1950s

Harry Grounds (‘59, MS ‘60), a professional engineer in Minnesota and Wisconsin, specializes in the protection of water resources. He recently wrote Marie’s Vineyard, a tale of spies, intrigue, and romance that begins and ends at a vineyard near Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello.


1960s

Charles A. Wentz Jr. (PhD ‘62) was named to the board of directors of the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House, a United Methodist Church community center in East St. Louis, Illinois.

Bruce Bingman (‘67, PhD ‘71, Navy ’71) was named chief physicist for the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, where he is responsible for the design and safe operation of all reactors in the nuclear-powered ships of the US Navy. Bingman, a lifelong competitive sailor, was awarded the Marcia B. Grosevner Award for outstanding volunteer services in furthering the sport of sailboat racing. He has promoted offshore sailing while serving in many positions with US Sailing, including as chair of the National Offshore Council and a member of the board of directors.

Bill Kroll (‘67, MS ’71) relinquished his role as chairman and CEO of Matheson-Trigas Inc. to become executive chairman of its board. In addition to his duties as executive chairman, he will become senior managing director of TNSC and will be responsible for global mergers and acquisitions, electronics research and development, and the corporation’s metalloceramic chemical vapor deposition equipment business, which serves the compound semiconductor field.

Robert P. Wayman (‘67, KSM ’69) is a director of Textura Corporation, which completed its initial public offering on June 7.

Richard A. Laruffa (MS ’68, project manager and director of Jacobs Engineering, was appointed to the board of trustees of New Jersey’s Sussex County Community College.

1970s

Raymond N. Wareham (‘70) joined Rockefeller & Company in April 2012 as a managing director. He advises high-net-worth individuals, families, trusts, endowments, and foundations.

William H. Bowman Jr. (‘71), CEO of U.S. Inspect, was named senior consultant with Training Associates, a consulting firm in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Richard W. Sevcik (MS ’71), president of Sevcik Consulting, a consulting firm for semiconductor companies, was appointed to the board of directors of Liquidmetal Technologies.

1980s

K. Ravi Kumar (PhD ‘81), professor at the University of Southern California’s Marshall School of Business, was appointed dean of the College of Business at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

David Evan Thomas (‘81) is a composer, program annotator, choral singer, pianist, and conductor. In November 2012 two of his works premiered. Tales of the Sierra Madre was commissioned by Eugenia Smith Cline (BSM ‘81) for her New Jersey–based quintet, the Monmouth Winds, an ensemble that also includes horn player Richard Sachs (‘67, GC ’75). An oratorio, The First Apostle, received its first performance by the choirs of Houston’s Christ Church Cathedral, with soloists and chamber orchestra.

Send us your news!
Please email your news to magazine@mccormick.northwestern.edu.
Teresa Duncan Cox (’85), a trade adviser to the Obama administration and trustee at Ohlone Community College, spoke in April at the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority’s Day at the Capitol in Sacramento.

Mark Axland (’86, MS ’90) licensed an invention to be sold by Stanley Tools.

John Patrick Murphy (MS ’87), vice president/general manager at Johnson Controls, was promoted to president of the company’s global workplace solutions business unit.

Bradley Eames Bodell (’88, KSM ’95), former vice president of global technology and operations for MetLife, has been named senior vice president and chief information officer for CNO Financial Group in Carmel, Indiana.

Andrew P. Armacost (’89), professor at the US Air Force Academy, was appointed dean of the faculty and nominated by President Barack Obama for promotion to the rank of brigadier general.

Tanguy Rene Cosmao (MS ’89) was appointed president of Statoil in Azerbaijan. He previously served as the company’s vice president of area development.

Jennifer Serafin Kennedy (MS ’89, PhD ’91) is the cofounder of JustRight Surgical, which has raised more than $10 million in investment capital. The company recently received FDA approval for its Surgical Vessel Sealing System.

Alfred C. Li (PhD ’89) has been named a TAPPI fellow. He has worked at USG Corporation for the past 13 years and is currently on the process team for the Gypsum Panels Laboratory, where he is working to help develop innovative and sustainable wallboard manufacturing processes.

1990s

Alicia S. Boler-Davis (’91), former vice president of global quality and global customer experience with General Motors, has been promoted to senior vice president, expanding her customer experience role from a US position to an international one. (See story on page 42.)

William James Krueger (MEM ’92, KSM ’92) was named senior vice president of manufacturing, purchasing, and supply management for Nissan North America.

Robert Nowakowski (’92) returned to his position as a senior staff engineer at Qualcomm in December 2012 after a one-year leave of absence as a Navy reservist. Nowakowski was director of training for the Combined Joint Task Force—Horn of Africa in Djibouti.

Paul J. Brown (MEM ’94, KSM ’94), former president of brands and commercial services for Hilton Worldwide, was named CEO of Arby’s Restaurant Group.

Mircea Tipescu (MS ’94) was elected shareholder at Chicago’s Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione, one of the nation’s largest intellectual property law firms. His practice includes patent litigation, counseling, and prosecution. Tipescu has represented clients in federal courts, as well as at the United States International Trade Commission.

Julius Veloria (MEM ’95, KSM ’95), formerly with Microsoft, was appointed vice president of sales and marketing for Kolbe Corporation.

Drew Berg (’96) was promoted in January to principal at Diversified Trust Company, a comprehensive wealth management firm based in the Southeast. Berg, a chartered financial analyst, leads the firm’s institutional advisory services team, is a member of the investment strategy committee, and heads up portfolio management for the Nashville office.

Rajarao Jammy (PhD ’96) has joined Intermolecular as senior vice president and general manager of the semiconductor group.

LONDON ALUMNI EVENT

On July 11, McCormick and the Northwestern Alumni Association hosted “Creativity and Innovation at Northwestern” at the Royal Society in London. The cocktail reception brought together alumni from across Northwestern, and Dean Julio M. Ottino gave remarks on a range of new initiatives that bring together students and faculty to develop new ideas. Attendees included (clockwise from top left)

1. Cherine and T aher Helmy, parents of Lara Helmy (McC ’06) and Samir Helmy (McC ’15), with Dean Ottino
2. Joseph Liu (WCAS ’00)
3. Mary Johnson (WCAS ’04)
4. Jason Trost (WCAS ’03) and Dean Ottino
5. Alex Riemer (MMM ’07) and Nathan Freeman (McC ’04)
6. Jason Navarette (McC ’99)
7. Karen Pelham (KSM ’86)
Kyle Oyama (‘98) was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the US Air Force in May, when he also earned a doctorate in systems engineering from the University of Virginia. In the fall Oyama joined the faculty at the Air Force Institute of Technology in Ohio.

2000s

Matthew Fortney (‘01, L’06), an attorney at Quarles & Brady, was named a 2012 “Rising Star” by Wisconsin Super Lawyers. He specializes in real estate.

Ashik Mohan (MS ’02) and his wife, Jenelle, in March launched Born of Sound, a way to visualize sound as it would look if it could be seen in nature. The company offers personalized art derived from sounds that have meaning to the sound creators.

Boo B. Aaron Khoo (PhD ’03) was appointed director of engineering at 9Slides, a developer of online presentation platforms. The firm is headquartered in Redmond, Washington.

Agnella Izzo Matic (MS ’04, PhD ’07) founded AIM Biomedical Consulting in Chicago. The firm specializes in medical writing, independent research, and teaching. A former assistant professor of otolaryngology at Northwestern, she worked at the University for more than a decade, researching solutions for emerging biomedical problems.

John Marszalek (MS ’05) began a new position as an engineer and medical device reviewer with the Food and Drug Administration’s neurological and physical medicine group in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Birju Shah (’05) joined Google X to lead its wearable computing division. Shah earned his MBA and the Patrick J. McGovern Entrepreneurship Award from MIT Sloan School of Management in 2012. Shah is also the chairman of sugarcrew.com, a leading social network for diabetic patients.

Danai Eric Brooks (MEM ’06, KSM ’06) was appointed executive vice president and COO of Dyadic International, a global biotechnology company.

Douglas Alexander Stone (MPDD ’07) was promoted to senior vice president of innovation at Maddock Douglas in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Michael Parrott (’09) has been promoted to senior associate consultant at Mars & Company, a global management consulting firm specializing in business strategy and operational improvement.

2010s

Jessica L. Irons (MEM ’12) became a marketing specialist at Sonoco Protective Solutions in Arlington Heights, Illinois, in 2011. Her article “Think Inside the Box: Design for Manufacturing and Assembly” was published in Appliance Design magazine. The technical article highlights the benefits of design for manufacturing and assembly, an up-and-coming concept in the product design world.

Timi Chu (’13) received the 2013 Senior Woman’s Service Award from the Alumnae of Northwestern University. Chu was a volunteer coordinator for AmeriCorps and a teaching assistant for Project EXCITE. In 2011 she founded Book Buddies, a program to develop literacy skills through individual reading opportunities. She is now a software engineer at McMaster-Carr in Elmhurst, Illinois.
In Memoriam: Jacques Denavit

Jacques Denavit (MS ‘53), a professor of mechanical and nuclear engineering at Northwestern from 1958 to 1982, died in September at age 82. A pioneer in the computer simulation of plasmas, Denavit published numerous scientific articles and was named a fellow of the American Physical Society. He made important contributions to the fields of inertial confinement fusion and high-intensity short-pulse laser-matter interaction. His 1964 book *Kinematic Synthesis of Linkages*, coauthored with Richard Hartenberg, introduced the mathematics (the Denavit-Hartenberg parameters) still used for describing robotic motion. After leaving Northwestern he worked as a research physicist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory until 1993.

In Memoriam: Albert Rubenstein

Albert Harold Rubenstein, Walter P. Murphy Professor Emeritus of Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences, died April 13 at age 90. A dedicated academic, adviser, and consultant who spent more than four decades at McCormick, Rubenstein was known for his pioneering work in engineering management as well as a commitment to bringing his field to the forefront at the University. Rubenstein founded the Master in Engineering Management program in 1976 and directed it until 1992. He also established two research centers at Northwestern, the Program on Management of Research, Development, and Innovation and the Center for Information and Telecommunication Technology. After retiring from Northwestern, Rubenstein moved to Washington, DC, in 2004, remaining active in research and consulting.

More than 30 faculty, alumni, and friends of McCormick gathered September 11 for “A Celebration of Art and Engineering.” The event, hosted by Barry MacLean (right), president and CEO of MacLean-Fogg Company, celebrated McCormick’s research and education initiatives that intersect both engineering and the arts and humanities, including the Architectural Engineering and Design certificate program and McCormick’s partnership with the Art Institute of Chicago. Guests toured MacLean’s collection of Southeast Asian art and heard faculty presentations from McCormick and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

PHOTOGRAPHY: C. JASON BROWN