Fall 2019
Alumni Honors Reception
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019
5:30 P.M.

UCF COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
Welcome from the Dean

Dear Alumni and Guests,

Welcome to the UCF College of Engineering and Computer Science’s annual Alumni Honors Reception. Tonight we celebrate the accomplishments of six alumni of our college whose professional achievements truly make them shine bright among our 37,000 alumni.

These six individuals represent the best from each of our academic departments. And they’re in good company. Tonight we will add their names to our college’s list of Distinguished Alumni who exemplify the definition of what it means to be a UCF engineer or a UCF computer scientist.

We began this annual tradition in 2011, when our student enrollment was 6,250. Now, with more than 11,500 students, we are moving forward with our vision to be among the nation’s top producers of engineering and computer science workforce talent.

We achieved several significant milestones this year. Once again, UCF was recognized as the nation’s No. 1 workforce supplier to the aerospace and defense industry. And we added several new degree programs including the Aerospace Ph.D. and our new Civil Engineering master’s degree in Smart Cities, the first of its kind in the United States.

This past year, our college again received more than $50 million in research funding, supporting discoveries happening right here in our UCF labs that will change the world and improve lives. Our research covers topics as diverse as cancer-detecting software to hypersonic flames that could speed up air travel to five times the speed of light.

We also received $28 million in philanthropic giving this past year, and we are truly thankful to all of our donors for helping our students achieve their dreams.

Thank you to our honorees for inspiring all of us to Charge On! and Reach for the Stars.

Enjoy the celebration,

Michael Georgiopoulos, Ph.D.
Dean
Fall 2019 Alumni Honors Reception

5:30 p.m.  Registration and Cocktails
6:30 p.m.  Dinner
7:00 p.m.  Dean’s Welcome
            Michael Georgiopoulos, Ph.D., Dean
7:15 p.m.  Departmental Awards Presentations
            Bryan Karrick, Emcee
8:15 p.m.  Celebration and Networking

CECS 2019 Distinguished Alumni Awards

Department of Civil, Environmental and Construction Engineering
Denver Stutler, Jr. ’87 ’89MS

Department of Computer Science
John Stevens ’96

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Philip Dumas ’05

Department of Industrial Engineering and Management Systems
Tandreia Bellamy ’98MS

Department of Materials Science and Engineering
Catherine Kammerer, Ph.D. ’13MS ’15PhD

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Michael Piatek ’02 ’05MBA
About Tonight’s Emcee

Bryan Karrick
Meteorologist, Spectrum News 13

Bryan Karrick was named chief meteorologist at Spectrum News 13 in April 2015.

Previously, he worked at WeatherNation TV in St. Paul, Minnesota, after he and a team of meteorologists launched the national weather channel in 2010.

Bryan grew up in the southern suburbs of St. Paul and attended Mankato State University. During his junior year, he took the role of weekend weather position at CBS affiliate KEYC-TV.

This opportunity confirmed his passion for weather and science, and led him to KCCI-TV in Des Moines, Iowa, and a 12-year opportunity as the morning meteorologist. During this time, he was not only storm chaser tracking numerous tornadoes, but also worked with KCCI’s sister stations in New Orleans and Orlando to help cover Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne during the busy 2004 hurricane season.

Bryan’s weather experience and continuing education earned him the National Weather Association’s Seal of Approval, and he was honored to be named NWA Broadcaster of the Year in 2009. He also holds the American Meteorological Society’s CBM Seal of Approval and was honored as “Best Weathercaster” by the Florida Associated Press in 2017 and 2018.

He is certified in tornado awareness, hurricane awareness, and flooding awareness by the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center, and he teaches courses across Florida.
Denver Stutler, Jr., is the chief executive officer of U.S. Submergent Technologies, a company he co-founded in 2011. The company brings new, patented technology to market and is revolutionizing the water and wastewater industry. Acting as lead visionary and intricately involved in USST’s day-to-day activities, Denver draws upon his past leadership experiences to guide the USST team to success with a focus on safety, integrity, dependability, and innovation.

His 30-year career includes a unique combination of public and private sector experience, and it all began at the University of Central Florida.

As an undergraduate civil engineering student, Denver was active in the American Society of Civil Engineering, Student Chapter, and was named Civil Engineering Student of the Year by the Florida Section in 1988. That same year, Denver was elected UCF Student Body President.

His graduate research was sponsored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Department of Transportation, two state agencies Denver would later manage for Governor Jeb Bush.

Denver began his career in 1989 by joining Camp Dresser and McKee, Inc., an international environmental engineering firm. He was appointed Chief of Staff of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in 1999 and then served as Chief of Staff to Governor Jeb Bush from 2003 to 2005, gaining important insight into the workings of government at the federal, state and local level.

In 2005, Denver was appointed and confirmed by the Florida Senate as Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation where he led a $9 billion agency responsible for transportation in Florida including highway, port, airport, public transportation, and rail systems.
Distinguished Alumnus
Department of Computer Science

John Stevens
'96 B.S., CS

John Stevens became CTO and co-founder with Bryan Cole of Cole Engineering Services, Inc. in 2004. Starting with just the two of them, CESI is now a company of more than 360 employees that develops unique simulation-based systems for simple and complex military missions. CECI was recently acquired by the McLean, Virginia-based defense contractor By Light Professional IT Services LLC.

In 1977, John attended then Florida Technological University as an Engineering Math and Computer Systems major. There was no computer science degree program in those days. He obtained his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science with specialization in Parallel Computing from UCF in 1996 having spent virtually all of the years in between as a software engineer in both the Automated Test and Computer Storage industries in central Florida.

Staying in the central Florida area, John has been able to witness the exponential growth of UCF’s College of Engineering and Computer Science, as well as reap the benefits of hiring those students.

John served as the systems architect on the Virtual Simulation Architecture; and the Live, Virtual, Constructive Integrating Architecture programs for the United States Army—pioneering programs that continue as the core of Army collective training today.

He has been a member of the Simulation Interoperability Standards Organization since 1999 and has served two terms on the Standards Activity Committee overseeing both SISO and IEEE simulation standards development.
Distinguished Alumnus
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Philip Dumas
’05 B.S., EE

An engineer by degree and entrepreneur by practice, Philip “Phil” Dumas has played key roles in several startup and large companies.

Most recently, he is the builder, creator and founder of UniKey Technologies, a phone-as-a-key company focused on enabling people to move freely and securely through the world’s doors, with ultimate control, convenience and peace-of-mind.

The company first gained national attention through Phil’s appearance on the ABC television series “Shark Tank,” and was the first company to receive an offer from all five sharks. He ultimately declined all five.

Phil has a passion for, and has been working on, alternative access control solutions for more than a decade. With extensive experience in product development, large customer management, turn-around, and mergers/acquisitions, Phil has been able to wear the multiple hats required to disrupt the access control space.

Phil is also a volunteer and strong supporter of the college, serving previously on the Alumni Chapter Board and now on the UCF College of Engineering and Computer Science’s Dean’s Advisory Board. He has also partnered with faculty to lead communications workshops for entrepreneurial students.
Tandreia Bellamy is Engineering Vice President for UPS Global Freight Forwarding, responsible for operation strategy, forecasting and technology tool development to optimize sustainable efficiency while driving world-class service.

Tandreia held a similar position for UPS’s Global Logistics business unit where she directed all industrial engineering activities related to distribution, service parts logistics and mail innovations. Prior to her supply chain roles at UPS, she was the West Region Vice President of Engineering, overseeing operations in 25 U.S. western states.

She began her UPS career in 1986 as a part-time package handler while completing her undergraduate degree, and afterwards held various engineering and operations positions in Orlando and Atlanta.

Tandreia serves on the Executive Advisory Boards for Virginia Tech’s Industrial Engineering Department and the Association for Supply Chain Management. She served on the Board of Trustees for ChildServ (a child and family services network) and served on the Texas A&M Engineering Advisory Board. In 2006, Tandreia was named Business Advisor of the Year by INROADS of Minneapolis-St. Paul, and in 2009 she was recognized as a Technology All-Star at the Women of Color STEM conference.

Tandreia holds a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Engineering from Stanford University and a master’s degree in Industrial Engineering/Engineering Management from UCF.

She is the proud mother of two wonderful children, Ruby (19) and Anthony (17).
Catherine “Cathy” Kammerer, Ph.D., is the senior manager of Materials & Lab Processes, Material & Processes Engineering, at Aerojet Rocketdyne in West Palm Beach. She provides materials selection and processes control, supplier development, component and system design, material characterization, failure analysis and laboratory operations supporting the cradle-to-grave lifecycle of liquid rocket engines.

Cathy has spent the majority of her career on Florida’s Space Coast working in the automotive manufacturing industry before she joined the Space Shuttle program.

In addition to her industry experience, Cathy has exercised her passion for education and opportunity by teaching at Brevard Community College, Eastern Florida State College, and the University of Central Florida.

She has several technical publications to her name and has been recognized as a leader in industry and academia, including receiving NASA’s prestigious Silver Snoopy award. She has been honored by the Society of Women Engineers as Space Coast Engineer of the Year, and by UCF for Excellence in Teaching.

Cathy serves on the Board of Directors for St. George’s Center, an organization that helps underserved people in Northeastern Palm Beach County in their journey toward a path of self-sufficiency. Two major programs are the homeless feeding and support services program, and a program for elementary children offering tutoring, homework assistance, character development, self-esteem lessons and team building assignments. As a board member, Cathy is an active member of the Human Resources and Board of Governance committees, and a founding member of the Education committee with a vision of providing scholarships to local students to study at UCF.
Distinguished Alumnus
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Michael Piatek
’02 B.S., ME; ’05 MBA

Michael “Mike” Piatek is the Director of Design and Engineering for Walt Disney World’s Architecture and Facilities Engineering team within the Global Facilities and Operations Services group. In this role, he guides a team of highly talented engineers, architects, designers, and technical specialists to provide design, technical, and asset-strategy support for facilities and infrastructure-related assets for the sustainment and advancement of the Walt Disney World site overall.

He started at the Walt Disney World Company in January 1995 as a lifeguard at Blizzard Beach. Later he joined the Walt Disney World Apprenticeship Program as a Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Apprentice and afterwards held several increasingly responsible roles, eventually becoming the Director of Engineering for Tokyo Disney Resort.

Mike started his engineering education at the State College at Buffalo, then completed his associate's degree at Valencia College before transferring to UCF to complete his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering, and later his MBA.

Along the way, Mike became a HVAC/R Journeyman Technician, a Mechanical Contractor, and Professional Engineer all licensed with the State of Florida. Mike also is a licensed Professional Engineer in California and holds a National and International Registry with National Council of Engineers Examiners and Surveyors.

He serves on the UCF College of Engineering and Computer Science’s Dean’s Advisory Board.
Past CECS Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

UCF College of Engineering & Computer Science

Distinguished Awardees
2011 – Benjamin Patz ’85MS
2012 – Oscar Rodriguez ’86
2013 – Vinod Philip ’00MS
2014 – Angel Ruiz ’78
2015 – Ian Ippolito ’93
2016 – Dr. Arun Ramaswamy ’92MS ’94PhD
2018 Spring – Dr. Ankush Oberai ’83 ’18PhD
2018 Fall - Frank A. St. John ’87 ’91MS

Ad Astra Awardees
2015 – Jason Dunn ’07 ’09MS
2016 – Justin Corini ’09

Dept. of Civil, Environmental & Construction Engineering
2012 – Leila Jammal ’82
2013 – Dr. Tyng-Lin Yang ’92PhD
2014 – David Mulholland ’93
2018 Spring – Jeremy Dilmore ’02 ’05MS
2018 Fall – Dr. Anurag Pande ’03MS ’05PhD

Dept. of Computer Science
2011 – Lee Carrick ’80
2012 – Jay Hackett ’87 ’89MS
2013 – Dr. Robert Franceschini ’92MS ’99PhD
2014 – Craig Miller ‘89MS
2018 Spring – Dan Schiappa ’87-’90
2018 Fall – Dr. Kathryn Kinsley ’79MS ’83PhD

Dean’s Award
2013 – Dr. Robert Kersten
2018 – Dr. Martin Wanielista

Dept. of Electrical & Computer Engineering
2011 – Dr. James Vinson ’98PhD
2012 – Brian Crutcher ’95
2013 – Dr. Richard Hull ’93MS ’96PhD
2014 – Terence Murphy ’85 ’89MS
2018 Spring – Dr. Shamik Sengupta ’07PhD
2018 Fall - Herb Gingold ’91 ’14MBA

Dept. of Industrial Engineering & Management Systems
2011 – Dr. Grace M. Bochenek ’98PhD
2012 – Dr. Adedeji Badiru ’84PhD
2013 – LTC Gregory Fortier ’06MS
2014 – Dr. Thomas O’Neal ’96MS ’96MBA ’05PhD
2018 Spring – Amanda Mitskevich ’92MS
2018 Fall – Dr. Lucy Morse ’82MS ’87PhD

Dept. of Materials Science & Engineering
2013 – Dr. Christina Drake ’07PhD
2014 – Ajay Kale ’99MS
2018 Spring – Petya Georgieva Fernlund ’06PhD
2018 Fall – Dr. David Reid ’12PhD

Dept. of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
2011 – Dr. Munir Sindir ’73
2012 – Joanne Puglisi ’73
2013 – Dr. Daniel Rini ’95 ’97MS ’00PhD
2014 – Paul Mirabella ’75MS
2018 Spring – Zachary Quandt ’84
2018 Fall – Mark Blue ’89 ’08MS ’10MBA

Thank you! This evening was made possible by:

Credit
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