The College of Engineering and Science has selected its 2013 Distinguished Alumni Awards recipients. These awards annually recognize individuals from each program or discipline of the College for their professional accomplishments in engineering and science as well as serving as outstanding ambassadors for Louisiana Tech. The 2013 program award recipients are:

**Biomedical Engineering - Jeffery V. Slade**, Ooltewah, Tenn., (B.S. 1981), Quality Director for Merck Consumer Care Global Products & Projects, Chattanooga, Tenn.

**Chemical Engineering - Thomas P. Muse**, Dallas, (B.S. 1959, M.S. 1965), Chairman of Muse, Stancil & Co., Addison, Texas

**Chemistry - Sandra Anthony Swayze, M.D.**, Lexington, Ky., (B.S. 1982, M.S. 1985), Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology, University of Kentucky, Department of Radiation Medicine, Morehead, Ky.

**Civil Engineering - Sean G. Callan**, Portola Hills, Calif., (B.S. 1997), Vice President of Advanced Geosolutions, Inc., Lake Forest, Calif.

**Computer Science - Debra L. Blackman**, Monroe, (B.S. 1975, M.S. business administration 1984), Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Progressive Bank, Monroe


**Electrical Engineering Technology - Ernest L. Green**, West Monroe, (B.S. 1981), Site Manager for Angus Chemical Company, Sterlington

**Industrial Engineering - William K. Sales Jr.**, Coto de Caza, Calif., (B.S. 1979), Senior Vice President of Operations for Reliance Steel and Aluminum Company, Los Angeles


**Mechanical Engineering - John B. Coast**, Baton Rouge, (B.S. 1964), Founder and Owner of Coast Machinery, LLC, Baton Rouge

**Petroleum Engineering - Robert Mack Caruthers, Ph.D.**, Brentwood, Tenn., (B.S. liberal arts 1960, B.S. petroleum engineering 1961), Retired Professor and Department Head, Department of Petroleum Engineering, for Louisiana Tech University

**Physics - Les K. Sisemore**, Ruston, (B.S. 1967), Retired President for VGO Enterprises, LLC, Ruston
CenterPoint Energy Signs on as Title Sponsor for Eco-marathon Team

CenterPoint Energy has signed on as a $25,000 sponsor of Louisiana Tech’s Eco-marathon Team. The team will be one of more than 1,000 innovative high school and university students from across North and South America attending the seventh annual Shell Eco-marathon Americas which will be held in Houston April 4-7, 2013. The event challenges students to build, design and compete with their high-mileage vehicles in competitions held annually in Europe, the Americas and Asia.

“We are extremely proud to be this year’s title sponsor of the Louisiana Tech team,” said Eric Sullivan, division senior vice president of CenterPoint Energy Services. “The Eco-marathon challenges students to enter vehicles that are fuel efficient and better for the environment. Whether it’s powered by gasoline, natural gas, diesel or electricity, we’re excited to see what this innovative, talented team comes up with this year and in future Eco-marathons.”

During the event, students and their fuel-efficient vehicles will navigate the streets of downtown Houston amid the skyscrapers, striving to win, but the students at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston have an even bigger goal: they hope to beat their own records which were set during the last two competitions. In 2011, their Urban Concept vehicle, “Roadster,” set a new U.S. record of 646.7 mpg. The team also won first place for overall design and safety that year. Last year, the team won the design award, the award for highest mileage in the diesel category and the team spirit award.

Associate Dean Attends Elite Summit on STEM

Dr. Jenna Carpenter, Associate Dean of Administrative and Strategic Initiatives for the College of Engineering and Science, was among an elite group of professors and problem solvers asked to attend the Global Grand Challenges Summit in London in March. The summit was a major initiative by the National Academies of Engineering in the U.K., the U.S. and China, challenging leading international thinkers and innovators to share ideas on how to solve the world’s most pressing challenges. The 14 Engineering Grand Challenges identified in a 2008 report by the U.S. National Academy of Engineering cover a wide range of issues, including energy, food, water and urban infrastructure.

The Louisiana Tech University National Academy of Grand Challenge Scholars program will hold its third annual Grand Challenge Scholars Showcase in late spring. The Tech program is led by Carpenter, who also serves as the chair of the National Academy of Engineering Grand Challenge Scholars Program Steering Committee. Tech is one of 12 universities across the nation with an active Grand Challenge Scholars program.

“We are so pleased with the success of our Grand Challenge Scholars,” stated Carpenter. “The Program provides them with broader skill sets and motivates them to reach for even higher accomplishments that distinguish them as some of the top engineering and science graduates in the nation.”
Cyber Discovery Program Expands

More than three dozen teachers from 16 high schools located across Louisiana and Arkansas descended on the campus of Louisiana Tech University recently to participate in the official kickoff of Cyber Discovery 2013. The event included a professional development workshop to prepare teachers to lead their high school student teams in a week-long, academically rich experience dealing with the issues that impact everyone through cyberspace. Cyber Discovery, a national cyber education program, was developed through collaboration between the Cyber Innovation Center’s academic program, NICERC (National Integrated Cyber Education Research Center), and Louisiana Tech.

Louisiana Tech faculty who led key content sessions during the professional development workshop included Dr. Kelly Crittenden, Dr. Jeremy Mhire and Dr. Galen Turner. Faculty members Dr. Heath Tims, Dr. Mike Swanbom and Dr. Jean Gourd were also active throughout the workshop along with NICERC personnel Dr. Krystal Corbett (Tech B.S. mechanical engineering 2008, M.S. engineering 2010, M.S math and Ph.D. engineering 2012), Josh Coriell (Tech B.S. math 2011, M.A. secondary education 2012) and Paul Spivey.

This year, participating high schools included several from south Louisiana—Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy (Lafayette), Catholic (Baton Rouge), Ascension Christian (Baton Rouge), St. Joseph’s Academy (Baton Rouge), The Dunham School (Baton Rouge), New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy—as well as Airline (Bossier City), Benton, C.E. Byrd (Shreveport), El Dorado (Arkansas), Haughton, Parkway (Bossier City), Louisiana New Tech (Plain Dealing), North Caddo Magnet (Vivian), Ruston and West Monroe.

Campaign for New Integrated Engineering and Science Building Enters Final Months

The Campaign for a New Integrated Engineering and Science Building has entered its final months. To date, private gifts raised in cash and pledges total just over $4.6 million. The goal of the campaign is to raise $7.5 million privately which would be matched by the state of Louisiana. The campaign officially became active in 2008, and since that time, alumni and corporations have stepped up to help make the new building a reality.

Bogard Hall, the primary engineering classroom building, was built in 1940—when Franklin D. Roosevelt was President. Many of the classrooms are small and narrow and cannot accommodate the College’s growing enrollment and new team-teaching style. In fact, when Bogard was built, only three programs were offered to an enrolled undergraduate class of 1,000 students. Today, the College offers 14 degrees with an enrollment of nearly twice that of 1940.

Catherine Fraser, Director of Development for the College, says gifts of all sizes have been given to the Campaign. “It’s not the size of the gift that matters, but rather all of us working together to help make this new building a reality. The College is known for its excellence in engineering and science education; let’s make our facilities equal to our educational excellence.” Go to COES.LaTech.edu/Building to learn more.
Scenes from Around the College

Save the Date and join us on Balcony C at the George R. Brown Convention Center in downtown Houston!

Engineering designs and tools rest on the front of the newest Eco-marathon car which will be painted Tech blue.

The College’s 2013 Distinguished Alumni pose together at Squire Creek Country Club in January.