

**CLASS NOTES**

**1960s**

John S. Newman (’60), professor of chemical engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, joined RTI International as a distinguished fellow and the chief engineer for the Research Triangle Solar Fuels Institute.

John F. Carney III (MS ’64, PhD ’66) stepped down as chancellor of the Missouri University of Science and Technology in August.

Phillip L. Gould (MS ’66), a senior professor at Washington University in St. Louis, was named a distinguished member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Howard J. Sumka (MS ’68) was appointed CEO of OneVoice, an initiative of the PeaceWorks Foundation, which seeks to help Israeli and Palestinian moderates achieve two-state solution.

Fang-Chen Luo (MS ’69, PhD ’73), the chief intellectual property officer of AU Optronics Corp., received the Jun-ichi Nishizawa Medal from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers for contributions to his industry.

**1970s**

Dennis L. Christiansen (’70), agency director of the Texas Transportation Institute, was appointed to the board of directors of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America.

Michael O’Rourke (MS ’70, PhD ’72), a faculty member in the department of civil and environmental engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, received the 2011 Walter P. Moore Award from American Society of Civil Engineers.

Allen Taflove (’71, MS ’72, PhD ’75), professor of electrical engineering and computer science at McCormick, was inducted into CQ Amateur Radio magazine’s 2011 hall of fame.

Richard W. Gochnauer (’72), who was director and CEO of United Stationers until his retirement in May, was elected to the UGI Corporation board of directors.

Dean O. Knudson (PhD ’72), an associate professor of computer science at North Dakota State University, received one of the university’s highest honors, the Peltier Award for Teaching Innovation.

Jonathan I. Hattis (’73, Kellogg ’75) was promoted to president of American Asset Management Services Corp. in Skokie, Illinois.

Matthew V. Tirrell III (’73) was appointed founding Pritzker Director of the University of Chicago’s Institute for Molecular Engineering.

Charlotte S. Yeh (’73, Feinberg ’75) is chief medical officer of AARP Services Inc. in Washington, DC. She received the American Hospital Association’s 2011 Board of Trustees Award in April.

Peter J. Barris (’74), managing general partner of New Enterprise Associates, was eighth on Forbes magazine’s 2011 Midas List, a ranking of 100 top venture capitalists.

Promod Haque (MS ’74, PhD ’76, Kellogg ’83), managing partner with Norwest Venture Partners, received a 2011 Visionary Award from the Silicon Valley nonprofit group SDForum in recognition of his outstanding achievements and contributions to the technology industry.

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

Paul J. Wotowic (’74), immediate past chief of staff for the San Ramon Regional Medical Center, was named to the hospital’s governing board for 2011–12.

Joshua J. Jacobs (’77), an orthopaedic surgeon at Rush Medical Center in Chicago, was named second vice president of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

Enrique R. Venta (MS ’77, PhD ’80), dean of the Lamar University College of Business, was appointed to the Texas Emerging Technology Fund Advisory Committee by Governor Rick Perry.

Thomas J. Riordan (’78), most recently president and chief operating officer of Terex Corporation, was named president and CEO of Neenah Enterprises Inc.

David L. Porges (’79), president and CEO of EQT Corporation, was named chairman of the company’s board of directors.

Virginia M. Rometty (’79) was named president and CEO of IBM, effective January 1, 2012.

**1980s**

Frederick R. Ferrin (MS ’80) was named vice president of TranSystems, an engineering and consulting firm. He was formerly CEO of the Jacksonville, Florida, Port Authority.

George Ribarchik (’82) was promoted to vice president of research and new technology acquisition for Peaceful Greasy Feeling Inc. His company is a leading supplier of lubricants, solvents, and waxes, which are utilized by the automotive and aerospace industries. In addition, he took third place at the “Men’s National Dance-Off” competition, recently held in Butte, Montana.

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

Kristin Asleson McDonnell (’85), most recently CEO and cofounder of LimeLife, was appointed to the advisory board of aisle411, a mobile retail navigation service.

James N. White (’85) of Sutter Hill Ventures was 32nd on the 2011 Forbes magazine Midas List, a ranking of 100 top venture capitalists.

Gregory B. Morrison (MS ’87), senior vice president and chief information officer of Cox Enterprises, was named to the board of directors of Gwinnett Technical College.

June E. Taylor (’87, Kellogg ’93), president and CEO of MWV Pinnacle Advisory Services, was appointed to a four-year term on the Ohio Casino Control Commission.

Mason B. Reay (’89) was named president of Nuun & Co. He was formerly head of marketing.
1990s

Michael P. Maley (’90) was named president and CEO of Hydro Green Energy.

David L. Nichols (’91, Kellogg ’00) was appointed Americas CIO services leader for the advisory practice of the law firm Ernst & Young, based in its Chicago office.

Vinoth Kumar Dasari (MEM ’92, Kellogg ’92) was promoted to managing director-designate of Indian automobile manufacturer Ashok Leyland in April.

Sheila K. Gujrathi (’92, Kellogg ’96) was named chief medical officer of biopharmaceutical company Receptos Inc.

William James Krueger (MEM ’92, Kellogg ’92), most recently a senior vice president at Nissan Americas, assumed the new role of vice chairman.

Kathleen A. Maskarinic (PhD ’92), director of Western Illinois University’s School of Computer Sciences, was named interim associate provost of the university.

Matthew Birkeland McCall (MEM ’92, Kellogg ’91, ’92) is a partner at New World Ventures. He was named to the newly formed board of advisers for the Chicago Innovation Awards program.

Alex Vaillancourt (’92) was promoted to vice president and chief information officer of the Christ Hospital in Cincinnati.

Matthew L. Goska (’93) joined Grand Rapids, Michigan, law firm Warner Norcross & Judd as senior counsel.

Hugh Bradley Ekberg (MEM ’94, Kellogg ’94) was appointed executive vice president of the Kitchen & Bath Americas division of Kohler Co.

Gaurav Chaturvedi (’95) was hired as medical director for hospital medicine at Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital. He was previously an instructor in the division of hospital medicine at Northwestern’s Feinberg School of Medicine.

Aaron Ross Feigelson (MS ’95, PhD ’98) is moving from associate to member at law firm Leydig Voit & Mayer in Chicago.

Yixin Shao (PhD ’95), associate professor of civil engineering and applied mechanics at McGill University in Montreal, was named a fellow of the American Concrete Institute.

Ashish S. Vazirani (MEM ’95, Kellogg ’95) returned to the management consulting firm ZS Associates as a principal and leader of its high-tech practice after having worked at the company during the 1990s.

He is based in the firm’s San Mateo, California, office.

Mark R. Ruh (MEM ’96, Kellogg ’96) was appointed executive vice president and chief financial officer of Mission Community Bancorp and its subsidiary, Mission Community Bank, operating out of San Luis Obispo, California.

Chelsea R. Stoner (’96) was promoted from vice president to principal at Battery Ventures and is based in its Menlo Park, California, office.

Valerie Ann Fuller (MEM ’97, Kellogg ’97) was promoted to chief operating officer of FordDirect, where she was previously executive vice president of operations.

Kathleen Anne Issen (MS ’97, PhD ’00), an associate professor of mechanical and aeronautical engineering at Clarkson University, received the school’s distinguished teaching award.

Brian H. James (MEM ’97, Kellogg ’97) was named senior vice president of corporate marketing for OpTier, an IT management software company.

Shekhar Purohit (’97), previously a principal and global compensation consulting leader at Hewitt Associates, was appointed managing director and head of the Northern California office of Pearl Meyer & Partners, an executive compensation consulting firm.

Cecelia M. Wigal (PhD ’98), assistant dean in the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, won the 2011 Supernova Award presented by the Young Women’s Leadership Academy Foundation.

Noha S. Ekdawi (’99) is a pediatric ophthalmologist. She recently joined the pediatric practice at Wheaton Eye Clinic.

Gregory A. Terri (’99) is area manager covering the St. Louis region for geotechnical contractor Hayward Baker, where he has been employed since 2005.

Christopher A. Schuh (PhD ’01) was named head of MIT’s department of materials science and engineering.

Bruce P. Lee (MS ’02, PhD ’05) was appointed to the biomedical engineering faculty at Michigan Technological University.

Todd Kelly (MIT ’04) was named vice president of sales engineering for CradlePoint, a provider of network router solutions. He was previously vice president of technology development at MobileForce Communications.

Christopher Ellison (PhD ’05), an assistant professor of chemical engineering at the University of Texas at Austin, received a Faculty Early Career Development Award from the National Science Foundation.

Yuk-Ki Lam (MS ’05) was named a practice manager for the mid-Atlantic region of Healthcare Administrative Partners.

Changhong Ke (PhD ’06), a faculty member in the mechanical engineering department at Binghamton University in New York, was selected to join the Air Force’s Young Investigator Research Program.

Prateek Panigrahi (’09, MS ’11) joined AbsolonTaylor in Chicago as a research associate.

2010s

Nikhil Rakesh Sethi (’10) is the founder of Adaptly, which helps companies manage advertising on social media sites. A Forbes magazine story described his success as a student entrepreneur, taking an idea developed at Northwestern and turning it into a successful business.?
S. George Bankoff, professor emeritus of chemical engineering, died in July. He was 89. Bankoff, whose research into the fundamentals of heat transfer and two-phase flow won him recognition in chemical and nuclear engineering, had a long career at Northwestern that began in 1959 and lasted until long after he became professor emeritus in 1992. He was a member of the National Academy of Engineering and won numerous awards, including the Ernest W. Thiele, Robert E. Wilson, Donald Q. Kern, and Heat Transfer and Energy Division Awards from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Bankoff’s work covered a wide variety of topics in multiphase heat transfer and fluid mechanics, many of which are connected with nuclear reactor safety, including bubble nucleation and growth in boiling, heat conduction and diffusion with phase changes, vapor explosions, and stability of thin liquid films under heating. He published more than 200 papers and served as thesis adviser to more than 70 graduate students.

Richard C. Halpern, a leader and innovator in the construction industry and member of the McCormick Advisory Council, died in July. He was 78. During his 50-year career, Halpern served as chief operating officer and chief executive officer for two global construction groups, including the Chicago-based Schall Construction Company, Whirlpool Corp., and Joy Manufacturing Company before joining Case in 1968. He rose to become executive vice president in 1976. He left Case in 1978 for Newport News Shipbuilding until he returned to become president and CEO at Case in 1992. He retired in 1994. He is survived by his children Gary, Kevin, and Diane.

Zenonas V. Rekasius, emeritus professor of electrical engineering, died in February at the age of 83. He earned his BS in electrical engineering from Wayne State University in 1954 and a PhD from Purdue University in 1960. Before arriving at Northwestern, he was an assistant professor at the Detroit Institute of Technology and at Purdue. He specialized in the field of automatic control and nonlinear systems and was published in the Transactions of the IEEE Professional Group on Automatic Control. He retired from Northwestern in 1997.