

Summer
2013

NEW WAVE NEWS

Tulane Dean to Lead
National Engineering
Education Group »

Kim O'Connor Received
the 2013 Elmer Gaden
Award »

Tulane SSE Honors
Outstanding Faculty
Researcher & Showcases
Student Research
Achievements »

Posse Scholar Preps for
Life After Tulane »

Expert on Safety
Receives Distinguished
Achievement Award »

[Read Other News »](#)

ACCOLADES

Physics graduate John Elliott Ortmann, Jr. received **The William Wallace Perry Medal for Academic Excellence**, the top Undergraduate student honor. [See all science and engineering senior award recipients »](#)

Cell and Molecular Biology Professor Benjamin Hall was named the **2013 Honors Professor of the Year**.

Message from the Dean

Nicholas J. Altiero, Dean

Last year at this time, I reported that 395 undergraduate students and 141 graduate students majoring in disciplines offered by the School of Science and Engineering (SSE) had received their degrees at the 178th Tulane University Commencement. This year, at the 179th Tulane University Commencement, that number grew to 438 undergraduate students and 157 graduate students. It was once again a very impressive graduating class and many of the graduates who received university awards for their academic and extracurricular achievements are recognized in this issue of the SSE Newsletter.



[Read Dean's Message »](#)



Engineering Alumnus Creates Investment in the Future

Article by Matt Roberts

By 2018, the U.S. will have over 1.2 million unfilled jobs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) — mostly high-wage, recession-proof employment opportunities. Yet 38 percent of college students who start a STEM major do not graduate with that degree.

Without a strong foundation in math and science from elementary and secondary school, educators say, students are unprepared to train for and pursue careers in STEM fields.

[Read Full Story »](#)

SSE's First Assistant Dean of K-12 STEM Outreach Retiring

Article by Robert Morris

After a career at Tulane that dates back to her undergraduate days in the late 1970s, Annette Oertling will retire in June as the School of Science and Engineering's first Assistant Dean for K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Outreach. Her passion for inspiring the love of science will continue to benefit young students, as not

SSE Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs Beth Wee was selected as the **2013 Student Organization Advisor of the Year** and the **2013 Undergraduate Faculty Member of the Year**.

Tulane University Neuroscience Association (TUNA) was selected as the **2013 Student Organization of the Year**.

Biomedical Engineering Assistant Professor J. Quincy Brown was awarded \$123,466 from the NIH to develop and validate a new system for intra-operative microscopic imaging of tumor resection specimens, which aims to help reduce the number of unnecessary treatments applied after tumor removal surgery.

Cell and Molecular Biology Professor Benjamin Hall was awarded \$327,770 from the NIH to investigate the cellular mechanisms that are responsible for the rapid antidepressant actions of ketamine.

Cell and Molecular Biology Assistant Professor Shusheng Wang was awarded \$357,749 from the NIH to study the mechanism whereby microRNAs regulate retinal vascular development and neovascular age-related macular degeneration (AMD). AMD is the leading cause of blindness in the elderly without cure currently available. Using genetic mouse models and microRNA technologies, this study may pave the road for future microRNA therapeutics for vascular retinopathies and other vascular disorders.

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only does the program have a successor that Oertling describes as a perfect fit, but Oertling also plans to continue as a volunteer.

[Read Full Story »](#)



Science and Engineering Recipients of Tulane 34 Awards 2013

upon students.

The Tulane 34 Award is presented to 34 graduates who have distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate life. Students are recognized for their exemplary leadership, service and academic excellence. Named for the year the university was founded, 1834, Tulane 34 is among the most coveted university-wide honor bestowed

The School of Science and Engineering proudly recognizes six science and engineering graduates that received the prestigious award in 2013.

[Read Full Story »](#)

Meticulous About Fun -- Staff Accountant Lends her Energy to K-12 Robotics Competitions

Article by Robert Morris

Since joining the Tulane engineering staff 12 years ago, Lorrie McGinley has become known for her combination of a no-nonsense approach to her accounting work with an irrepressible, mischievous sense of humor. As Tulane's science and technology outreach to younger students has grown in recent years, McGinley has spent countless hours volunteering with robotics competitions and other events, sharing her same high-energy style with the next generation of science students.



[Read Full Story »](#)

Upcoming Events

School of Science and Engineering Highlights

Welcome Week at Tulane

Saturday, August 24 –

**School of Science and Engineering
2013 Homecoming Tailgating Tent**

FEEDBACK

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the newsletter to:

✉ candy@tulane.edu

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Tulane
empowers

Friday, September 6, 2013

School of Science and Engineering Freshmen Welcome – Open House for All New Incoming Students

Sunday, August 25, 2013

2 PM – 4 PM

Boggs Center for Energy &
Biotechnology

First Floor Lobby

*All New Incoming Students and their
guests are invited to attend*

School of Science and Engineering Distinguished Leadership Circle Reception

Thursday, October 3, 2013

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Audubon Golf Clubhouse

Invitation Only

School of Science and Engineering Homecoming 2013 Celebration Open House | Research Lab Tours

Friday, October 4, 2013

2 PM – 4 PM

Boggs Center for Energy &
Biotechnology

First Floor Lobby

Everyone is Invited

[View All Events »](#)

Saturday, October 5, 2013

11 AM – Game Kickoff

Mercedes-Benz Superdome –
Champions Square

Everyone is Invited

School of Science and Engineering Homecoming Game Suite

Saturday, October 5, 2013

2 PM

Mercedes-Benz Superdome
Suite 441

Invitation Only

The Murchison-Mallory Chair in Physics Investiture Ceremony; Physics Professor Wayne Reed will be honored

Friday, November 22, 2013

3 PM

Lavin-Bernick Center for University
Life

Kendall Cram Lecture Hall
Room 213

*Reception will follow - Lavin-Bernick
Center for University Life*

Qatar Ballroom – Room 212

Everyone is invited

[See a weekly schedule of Science
and Engineering Seminars open to
the public »](#)

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