

# American Way of University Education and Research: an Informal Discussion



## OUTLINE

**WUT**

**Wroclaw**

**Poland**

**Oct. 27 2011**

F.K. Tittel

Electrical and Computer Engineering Department,

Bioengineering Department

Rice Quantum Institute

Rice University, Houston, TX, USA

- Rice University <http://ece.rice.edu/lasersci/>
- Who am I
- What is the University
- Engineering Education
- Electrical Engineering
- Technology for Education
- Rice Engineering Experience
- Summary

# Rice University, Houston





# Rice University, Houston





# Rice University, Houston





# Rice University, Houston





# Rice University, Houston





# Duncan Hall, Rice University





# Brochstein Pavillion, Rice University,





# Rice University, Houston





# Space Science Bldg. , Rice University





# Laser Science Group Laboratory, Rice University



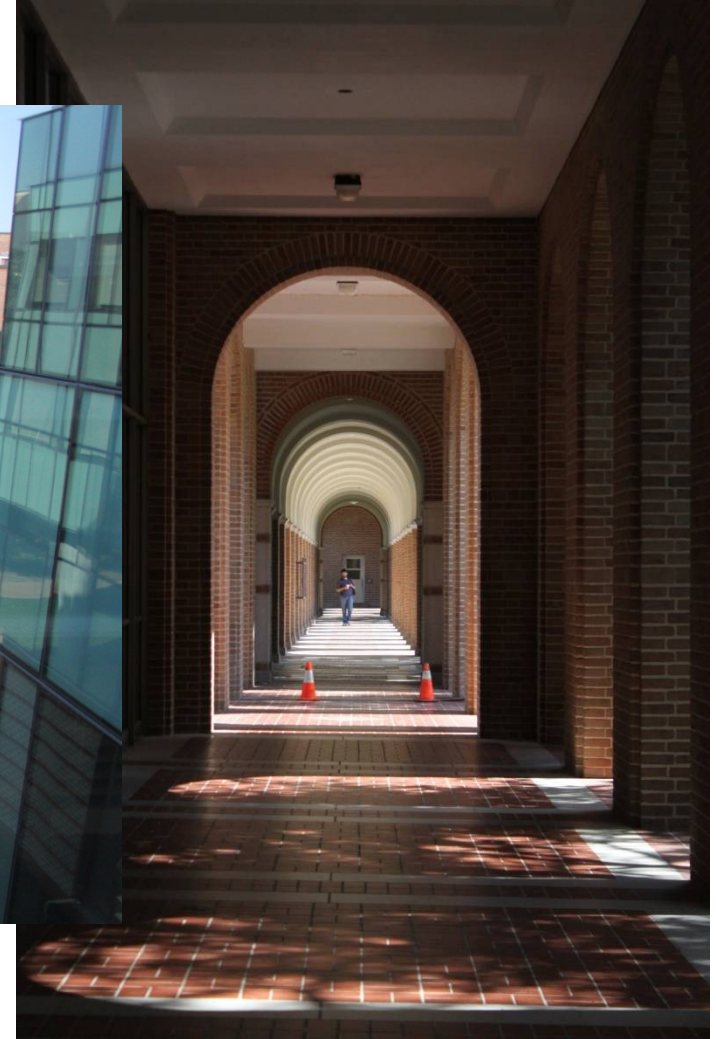


# Rice University, Houston





# Rice University, Houston





# Rice University, Houston





# Who Am I?

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- PhD in EE from Stanford University 1958
- Faculty member at Rice University, 44 years
- Research and teaching in Laser Physics and Technology
  - Electromagnetic Field Theory
  - Laser Spectroscopy
- Written over 300 articles and contributed to 5 books
- Visiting faculty at
- Chairman of ECE department at Rice (
- Dean of engineering at Rice
- One of the founders of Connexions
- First visited Poland in 1944



# Where did the University Come From?

## Locations:

- Athens, Greece
- Bologna, Italy
- Paris, France
- Oxford, England
- Berlin, Germany
- China and India

## Supported by:

- Public
- Religion
- Government
- Business



# What is the University?

The University is an institution where “universal knowledge” is discovered, created, taught, and learned. Types of university are:

- Liberal Arts College (Wellesley, Trinity, Reed)
- Research University (Stanford, Princeton, Rice)
- Technical Institute (MIT, Caltech, GeorgiaTech)
- Multiversity (UC Berkeley, UT Austin, Illinois)
- Public, Private and Corporate



# How did the American University come into Being?

- New England Colleges (Harvard, 1636)
- Land Grant College Act of 1862
- Johns Hopkins (Research) University, 1876
- World War II and the Cold War, 1942-1990
- The GI Bill, 1944
- The Information Age, *now!*



# Where is the University Going?

- A new relationship with the public
- A new use of Technology in education
- A new relationship with government and business
- A new model of education and career:
  - must respond to increase in amount of knowledge
  - must respond to rapid obsolescence of knowledge
  - change of faculty role from authority to mentor
  - change from teacher control to shared control
- Must prepare students to learn how to learn



# The Research University

## Quotation

“We choose to combine basic research, a fair mixture of applied research, training for research, and undergraduate education at the same place, done by the same people, frequently at the same time”



The Top 20 US Universities		
Rank	School	Overall Score*
1	Harvard University, MA	100
1	Princeton University, NJ	100
2	Yale University, CT	98.7
3	Columbia University, NY	97.5
4	California Institute of Technology	96.8
5	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	98.1
6	Stanford University, CA	97.5
7	University of Chicago, IL	94.7
8	University of Pennsylvania	94.6
9	Duke University, NC	94.5
10	Dartmouth College, NH	94.4
11	Northwestern University, IL	93.7
12	Johns Hopkins University, MD	93.5
13	Washington University	93.1
14	Rice University, TX	92
15	Brown University	89.5
16	Vanderbilt University, TN	89.4
17	Cornell University, NY	88.5
18	University of Notre Dame, IN	88.4
19	Emory University, GA	88.1
20	University of California, Berkeley	87
* Academic Reputation, student selectivity, faculty resources, financial resources		



# Electrical Engineering

Electricity transmits **energy** and **information**

EE is abstract, therefore, requires

- More mathematics than other subjects
- More physics than many other subjects
- Use of visualization
- Use of simulation

# Electrical Engineering

- Applied mathematics
- Applied physics (and Chemistry)
- Design, research
  
- Computation
- Biology
  
- Business
- Entrepreneurship





# RICE ECE Department Faculty

- 22 tenured/tenure track
- One open position
  - Neuroengineering
- 3 professors in the practice
- 1 research faculty
- 30 joint/adjunct faculty



# RICE

## ECE Students (2011)

- Graduate
  - Several external fellowships
  - Graduates placed in academia/industrial R&D
    - UIUC, Michigan, MIT, Georgia Tech, Colorado, ...
    - TI, Intel, Nokia, IBM, Google, Microsoft, ...
  - Societies
    - SPIE, GSA, GSC, IEEE

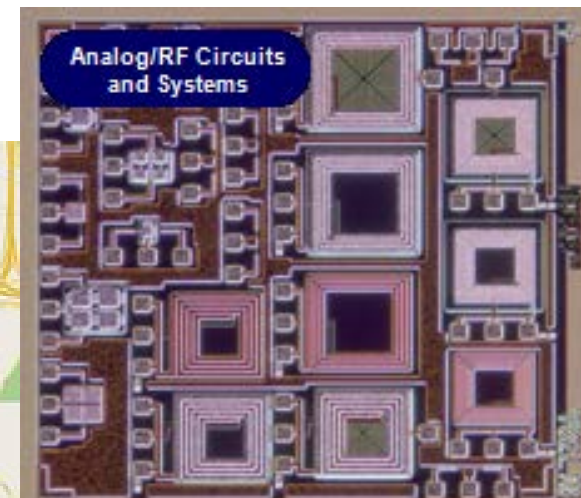
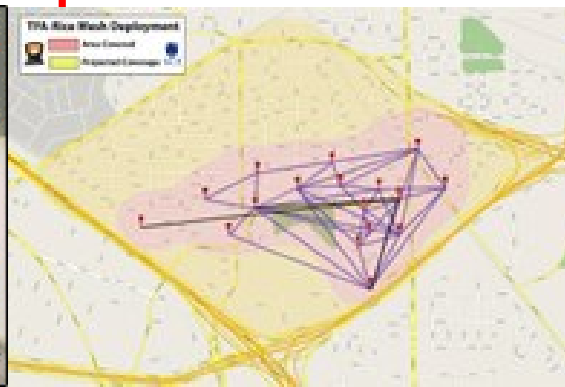






# RICE ECE Research (2011)

- Focus
  - Computer/Neuro engineering and nano-electronics
  - Photonics and nano-engineering
  - Systems
- Annual research expenditure
  - \$12M and **going up**





# RICE ECE Infrastructure (2011)

- Space
  - Duncan hall
  - Abercrombie lab
  - Space sciences
  - Smalley institute
  - The Brockman hall of physics
    - Spring 2011
    - 18,000 sqft (labs and offices) for ECE





# Undergraduate Degrees

- Bachelor of Science

- Astrophysics
- Biochemistry
- Cell Biology
- Chemistry
- Chemical Physics
- Earth Science
- Ecology
- Evolutionary Biology
- Physics

- Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering

- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electrical Engineering
- Material Science
- Mechanical Engineering
- Bio Engineering



# Technology for Education

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- Matlab, Mathematica, Maple, LabView
- OpenCourseware (OCW), Connexions, Wikipedia, Google
- Sakai (a community of educators collaborating to open software that advances teaching and research)
- Moodle (course and learning management system)
- Desktop, laptop, hand-held, mobile smart phone plus Internet; social software systems; tablet devices



# Curriculum in Signal Processing

- Mathematics
- Signals and Systems
- Signal processing theory and systems
- Communications theory and systems
- Control theory and systems
- Applications and research

# Education in the New System

Shift emphasis from

- Training to education
- Teaching to learning (teacher to student)
- Passive to active (and interactive)
- Process to concept (concept inventory)
- Understand to discover

Need research in learning technical material



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# Open Educational Resources

The **Open Educational Resource** (OER) movement was inspired by the **Open Source** movement in software.

- **Open Course Ware** “OCW” (MIT)
- **Connexions** “Cnx” (Rice)
- **Wikipedia** (Wikibooks, etc.)
- **Creative Commons** “CC” (Stanford, Duke)
- Curriki, PLoS, EOL, Shuttleworth's Siyavula Project, CK-12 Project, OSI, etc.

# Books and On-Line Use with XML

## **Books** from Connexions:

- Personalized, on-demand printing, up-to-date, inexpensive, collaboratively authored, allows pre and post publication review, never “out of print”, “Long tail” publications. One button buy

## **On-Line use** of Connexions:

- Allows modern pedagogy: concept-based, problem solving-based, discovery-based learning. Dynamic, interactive, linked, adapts to learning style, student and author driven, allows “assessment and evaluation”, problem sets



# Connexions Now

## Usage

**Repository:** 7250 modules, 20,000 revisions, 405 courses or books, 7200 author accounts, 147 countries, print-on-demand books

**In Oct. 2008:** 17M hits, 1.0M pages views, 520K unique users from 157 countries

## Globalization

**Europe:** Germany, Norway, England, etc.

**Asia:** China, India, Pakistan, Japan, Vietnam, Korea

**Africa:** South Africa

**LACCEI:** (conversation with Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay started)

# Engineering Education

- Curriculum will assume several careers for a person
- Will assume life-long learning and availability of distance learning
- Will prepare a person for management and leadership
- Will make use of internships and summer jobs
- Greater importance will be placed on writing and communication skills
- Education will use collaboration with other universities, industry, and business
- Greater use will be made of technology in education
- The need for both depth and breadth implies a new

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# What is Connexions?

1. A **repository** of modules of information available through the **web** on the Internet
  - **Modules** (and **collections**) encoded in **XML**, one concept, a few pages, a quantum of information
2. A set of **tools** for authoring, maintaining and using the content of the repository
  - Module **editor**, importer, course or book **composer**, repository organizer, **Creative Commons** license, tools for printing **books**
3. A **community** of **people** who share educational interests and information
  - Interest groups (authors, instructors, students),

# Fundamentals of Signal Processing



By: [Minh Do](#)

## Start Course

**Course Author:** [Minh Do](#)

**Course Description:** Presents fundamental concepts and tools in signal processing including: linear and shift-invariant systems, vector spaces and signal expansions, Fourier transforms, sampling, spectral and time-frequency analyses, digital filtering, z-transform, random signals and processes, Wiener and adaptive filters.

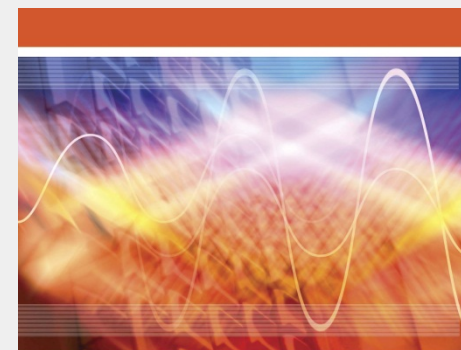
**Contributing Authors:** [Anders Gjendemsjø](#), [Benjamin Fite](#), [Clayton Scott](#), [Don Johnson](#), [Douglas L. Jones](#), [Hyeokho Choi](#), [Ivan Selesnick](#), [Justin Romberg](#), [Melissa Selik](#), [Michael Haag](#), [Minh Do](#), [Ricardo Radaelli-Sanchez](#), [Richard Baraniuk](#), [Rob Nowak](#)

## Course Content

» Introduction to Fundamentals of Signal Processing

### FOUNDATIONS

- » Signals Represent Information
- » Introduction to Systems
- » Discrete-Time Signals and Systems
- » Linear Time-Invariant Systems



Fundamentals of Signal Processing  
Minh Do

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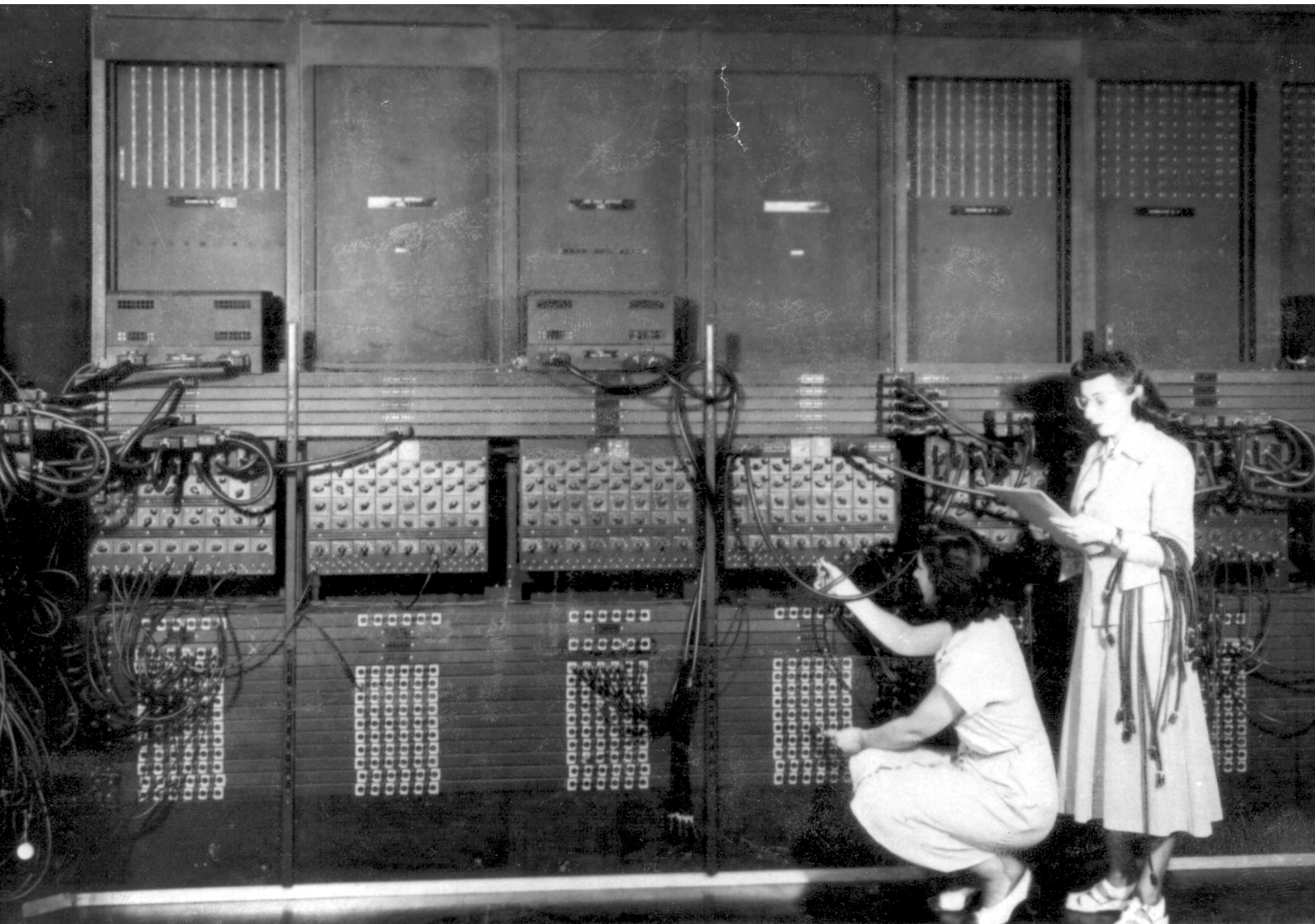
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# Next-gen “computer”





# Need new “programming” paradigm

- Existing paradigms
  - C++/Java written by *Professionals*
- Possible new paradigms
  - Intention, interest described by *Homer*

# Need a new “smartphone”



# Need a new “smartphone”

- Existing smartphones
  - personal computer
- Possible new smartphone
  - sensor, actuator
  - interface between physical and digital worlds



# To summarize

- Two principles
  - Hardware is cheap and getting cheaper
  - Human is precious
- We must rethink “computers” every 6 years

Fabulous RECG students:

Ahmad Rahmati, Mian Dong, Jiayang Liu, Hasan Dumanli, Xiaozhu Lin, Hang Yu, Ardalan Amiri Sani, Siqi Zhao, Zhen Wang, Clay Shepard, Robert LiKamWa, and Jeff Bridge

Fabulous Rice collaborators:

Behnaam Aazhang, Joe Cavallaro, Rudy Guerra, Edward Knightly, Phil Kortum, Doug Natelson, Ashu Sabharwal, Vivek Sarkar, James Tour, Wotao Yin

# Why Rice Engineering?





# DEPARTMENTS

BIOENGINEERING

COMPUTATIONAL AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS

CHEMICAL AND BIOMOLECULAR ENGINEERING

CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

COMPUTER SCIENCE

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

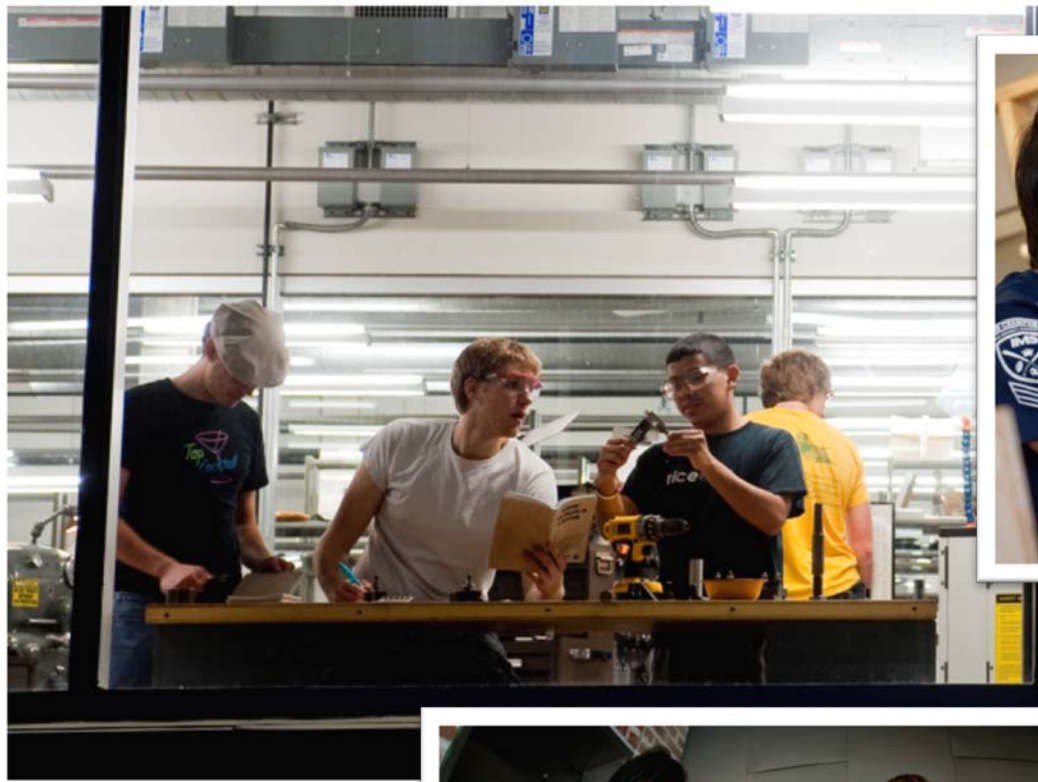
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND MATERIALS SCIENCE

STATISTICS

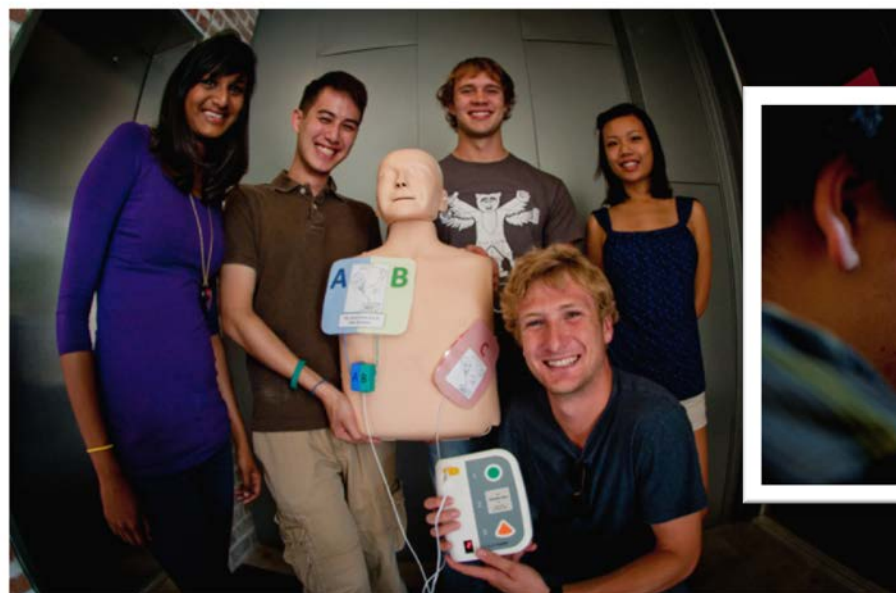
# FUNDAMENTALS



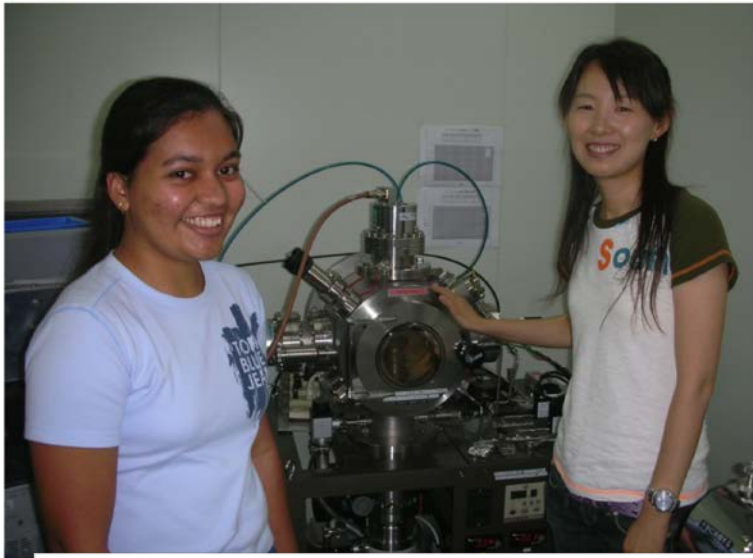




# DESIGN



# INTERNATIONAL





Engineers Without Borders in Nicaragua



# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Wireless access in  
Pecan Park



DREAM Project



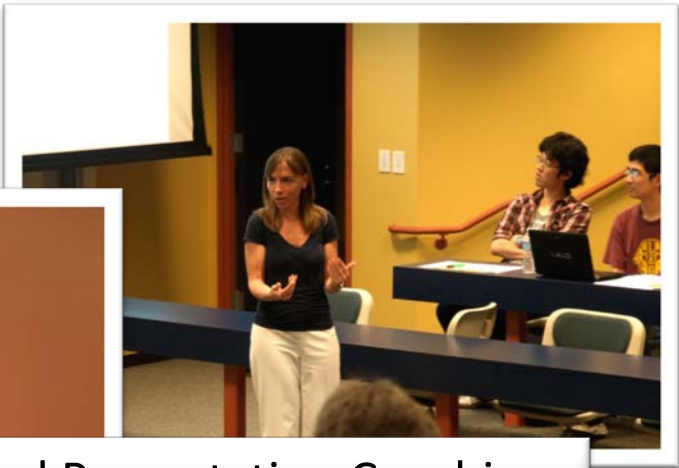
Washington D.C. Interns 2011



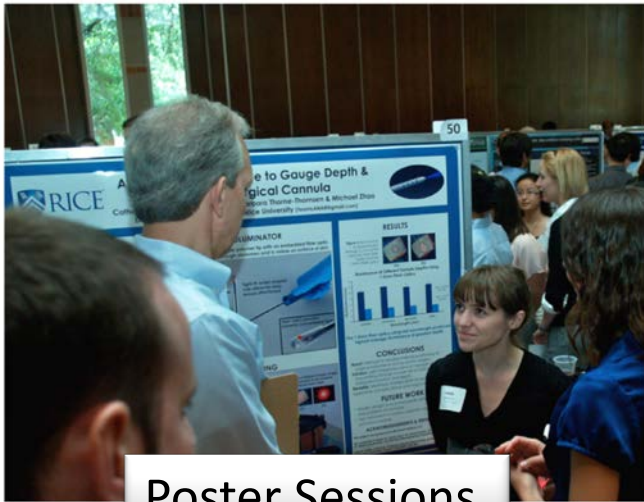
# COMMUNICATION



Classroom Presentations



Oral Presentation Coaching



Poster Sessions



EWB National Conference



# Rice Center for Engineering Leadership

Mission: Graduate engineers who will be leaders in engineering, research, business and public policy.



[rcel.rice.edu](http://rcel.rice.edu)



# ALUMNI



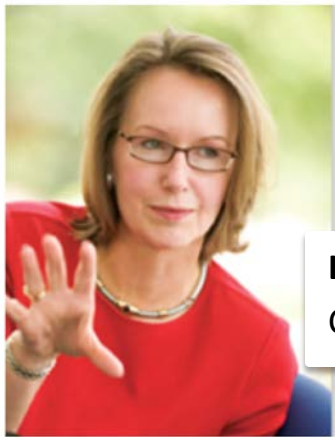
**Sandra Johnson Baylor**

Manager, IBM Linux Technology Center



**Christine Ehlig-Economides**

A.B.Stevens Endowed Professorship, Texas A&M; Member NAE



**Lynn Elsenhans**

CEO, Sunoco



**Rakesh Agarwal**

CEO, Snapstream



**Mark Hall**

Consultant

Former technical director, Sony Pictures



**John Doerr**

Venture Capitalist

Lotus, Sun, Compaq, Amazon, Netscape, Google



# Rice Engineering Experience

- Prepares you for your future
  - Learn how to learn
  - Develop leadership abilities
  - Develop communications skills
  - Design systems and devices to solve real-world problems
  - Understand engineering in global/social context
  - Create new knowledge through research

