adhesive material differed significantly in composition from the shell, which indicates that the oyster produces a chemically distinct substance for sticking together,” Wilker says.

Wilker, who also studies mussel and barnacle adhesion, describes the oyster adhesive as more of an inorganic cement-like substance than the organic glutelike material produced by other marine animals.

“The oyster cement appears to be harder than the substances mussels and barnacles use for sticking to rocks,” he says. “The adhesives produced by mussels and barnacles are mostly made of proteins, but oyster adhesive is about 90 percent calcium carbonate, or chalk. On its own, chalk is not sticky. So the key to oyster adhesion may be a unique combination of this hard, inorganic component with the remaining 10 percent of the material that is protein.”

This 10 percent of oyster cement does bear some similarity to mussel glue in its composition of proteins and the presence of iron.

Cracking open the secret of the oyster’s ability to stick together

A Purdue-led research team has uncovered the chemical components of the adhesive produced by oysters, providing information that could be useful for fisheries, boating and medicine.

A better understanding of oysters’ ability to stick together to form complex reefs would help those trying to boost the dwindling oyster population, aid in the creation of materials to keep boat hulls clean without harming the environment, and bring researchers one step closer to creating wet-setting adhesives for use in medicine and construction.

Jonathan Wilker, a professor of chemistry and materials engineering, led the team that analyzed the most common oyster in the United States, crassostrea virginica, known as the common Eastern oyster. A paper detailing the work is published in the current issue of the Journal of the American Chemical Society.

“With a description of the oyster cement in hand, we may gain strategies for developing synthetic materials that mimic the shellfish’s ability to set and hold in wet environments,” says Wilker, who has worked on the design of synthetic bioadhesives for more than 10 years. “Dentistry and medicine may benefit from such a material. For instance, it would be great to have a surgical adhesive that could replace staples and sutures, which puncture healthy tissue and create potential sites for infection.”

Essential to survival

Oysters stick together to reproduce and to protect themselves from predators and large waves. The reefs can stretch for miles and filter large volumes of water, prevent erosion and create a storm wall that strengthens coastlines. In addition, the reefs create a habitat for hundreds of other species, Wilker says.

“Overfishing, pollution, and disease have reduced the oyster population by 98 percent or more since the late 1800s,” he says. “Many people are now trying to reintroduce the animals to their prior habitats. Perhaps our work will add to the understanding of this shellfish and what is needed for oysters and the larger coastal ecosystem to thrive.”

Wilker and his team will next investigate the interaction of the different components within oyster cement and use this information for developing new synthetic materials.
Team uncovers potential prostate cancer marker

Studies by a Purdue-led team have revealed a potential marker for prostate cancer that could be the starting point for less invasive testing and improved diagnosis of the disease.

The team used a new analysis technique to create a profile of the lipids, or fats, found in prostate tissue and discovered a molecular compound that appears to be useful in identifying cancerous and precancerous tissue. The profile revealed that cholesterol sulfate is a compound that is absent in healthy prostate tissue, but is a major fat found in prostate cancer tumors.

Graham Cooks, Purdue’s Henry Bohn Hass Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, and Timothy Ratliff, the Robert Wallace Miller Director of the Purdue Center for Cancer Research, led the team.

“It was surprising to find a single compound that is distinctly present in cancerous tissue and not present in healthy tissue,” says Cooks, who is co-director of Purdue’s Center for Analytical Instrumentation Development. “We’ve been able to differentiate cancerous from healthy tissue using this new method in the past, but the difference was in the amounts of the same chemical compounds found in healthy tissue. There was no single differentiator of which one could say if it was present there was cancerous tissue.”

Ratliff says this characteristic makes the compound a potential marker for the disease, which could lead to new blood or urine tests to screen for prostate cancer.

“Aside from skin cancer, prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men and is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths,” Ratliff says. “Unfortunately, the current screening test has a significant number of false positives because it uses a marker that is present with other non-cancerous conditions. As a result, many men have unnecessary biopsies, which are invasive, expensive, and have the potential to cause infection. This new compound appears to be highly specific to prostate cancer cells, which would mean very few false positives.”

The current prostate cancer test screens for a protein called prostate-specific antigen, or PSA, that is produced by the cells of the prostate. Elevated levels of PSA in the blood can signify prostate cancer, but non-cancerous conditions such as an enlarged or inflamed prostate also cause an increase in its levels, he says.

The findings of the study, which was funded by the Purdue University Center for Cancer Research and the National Institutes of Health, were published in the journal Analytical Chemistry.

The study was performed in collaboration with physician scientists from Indiana University School of Medicine, who co-authored the paper. They also provided the tissue samples and pathological analysis of the samples to check the new technique’s results.
Officials dedicate new life sciences research facility, greenhouse

Purdue, Dow AgroSciences LLC, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, and greater Lafayette officials dedicated a new life sciences research space and greenhouse in the Purdue Research Park of West Lafayette.

Less than one year after announcing the partnership, Dow AgroSciences is now occupying 15,000 square feet of research and office space in the Herman and Heddy Kurz Purdue Technology Center at 1281 Win Hentschel Blvd. In addition, Dow AgroSciences is the exclusive tenant of an 11,000-square-foot greenhouse complex on the south side of Ross Enterprise Center. Approximately 30 scientists and contract research assistants will work in the facilities in the years to come.

“Dow AgroSciences is committed to discovering technology to help address the challenges of feeding a growing population, and the work we are doing in these state-of-the-art facilities at Purdue will help us advance our global agribusiness research efforts,” says Antonio Galindez, president and CEO of Dow AgroSciences. “The partnership and support of Purdue and the state of Indiana are very important enablers to continuing the momentum of the life sciences in Indiana.”

Researchers from Dow AgroSciences will have the opportunity to collaborate with faculty in the Purdue colleges of Agriculture and Science and have access to some campus research facilities.

“We celebrate a powerful partnership among the state of Indiana, Purdue Research Park, and Dow AgroSciences that will bring new jobs to our community, new opportunities to our students and new discoveries to our world,” says Purdue President France A. Córdova. “Those goals are at the very heart of Purdue’s land-grant mission.”

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation supported the Purdue Research Foundation in the construction of the greenhouse research center with a $2.2 million grant to assist in development costs.

“We knew that other sites outside Indiana were recruiting the Dow AgroSciences research and development enterprise, and, as part of our state’s strategy to promote job growth in Indiana, we worked hard to make sure this opportunity stayed in Indiana,” says Mitch Roob, Indiana Secretary of Commerce and chief executive officer of the IEDC. “We are pleased to see the construction project completed on time and to see the employment benefit and research expansion come to fruition.”

Dow AgroSciences joins the more than 160 companies already based in the Purdue Research Park of West Lafayette.

“This is the first greenhouse we have constructed in the Purdue Research Park of West Lafayette, and it is an important addition to our site because it represents a strong move into the agricultural sector of life sciences,” says Joseph B. Hornett, senior vice president, treasurer and COO of the Purdue Research Foundation, which manages the Purdue Research Park. “The dedication of the research facility and greenhouse provides yet another opportunity for park-based companies to collaborate with Purdue University.”
Michael J. Leader (ME’75), Chester Springs, PA, has been named president of the board for Habitat for Humanity of Chester County. In his new role, Leader is directly involved in the strategic direction, which includes the acquisition of both land and properties, of the Chester County affiliate of Habitat for Humanity.

Robert (Bob) E. Gadomski (ChE’69) and Susan (Sue) K. (Phillips) Gadomski (La’69), met a Norwegian troll in Purdue gear while on the President’s Council trip to the North Cape of Norway.

Jose H. Villarreal (La’57), San Antonio, TX, the commissioner general for the American Pavilion at World Expo in Shanghai, is pictured wearing a Boilermaker shirt, along with a hat he was asked to deliver during a visit to Shanghai in June.

Molly (Shaffer) Detwiler (M’77), Sonoma, CA, received her MFA in fiction writing from California College of the Arts in San Francisco. She lives in Sonoma with her husband, David Detwiler (M’77), a captain with United Airlines.

Jesse L. Strong (M’73), Lake Forest, IL, received a PhD from Ohio State University in human and community resource development. His dissertation’s title is “Parental Management of Teen Drivers after Receipt of a First Traffic Citation and Having Attended the 4-H CARTEENS Program.” James has been an extension educator of 4-H youth development for 28 years.

Larry D. Muftic (M’77), Morton Grove, IL, was awarded a master’s of human resource development from Clemson University on August 7.

Rebecca (Cable) Marshall (P’74), Salem, IN, celebrated owning and operating the Salem Apothecary for 25 years on August 13. The 1854-1867 building that houses the apothecary was also the professional home of Desse Rudder, one of the first women to graduate from Purdue School of Pharmacy.

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James (Jim) W. Luzadder (M’68), Hendersontown, NC, has retired with his wife, Beverly A. (Waters) Luzadder (M’68), to the Blue Ridge Mountains. Jim worked as a stockbroker and clinical social worker working with severely and chronically mentally ill. Beverly worked as an executive with Burroughs Corp. before finishing her career as a principle consultant with PeaceWaterhouseCoopers in information technology. She enjoys being a Master Gardener. jwluzadder@gmail.com

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Richard B. ReVelle (ChE’57), Orange, CA, recently published his 20th book, the Home Builders Guide to Continuous Improvement. The book covers strategy, Quality, Customer Satisfaction, Cost, and Safety. He is currently working with the American Society for Quality (ASQ) on an online series of over 50 webcasts describing essential quality tools and techniques. His book, “Making the Connection,” published in 2010 by the journal Quality Progress was translated into Chinese for re-publication by the Chinese Association for Quality in its monthly journal. His articles, “Communicating Lean with Customers” and “Which Comes First: Quality, Safety, or Costs,” were published in 2010 by the journal Industrial Engineering. cactus_statman@yahoo.com

Jon B. Anderson (La’70), Chicago, IL, recently joined Kyssy Global as the director of Shanghai/China. In his new role, Jon is involved in market entry, executive search, and supply chain sourcing in China.

North Carolina College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: Class of 1960

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James B. Anderson (La’70), Chicago, IL, has retired with his wife, Judy, to New Britain, CT, in July. They were married in New Britain, CT, in May 1950, celebrated their 60th anniversary in September 2010, and decided it was time to try another new state! They have visited all 50 states, over 100 countries, and all seven continents and decided it was time to try another new state! dudehead61@aol.com

Richard H. Fletcher (ME’57), Ames, IA, received the Heat Transfer Memorial Award last November from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Fletcher, with his wife, is a member of the outstanding contributions to the field of heat transfer through teaching, research, practice, and design, or a combination of such activities.

Early Life and Education

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Zoran Sovajlic (E’91, San Antonio, TX, a commissio- ning specialist, recently joined Hanson Professional Services Inc’s Chicago — Will County Office of the 20th Judicial Circuit in Naperville, IL, and is assigned to the Will County Economic Crimes Unit as its prosecutor.
Matthew J. Smith (LE'82, PhD LE'97), Fort Wayne, IN, was appointed interim dean for the University of Saint Francis School of Arts and Sciences. During his nine years at the university, Smith has served as director of writing, chair of English and foreign languages and, most recently, as director of general education.

Geir (Liland) Sorensen (MS M'93), New Canaan, CT, has been expatriated from Norway to Stamford, CT, to be controller for the energy company Statoils — a worldwide crude and condensate business.

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Purdue alumnus

Questions? Call or e-mail Dan Rhodes • (765) 494-8038 • (800) 414-1541 • darhodes@purdue.edu

Preludes Reflections.

music, released his debut CD (AAE'93), Media, PA, Brett M. Hoffstadt

for T oyota Industrial Equipment Mfg. Inc.

Consortium. Ridley Park, P A: project engineer on the V-22 Osprey at Boeing and also the Boeing Technical program manager with the Vertical Lift Consortium.

Kevin C. Nunning (IE'96) and Elizabeth A. (Sinnott) Nunning (ME'97, MS E'03), Troy, MI, welcomed the birth of their son, Drew, on December 4. Drew joins big sister, Maria, as future Purdue students.

Christine E. Carpenter (ChE'98) and Brooks C. Carpenter (E'00), Woodstock, IL, welcomed the birth of their second daughter, Corinne Elissa, on June 1. She is pictured with big sister, Avery.

Kathryn A. (Eyer) Chellgren (M'98), Coconut Creek, FL, and her husband, David, welcomed the birth of their second child, Dan-
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Claudia (Kathy) Heinsohn (PhD E'98), Brunswick, MI, has served as the National Pest Management Association’s senior entomologist for the past four and a half years and was highlighted in a recent issue of her industry’s trade magazine, Pest Management Professional. To view the article and learn more about her accomplishments, visit www.mpmp-digital.com/pmpdigital/

Dleta L. Mills (BS'99), Fortville, IN, is a legal in-
tern in clinical excellence at St. Vincent Health and recently became a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the nation’s leading professional society for healthcare leaders.

Barry L. Padgett (PhD LE'99), Brentwood, TN, was named the James Medlin Chair of Business Ethics at Belmont University in Nash-
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Katherine Y. Brown (MS EEUU'99), Chicago, IL, will serve as the newly elected president of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women Inc. — Chicago Chapter. She will reign as the chapter’s sixth president since its found-

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Animated Engineer

Alum combines technology and storytelling for blockbuster results.

When Bob Peterson (MS ME’86) comes back to Purdue as part of the Old Masters program in November, he’ll be returning to where he says it all began. That’s high praise coming from a “five-tool” player at Pixar Animation Studios who is an animator, a writer, a director, a technophile, and a voice talent. He also took his wife to Oscar’s red carpet night in 2009.

Peterson was the lead writer and co-director for Up, which earned him a Best Screenplay nomination. The movie won the Oscar for Best Animated feature. For Peterson, it’s been 16 years of hard, but fun, work at Pixar. He’s worked his way through the ranks directing commercials, working in animation on Toy Story, supervising the script on Monsters, Inc., and finally writing screenplays for Finding Nemo and Up. But his voice might ring the most bells. He’s lent his raspy tones to notable characters like Roz in Monsters, Inc., Mr. Ray in Finding Nemo, and Dug the dog in Up.

Peterson says it’s that writing he’s most proud of. “We simply create a story that makes us, as people, laugh or get emotional. We’re just following our own muses. We’re adults, but we’ve really cultivated our childlike sides.”

“Bob is one of the jewels of the studio,” says the producer of Up, Pixar colleague Jonas Rivera. “I can’t help but think that Bob’s background in engineering has helped him settle easily into the filmmaking process of computer graphics and animation, which contain many technical components. He has an understanding of the other side of the building so to speak.”

And a good understanding of people and what stories they want to see. “At Pixar we strive to never talk down to kids or up to adults,” Peterson says. “We simply create a story that makes us, as people, laugh or get emotional. We’re just following our own muses. We’re adults, but we’ve really cultivated our childlike sides.”

Anyone who has seen Up would recall an opening, wordless, montage where the lives of two characters (Carl and his wife Ellie) pass on the screen in several minutes. Even without the dialogue, Peterson says it’s that writing he’s most proud of.

So what will he tell students in his role as a visiting Old Master? Probably to find and combine their passions. “I was able to apply my vocation, which was engineering, to my avocation, which was drawing cartoons,” Peterson says. “If we could all combine what we do in our off hours with what we do at work, we’d all be happy people.”

Animated feature. For Peterson, it’s been 16 years of hard, but fun, work at Pixar. He’s worked his way through the ranks directing commercials, working in animation on Toy Story, supervising the script on Monsters, Inc., and finally writing screenplays for Finding Nemo and Up. But his voice might ring the most bells. He’s lent his raspy tones to notable characters like Roz in Monsters, Inc., Mr. Ray in Finding Nemo, and Dug the dog in Up.

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Amy L. Clemons (PhD LA ‘10), Bellville, OH, has Dec. 30, 2009.

John R. Gretzinger (ME’34), West Halifax, VT, Jan. 5.

James H. Nicholas (BCE’38), Inverness, FL, Dec. 12, 2009.

James F. Bourland (ME’33), Frankfort, IN, Dec. 28, 2009.

Ruth M. (Martin) Love (CFS’35), Muncie, IN, Mar. 25.

Betty J. (Pryor) Boyle (BA 1997, Theatre, Purdue) is a professional actor, dancer, and teacher for over ten years. Her professional acting experience includes critically acclaimed work in classical, contemporary and musical theatre, and national exposure in film, television and commercial union are Irwin Weiser, Justin S. Morrill Dean of Liberal Arts; Kenya Davis-Hayes; Gerritt VanderMeer, Mary Welch, CLA Alumni Board President; and Stephen Maynard Caliendo.

Stephen Maynard Caliendo
MA 1995, PhD 1998, Political Science, Purdue

Stephen Maynard Caliendo is the co-director of The Project on Race in Political Communication (RaceProject.com), which seeks to provide information through social science research and public commentary about the way race and politics interact with language. He is the author of two books and is often called upon by various media outlets to share his expertise on national, state, and local political issues. Caliendo is a professor of political science at North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, where he received the Clarence D. Dissinger Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Senior Faculty Member.

Kenya Davis-Hayes
PhD 2005, American Studies, Purdue

Kenya Davis-Hayes is the resident U.S. historian at California Baptist University and is seeking a master’s of public diplomacy at the Annenberg School. Beyond the walls of academia, Davis-Hayes sits on a number of organizational boards and in 2007 was appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to the California Council for the Humanities. She recently spent the summer in Shanghai and enjoyed deconstructing the cultural messages of the world’s pavilions at the 2010 World Expo.

Gerritt VanderMeer
BA 1996, German, Purdue, BS 1996, Engineering, Purdue

Gerritt VanderMeer has been building a career as a professional performer and teacher for over ten years. His professional acting experience includes critically acclaimed work in classical, contemporary and musical theatre, and national exposure in film, television and commercials. Career highlights include: appearing nationally as “Harold Hill” in the Broadway touring company of The Music Man, debuting at the Sundance Film Festival in a lead role in the film Maid of Honor, creating the role of “Paul” in the world premiere of Charles Strouse’s You Never Know with the Trinity Repertory Company; and working opposite Whoopi Goldberg as a series regular on the web series Stream.

The College of Liberal Arts and CLA Alumni Board honored three young alumni with Emerging Voice Awards. The Emerging Voice Award recognizes liberal arts alumni who are under 40 years old, are rising stars in their fields, and have shown true potential to be great leaders.

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Glen A. Dorton Jr. (ME’49), Mount Vernon, OH, July 5.

Glenn E. Dudgeon (A’49), Rockford, OH, June 30.

H. Leon Harter (PhD’49), Urbana, IL, Mar. 3.

Richard C. Hartigan (ME’49), Fort Smith, AR, Feb. 23. He is survived by his wife, Barbara.

Everett L. Keener (MS ECE’49), Grafton, WV, Nov. 24, 2009.

Jack E. Kuhlman (CE’49), Middletown, OH, Aug. 7.


Jerome A. Miller (ChE’49, P’52), Fort Wayne, IN, Mar. 9.

Harold L. Spears (ME’49), Anderson, IN, July 14.

Wayne S. Anderson (A’50), Linden, IN, Jan. 19.


Robert O. Baker (ME’50, MS M’50), South Bend, IN, July 22.

Bernard B. butcher (ChE’50), Middletown, OH, Aug. 13. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor.

Grove C. Carnahan (AE’50, Longmeadow, MA, Aug. 6.

Thelma L. (Phillips) Clagh (CFS’50), Lafayette, IN, July 16.

Raymond C. Hood (ME’50), Naples, FL, July 22.

Robert W. Hoffman (MS ’50), Fairborn, OH, Nov. 20, 2009.

Bennie A. Jacobs (ECE’50), South Bend, IN, Feb. 4.

Thomas L. Kelly (S’50), Terre Haute, IN, Aug. 10. He is survived by his wife, Patricia.

Robert L. McNicoll (ECE’50), Aron, IN, July 28.

John E. McGonigle (MS LA’50), Lafayette, IN, Aug. 3.

Lloyd Q. Mettes (CE’50, MS CE’59), Oxford, IN, July 30.

Robert C. Muevey (CE’50, MS CE’59), Springfield, IL, Nov. 1, 2009.


Mary Ann (Adrian) Sigward (S’50), Indianapolis, IN, Mar. 1. She is survived by her husband, William.

Clyde P. Smith (ME’50, MS IE’34), West Lafayette, IN, July 23. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy.


1950

Wayne S. Anderson (A’50), Linden, IN, Jan. 19.


Robert O. Baker (ME’50, MS M’50), South Bend, IN, July 22.

Bernard B. Butcher (ChE’50), Middletown, OH, Aug. 13. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor.

Grove C. Carnahan (AE’50, Longmeadow, MA, Aug. 6.

Thelma L. (Phillips) Clagh (CFS’50), Lafayette, IN, July 16.

Raymond C. Hood (ME’50), Naples, FL, July 22.

Robert W. Hoffman (MS’50), Fairborn, OH, Nov. 20, 2009.

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School of Education

Steve Tripenfeldes

Department of Education

Principal, Munster High School

School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Mary Danko ski

Department of Behavioral Sciences

Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development

Indiana University School of Medicine

Fisher, IN

School of Engineering, Mathematics, and Science

Mary Danko ski

Department of Behavioral Sciences

Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development

Indiana University School of Medicine

Fisher, IN

Diane Schweitzer

Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management

Director of Child Nutrition, School City of Hammond

Saint John, IN

Larry Brechner

Department of Communication and Creative Arts

Munster Auditorium Director and Munster Theatre Company

Producer/Director, School Town of Munster

Highland, IN

April Helsley

Department of English and Philosophy

Senior Faculty Lecturer, Indiana University Kelley School of Business

Bloomington, IN

Kevin Cessna-Busemi

Department of Foreign Languages and Literature

Director, National Spanish Examinations

Valparaiso, IN

Melissa Yovich-Whattam

Department of History and Political Science

Director of Enrollment Communications, Aurora University

Aurora, IL

School of Management

J.T. Eagan

Department of Accounting

Senior Associate, KPMG LLP

Dyer, IN

Joshua Lybolt

Department of Finance and Accounting

Vice President, Prime Real Estate

St. John, IN

Judy Serwatka

Department of Information Systems

Professor of Management Information Systems (MIS), LaPorte Regional Health System

Valparaiso, IN

School of Nursing

Kathy Rich

School of Nursing and Cardiovascular Clinical Specialist

LaPorte Regional Health System

Chesington, IN

School of Technology

Arcarli Reyna

Department of Construction Science and Organizational Leadership

Senior Managing Consultant, BKP LLP

Portage, IN

Drew Wahlberg

Department of Engineering Technology

Department Director, Aeromet Industries Inc.

Crown Point, IN

John Giobbi

Department of Computer Information Technology and Graphics

COO, Promuse

Bend, OR

Summer 2010 Alumni Leaders Day Honorees

Black row from left: John Giobbi, Steve Tripenfeldes, Andrew “Drew” Wahlberg, Jeff Vaikeunus, Steward McMillan, Mary Danko ski,

Andrew Koob (PhD V’05), brain scientist, reveals that story. You’ll learn what glial cells are, how they function, and how they might help explain everything from intelligence and creativity to imagination and dreams. Then, Koob reveals the tantalizing clues about glial cells that could eventually lead to cures for brain injury, psychiatric disorders, Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, Lou Gehrig’s disease, and even brain cancer.

If you know anything about brains, you’ve heard of neurons — the cells that have long been seen as central to virtually everything your brain thinks, feels, and does. But neurons only represent 10 percent of your brain cells — the other 90 percent do?

In The Root of Thought, brain scientist Andrew Koob presents a kaleidoscopic picture of the evolution into the twenty-first century of one of America’s most popular sports. From clashes between celebrated egos and thrilling action on the court to the wild and human lives of bears and bald eagles, this new book follows the story. You’ll learn what glial cells are, how they function, and how they might help explain everything from intelligence and creativity to imagination and dreams. Then, Koob reveals the tantalizing clues about glial cells that could eventually lead to cures for brain injury, psychiatric disorders, Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, Lou Gehrig’s disease, and even brain cancer.

Hitler’s Panzer Armies on the Eastern Front

Robert Kirchubel
(MA LA ’09)
Pen & Sword Books Limited

Hitler’s Panzer Armies is a researched account of the operational history of the panzer armies. The book provides a graphic insight into the organization, tactics, fighting methods, and morale of the Wehrmacht at the height of its powers and as it struggled to defend the Reich. Using a wide range of sources, including many first-hand accounts, the book gives detailed descriptions of all important characteristics. The book encapsulates the authors’ combined experience of more than 50 years in teaching students how to identify woody plants.

Each issue, the Purdue Alumnus features a list of books written by Purdue alumni, as well as books printed by the Purdue University Press. Purdue Alumni members receive a 20 percent discount on University Press purchases.

Demolition: Practices, Technology, and Management

Richard J. Driven and Mark Shaurette (PhD T’07)

As the built environment ages, demolition has become a rapidly growing industry offering major employment opportunities. The book covers modern demolition practices, the impact of different construction types, demolition regulations, estimating demolition work, demolition contracts, safety on the demolition project, typical demolition equipment, debris handling and recycling, use of explosives, demolition contractors’ participation in disaster response, and demolition project management.

American Hoops

Carron Cunningham
(LA’00, MA LA ’01, PhD LX’06)
University of Nebraska Press

In this fascinating history of Olympic basketball on the world stage and behind-the-scenes, Cunningham presents a kaleidoscopic picture of the evolution into the twenty-first century of one of America’s most popular sports. From clashes between celebrated egos and thrilling action on the court to the intense rivalries of the Cold War and technological advances in everything from television to sports equipment off the court, American Hoops follows the fortunes of Olympic basketball, in the United States and internationally, as it developed and emerged as one of the most challenging and entertaining sports in the world.

Salmon in the Trees

Amy C. Gulik (M’86, MS LX’86)
The Mountaineers Books

In Alaska’s Tongass rain forest, one of the rarest ecosystems on Earth, everything is interconnected. Millions of wild salmon feed an abundance of bears and bald eagles, while Native cultures and local communities benefit from the gifts of both the forest and the sea. Award-winning photographer, Amy Gulik, captures both the wild and human lives of this rich landscape in this new book.

Hitler’s Panzer Armies

Robert Kirchubel
(MA LA ’09)
Pen & Sword Books Limited

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Native Trees of the Midwest: Identification, Wildlife Values & Landscaping Use

Sally S. Weeks Jr. (PhD A’74), and George R. Parker

Native Trees of the Midwest gives detailed descriptions and unique insights into identifying all trees native to Indiana and most of those in the surrounding states. Descriptive text gives invaluable hints on how to identify species in any season and is supported with color photographs of all important characteristics. The book covers modern demolition practices, the impact of different construction types, demolition regulations, estimating demolition work, demolition contracts, safety on the demolition project, typical demolition equipment, debris handling and recycling, use of explosives, demolition contractors’ participation in disaster response, and demolition project management.

Purdue University Press Books

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class notes

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	november/december 2010

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69
Gerald P. Fritzke (MSE’54), Walnut Creek, CA, July 23. He is survived by his wife, Irene.

Elmer F. Gomes Jr. (T’54), Springfield, MO, July 9.

James C. Kenny (T’54), South Burlington, VT, Jan. 7.

Robert P. Christian (ECE’55), Simi Valley, CA, Jan. 22.

M. Robert Kestenbaum (ME’55), Albuquerque, NM, Jan. 18.

Thomas A. Killila (S’55), Marion, OH, Aug. 6.

Barbara E. (Jackson) Schafer (LS’55), Anderson, IN, July 23.

Thomas I. Stuart (MS EDU’55), Lowell, IN, Nov. 19, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Mary.

Carol L. (Argenta) Vincent (CFS’55), Vincennes, IN, Oct. 8, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Myrna.


Ronald P. Kotfila (ECE’56), Prescott, AZ, May 18, 2009.


William D. Diffenderfer (ME’59), San Diego, CA, Nov. 19, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Dolores.


Robert E. Berg (ME’59), Indianhead Park, IL, July 17. He is survived by his wife, Alice.

James J. Galt (L’63, MS LX’69), Indianapolis, IN, July 5. He is survived by his wife, Patricia (MS S’71).

Foley A. Herleheimer (LAX’60), South Miami, FL, Aug. 20.


Paul Skierkowski (P’63, MS HSC’69, PhD HSC’71), Norman, OK, Aug. 31. He is survived by his wife, Sandra (P’63).

Charles H. Armstrong (MS V’64, DVM’66), Naples, FL, Aug. 27. He is survived by his wife, Lynn.

Stephen V. Becker (ECE’64), Wilmington, NC, May 22.

Arlene M. Wilson (MS EDU’65, PhD EDU’88), Chesterston, IN, Feb. 6.

James F. Millott (ECE’61), Carmel, CA, Apr. 4.

John H. Postma (S’56), Grandville, MI, Aug. 24.

M. Desmond Ryan (MS L’61, PhD L’67), Brookfield, IL, July 22.

Jerry P. Smith Sr. (S’61), Montgomery, AL, July 23.


Randolph C. Heard (MS M’62), Boonslick, VA, Nov. 6, 2009.

Michael P. Kalleres (M’62), Jacksonville, FL, July 18. He is survived by his wife, Georgine.

James C. Stimpson (ECE’63), Fort Worth, TX, Nov. 15, 2009.

Michael P. Kalleres (M’62), Jacksonville, FL, July 18. He is survived by his wife, Georgine.

Randolph C. Heard (MS M’62), Boonslick, VA, Nov. 6, 2009.

George Kouvelas (S’58), Valparaiso, IN, Nov. 22, 2009.


Barbara E. Turner (Wannemacher LF’58), Troy, OH, July 10.

Robert E. Berg (ME’59), Indianapolis, IN, Jan. 18.

William D. Diffenderfer (ME’59), Savannah, GA, July 6.

Wayne A. Farrington (ME’59), South Bend, IN, July 17. He is survived by his wife, Alice.

James J. French (P’59), Munster, IN, Dec. 21, 2009.

Eline M. Swenson (MS S’59), Malta, IL, Jan. 27.

Thomas L. Wilkinson (A’60, MS A’64), Wauna, WA, Feb. 22, 2009.

Arnold F. Martin (AAS T’64), Carmel, IN, Dec. 15, 2009.

Barbara E. Turner (Wannemacher LF’58), Troy, OH, July 10.

Catherine C. Hooper (ME’55), Iowa City, IA, Oct. 12, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth.

Mr. John (Rod) Persinger (E’55), Fort Wayne, IN, Dec. 15, 2009.

Carol L. (Argenta) Vincent (CFS’55), Vincennes, IN, Oct. 8, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Myrna.

Rene D. Wernicke (AE’55), San Diego, CA, May 10. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth.

William C. Bradshaw (S’56), Crown Point, IN, Oct. 12, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Catherine (S’57).


Ronald P. Kotfila (ECE’56), Prescott, AZ, May 24. He is survived by his wife, Louise.

Louis E. Rittenhouse (AE’56), Tullahoma, TN, June 16.

Charles J. Elder (AE’57), Brighton, MI, May 18.


Jack P. Ethinson (AE’57), Centerville, OH, May 7.
Paul H. DeHoff Jr. (PhD AAE'65), Charlotte, NC, June 19.
Bruce W. Foltz (L65, MS '66), Olympia, WA, June 18.
William J. Hamilton (ME'65), Cedar Rapids, IA, July 26.
Richard L. Hand (ECE'65), Belmont, NY, Jan. 20.
Merlyn D. Albright (LA '66), Paradise Valley, AZ, Aug. 18. He is survived by his wife, Donita.
Wesley L. Baldwin (ME'66, MS ME'68), Lynchburg, VA, May 30. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte (MS EDU'72).
Richard B. Kinsell (P'66), Miramar Beach, FL, Aug. 13. He is survived by his wife, Anne (MA LA '59).
Daniel A. Norman (IE'66), Doraville, GA, Aug. 1. He is survived by his wife, Genny.
Audrey (Christy) Heasty (AAS NRS'67), Bloomington, IN, Aug. 19.
Dennis R. Bollman (M'67), Grovertown, IN, July 4.
Joe E. Shively (SF'72, MS EDEU'76, PhD EDEU'77), Jacksonville, FL, June 20.
John E. Bell (P'68), Saratoga, CA, Dec. 28, 2009.
Lennart K. Laitinen (M'68), Kokomo, IN, July 28. He is survived by his wife, Fern.
J. Chester Long II (P'64), Alexandria, IN, Mar. 24. He is survived by his wife, Susan.
John T. O’Connell (M'68), Clearwater, FL, June 18.

James B. Carpenter (PhD LA'69), Augusta, GA, July 8.

1970
Ned C. Rootriffit (MS M'70, MS LA'79, MS EDEU'84), Lebanon, IN, July 18.
J. Michael Dunn (LA'70), Columbus, OH, July 23.
William L. Hall (M'70), Willoughby, OH, Nov. 21, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Linda.
Gerald M. Rausch (A'70), Winamac, IN, Nov. 12, 2009.
Joyce A. Rhodehamel (LA'70), Carmel, IN, July 14.
Larry L. Schmelz (A'70), Bloomington, IN, Jan. 6.
Jane R. (Towner) Dahl (MS LA'71), Crawfordsville, IN, July 24.
Ronald E. Swiontek (T'71), Vandalia, OH, July 17. She is survived by her husband, Gale.
Kay (Miller) Fansler (CSF'72), Fort Wayne, IN, July 28. He is survived by his wife, Gail.
Roland W. Haas (LA'74, MA LA'76), Peachtree City, GA, Aug. 21.
Marilyn J. (Bowers) McFadden (MS EDEU'74), Edinburg, TX, Nov. 14, 2009.
Theodore B. Werre (LA'74), Dekaib, IL, Jan. 3.
Douglas A. Bedwell (T'76), Greenlawn, IN, July 15.
Daniel R. Coudriéer (AAS T'76), Masontown, PA, Dec. 4, 2009.
William T. Fuller (LA'76, MA LA'03), Valparaiso, IN, Aug. 24.
Shelton H. Kleine (PhD EDEU'78), Edmonds, WA, June 10.
Michael C. Branstetter (EDU'77), Miami, FL, Dec. 9, 2009.
Martha (Cluverius) Brown (MA LA'77), Hammond, IN, Jan. 29.
Mattie (Morton) Cunningham (AAS NRS'77), Gary, IN, Jan. 11.
Richard M. Hansen (ECE'77), Glen Ellyn, IL, Apr. 19.
Raymond C. Vogel (MS ECE'77), Henderson, NV, Sept. 30, 2009.
Michael A. Blessinger (S'78), Solvang, CA, June 1.
John E. Chovan (T'78, MS T'81), Wabash, IN, Aug. 10.
DeForest R. Wilkes Jr. (M'93), Crown Point, IN, Nov. 8, 2009.

Jan R. DeMeerleer (ME'94), Spokane, WA, July 18.

Abraham L. Lynn (A95), Wahash, IN, Nov. 23, 2009.

Jason F. Las (T'96), Lowell, IN, Nov. 27, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Renee (NRS'94, MS NRS'00).

Susan J. (Hucksted) Worek (AS M'97), La Porte, IN, Nov. 15, 2009.

A. Carl Leopold (HDR A '98), San Pedro, CA, Nov. 18, 2009.

John E. Lynch (AS NRS'07), Gary, IN, Aug. 25.

Jia B. Lu (PhD EDU'10), West Lafayette, IN, Aug. 13. She is survived by her husband, Michael Brzezinski.

Richard D. Hoffman (ECE'82), Franklin, IN, Apr. He is survived by his wife, Vicki (DP'94).

Sophie A. Jacko (MA S'92), Lukewood, OH, Jan. 28.

Douglas M. Sten (M'82), Crossville, TX, Oct. 28, 2008.


Pamela (Snider) Gunn (A'83), Greenfield, IN, July 25. She is survived by her husband, John (A'79).

Felipe S. Magallanes (CFS'83), Albuquerque, NM, July 23.

Brian H. Bowman (S'86), Indianapolis, IN, July 2.


Robert L. Erwin (T'87), DeMotte, IN, Dec. 7, 2009.


John E. White (AS M'07), Chicago, IL, Dec. 9, 2009.

Genevieve L. (Fate) Kennedy (AAS NRS'88), Valparaiso, IN, Nov. 23, 2009.

1990

Susan (Humarger) Bobby (T'90), Dyer, IN, July 20. She is survived by his wife, Victoria.

Edward A. Aleman (A'93), Lakeville, MN, Nov. 18, 2009.


John P. Rodkey (T'78), Muskego, WI, Oct. 14, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Patricia (S'77).

Craig E. Adelsperger (LA'79), Crown Point, IN, July 13. He is survived by his wife, Donna (M'77).


Brian D Humphrey (A'79), Springville, IN, Nov. 2, 2009.

Doreta Mills (M'79), Gary, IN, Nov. 2, 2009.

1980

John L. Emmons (S'80), Pleasanton, CA, July 20. He is survived by his wife, Victoria.

Stephen M. Grate (M'80), Issaquah, WA, Aug. 6.

Jesse P. McHerrill III (AAS T'80), Wheeling, WV, Nov. 23, 2009.

Thomas E. Wilner (HSC'80, MS HSC'81), Martinez, CA, July 19. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen (L'79).


John E. White (AS M'07), Chicago, IL, Dec. 9, 2009.

Genevieve L. (Fate) Kennedy (AAS NRS'88), Valparaiso, IN, Nov. 23, 2009.

1990

Susan (Humarger) Bobby (T'90), Dyer, IN, Nov., 12, 2009.

Terry B. Johnson (LW'90), Salt Lake City, UT, July 21.

Matthew E. Thar (LW'90), Tulsa, OK, Jan. 7.


Kandace J. Fisher (LA'92, MA LA'95), Santa Fe, NM, July 17.

Edward A. Aleman (A'93), Lakerville, MN, Nov. 18, 2009.

Robert L. Erwin (T'87), DeMotte, IN, Dec. 7, 2009.


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Robert L. Erwin (T'87), DeMotte, IN, Dec. 7, 2009.


John E. White (AS M'07), Chicago, IL, Dec. 9, 2009.
A trio of Purdue alumnae hit the road and drove Route 66 this summer. Along the way, they stopped at the Grand Canyon and showed their Purdue pride. They are pictured from left to right: Jennifer Thompson (A’97), production manager at HJ Heinz Company; Jennifer Peters (LA’02), health improvement specialist in corporate wellness; and Marah Marshall (M’02), vice president at Goldman Sachs.

JOY MOVES SEVEN PEOPLE THROUGH EIGHT SPEEDS.

Joy likes company. It believes a drive should be as thrilling for the passengers as it is for the driver. That's why the new BMW X5 has a generous interior that comfortably seats seven and plenty of torque to keep them entertained. With its new six-cylinder TwinPower Turbo engine and eight-speed transmission, it clocked 0–60 as quickly and more efficiently than the outgoing V6 — resulting in more Joy per gallon. So grab a friend or six and experience Joy together. The story of Joy continues at bmwsusa.com/X5.

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Lafayette, IN 47905-2741

Telephone (765) 449-2800
Fax (765) 449-2880
Website defouwbmw.com
If you are looking to stand out in a crowded, competitive job market, the Krannert School of Management’s Master of Business Administration can get you noticed. The two-year MBA program will allow you to gain valuable experience inside and outside the classroom. Your learning will immerse you in opportunities to:

- work with and learn from world class faculty
- build your leadership and team-building skills
- expand your global perspective
- put your ideas into action through real-world projects

Throughout your education, you will learn to lead with integrity, insight and innovation.

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Our functional and interdisciplinary option areas allow students to add depth to their managerial knowledge and enable you to customize your degree towards long-term career aspirations.

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Krannert’s rigor and reputation carry significant weight with prospective employers. Graduate Career Services will provide you with an array of services for your short-term and long-term career goals.