



A Note from Development

I recently came across a quote from a GW report entitled "Technology and the Modern University - A Report by The President's Advisory Committee on Engineering and Applied Science." It reads:

"Science and technology change our world. Each succeeding age produces new goals, new expectations and new accomplishments and, so too, science and engineering grow and develop with time. The scientist and engineer of today bear little resemblance to their predecessors of a past age, and their successors will be different. The problem which the engineering educator faces is to anticipate what skills and goals will be required of future engineers and to educate them to meet their future."

Interesting enough, that report was issued in 1966. What struck me about it is its relevance for today, particularly as we consider interdisciplinary programs at SEAS such as biomedical engineering, cyber security, transportation safety, and our research in energy-related fields, just to name a few. I am convinced that many of tomorrow's solutions for today's problems will be achieved through the collaborative efforts we are building at SEAS and GW.

Perhaps the most visible evidence of these efforts on campus will be our new science and engineering complex. Currently in the planning stage, the facility will house the School of Engineering and Applied Science and also some of the natural and life science

programs with which SEAS collaborates. It will be an excellent centerpiece of GW's growing commitment and leadership in state-of-the-art research and discovery in engineering and sciences.

Be a part of it. . .

As this issue of *Synergy* makes clear, 2009 marks 125 years of engineering at GW. During this time, the School of Engineering and Applied Science has achieved success through the efforts of visionary leaders, dedicated scholars, intellectually curious and ambitious students, and generous alumni and friends.

Today, SEAS is embracing the opportunity to be a 21st century global leader in charting solutions. We are doing that by pushing the boundaries of progress on unprecedented engineering problems and challenges. Dean Dolling is leading the charge. The stake is in the ground. And we invite you to be a part of it!

As in the past, the future of SEAS will be girded and strengthened by the support and engagement of alumni and friends. Our development staff eagerly anticipates meeting with you in the coming months to discuss and offer opportunities for your participation. In the meantime, our doors are open in Tompkins Hall and we welcome a chance to visit with you—or to hear from you via phone or e-mail.

Finally, since I arrived at GW and SEAS just this past December and have not yet

had the chance to meet most of you, I'd like to introduce myself. I came to SEAS from Oberlin College in Ohio, where I worked for the previous nine years. At Oberlin, I served as director of principal gifts and cultivated philanthropic support to build a \$65 million science center and a recently-completed \$22 million jazz facility.

I also previously served as director of alumni relations and annual giving at Cardigan Mountain School in New Hampshire, and spent the first 15 years of my career in commercial and consumer banking in New Hampshire, where I held senior positions in lending, management, and business development. I hold a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in business from the University of New Hampshire. My wife Ann and I have three grown children living in Ohio and Massachusetts.

Thank you for your interest in and support of SEAS, and stay tuned for great things to come!

With best regards,

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News

Scott Amey and Julie Lee Receive Alumni Achievement Awards

GW honored seven alumni with achievement awards last September, and two of the honorees are SEAS alumni. Scott Amey (MS '75) was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, and Julie Lee (MS '05) with the Recent Alumni Achievement Award. Both awards recognize GW alumni who have attained notable achievements in their field.

The Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award—the highest honor bestowed by the university on its alumni—was presented to Scott Amey for his success on several fronts. Amey co-founded RS Information Systems (RSIS), a company that provides advanced technical and business solutions in information technology, systems engineering, and other areas to the defense, civilian, and law enforcement agencies of the federal government. Before he retired in 2004, he helped grow the company to 1,700 employees, and in 2005, the company was ranked 35th on the Washington Technology list of the largest federal technology services contractors.

After his retirement, Scott served for roughly three years as the volunteer director of the SEAS Career Services Office, dedicating three days a week

to helping SEAS students start their careers. He was also very active in helping Georgetown's Lombardi Cancer Center, where his daughter had been successfully treated.

Scott subsequently started another company, Amyx Inc., which has already grown to 70 employees and which he leads as its president and chief executive officer.

Julie Lee received the Recent Alumni Achievement Award, which is presented to alumni who have graduated in the last five years. Lee is the president and chief executive officer of Access Systems, Inc., which provides IT services to the federal government and has been recognized by the Virginia Chamber of Commerce as one of Virginia's fastest growing companies (2004-2008). It has also been recognized by *Inside Business* magazine as one of the best places to work in the state, and named among Washington Technology's "Fast 50" for seven years in a row (2002-2008). From 1998-1999, Julie served as president and chief executive officer of ATECH Corporation.

Julie is an active member of numerous industry organizations, most notably as a member of the Director's Advisory Council on Women's Business of the Virginia Department of Business Assistance, an organization to which she was appointed in 2003 by then-Governor Mark Warner. In 2006, she received the Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the Small Business

Administration in the D.C. area. She was named one of Fifty Most Influential Minorities in Business by the Minority Business and Professional Network in 2002 and 2004, as well as a Minority Small Business Advocate by the Asian American Business Roundtable in 2004. Julie is active in a number of local and national volunteer organizations, and she is currently pursuing her doctoral degree in engineering management here at SEAS.

Asgar Mostafa Receives GW Award for Distinguished Entrepreneurial Achievement

In October, GW honored SEAS alumnus Asghar Mostafa (BS '81, MS '82) with the 2008 Distinguished Entrepreneurial Achievement Award at a reception at the Fairmont Hotel. The award for distinguished entrepreneurial achievement was created in 2007 as part of the annual GW Entrepreneurs Roundtable event to honor an entrepreneur who has displayed outstanding innovation, vision, integrity, leadership, and social responsibility in developing and bringing to market a novel technology, product, or solution. GW President Steven Knapp presented the award to Mostafa during the event, which also included the GW Business Plan Competition (sponsored by Annette and Richard Scott), a panel discussion with GW alumni entrepreneurs, and a networking reception.

An experienced entrepreneur with an extensive business and technical background, Mostafa has spent more than 25 years creating and building category-breaking technology companies.

Asgar Mostafa (left) and GW President Steven Knapp



He recently launched Entourage Systems, Inc., a technology platform company that seeks to break the cost and technology barriers in education to bring affordable, upgradeable textbooks and content to students. Prior to that, Mostafa founded Vinci Systems, which designed, manufactured, and sold interoperable broadband optical network terminals (ONTs). After two years of operation, the company was purchased by Tellabs Inc., and to date, more than two million of these ONTs have been sold to Verizon for its FIOS network.

In 1997, Mostafa founded Advanced Switching Communications, Inc. (ASC) to develop and bring to market lower cost, highly flexible broadband access solutions. ASC completed its initial public stock offering in 2000 and successfully raised close to \$200 million. Before that, Mostafa founded ISDN Systems Corporation (ISC), a leading provider of integrated services digital network and frame relay equipment. He served as president and CEO of ISC until 1995, when U.S. Robotics, now part of 3Com, acquired the company. Earlier in his career, Mostafa was vice president of product development for the telecommunications division of Data General Telecommunication Division, and he co-founded and served as vice president of engineering for ICOM, an early entrant in the field of fixed-wireless communications and a developer of T-1 multiplexers.

Mostafa is a long-standing member of the IEEE and the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), and has served on the board of directors of several networking and communications companies. He currently serves on the board of directors of Entourage Systems, Inc.; LTI DataComm; Mostafa Venture Fund, LLC; and the SEAS National Advisory Council.

Upcoming Alumni Events

Stay connected with SEAS alumni, faculty, and current students by attending our many fall 2009 SEAS alumni events listed below. Be sure to visit the online alumni events calendar at www.alumni.gwu.edu/calendar for more detailed information. You can also find a complete listing of alumni events and programs in the *Colonial Cable*, the e-newsletter sent monthly to all GW alumni. If you do not currently receive the *Colonial Cable*, you can sign up at www.alumni.gwu.edu/news.

Fall 2009

GW Alumni Weekend (<http://alumni.gwu.edu/aw/2009/>)

October 1-4, 2009
Washington, D.C.

Frank Howard Distinguished Lecture Series

Washington, D.C.

Alumni Receptions with Dean Dolling Boston, NYC, and Philadelphia regions

Student Alumni Networking Event

Washington, D.C.

SEAS Alumni Social Event

Washington, D.C.

Engineer Alumni Association, Call for Volunteers

Volunteer for our newly structured EAA. We are building new and dynamic alumni programming at SEAS, and we need alumni volunteers who can provide direction and feedback to the Office of Alumni Relations and SEAS to help build alumni engagement with a focus on alumni programs, student/alumni programs, and recruitment and outreach.

We are asking volunteers to commit to a year of service, during which you will assist in planning SEAS alumni programs, attend three meetings, participate on at least one of the focus area committees, and attend at least two SEAS alumni events.

If you are interested in participating in this integral part of programming for SEAS alumni, please contact:

Erin Pitts
Associate Director
School Alumni Programs
Alumni House @ 1918 F Street, NW
Phone: **(202) 994-2355**
espitts@gwu.edu

Other Alumni Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways alumni can be involved at GW and at SEAS. Below are some wonderful volunteer opportunities available at the university. Visit <http://alumni.gwu.edu/support/getinvolved.html> or contact **Erin Pitts** at **espitts@gwu.edu** or **(202) 994-2355** to find more information on all of these opportunities.

Be a Career Advisor

Share insights with other graduates and current students seeking career assistance. Register to be a career advisor at www.alumni.gwu.edu/networking.

Connect with Students

From hosting a dinner with students to delivering a guest lecture, you have a lot to offer. Participate in a student-alumni program to build connections with current students.

Apply for the GW Alumni Association Board

The GW Alumni Association works collaboratively with the university to implement programs and services that benefit GW alumni. Board elections take place in the spring of each year.

Get Involved with the Young Alumni Network

The Young Alumni Network (YAN) sponsors programming and provides benefits designed to meet the social, networking, and educational needs and interests of graduates from the past 10 years. Join the dedicated recent graduates who provide the inspiration for YAN activities!



Karlgaards Establish Scholarship Fund

To help make a GW education accessible to more students, President Knapp and the University's Board of Trustees recently created an initiative to make student aid a GW priority.

Last December, David Karlgaard (D.Sc. '74) and his wife Marilyn answered this call by establishing the Karlgaard Scholarship for undergraduate students in computer science. "You go through a stage in life where you want to give back," says Karlgaard, current chair of the SEAS National Advisory Council.

Intended to recognize outstanding academic performance, the Karlgaard Scholarship will be awarded to qualifying

students entering their junior or senior years who have attained a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and who are U.S. citizens.

Explaining the couple's motivation, Karlgaard remarks that GW was highly influential in his own professional career and ongoing success. "We wanted to help other people have that same success opportunity," Karlgaard says. "We also hope in some small way that this scholarship, in conjunction with other things people do for the school, will help lead to the enhanced reputation that SEAS is trying to achieve."

INVEST IN A STUDENT, TRANSFORM A LIFE.

Ian Balina, who moved to the United States from Uganda when he was in the fourth grade, had big dreams but little means to pursue them. That all changed when he came to GW, thanks to scholarship support.

"I was thrilled to be accepted into the School of Engineering and Applied Science. My experience here has been so special. I love the small classes and the opportunity to meet and talk with faculty, who encouraged me to pursue my dreams to start my own business and seek an advanced degree."

—Ian Balina, SEAS '10
Computer Engineering Major
Co-founder, Leximo, an online dictionary business

Help transform the lives of people like Ian and be part of the SEAS tradition of philanthropy by making a contribution to a SEAS scholarship fund!

To learn more about ways you can make a difference, please contact:

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