CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF DUKE ENGINEERING

On June 3, 1939, the Duke University Board of Trustees approved the creation of the College of Engineering—establishing the school as a cornerstone of the young university.

From its beginnings as an undergraduate college with just three faculty members in each department and only 201 students, the School of Engineering has grown into one of the nation’s fastest-rising engineering programs, with more than 2,500 faculty, staff, and students, 12,000 accomplished alumni, a vibrant research engine and a record of trailblazing achievements that benefit people all over the world.

In 2014-2015, we’re celebrating the 75th anniversary of Duke Engineering with a host of special events and activities. We invite you to get involved by exploring our history, participating in our anniversary celebrations, and sharing your memories of Duke Engineering over the years. Visit pratt.duke.edu/75.
Greetings Fellow Alumni,

I am honored to serve as your Engineering Alumni Council (EAC) President for the 2014-2015 academic year. It is most exciting since the Pratt School of Engineering is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year. As you may know, the primary responsibility of the EAC is to coordinate the activities of the Engineering Alumni Association in support of the Pratt School of Engineering. Our efforts are focused in the following core areas.

**EXTRACURRICULAR STUDENT PROJECTS**

The EAC was able to help fund many diverse organizations this year, including the Duke Motorsports team, the Duke Eco-Marathon Team, the Pratt chapter of IEEE, the Pratt chapter of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), the Pratt chapter of InnoWorks, Duke Engineers for International Development (DEID) and Engineering World Health. The number of groups we support and the funding we provide each group is directly correlated to the number of alumni who pay their annual Engineering Alumni Association dues. Please keep this in mind when you receive your next dues notice or other communications from the EAC. Even a small increase in funding can make a significant impact on the ability of our students to accomplish their project goals.

**ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARDS**

Each year, we recognize three outstanding individuals from the Duke Engineering community with alumni awards. As always, your nominations for these awards are appreciated as we want to make sure we do not overlook any good candidates. The Distinguished Alumnus, Distinguished Young Alumnus, and Service Awards recognize individuals who have achieved great success in their careers and in service to their communities.

The annual banquet hosted by EAC in April is our opportunity to thank them for representing Duke and Pratt so well, and to celebrate with them. For those of you who have not been able to attend an Alumni Banquet in the past, I would recommend trying to attend one in the near future. The event provides a great opportunity to look back on your years at Duke and share a very special evening with award recipients, current Pratt students and faculty, as well as fellow alumni.

**ALUMNI AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT**

We have been expanding our use of online resources to give alumni more convenient tools to stay engaged. The EAC has expanded its online presence through Facebook, LinkedIn and online access to the DukEngineer to help you stay connected with the school and your fellow alumni. Please take advantage of these tools, even if you only use them to keep your contact information updated or pay your dues.

Finally, I would like to recognize two members of the EAC. Over the past year, Jason O. Piche E’97 has served as EAC President. Jason has worked hard to continue advancing the goals of the EAC. His commitment to the EAC and leadership are very much appreciated. The previous year, J. Michael Drozd E’89 G’97 served as EAC President. This past year, in his last year on the council, Michael continued to help the EAC in the position of Past President. He now rolls off the EAC after eleven years of service. Thank you, Michael, for the many years you have given to Pratt and the alumni association.

Ershela L. Sims, PhD E’93
President, Engineering Alumni Council
MISSION OF THE ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Association is to advance the cause of engineering education, to promote the interests of and loyalty to the Duke University School of Engineering, and to promote a spirit of cordiality, mutual acquaintances, good fellowship and communication among the members of the Association.

The Association has three main focuses: supporting extracurricular student projects; recognizing outstanding alumni and those who serve our school through our annual awards program; and facilitating continuing engagement of Pratt alumni with the school.

WHAT DO MEMBERSHIP DUES SUPPORT?

Dues are spent by the Engineering Alumni Council to sponsor alumni receptions, speakers and open houses to forge connections between the alumni, students and faculty; provide the primary support for engineering student projects, enabling a richer and more fulfilling educational experience for students; host the annual Awards Banquet and determine each year’s Distinguished Alumnus, Distinguished Young Alumnus and Distinguished Service awards. Of the support we receive each year from dues and the Lord Foundation, 50% goes toward Student Projects; 25% for the Engineering Awards Banquet; 16% for Dues Mailing, Meeting costs and other EAC expenses; and 9% for Reunion and Alumni/Student Events.

HOW TO JOIN

Engineering Alumni Association dues are $35 a year. You can send your dues in the envelope provided or go to gifts.duke.edu/daadues, then select “Engineering Alumni Association Dues ($35.00).”

MEMBERSHIP GIFTS

With your paid 2014-2015 Engineering Alumni Association (EAA) membership, you will receive a lapel pin commemorating Duke Engineering’s 75th anniversary. Don’t miss out! Be sure to join today!
ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The Engineering Alumni Council is responsible for executing the mission of the Engineering Alumni Association. A member of the Alumni Council is an active observer to the Pratt Board of Visitors, insuring that an alumni perspective is heard in all deliberations concerning Pratt’s future direction and priorities. Contact Pam Hanson at 919-660-5130 or pamela.hanson@duke.edu if you are interested in joining the council or recommending someone.

2014-2015 EAC MEMBERS

President
Ershela L. Sims E’93 • Durham, NC

President-Elect
Dixie T. Wells E’91 • Greensboro, NC

Immediate Past President
Jason O. Piche E’97 • Memphis, TN

Student Representatives
Anna Knight E’15 • ESG President
Morgan Simmons E’15 • Senior Class President
Becky Bauer E’15 • Junior Class President

Pratt School of Engineering Staff
Robert W. “Judge” Carr, Jr. E’71 • Senior Associate Dean/Director of Development
Pam Hanson • Director, Annual Fund
Kim Davis • Program Coordinator

Council Members
Anthony R. Baldassari X’06 • Raleigh, NC
R. Brian Drozd G’00, X’02 • Lexington, NC
William G. Gardner E’09, G’11 • Fredericksburg, VA
Grant T. Hollett IV E’93, B’02 • Chesterfield, VA
Ronald B. Houck II E’86 • Apex, NC
David S. Lindquist E’86, B’91 • Raleigh, NC
Andrew J. Longenecker E’07 • Jupiter, FL
Rebecca R. Lula E’78 • Cambridge, MA
Bridge D. L. McDowell E’84 • Kitty Hawk, NC
William R. Mendez E’82, B’90 • Wilmington, DE
Mary E. Nebel E’02 • Baltimore, MD
Tracy A. Nickelsburg E’88 • Alexandria, VA
Sara K. Oliver E’06 • New York, NY
Howard Clifton Ray III E’13 • Appomatox, VA
William B. Senner E’06, X’06 • Durham, NC
Allan Bruce Shang E’83 • Wake Forest, NC
Walter Neal Simmons G’01 • Bahama, NC
Michael A. Wesley E’97, X’98 • Chapel Hill, NC

STAY CONNECTED

Social Media
facebook.com/DukeAlumni
twitter.com/DukeAlumni
linkedin.DukeAlumni.com
youtube.com/DukeAlumniVideo
pinterest.com/DukeUAlumni

Alumni Directory, Class Notes & Photos
dukealumni.com/alumni-communities

Upcoming Alumni Events
dukealumni.com/events

NEW! DUKE ENGINEERING NOW

Stay connected with all the happenings at the Pratt School of Engineering with our new e-newsletter. If you have not yet received Duke Engineering Now, visit our website to view archives and subscribe.

pratt.duke.edu/news/duke-engineering-now