

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



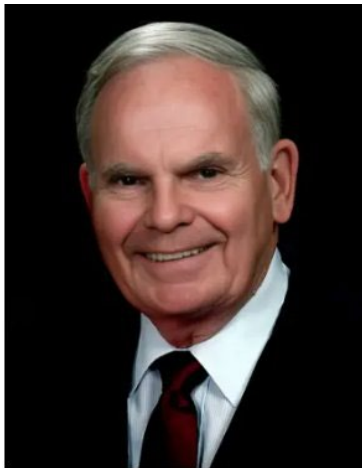
Dear Alumni, Students, Faculty, Staff, Donors and Friends,

The 2024 spring version of the ECE Newsletter is our 6th issue to keep all our stakeholders better informed on the many exciting things going on within our ECE department. We have some interesting news we would like to share with you and I will highlight a few below:

- A big thank you to Dr. Karla Welch for her 14 years of service to ECE. Karla has decided to resign her appointment as Associate Professor in ECE. Karla taught primarily ECE 220 (Networks I) and her research focused on human-machine interaction, with applications involving interactions with children having autism. Karla has been an active and contributing member of LARRI, our robotics research center. Best of luck to Karla as she pursues her future endeavors. Please see more info about Karla below in this newsletter.
- Dr. Donald Scheer passed away on March 18, 2024. He was 89 years old and taught in the ECE Department for 41 years. He was Chair of what was called the EE Department at the time for 9 years. That was during the time I was also in Speed School (SSoE) working towards my BSEE and MEng. I fondly remember working for Don in the EE Office as a work study student making \$3 per hour! Don was always gracious and friendly and he took the time and effort to get to know you. He graduated from SSoE in 1957 and went on to earn his PhD from Ohio State, where he met his lovely wife, Renate. In the 1960's Don made his way back to the Ville like a lot of us have done and joined SSoE again, but this time as an Assistant Professor. He spent his entire career in academia and he also did consulting work for the Louisville Fire Department's arson investigations. Don's expertise was in electromagnetics, antennas and microwaves. He is the reason for the enormous dish antenna that was on top of the roof of WS Speed for many years and I'm sure some of you still remember it. I co-taught EE-570, Microwave Engineering, many semesters with Don and I received my highest teaching evaluations in those courses because

of the awesome teacher Don was and how very appreciated he was by his students. Dr. Michael McIntyre, our Associate Chair, had Dr. Scheer serve on his M.Eng Thesis Committee. Dr. Scheer was “student focused” and “admired and respected by all,” said Dr. McIntyre. He was equally kind and respectful of administrators, faculty and staff alike – he will truly be missed. Here is the link to his obituary:

<https://www.rattermanbrothers.com/obituaries/Donald-J-Scheer?obId=31038551>



- Our annual ECE Industrial Board of Advisors (IBA) meeting will be held on 5-30-24 in the new BAB building. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those on the board who take time to serve on the IBA to help make ECE better. I would like to especially thank Don Korfhage for his many years of service on our IBA. Don has decided to step down and retire from both the IBA and iGear at the same time. Enjoy your retirement Don!!

Jacob Jones	IEEE Student Chapter President
Jerry Branson	Retired DoD
Bruce Henderson	Retired/Founder, Henderson Services, LLC
David Hill	Wabtec Railway Electronics
Nick Jewell	LG&E
Andrea Kelcey	Retired GE Appliances, a Haier Co.
Sharon Kerrick	UofL, Assistant VP, Digital Transformation Center
Tim Reilly	Sonos & Founder, T2-labs
Carl Sullivan	Lexmark
Tim Thomas	Retired Founder, T2-labs
Matthew Turner	Purdue ECET Professor
Don Wright	Standards Strategies, LLC

Enrollment continues to be a top priority for myself and Dr. McIntyre. We finally saw an inflection point in 2022 from our downward enrollment trend in our BSEE. Fall 2022 saw our first increase in enrollment in 5 years with an enrollment of 193 students. This upward trend continues with a Fall 2023 enrollment of 201 students. Our admin team of Michael, Jane, Jordan and myself will continue staying

proactive with recruiting and advertising our minor in Computer Engineering and our new online MSEE. In addition, we are working hard to introduce minors for our BSEE students in:

- Entrepreneurship with ECE students getting credit for Capstone and a technical elective
- Semiconductors (Design and Fabrication tracks)
- Robotics
- AI

Please connect with us through our LinkedIn, X, Facebook and Instagram sites listed at the end of our newsletter. We try to provide weekly updates to these sites. I look forward to hearing from you. Enjoy the newsletter and from the entire ECE Administration Team of Jane, Jordan, Michael and myself, we thank you for taking your time to read our newsletter – John (john.naber@louisville.edu)