1940s

Lester Crown (’46) and his family were awarded the Andrew Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy.

1950s

Edward D. Henze (’50) of Albany, Oregon, enjoyed his career as a research and development engineer in five states east of the Mississippi, then ventured west for 15 years in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Now he is “safely put to pasture in an Oregon retirement village.”

L. Broas Mann (MS ’50) of Shelby Township, Michigan, retired after 50 years as a Chrysler research engineer and consultant. With inspiration from former Northwestern professor Burgess Jennings, Mann spent much of that time with the Chrysler Automotive gas turbine program.

James F. Gibbons (’53) of Portola Valley, California, has taught engineering at Stanford University for more than 50 years. A researcher, educator, and administrator committed to educational and technological innovation and developing relationships between academia and industry, he received the Founders Medal from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers last August. His vision and leadership have bolstered Stanford’s engineering programs and helped fuel worldwide innovations in Silicon Valley.

1960s

Charles A. Wentz Jr. (PhD ’62) of Edwardsville, Illinois, was appointed to the Southern Illinois University School of Engineering advisory board.

Joseph L. Schofer (MS ’65, PhD ’68), associate dean at McCormick, received the 2011 Roy W. Crum Distinguished Service Award from the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies in recognition of his transportation research.

James L. Funk (’66) of Charleston, South Carolina, published his debut novel, Long Walk Home: A Civil War Infantry Soldier’s Love Story in 2011. Funk has enjoyed several careers since his graduation from Northwestern. He spent 18 years in the automotive industry, becoming an executive with the Ford Motor Company. He then became a builder and restorer of residential homes and a golf course owner, builder, and operator in Michigan. Now Funk is a writer. In addition to his new novel, he wrote and published a historical nonfiction book, Three Rivers Form an Ocean: Vignettes of Life in Charleston, South Carolina, in 2003.

Craig Martin (’66) of Seattle, a writer, had an excerpt from his play Benvolio—In Fair Verona, the Other Tragedy selected for publication in Gay City: Volume 4: At Second Glance in 2011. The play is a backstory to Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet. Martin’s short story “Broadway” was in Gay City: Volume 2 and was selected for an Editor’s Choice Award.

1970s

Cyril B. Tellis (MS ’71, PhD ’75), a former research and development manager for Union Carbide, has joined Invictus LLC, which plans to design and build a cracker plant near Montgomery, West Virginia, to produce natural gas.

Donald P. Monaco (’74, MS ’74), principal owner of Monaco Air Duluth, has joined the board of directors of Next I Interactive.

Che-Hang Charles Ih (MS ’79) of Rancho Palos Verdes, California, a Boeing associate technical fellow, received the company’s annual Special Invention Award. Ih, one of Boeing’s top scientists, was part of a team that invented an approach that is under protection as a trade secret but was recognized among thousands of Boeing inventions in 2011.

Virginia M. Rometty (’79) became president and CEO of IBM in January. She was listed among Forbes magazine’s “100 Most Powerful Women” last September and among “Twelve Global Executives to Watch in 2012” by the Wall Street Journal in December.

Jonathan S. Turner (MS ’79, PhD ’82), a faculty member in computer science and engineering at Washington University in St. Louis, received the school’s 2011 Chancellor’s Award for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

1980s

Daniel P. Kovacevic (’81, Kellogg ’83) was hired as a director of leasing for the Arizona Southwest division of real estate company Whitestone REIT.

Michael Willett (’81) of Reston, Virginia, is a director of engineering in the intelligence solutions division of General Dynamics.

John Z. Kukral (’82) is the founder and head of Northwood Investors, which has closed more than $1 billion in a second offering, bringing its total capital raised to $2.3 billion.

Hsiu-Guo Chang (MS ’84, PhD ’87), a senior director of Carlyle Asia Investment Advisors, has been named a nonexecutive director of Yashili International Holdings.

Helen S. Kim (’85), chief business officer of NGM Biopharmaceuticals, was appointed to the board of directors of ImmunoCellular Therapeutics.

Kevin E. Calderwood (’86, Kellogg ’88), president of Vivisimo, a search and analytics provider, was profiled by Information Today.

Christopher Clover (’88), managing director of Borneo Brothers Limited, has joined the board of directors of Australia-based Western Manganese.

Robert J. Kiep (’88) was named senior vice president and chief architect of information technology at Gallagher Bassett Services in Itasca, Illinois.

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Sharmila Shahani Mulligan (’88, Weinberg ’88, Kellogg ’94) was appointed to the board of directors of Lattice Engines, a sales intelligence software company. Most recently she was executive vice president of marketing for Aster Data.

Yeong-Sam Byun (PhD ’89) was named chief executive of LG Siltron as part of an executive reorganization of its parent company, LG Group.

Todd A. Kuiken (PhD ’89, Feinberg ’90, ’91, ’95), director of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago’s Center for Bionic Medicine and Amputee Services, was profiled in Crain’s Chicago Business for his work constructing computerized limbs.

Suk-Chung Yoon (MS ’89, PhD ’91), chair of the department of computer science at Widener University in Chester, Pennsylvania, was appointed to a newly created part-time position of special assistant to the president.

1990s

Alicia S. Boler-Davis (’91) was named vice president for customer experience at GM. With GM since 1994, she has served in a variety of positions, including plant manager and vehicle line director/vehicle chief engineer.

Mansour A. Salame (’92) was named to the board of directors of 8x8 Inc., a provider of computing solutions. 8 x 8 acquired Contactual Inc., which Salame formerly served as chairman and CEO.

James Charles Brailean (PhD ’93), cofounder, president, and CEO of PacketVideo, received the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award from the University of Michigan–Dearborn. He was also appointed to the board of directors of MicroPower Technologies.

In 1999, Paul Fichter (’94, MEM ’97, Kellogg ’97) of Seattle launched Taphandles, a firm that manufactures distinctive tap handles for breweries, and outsources the detailed production work to China, where his company runs a factory with 450 employees. Last fall Taphandles opened a facility for making lighted signs and other displays in Woodinville, Washington, and a plant outside Chicago that prints beer logos on glassware.

Jeffrey Waters (MEM ’94, Kellogg ’94) was named senior vice president and general manager for the military, industrial, and computing division of Altera Corporation. The second edition of Lean Hospitals: Improving Quality, Patient Safety, and Employee Engagement by Mark Graban (’95) was published in November. The first edition earned a 2009 Shingo Research and Professional Publication Award.

John Green (’95) of Naperville, Illinois, works in the Chicago office of Halcrow Inc. as senior rail civil engineer and lead track designer for North America. He also serves as chair of the transportation group of the Illinois section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Brian M. Breit (’96) was promoted from senior manager to director at Deloitte Consulting.

Fabian Meier (MS ’97) rejoined the GmbH/ Geneva Lab in Zurich, Switzerland, as a senior vice president for audio and video product development.

Craig Witsoe (MEM ’97, Kellogg ’97) joined Abound Solar in Loveland, Colorado, as president and CEO in November.

Rene Carlos (’98) of College Park, Maryland, was the lead mechanical engineer on last June’s successful Small Rocket/Spacecraft Technology (SMART) mission, a suborbital NASA/Department of Defense launch to demonstrate microsatellite technologies.

2000s

Satya Tiwari (’00, Weinberg ’00) of Atlanta, Amit Saraf (’00, Kellogg ’05) of San Francisco, and Sandeep Luke (Weinberg ’00) of New York followed traditional paths after graduating from Northwestern, taking investment-banking jobs at Wall Street firms. But a decade later the three close friends reunited to form Surya, a home décor company. In August the company was named to Inc. magazine’s 2011 Inc. 500/5000 list as one of the fastest-growing privately held companies.

Jeri Beth Ward (MEM ’01, Kellogg ’01) became the first-ever director of customer experience at Audi of America, where she has worked since 2007.

Allen Capdebrasq (MEM ’02, Kellogg ’02) was named vice president of financial and capital planning for Peabody Energy. He was vice president of business development.

Matthew Joseph Hertko (’02) was named a partner in the intellectual property practice of Kirkland & Ellis’s Chicago office.

Fernando Zumbado (’03) of Houston is a robotic systems engineer working on the Multi-Mission Space Exploration Vehicle as the lead window designer at NASA’s Johnson Space Center. Recently he was named the test and verification lead for the Simplified Aid for EVA Rescue (SAFER) project, a self-contained propulsive system for use during extravehicular activity. As part of his educational outreach activities, he joined the first team from Northwestern to fly in the Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities program in summer 2011. He flew a Northwestern flag provided by Ryan McGuire (’02). Zumbado recently celebrated his 10th year of working at the Johnson Space Center, where he started as a co-op student.

Jeffrey R. Schell (’04, GSCS ’11) of Chicago and Ethan Lipkind (Weinberg ’06) of Wilmette, Illinois, created Michigan Rural Healthcare Preservation Inc. to ensure access to health care in rural communities. The charitable organization empowers specialty physicians to develop needed service lines to ensure that health care services remain available for communities in rural parts of Michigan. Schell is the CEO, and Lipkind is general counsel. The network is supported and linked by CareShare, a health care social networking application created by Schell and Barrett Griffin (’04). CareShare was featured at the DC to VC: HIT Start-up Showcase, a health information technology venture capital conference.

Weian “Andy” Chang (’05) was awarded the Trudy A. Specner Non-Supervisory Award for Advancing Environmental Protection by the US Environmental Protection Agency.
Lucy J. Chung (‘05) was promoted from copywriter to senior copywriter at AbelsonTaylor.

Sanjay Nangia (‘06, Law ’09) was named an associate in the San Francisco office of Davis Wright Tremaine.

Michael Scott Arnold (PhD ’07), professor of materials science and engineering at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, received a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

Regan Blythe Towal (MS ’07, PhD ’10), a researcher at the California Institute of Technology, was awarded a 2011 L’Oréal Fellowship for Women in Science by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Samir Rayani (‘09), David Hoffman (Weinberg ’09), and Alex White (SESP ’09) earned a spot in Businessweek’s listing of America’s Best Young Entrepreneurs, thanks to the Next Big Sound, a start-up that the trio conceived during a Northwestern entrepreneurship course. The company provides bands with a tool to measure their social media presence. Its service tracks fans’ online activity and behavior for thousands of artists and packages the analytics in an online dashboard.

2010s

Kristin Landry (’10) began a master’s degree in civil and environmental engineering at Stanford University’s atmosphere and energy program in September. She plans to complete her degree in April 2013. She spent the summer at Questions & Solutions Engineering Inc. in Minnesota.

In memoriam

Thomas C. Smith ’34
Albert J. Kurtzon ’38
James L. McConachie ’40
William J. Chambers Jr. ’43
Marwin T. Doherty ’44
Roger A. Burt ’45
David C. McClintock ’47
John S. Rode ’47
Robert L. Cowles Jr. ’48
William G. Hayden ’48
Irvin Moehling ’49
Harry W. Neuer ’49
John Pearson ’49
Richard A. Hohfeler Jr. ’50
William A. Moore ’50
Thomas C. Paisley ’50
George S. Bayer ’52
William N. Guthrie ’52
Robert H. Olandt ’52
Thomas F. Powers ’52
Arthur R. Erbach ’53
Ramsay Nokay ’55
Norbert T. Bold ’58
Darrell M. Fugelberg ’58
Martin N. Kite ’59
Larry R. Fay ’60
Douglas M. Anderson ’61
Mehlin B. Smith ’64
Jean Y. Togikawa ’80
Kristopher-Woo Whang ’82
Arnold Stux ’92

McCormick alumni honored

Two McCormick alumni were honored at the annual Northwestern Alumni Association award banquet in March.

Gwynne Shotwell (‘86, MS ’88) received the Alumni Merit Award for high achievement in a profession or field. Shotwell is president of SpaceX, a space transport company that has developed two space launch vehicles—Falcon 1 and Falcon 9—and the Dragon spacecraft, which will deliver cargo to the International Space Station for NASA. In December 2010 SpaceX became the first private company to successfully launch, orbit, and recover a spacecraft.

Alumni Merit Awards are presented to alumni who have distinguished themselves in their particular professions or fields of endeavor in such a way as to reflect credit on their alma mater.

Edward Voboril (’65) received the Alumni Service Award for outstanding service to the University. For the past five years Voboril has served as the chair of the NUVent: Medical Innovation course, which teaches students from across Northwestern how to turn ideas for medical devices into businesses.

The Alumni Service Awards are given in recognition of loyal service rendered voluntarily to the University through the NAA, an affiliated group, or a particular school.