

Summer  
2016

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

[New Orleans' Digital Revolution »](#)[Researcher Follows Evolution of Landforms »](#)[Physics Student Has a Resume Packed with Research »](#)[Grad Focuses on Cancer Research »](#)[Bridging the Divide: Amy Goodson, NSF Graduate Research Fellow »](#)[The Future Celebrated: Research Day in the School of Science and Engineering »](#)[Drug Pioneer Shares His Career with Students »](#)[Read Other News »](#)

## ACCOLADES

Cell and Molecular Biology Assistant Professor Fenglei He was awarded \$249,020 from the National Institutes of Health to unravel how growth factor signaling engaged by PDGFRA and Rac1 in regulating upper lip development in mouse models.

## Message from the Dean

*Nicholas J. Altiero, Dean*

The School of Science and Engineering (SSE) was formally established on July 1, 2006. Establishment of the School was a key element of the Tulane University "Plan for Renewal", created in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and its devastating impact on Tulane, New Orleans, and the Gulf region. As this Newsletter goes to press, the School is celebrating its tenth anniversary.

[Read Dean's Message »](#)



## Three Outstanding Alumni Honored

Three outstanding alumni were honored for their contributions to science and engineering, and the university on March 18, 2016 at the eighth annual School of Science and Engineering Alumni Awards Ceremony held at the Audubon Tea Room.

"We are extremely fortunate to have such successful and dedicated alumni," says Nicholas Altiero, Dean of

the School of Science and Engineering. "These awards showcase not only the achievements of these three individuals, but also the accomplishments of the school as a whole."

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## Faculty Win Brings Opportunity for Students

*Article by Barri Bronston*

It is considered the National Science Foundation's most prestigious junior faculty award program, and this year, Tulane University assistant professor Julie Albert is in the CAREER award's class of 2016. Albert, the Robert and Gayle Longmire Early Career Professor in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, is one of 160 recipients from 88 institutions across the United States.



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Chemistry Professors Igor Rubtsov and Alex Burin were awarded \$422,022 from the National Science Foundation to develop molecular systems featuring fast and efficient energy transport, important for designing materials with high thermal conductivity and novel schemes of signal transduction.

Chemistry Professors Igor Rubtsov and Russell Schmehl were awarded \$430,497 from the National Science Foundation to develop ways of modulating rates of electron transfer in molecules and designing novel photo switches involving electron transfer. The international team involves collaborators at Duke, Xavier and Cyprus (Nicosia, Cyprus) Universities.

Chemistry Professor Bruce Gibbs was awarded a three year grant for \$480,000 from the National Science Foundation to perform work which concerns the selective complexation of guest molecules within well-defined, water-soluble cavities. Successful completion of the proposed studies will shed light on new and economic alternative ways to separate and convert molecules of utility to a broad range of industrial and academic settings, including, but not limited to: the petrochemical, pharmaceutical, and flavors and fragrances industry, as well as fundamental chemical research in academia.

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Professors Thomas Sherry and Donata Henry were honored by La. Ornithological Society at this year's LOS Spring Meeting in Cameron. [See more »](#)

Psychology Professor Bonnie K. Nastasi was named as one of top 20 most prolific authors in School Psychology literature in the last century in a study done by Shuyan Liu, Beijing Normal University and Thomas Oakland University of Florida and Hong Kong University.



## Student Awards 2016

The School of Science and Engineering experienced an exceptional 2015-2016 school year. During this year's commencement, 451 undergraduate degrees and 151 graduate degrees were presented. Outstanding SSE faculty and students were also honored for their achievements during their time at Tulane.

This year, six SSE students received the Tulane 34 Award. This prestigious award is presented to 34 graduates from Tulane's 10 schools and colleges, and recognizes students for their exemplary leadership, service and academic excellence. Named for the year in which the university was founded, the Tulane 34 Award is among the most coveted university-wide honors bestowed upon students. The 2016 SSE winners included Nina Baumgartner, Marguerite O'Quinn, Mysia Dye, Cooper Battle, Gabriella Runnels and Tyler Fukae.

[Read Full Story »](#)

## 2016 Science and Engineering Week - Bringing Students, Faculty, Esteemed Alumni, and Distinguished Scholars Together

As in past years, the School of Science and Engineering Student Government and SSE student organizations did a superb job in organizing a week filled with amazing events for 2016 Science and Engineering Week. This year, SSEGS and SSE expanded on the prior success with more students and alumni engaged and new activities.



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[View Dean's Webinars »](#)

[View SSE Videos »](#)

## Upcoming Events

### *School of Science and Engineering Highlights*

#### **BarCampNOLA 9**

Saturday, July 16, 2016

10 AM – 5 PM

Boggs Center for Energy & Biotechnology

#### **School of Science and Engineering Distinguished Leadership Circle Reception**

Thursday, October 27, 2016

6 PM – 8 PM

## CONTACT US

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## FEEDBACK

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From You!

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First Floor Lobby

Barcamp New Orleans Louisiana is an  
annual un-conference and hack day  
that takes New Orleans by storm every  
summer.

*Hosted by the Tulane School of  
Science and Engineering*

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**Fall 2016 Welcome at Tulane begins  
with Move-In Day**

Friday, August 26, 2016

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

Saturday, August 27, 2016

12:15 PM – 2 PM

Boggs Center for Energy &  
Biotechnology  
First Floor Lobby

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

123 Walnut

Rooftop

*Invitation Only*

**School of Science and Engineering  
2016 Homecoming Tailgating Tent**

Saturday, October 29, 2016

11 AM – 2 PM

Lavin-Bernick Center for University  
Life Quad

*Everyone is Invited*

[View All Events »](#)

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

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