April 20, 2015

University of South Florida Honors Outstanding Engineering Alumni

Ten alumni and a retired dean were recognized at the Engineering Excellence Awards event for significant contributions to the profession and the College of Engineering.

TAMPA, Fla - Ten alumni and a retired dean from the College of Engineering at the University of South Florida were honored on April 18, 2015, at the Engineering Excellence Awards Dinner held at the University Club in Tampa, Fla.

"As the college celebrates its 50th anniversary we recognize the outstanding achievements of our alumni," said Robert H Bishop, Dean. These awards recognize a distinctive and creative group of entrepreneurs, innovators and business leaders who have made significant contributions to society and the field of engineering."

The distinguished group of awardees represented a wide range of engineers who have made significant contributions to the field of engineering as well as the College of Engineering. Honored at this event were:

- **Stanley Newton**, Mechanical Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award. Mr. Newton, a 1975 graduate, is the founder and president of Engineering Matrix, St. Petersburg, Fla. He established the Engineering Matrix Endowed Scholarship that provides financial support for chemical, electrical and mechanical engineering students.
- **Kumar Ramachandran**, Industrial and Management Systems Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award. Mr. Ramachandran is the founder and CEO of Gram Suchana Solutions, Bangalore, India. He received a master's degree in industrial engineering from USF. He and his wife, Meena, established the Ramachandran Innovation and Entrepreneurship Endowment to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among industrial engineering students at all levels.
- **Anthony James**, Electrical Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award. Mr. James is the retired EVP of Southern Company and the former CEO of Savannah Power. He is the co-author of the book "The Shoulders of Giants." He has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from USF. The Anthony

and Sheila James Endowed Scholarship provides support for full-time engineering students. He also serves on the USF Foundation Board.

- **Dr. Maha Sallam**, Computer Science and Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award. Dr. Sallam is the founder of Vu-Essence, a medical device company focused on creating diagnostic solutions for stroke applications. She received her bachelor's, masters and doctorate degrees in computer science from USF. She and her husband, KK, established the Spirit of Innovation Award that supports graduate students.
- **David Scott**, Civil and Environmental Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award. Mr. Scott is the co-founder of HSA Engineers and Scientists, and he also serves on the College of Engineering Advisory Board. HSA funded an 80-seat engineering classroom called the Educational Epicenter and also provides an endowed scholarship for civil engineering students.
- **Mark Cacciatore**, Chemical and Biomedical Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award. Mr. Cacciatore is Vice President of Manufacturing for the Campbell Soup Company, Perrysburg Ohio. He is a lifelong member of Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society and a long-time supporter of USF.
- **Robert Myer**, Lifetime Achievement Award. Mr. Myer is the Founder, President and Chief Product Officer of No Wait, the first and only mobile network for casual dining, headquartered in Pittsburgh. He is a 2014 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year. He earned a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from USF.
- **Dr. Gita Iranipour,** Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Iranipour is a Senior Utility Project Manager with Hillsborough County Department of Public Utilities. She is the chair of the Corporate Ambassador Program in the USF Engineering Alumni Society. She earned both her masters and doctorate degrees in chemical engineering from USF.
- **Suresh Batchu**, Entrepreneurial Excellence Award. He is the co-founder of MobileIron, a world leader in mobile device management and enterprise mobility solutions, based in Mountain View, Calif. He holds 11 U.S. patents and earned a master's degree in computer science from USF.
- **Jeffrey Hornick**, Outstanding Young Engineer Award. Mr. Hornick is Regional Director of Design and Engineering for Busch Gardens and Sea World. He holds two U.S. Patents and earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and an MBA from USF.

Dr. Glenn A Burdick received the Dean's Appreciation Award for his significant contributions to the College of Engineering. Dr. Burdick is a former professor of electrical engineering and served as dean of the college from 1979 to 1986. During his tenure as dean, he secured legislative funding to construct the Engineering II building, which now bears his name. He also led the legislative support to establish the Center for Urban Transportation Research, a nationally recognized leader in transportation research, and established the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. He and his wife established the Glenn and Joyce Burdick Endowed

Scholarship that provides support for senior engineering students interested in pursuing a graduate degree.

The College of Engineering at the University of South Florida was founded in 1964. It currently serves more than 5,000 engineering students and awards 30 degrees in 14 academic programs. Since 1966, the college has awarded more than 22,000 engineering degrees.

Left to right: USF Provost Ralph Wilcox, Kumar Ramachandran, Anthony James, Mark Cacciatore, Stanley Newton, Gita Iranipour, Jeffrey Hornick, Maha Sallam, Suresh Batchu, David Scott, Robert Myer, Mel Anderson (accepting for Glenn Burdick), President Judy Genshaft, Dean Robert H. Bishop.