

# Alumni Update

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree and Date(s): BS (        ) MS (        ) PhD (        )

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

News to share: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: **Biological Systems Engineering Alumni Newsletter**  
460 Henry Mall, Madison, WI 53706  
or e-mail information to:  
BSE@facstaff.wisc.edu

**BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS  
ENGINEERING UPDATE**  
460 Henry Mall  
Madison, WI 53706

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Madison, WI  
Permit No. 658



# UPDATE

*A Newsletter of the University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Biological Systems Engineering Department*

Vol. 3

No. 2

## The Chair's Chips



As the school year comes to a close, it's a time to reflect on the degree of success of the students, faculty and staff during the past year. Success can be measured several ways: awards, staffing changes and budget. I believe all indications, this has been a very successful year.

Students, faculty and staff received many awards. Students were recognized at the campus level and at the national level through ASAE. A number of faculty received some very distinguished awards as well as several others. Professor Gunasekaran received a Fulbright Fellowship to do teaching and conduct research in Denmark. Professor David Bohnhoff received the ASAE Henry Giese Structures and Environment Award. Details of these awards are found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Two new faculty have joined BSE recently. Dr. K. G. Karthikeyan joined us from Pennsylvania State University as a tenure track faculty in the Natural Resource and Environment area. And Dr. R. Sam Williams joined the faculty as an affiliated member from the USDA Forest Products Laboratory.

The budget provided by appropriated state and federal sources remains constant or a slight increase. The gifts and grants continue to increase allowing the department to grow and address new issues.

The week of July 9-14 was a very busy week for the BSE faculty and staff. We hosted the International ASAE Meeting in Milwaukee where a number of our faculty served key committee roles and many of our staff and students served as volunteers during the meeting. We thank the alumni who helped with the meeting.

Also during that week Wisconsin Farm Progress took place near Fond du Lac. Several members of our faculty and staff spent time directing machinery demonstrations and staffing displays.

Remodeling and refurbishing of our building, which started last October, continues and should be finished in November. It will create a new atmosphere in the building while maintaining its historic character. We nominated the physical plant crew for an award recognizing the quality of work being done on this project.

Finally, we greatly appreciate the contributions by alumni and friends to our BSE Campaign, Creating Solutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We will celebrate a major step toward our success on September 7, 4:00-6:00 pm when we will announce the establishment of the Hjalmar D. and Janet W. Bruhn Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in the Agricultural Engineering Building. See later article for more details.

Sincerely,  
**Ronald T. Schuler**  
BSE Department Chair



# Alumni Update

Thank you for continuing to send your business cards and information updates. We appreciate hearing from you! If you haven't kept in touch, please send us your business card and/or complete the form at the end of this newsletter.

**Scott Mueller**, 1987 Agricultural Engineering graduate, continues to work for the Natural Resources and Conservation Service but in a new position as Statewide Erosion Control Engineer. He has a new office in Richland Center, WI while he, Tami and their daughter Amanda continue to live in Lone Rock.

**Gerald Vogt**, 1983 Agricultural Engineering graduate, reports that he is managing large-scale remediation projects in Redding, CA for CH2M HILL. Before joining this company in 1988, he worked for the USGS as a hydraulic engineer in Southeast Alaska until 1986 and completed an MS in Groundwater Hydrology at the University of Arizona. He is married with three boys.

**Timothy J. Koch**, 1988 Agricultural Engineering graduate is working for APV as a manager of materials. He, his wife, Rebecca, and their family live in Watertown, WI. He has three children: Stephanie who is eight years old, Zachary who is four years old and the newest addition, Kelly Elizabeth, born April 11, 2000.

## BSE Faculty and Staff Receive ASAE Educational Aids Blue Ribbons

Four extension Educational Aids Blue Ribbon Awards were received by BSE faculty and staff at the 2000 ASAE International Meeting in Milwaukee, July 9-12. The awards and faculty/staff receiving the awards:

1. **Manure Management Choices for Wisconsin Dairy and Beef Cattle Operations**(publication)-Brian Holmes, Bruce Webendorfer, Renae Anderson, Edward Odgers, Gail Pazach, and Robert Wilson;
2. **Transition Dairy Cattle Management**(Extension Method)-Dave Kammel, Kevin Janni(MN), Mike Hutjens(IL), Lee Kilmer, (IA), Randy Shaver,(WI), and Jim Barmore(Monsanto);
3. **Residue Management Choices**(Publication)-Ron Schuler, John Pingry, Richard Wolkowski, and Bruce Webendorfer;
4. **Start Your Engines**(Publication)-Meg Sage, Angie Muchow, Ann Rund(IL) and Ron Schuler.

## CALS Open House on August 19

The second Annual College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Open House is scheduled for August 19, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Stock Pavilion on campus. Last year at the Sesquicentennial Open house, the Dean decided to make this an annual event.

Many CALS departments will have interactive displays. There will be wagon tours of the Agricultural campus and several departments will have open houses. Biological Systems Engineering will have two displays: cheese stretching and the quarter scale tractor. BSE is not planning an open house, however we will be happy to provide personalized tours of our facilities. Please stop by our displays in the Stock Pavilion for a visit and to request a tour of our facilities.

## UW Madison Open House August 18-20

Free events and parking!  
For more information call 265-9500.

### SCHEDULE:

**Friday, August 18**  
Hot Summer Nights: Kickoff Showcase  
Union Terrace, from 5-11 p.m.

**Saturday, August 19**  
Campus tours: By Train, bus or foot. Various tours running from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Healthy You at the U: A Health and Recreation Fair 8 a.m.-noon  
From Cows to Wows: A Menu of Discovery 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Livin' La Vida Polka: A Cultural Crossroads. Activities for kids 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Stars of Heaven and Earth: From Space to Science to Sports 1-5 p.m.  
Hot Summer Nights: The Sequel Union Terrace, 5-11 p.m.

**Sunday, August 20**  
Get Your Kicks: Fun for Fans and Families  
A youth soccer clinic & scrimmage, 8:30-11 a.m.  
Football Family Fun Day with the Badgers 3-4:30 p.m.

## THANK YOU

to our contributors  
February 1, 2000-  
May 31, 2000

- Kent Mitchell*
- LaVay E. Morrison*
- Paul A. Morrison*
- Stephen Nelson*
- Kristen Nelson*
- Ron Pearsall*
- Mary Pearsall*
- Mark A. Purschwitz*
- David L. Reinhardt*
- Allan Remus*
- Ronald T. Schuler*
- Joyce Schweizer*
- Leon J. Urben*
- Paul Vigum*
- Carol Vigum*
- Dean Wagner*
- Lori Wagner*
- Patrick W. Walsh*
- Jerry Wierson*
- Margaret Wierson*
- Gaylen D. Witzel*
- Barbara J. Witzel*
- Wilma M. Witzel*
- John Young Realty*



# Congratulations!

## Faculty and Staff Awards

**Dr. David Bohnhoff** received the 2000 Benon G. Perkins Award for his major roll in completing the "Post Frame Building Design Manual" for the National Frame Builders Association. This is the second time he has received this award. The Perkins Award recognizes an individual who has contributed conspicuous and exemplary service to the post-frame industry. Dave is also a member of the Rural Builder Hall of Fame.

**Dr. Sudaram Gunasekaran** received a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship to conduct food engineering research in Denmark. He will be in Denmark from September 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000. His research will focus on rheology, microstructure and end-use properties of cheese. He will present several seminars on cheese properties and will advise graduate students during his four months in Denmark.

**Cheryl Skjolaas**, a senior outreach specialist in agricultural safety and health, received the "Second Mile Award" from the Wisconsin Association of County Agricultural Agents. This award is presented to specialist who goes the extra mile in service to county agents. Cheryl has provided support in tractor machinery certification for youth working on Wisconsin farms.

**Dr. Ronald T. Schuler** received a 2000 Communicator Award from the Wisconsin Association of 4-H Youth Development Professionals. He was part of an Educational Video Team that developed a video-satellite program, Explore

New 4-H Projects. A portion of the program focussed on the 4-H small engine project and the new materials recently developed

**Paul Leverenz**, a vocational rehabilitation counselor for the AgrAbility project, received an Outstanding Young Wisconsinite Award from the Wisconsin Jaycees. Paul does on-farm site visits where he makes assessments regarding assistive technology for farmers with disabilities.

**Astrid Newenhouse and Bob Meyer**, members of our safety and health group, received an 'Honorable Mention' Award for their display at the second Annual National Small Farm Conference. They received a Certificate of Appreciation from Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman. The display featured activities of the "Healthy Farmers, Healthy Profits" project.

**Dr. Gary D. Bubbenzer** received an ASAE Distinguished Service Award at the International ASAE Meeting in Milwaukee for his many years of dedication to the ASAE Publications Council and his assistance in launching ASAE into a new publication system. He served as chair of the ASAE Publications Council.

**Dr. Sudaram Gunasekaran** received recognition for serving as the Food and Bioprocess Engineering Institute (FPE) editor. Dr. Gunasekaran's dedication was acknowledged during the International ASAE Meeting in Milwaukee. In this role, Dr. Gunasekaran was responsible for having all FPE manuscripts reviewed.

## UW-Madison Students Bring Home Awards in Quarter Scale ASAE Tractor Competition

Once again the UW-Madison students did extremely well at the quarter scale tractor competition held in Moline, IL. Overall they placed fifth in a competitive field of 29 teams from throughout the U. S. and Canada. Overall placing is based on four areas: tractor pull, written design report, team presentation, and tractor design.

The Wisconsin-Madison team placed second of 29 teams in pull events that was the result of four pulls, two at 800 pounds and two at 1050 pounds. They won the first pulling event when the tractor weight was 800 pounds. They placed ninth in the written design report and and fourteenth in the team presentation.

In the tractor design, the team placed first. They were first in serviceability and craftsmanship and tied for first in safety. For their quick disconnect system they placed second.

The UW-Madison students placed second in the "X" tractor competition. The "X" tractor event was designed for the younger team members who used the 1999 tractor.

Eighteen Agricultural Engineering and two mechanical engineering students participated in the competition but many more were involved in the tractor development. The team was lead by Brian Huenink from Cedar Grove, WI and Aaron Faessler from Brodhead, WI.



*Team members included: (standing from l to r) Rob Silha, Bob Boland, Kevin Harper, Pat Uhlenhake, Brad Yanke, Tanner Brenthorst, Eric Rego, Scott Waletzko, Jon Frey, Matt Holl, Jacob Holl, (kneeling from l to r) Brian Huenink, Steve Craig, and Aaron Faessler is seated in the tractor.*

*The tractor competed in several events including two 800 pound and two 1050 pound pulling competitions. The team placed second in the pull event. Brian Huenink is driving the tractor.*



## Food Science Club Symposium Poster Award

Five BSE graduate students were winners of the Food Science Club Symposium Poster Award presented April 5 at the Institute of Food Technologists. Buddhi Lamsal, Tao Wang, Calvin Yang, Won Yoon and Chenxu Yu each received \$100 for their presentation.

Five BSE graduate students also participated in the IFT Food Engineering Graduate Paper Competition. Buddhi Lamsal presented a paper titled *Rheological Evaluation of Spreadable Foods in Lubricated Squeezing Flow*. Tao Wang presented a paper titled *Gelation and Controlled Release of a pH-Sensitive, Biodegradable Hydrogel*. Calvin Yang presented a paper titled *Temperature Distribution in a Model Food System Heated by Pulsed Microwave*. Won Yoon presented a paper titled *Structure Development Rate during Gelation of Fish Proteins Using a Non-Isothermal Kinetic Model*. Chenxu Yu presented a paper titled *Modeling of Isothermal Melt Conveying in a Single Screw Extruder*.

Jamie Colby, a graduate student, headed a product development team which placed second in the Institute of Food Technologists Product Development competition. The team developed a nutritious breakfast bar. Other BSE students on the team were Asher Streets and Colleen Madden.

## Student group wins EMI Award

The PreProfessional club placed second runner-up in the Group B (under 33 members) EMI (Equipment Manufacturers Institute) trophy competition. The students complete a report on their activities for the year. Judging is based on membership, committee activity, attendance, programs, special activities, inspection trips and their report. Our club had an outstanding year which included the meeting activities, 1999 Engineering Expo and the 1999 Quarter Scale Tractor competition. The award was presented during the 2000 ASAE International Meeting in Milwaukee in July, 2000.

## Huenink receives ASAE Student Honor Award

Brian Huenink, a senior received the Student Honor Award for his scholastic accomplishments and his involvement in extracurricular activities. He served as president of the ASAE Preprofessional club during the 1998-99 school year and as co-leader of the 1999-2000 quarter scale tractor team.

## Students Scholarships

### Ham Bruhn Biological Systems Engineering

Shawn Beach, Springbrook, WI  
Matthew Holl, Juneau, WI  
Patrick Uhlenhake, Salem, WI

### Don S. Montgomery

Kelly Granberg, Superior, WI  
Anthony Russo, Poynette, WI

### Charles L. Ream Memorial

Jaslyn Dobrahner, Northfield, MN

### Vicky Lee Hirsh Endowment for Conservation

Sarah Dahlke, Menominee Falls, WI

### Wisconsin Agricultural Engineer

Brian Huenink, Cedar Grove, WI

### Lynndon and Norma Brooks

Stephan Meer, Milwaukee, WI

### Albert J. and Adelaide Riker

Karen Mandl, Richfield, MN

### Roger William Ambrose

Asher Streets, Milwaukee, WI

### Gail Edwin and Janice Faye Janssen Biological Systems Engineering Fund

Timothy Dittrich, Schaumburg, IL