From the Dean

To paraphrase Pete Seeger….Where have all the students gone? In the 2005–2006 academic year, we said goodbye to more than 600 students who earned degrees from the College of Science—or as we like to say, we said hello to more than 600 new alumni!

Where do our students go after they walk across the Elliott Hall stage? Overall, about half of our undergrads go into jobs and nearly 40% go on to graduate or professional school. (For those of you who are doing the arithmetic, the remaining 10 percent or so are still looking for jobs or applying to graduate school upon graduation.) We’re a diverse college, though, and there is wide diversity of career choices among our various majors. For example, 70% or more of undergraduates in computer science, earth and atmospheric sciences, and mathematics and statistics go directly into the workforce, while the majority of undergraduates in biological sciences, chemistry, and physics enter graduate or professional school.

Many of our newest alumni will go into careers in “traditional” science areas like lab research, medicine and healthcare, engineering, and information science. Their contributions to those fields will have an impact on every facet of our lives. The demand for highly-trained workers in science and engineering fields is real and growing. For example, computer and information science are projected to be major growth sectors in the U.S. in terms of jobs, and the increased demand for computer specialists in the period from 2002 through 2012 is expected to top 1.4 million new jobs. Already there are 17% more information technology jobs in the U.S. than at the height of the dot.com bubble. I have no doubt that some of our new alumni will be stars in fields of science, engineering, and technology that don’t even exist yet!

Other Science grads will use their science education as the foundation for success in careers we don’t traditionally associate with science: law, journalism, business, or sales and marketing are just a few. You can even find Science alumni who are pilots.

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The solid education, broad perspective, and critical thinking skills our students learn here will help them shine, no matter which career path they take.

Congratulations to our newest Science alumni! Be proud of your Purdue pedigree, and remember this bit of wisdom from Albert Einstein: “Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.”

Best regards,

Jeff Vitter

SCIENCE PEOPLE

Science alumni earn Purdue honorary doctorates

Three Science alumni have another Purdue diploma to hang on the wall. Tan-Sun (Mark) Chen, Richard Lawson, and Floyd Loop were among 17 recipients of honorary doctorates at Purdue commencement ceremonies in May. Full bios.

Science undergraduates collect diplomas

The College of Science awarded bachelor of science degrees to 280 undergraduates in May. Seventy-two students majored in more than one Science discipline, bringing the total number of degrees awarded to 352. Degrees awarded by major: biological sciences—106; chemistry—26; computer science—63; earth and atmospheric sciences—13; mathematics—58; physics—22; Statistics and Actuarial Science—62; interdisciplinary science—2.

Doug Comer, Quadraspec named stars in Indiana’s technology economy

Computer science Distinguished Professor Douglas Comer’s dedication to teaching with technology and Quadraspec’s BioCD earned accolades at the Techpoint Mira Awards celebrating the best and brightest contributors to Indiana's technology-related economy. Full story.

Math professor to address international audience

Mathematics professor Jaroslaw Wlodarczyk will deliver an algebraic and complex geometry section lecture at the
conference, which runs from August 22-30, will bring together mathematicians from all over the world and demonstrate the vital role that mathematics play in our society.

**Michael Gribskov to talk about the future of computational biology**

Biological sciences professor Michael Gribskov will give the president’s address at the 14th Annual International Conference on Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology in August. The conference is the annual meeting for the International Society for Computational Biology, which Prof. Gribskov serves as president. More information.

**Science alum named Tuskegee provost**

Luther Williams, who earned his PhD in biological sciences from Purdue, has been named provost and vice president for academic affairs at Tuskegee University. Dr. Williams has had a distinguished career that ranges from faculty positions at major American universities to administrative roles in higher educational and government agencies, particularly in science and technology. He is a Distinguished Science Alumnus and has an honorary doctorate from Purdue. Full story.

**Former biology professor awarded top prize in medicine**

Seymour Benzer, a Purdue physics alumnus, former professor in biological sciences, and Purdue honorary doctorate recipient, earned the Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research, the most prestigious prize in medicine in the United States. Full story.

**Chemistry Department staff earns RAVEs for working together**

“It’s like a family,” says Donna Wilkinson about the Chemistry Department staff. The department won Purdue WorkLife Programs’ first RAVE (Recognizing All Valuable Employees) award for a culture of caring and doing more than the expected to help each other. The department’s 90 administrative and...
SCIENCE NEWS AND RESEARCH

Can you hear me now? Computer scientists look at VoIP vulnerabilities

Computer Science professors Sonia Fahmy and Elisa Bertino are part of a multi-university collaboration developing tests to analyze vulnerabilities in Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP). The group received National Science Foundation funding to work on such projects as denial of service attack experiments and evaluations of tradeoffs between security and quality of service. Full story.

New method makes chemical analysis simpler

Researchers led by R. Graham Cooks, Henry Bohn Hass Distinguished Professor of Analytical Chemistry have developed a relatively simple alternative to the sophisticated techniques now used to ionize materials, a critical step needed for chemical analyses using mass spectrometers. The new method is particularly useful for analyzing materials that play vital roles in biological processes. Full story.

Is global warming causing stronger storms?

Research by earth and atmospheric sciences assistant professor Matthew Huber and graduate student Ryan Sriver supports the idea that global warming is causing stronger hurricanes. Their results match work by climate researchers at M.I.T., but whether global warming is linked to stronger storms is a subject of dispute in the scientific community, says the New York Times. Full story. Matt was part of a CBS News feature on the upcoming hurricane season. Go to CBS News and click on "Hurricane Season Underway" to see the video.

Spafford gives security advice to IT executives

Eugene Spafford, professor of computer science and executive director of the Center for Education and Research in Information Assurance and Security (CERIAS) sat down...
about some of the newest security threats and what network executives can do to mitigate them. Full interview.

**Endocyte patents another cancer targeting technology**

Endocyte Inc. has earned another patent for technology that holds promise for new immunotherapy products to treat cancer. The company, founded on research conducted by chemistry professor Phil Low, is working on a new generation of therapies with enhanced targeting capabilities to treat different forms of cancer and inflammatory disease. Full story.

**Palm trees at the North Pole? Study says it was possible 55 million years ago**

A treasure trove of scientific data is revealing that the North Pole was much warmer about 55 million years ago than scientists had imagined. Earth and atmospheric sciences assistant professor Matthew Huber says climate models were wrong about such warmth in the past, which may also mean they're not accurately predicting the future. Full story.

**Science Business Partners Program is in business!**

The College of Science has officially launched the Science Business Partners Program—a customer-driven program designed to build strong, beneficial relationships with businesses around the world. Learn about the program and how your company can become part of the team by visiting the SBPP website.

**Science Kids invade Dupont**

These 4th, 5th, and 6th-graders at Dupont Elementary School in Dupont, Indiana are members of the Science Kids Club. The school sponsored membership for all interested kids, and they're now having science fun while they learn about science. Check out the Science Kids Club.

**Research Funding Report**

Related Searches: Department Of Mathematics | Degree
million in April 2006. Complete list of funded proposals.

**PURDUE NEWS**

**Smalltimes says Purdue nanotech is big**

Purdue’s nanotechnology research program, built around the new Birck Nanotechnology Center in Discovery Park, is among the best in the nation, according to rankings released by a leading trade publication. Full story.

**Purdue President Emeritus Beering to head National Science Board**

Purdue University Emeritus President Steven C. Beering was elected to chair the National Science Board, which provides oversight for and establishes the policies of the National Science Foundation. Full story.

**PROFILES OF SUCCESS**

Each month we spotlight the personal accomplishments and career successes, whether mainstream or unique, of Science alumni. This month's spotlight is on Celeste Bottorff, who received her B.S. in physics in 1975. Full story.

**SCIENCE ALUMNI NEWS**

Science alumni: We want to hear from you! Update your information and share your professional news as well as your personal and family milestones with your classmates and the Science community. Click here.

Click here for this month’s Alumni News.

**Science Kids Club blasts off**

The Science Kids Club is off and running! Since we launched the club in October, nearly 150 kids have joined! Enroll the special kids in your life in the Science Kids Club for Science fun for kids of all ages. More information.
Join the Purdue Web Community and stay connected to your alma mater. This interactive site will help you keep in touch with your Purdue family—your friends, faculty and staff, and fellow alumni. Click here to sign up and get started.

**Join the President's Council and contribute to Purdue's future!**

The President's Council is a unique group of alumni and friends who contribute generously to the future of Purdue University. Working closely with the president, these leaders volunteer to support the University in ways that are very personal and meaningful to them. Through special events and programs, members build strong and lasting relationships with one another—relationships that enhance their experiences and change their lives. Click here to join online!

**SCIENCE EVENTS AND CALENDAR**

**Kids to learn about building blocks of life**

Middle school and high school students will be able to get their hands on science in two camps happening this month. To get more information or to apply for these on-campus experiences, go to Multicultural Science Programs and Women in Science Programs.

**Summer camp to give kids early start in computing**

The Department of Computer Science will offer a camp this month for middle school students who are interested in computers. Beginners and advanced computer users can experience Lego robotics, Web design, and other computing concepts at the four-day camps. Space is still available in the advanced camp! Get more information or sign up.

**Association for Biology Laboratory Education (ABLE) Conference**, June 6-10

**TeraGrid '06 Conference**, June 12–15

**Day On Campus**, June 13–July 5

**Purdue Day with the Indianapolis Indians**, July 16

**19th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education**, July 30–August 3