



Noyes leads study abroad course Page 7

September 11, 2001

The recent acts of terrorism in New York and Washington, D. C. affected everyone in some way. Please keep everyone involved and our country in your thoughts and prayers.

God bless the USA.

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OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF BIOSYSTEMS AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

# Peanut butter and jelly just got easier

Thanks to one of our faculty members, making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches is easier and more convenient.

Danielle Bellmer, assistant professor in biosystems and ag engineering in conjunction with the Oklahoma Food and Agricultural Products Research and Technology Center (FAPC), is the coinventor of P. B. Slices.

Bellmer was approached with the idea approximately three years ago by Stewart Kennedy, former business and marketing specialist for the FAPC and owner of Kennedy Foods in Edmond, Okla.

"My first thought was 'Why hasn't someone done this before?' when this idea was brought to me," said Bellmer.

Peanut Butter slices have been tried before and patents from approximately 50 years ago have been found, according to Bellmer.

With grants from the Oklahoma Peanut Commission and the FAPC Research Initiative, Bellmer began to create the slices.

"The Peanut Commission was very excited when we approached them with the idea of funding this research project. They were also the first to grant funding to begin the research," said Bellmer.

Parents and children are the target audience for this new product. The sliced peanut butter saves parents time in the mornings preparing school lunches. It also will allow kids to make their own sandwich without tearing the bread. Institutions, such as schools and prisons, are also part of the audience because it will save time making sandwiches in large quantities on a daily basis.

Bellmer knew the product had to have the same texture and taste as peanut butter. Many hours of research and pounds of pea-

nut butter were used to perfect the sliced version of this favorite spread.

Many trial runs were made by incorporating various additives to the peanut butter to create different consistencies. Experiments were also done to find the formulation for the best stability in different plastic wraps.

The slices contain 120 calories with a fat content of 16%. The slices are 90% peanut butter with an additive to hold the sliced form in the wrapper.



The slices went on sale in September in a regional test market. By year's end the slices will be available at stores such as Wal-Mart Supercenters, Pratts, Myers and Kroeger.

Currently creamy slices are the only type available and they are sold in packages of 16 slices with a price range of \$2.30 to \$2.50 per package. The slices will be displayed next to the processed cheese slices in the refrigerated section of the grocery stores. And for

the crunchy peanut butter fans, crunchy P. B. Slices shouldn't be too far behind, according to Bellmer.

Bellmer believes the slices will be a big hit with consumers who are looking for convenience, however some consumers will stay with the original peanut butter spread. It will be a matter of preference with the consumers.

Bellmer is currently working on several research projects, however these projects aren't as widely publicized as the peanut butter slices. The reason for this is the public relates more to the peanut butter project, according to Bellmer.

Bellmer was contacted by the game show "To Tell the Truth" and filmed the show last spring. The episode is scheduled to air in late September when the new season begins to air.

"Participating in this show was very interesting and nerve racking. It was interesting to see how the production process works," said Bellmer.

Oklahoma State University will benefit from the P. B. Slices as well as consumers. Both the university and the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources will share in the royalty income.

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## A Word from the Department Head

**Dr. Ron Elliott**  
*relliot@okstate.edu*

This note is being written in the days immediately following the horrible terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C. At times such as these, it's helpful to be in the company of family and friends, and to be a part of communities. Our BAE department and the broader university are two such communities.

On a brighter note, the fall semester is off to a great start. The campus is always energized by the return of students in August, and that seemed especially true this year as we endured a hot, dry summer in Stillwater. I'm very pleased to report that we have 23 new freshmen in Biosystems Engineering – our largest freshman class in at least the last 15 years. And the academic qualifications of these students are excellent. Our undergraduate enrollment now totals about 60 students, and we are giving special attention to student retention as well as the recruiting of new students. The overall freshman-to-sophomore retention rate at OSU has increased to 81%, one of the highest figures in the Big XII Conference.

Our graduate program remains strong both in terms of quantity and quality. We have a good mix of M.S. and Ph.D. students, and both U.S. and international students. John Tyner received the prestigious Phoenix Award as OSU's outstanding Ph.D. graduate. Brian Haggard, a 2000 Ph.D. graduate, was awarded the outstanding thesis/dissertation award in the social science/engineering category by the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. John and Brian were advised in their graduate programs by Glenn Brown and Dan Storm, respectively. Both Glenn and Dan are also to be congratulated for their promotion to the rank of Professor in July.

This newsletter reports on many additional recognitions received by BAE students and faculty. Each of these is significant, and others could be included as well. I'd like to call

particular attention to ASAE's selection of Bill Barfield as the recipient of the John Deere Gold Medal. This is a singular honor and one that is well deserved by our former department head. I had told everyone that I had big shoes to fill! Also, Marvin Stone's outstanding talents have been recognized by the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology. He received the 2001 Halliburton Outstanding Faculty Award from CEAT. Through the years Marvin has been a key contributor to many BAE programs and activities and we congratulate him on his latest honor.

There is some late breaking news on the awards front. At the fall faculty meeting of the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Ron Noyes was presented with the Sarkeys Distinguished Professor Award in Honor of Elmo Baumann. This is a premier award in the Division – look for additional information in the next issue of the BAE Update. Ron and many others here are looking forward to the dedication of the Stored Products Research and Education Center (SPREC) on October 11. This unique facility will be a wonderful addition to the Division's strong multidisciplinary program in stored grain management.

In addition to the variety of teaching, research, and extension activities that keep our faculty busy, we are engaged in the Division's unit action planning process, and in accreditation and curriculum studies related to our undergraduate program. We had a successful faculty retreat in June but decided that next time we need to allow a little time for play in order to balance out all the hard work.

We're continuing to accept contributions toward an endowed scholarship in honor of Dr. Tom Haan. If you'd like to honor Tom and help the Department in this way, please send us a check made out to the OSU Foundation, and note that it is to be directed to the Haan Scholarship.

*continued on page 6*

## Where are they now?

**Tracking BAE Alumni**

### SPRING 2001 Graduates

Nathan Priest

Chris Cross  
Graduate School  
Oklahoma State University

Brandon Neal  
FHC, Inc. Consulting  
Tulsa, Okla.

Kyle Vandale  
Graduate School  
Oklahoma State University

### SUMMER 2001 Graduates

Darcey Landrith  
FHC, Inc. Consulting  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Christal Compston Whaley  
Austin, Tex.

## Moved?

Have you moved to a new area or changed jobs recently? Keep us updated, so you don't miss a single issue of the *BAE Update*. Write, e-mail, or call us at:

**BAE Update**  
111 Ag Hall  
Stillwater, OK 74078  
(405) 744-5431  
btessma@okstate.edu

## Harp receives Celebrate State! award

Sam E. Harp, associate professor in biosystems and agricultural engineering, was recently presented the Celebrate State! award by James Halligan, president, Oklahoma State University. This award is presented to those who exemplify the spirit of Oklahoma State University.

Harp is an extension specialist focusing on technology transfer and residential and agricultural energy management. He earned his bachelor's degree in technology education and later received his master's degree in agricultural

engineering from Oklahoma State University.

He coordinates the Applications Engineering Program that provides technical assistance to small manufacturers.

Harp is involved in the Oklahoma Section of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers, the Oklahoma Association of County Extension Agents, Alpha Epsilon and Epsilon Sigma Phi.

## Student receives Phoenix Award

John Tyner, Ph.D., biosystems and agricultural engineering, was given the 2001 Phoenix Award by the Oklahoma State University Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) April 12, 2001.

Tyner received his bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Oklahoma in 1990. He earned his master's degree at San Diego State University in geological sciences in 1998. John received his Ph. D. in biosystems and agricultural engineering at Oklahoma State University in 2001.

Each year, the GPSA honors one master student, one doctoral student and a graduate faculty member who have the characteristics of leadership, scholarship and involvement with and concern for the university and the community. The recipients were selected from applicants nominated by other graduate students or graduate faculty. The Phoenix Award is the highest award given by the GPSA to honor graduate students and faculty at OSU. Thus, the recipients represent the best of Oklahoma State University.

## Oklahoma ASAE meeting date set

The Oklahoma Section of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers will meet Friday October 12, 2001.

The meeting will be held in the Kerr Auditorium of the Food and Agricultural Products Research and Technology Center (FAPC) at Oklahoma State University. A preliminary program and meeting registration form will be sent to all of the Oklahoma ASAE members in late September.

There will be coffee and refreshments available during the meeting. The OSU Student Branch of ASAE will provide a barbecue lunch for those attending the meeting. We look forward to seeing each of you there.

Oklahoma State plays the University of Texas Saturday, October 13 at Lewis Field in Stillwater. Get your tickets now and plan on staying to cheer on the Cowboys. Go Pokes!

## Alumni tailgate party scheduled

The BAE Alumni tailgate party is scheduled for Saturday October 6, prior to the Oklahoma State football game versus the University of Missouri.

The game is currently scheduled for kick-off at 7 p.m., but is subject to change.

The tailgate party will be held in the biosystems and ag engineering lab on Hall of Fame Avenue. Folks will begin gathering ap-

proximately two hours before game time.

The student branch of ASAE will be serving hamburgers and all of the trimmings to those attending.

Those interested in attending the football game can purchase their tickets through the Oklahoma State ticket office. Please check the website for further details.

## 2001-2002 ASAE Student Branch Officer Team

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# Former faculty member dies in car accident

George E. Cook passed away Sunday, July 22 due to injuries from a one-car automobile accident.

The accident occurred west of Stillwater near the Highway 51 and Country Club Road intersection at approximately 5:00 p.m. His wife, Norma Jean, survived the accident with minimal injuries.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 25 at the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Stan Warfield officiating.

Cook was born in Geary, Okla. April 22, 1922 to Jake and Gina Mae Cook. He was joined in marriage to Norma Jean Bowman Sept. 27, 1946.

Cook continued his education at Cameron State Agricultural College in Lawton, Okla. He entered the United States Army Oct. 29, 1942 and served in the South Pacific. He served during the invasion of

Okinawa and was given an honorable discharge Dec. 18, 1945.

He began working as a soil conservation aid in the United States Indian Service and taught for the Oklahoma Veterans Agricultural Training Program in 1946.

He received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1952 and 1955.

Oklahoma A&M then hired Cook as a farm shop instructor in 1952 with a joint appointment in agricultural engineering and agricultural education. He taught agricultural mechanics classes to more than two generations of students before his retirement in 1986. He was also actively involved in the Oklahoma State Vocational Agriculture Teacher Training Program.

Cook is preceded in death by one brother, Gene Cook, two sisters, Juanita

Cook and Grace Marie Bar, and both parents.

He is survived by his wife, Norma Jean; one son George Cook, Jr. and wife Grace of Santa Fe Springs, Calif.; one daughter, Susan Cook Ross and husband Mike, Mannford, Okla.; one brother J. R. Howard and wife Joanne of Roosevelt, Okla.; and two grandchildren, Nicholas Cook, serving in the U. S. Navy; and Catherine Cook, Santa Fe Springs, Calif.

George Cook will be missed and always remembered for his honesty, hard work, sincerity and positive outlook on life.

Memorial contributions may be made in his honor to the agricultural education scholarship fund, 451 Ag Hall, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla. 74078, or to the First United Methodist Church, 400 W. Seventh, Stillwater, Okla. 74074.

# Stone named outstanding faculty

Marvin Stone, professor in biosystems and agricultural engineering, recently received the Halliburton Outstanding Faculty Award from the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology at Oklahoma State University.

Stone was given this honor based on his teaching and research expertise. Stone has a strong desire for teaching. He works hard to mold his students into professional engineers and takes time to counsel students in his office and in the lab.

He teaches courses related to automatic controls and sensor systems and conducts research on sensor systems, electronic communication systems and control systems. He specializes in sensors and controls for biological systems.

The students have also shown their appreciation for his hard work. He was selected as the Chi Epsilon Teacher of the Year in 1987, the Alpha Epsilon Distinguished Teacher in 1985, 1988, 1995, 1996 and 1999. The chemical engineering students selected Stone as "Teacher of the Year" when he taught Instrumentation for Biological Process Control.

Stone also received the Halliburton Outstanding Young Faculty Award in 1990. He was runner-up for the Phoenix Graduate Teaching Award in 1990 and the Outstanding Graduate Teacher Award at Oklahoma State in 1991. The American Society of Agricultural

Engineers (ASAE) awarded Stone the ASAE Young Educator Award for North America in 1989, in 1994 he received the ASAE Director's Citation and in 1999 he was selected as an ASAE Distinguished Lecturer.

Within the SAE Truck and Bus Control and Communications Subcommittee, Stone has served on eight subcommittees. He chairs both the SAE Truck and Bus Control and Communications Subcommittee Network Management Task Force, and the IET-353/1 Standardization of Communications Protocol for Mobile Equipment. His work in SAE has been directly related to his industry leadership in development of international protocol for network communications on agricultural equipment.

Stone is very involved throughout the department of biosystems and agricultural engineering (BAE) as well as the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (DASNR) and the College of Engineering Architecture, Technology (CEAT). He was the first BAE faculty to chair the CEAT Faculty Council, and he has served on the CEAT Faculty Council for several years. He has also served CEAT students continuously as a faculty leader in the Awesome Design Contest.

Stone is currently teaching two classes. He is continuing to teach introduction to engineering software to the freshman students. And he is teaching a new graduate course, in-ve-

hicle networking for heavy duty systems.

He is currently involved in several research projects including the development of variable rate technology. Stone, along with other faculty is working to develop sensors to look at plants and determine if they are under stress and if fertilizer needs to be added.

Another project is "Smart Bridge." Researchers from Oklahoma State University and the Oklahoma Mesonet are working together to use ground source heat pumps to prevent ice from developing on bridge surfaces during the cold winter months.

Stone is one of the OSU engineers and horticulturists who are working together to develop post harvest processing and storage of special crops. One of these special crops is marigolds. They are researching the idea of harvesting marigolds for lutein.

Stone has made many contributions in teaching, research and extension to DASNR, CASNR and CEAT, and is well deserving of this award.

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## Enrollment increase

The incoming freshman class brought the largest enrollment to biosystems and ag engineering in the last 15 years.

The total enrollment in the undergraduate program is at approximately 60 students.

# Barfield receives top engineering award

The American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE) named Billy Barfield, Ph.D., the winner of the 2001 John Deere Gold Medal Award at the ASAE Annual International Meeting in Sacramento, Calif.

Barfield is being honored for his many contributions as a researcher, teacher, administrator and extender of engineering knowledge relating to soil, water and the environment. He is renowned for his landmark impact on the analysis and design of stormwater runoff and sedimentation control systems and for his dynamic administrative leadership.

A distinguished educator, Barfield has improved professional hydrologic engineering practice across the United States through the annual Urban Hydrology, Sedimentology and Stormwater Management Continuing Education Conference, defining state-of-the-art stormwater management.

Barfield is currently serving as regents service professor in the biosystems and agricultural engineering department at Oklahoma State University. He has also served as head of the same department. As department head, he

was instrumental in the initiation of the department name change to biosystems and agricultural engineering and revisions to the curriculum helping increase undergraduate enrollment more than 350% within five years. He also helped guide the funding for the Stored Products Research and Education Center (SPREC) at Oklahoma State.

Prior to his duties at Oklahoma State, Barfield served as professor at the University of Kentucky and also served as the director of the Kentucky Water Resources Institute. During this time he managed federal grant funding and water resources programs while chairing the University of Kentucky Graduate Program.

Barfield has been a member of ASAE for 36 years and in 1994 he was inducted as a fellow. He has been active in ASAE statewide and nationally by serving on technical and administrative committees. He was an associate editor of Transactions of the ASAE and a former chair of the Kentucky section. In 1995 he initiated the continuing education workshop series at ASAE international annual meetings. He has authored and coauthored several

publications and books. He helped develop the SEDIMOTII and SEDIMOT III software packages to analyze watershed flow.

Barfield has received several honors, including the ASAE Young Researcher Award, Hancor Soil and Water Engineering Award and a Presidential Citation. He was recently named a regents service professor by the Oklahoma A&M Board of Regents for rendering distinguished service to the university and returning to regular faculty activities.

Barfield is involved in the American Institute of Hydrology and Stillwater Drainage Appeals Board. He is also a member of Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Xi and Alpha Zeta.

The John Deere Gold Medal Award was established by descendants of the pioneering agricultural equipment manufacturer and seeks to recognize "Distinguished Achievement in the Application of Science and Art to the Soil." The gold medal features the likeness of John Deere and a scene symbolic of America's agricultural heritage.

# Tractor team competes at nationals

The Oklahoma State Quarter Scale Tractor Team competed at the national tractor pull competition June 1-5 in Moline, Ill.

The team placed in the top third at the competition. They were pleased with their performance and felt that they could easily have placed above more teams.

The competition consists of several different elements. The team has to give an oral presentation and provide a comprehensive report describing the design of the tractor and the techniques that were used. The tractor is judged on serviceability, manufacturability, safety and how well it pulls. The team must also provide a cost report to the judges.

The team built a high tech transmission for this tractor. The transmission is going through the patent process with the OSU Office of Intellectual Property. The device is computer controlled to adjust the tractor speed as it pulls.

The team is fortunate to have the all members returning for this year along with some new incoming students.

The new members will modify the senior tractor from the previous year. They have to make a 20 percent change to the tractor. They

also help design the new senior tractor.

"The freshman class helps with the design of the senior tractor, because we think it is important for them to see the tractor being built from the ground up," said Jake Holloway, team co-director.

The team does their own fundraising and have several donations to aid in the building of the tractor. Cherokee Trailers donated the trailer for the team's use to haul the tractor to and from competitions and Ditch Witch donated an extensive amount of necessary materials to the team.

The team competes in approximately 15 events each year. In order to do this the members work diligently over a nine-month period. They are known for working late into the night at times.

The big meet for the team is the national competition each year. They begin building the new tractor after they finish at nationals. This makes the team very busy, since they are taking one tractor to competitions while they are building the new tractor.

The team took first place in the modified class at the Chandler Fair, August 25. They are planning to ride "wheelies" next to Ditch

Witch's Superwitch in the Perry Parade and they are hoping to ride in the OSU Homecoming Parade October 27.

The team has competed at the Kansas State Fair the past two years. They beat Kansas State's tractor both years and K-State was the reigning national champions each time.

The tractor doesn't need too much improvement to be the best, but the team is working on their people skills for this year's competition, according to Jake Holloway and Dustin Simmons, 2000-2001 co-directors.

Great things are expected this year with the team being directed by Jacob Hamburger and Levi Johnson.

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## Graduate accepts position

V. Sridhar, department graduate, recently was offered and accepted a post-doc position at the University of Washington. Sridhar and his wife left Oklahoma State September 20 to begin his new position in Washington.

Sridhar is a summer 2001 graduate with his doctorate degree in biosystems engineering. He was advised by Ron Elliott.

# Advisory committee holds meeting

The biosystems and agricultural engineering advisory committee met April 17-18 at Oklahoma State University to discuss departmental issues.

The group focused on topics in the area of academics. The committee met to discuss the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET) process and to evaluate and improve engineering education. Three small groups were formed to discuss the educational objectives for our undergraduate program. Following the group discussions, the committee held general discussion regarding changes in the curriculum, the option of a minor in business and suggestions for getting students exposed to contemporary issues.

The BAE assessment process currently incorporates five different assessment tools: se-

nior exit interviews, alumni survey, FE exam, senior design survey and core curriculum grades. The ABET assessment provides an indication whether educational outcomes are being achieved. The committee felt the results of the assessment were very positive and the students are well prepared for their careers.

The committee decided the educational objectives were good overall. Some members had suggestions for refinement. The group would like for the department to consider offering a business minor to the students. This would be helpful to those engineers who go into the management field. They would like to help the students become exposed to more contemporary issues as well. Some suggestions made were participation in national societies and organizations, hosting student exchanges

with other universities, and as much travel for the students as possible.

The committee members present at the meeting include: Cassie Eigenmann-Pierson, DICKEY-John Corporation; Tim Kraus, New Holland North America, Inc.; Rickey Heflin, Mobile Products, Inc.; Joe Greenlee, Charles Machine Works; Ron Morgan, Beef Master Cattle Company; Mitch Griffin, CH2MHill; Scott Henderson, US Army Corps of Engineers; Harold Springer, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture; and Otto Loewer, University of Arkansas. Faculty members participated in the two-day meeting as well.

This committee works hard to ensure the best for the department and is appreciated for their time and devotion.

## Student spends semester at sea

Shannon Parker, senior in biosystems and ag engineering, spent the entire spring semester of 2001 at sea.

Parker is a fifth year senior working to obtain a bachelor of science degree in biosystems engineering in the environment and natural resources option.

She learned of the opportunity to spend a semester at sea through a friend. She and her roommate signed up for the same semester and both were chosen last spring.

"I have always wanted to travel to other countries, and this seemed like an excellent way to learn about the people in those countries," said Parker.

Parker's semester began in Nassau, Bahamas January 15. The first official port the group came to was Havana, Cuba, where she enjoyed the people, architecture and the beaches.

After stopping in Salvador, Brazil, the group ventured to Cape Town, South Africa.

This was a busy stop for the students. Some of the highlights were Table Mountain, Kagga Kamma, Kirstenbosch and Seal Island.

A quick layover in Mombasa, Kenya was needed before making their way to the safaris. Parker went to Samburu where she saw many animals in the reserve.

Parker was also able to see the Taj Mahal in Agra, India. She spent time on the beaches in Penang, Malaysia.

After docking in Saigon, Vietnam, Parker headed north of Hanoi to spend a few days in a small village.

"The green rice fields are something I won't forget," said Parker.

After arriving in Beijing, the group went sight seeing to the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City.

The trip had many exciting times during the semester, however there were some tense times as well. The US/China spy plane inci-

dent started one day before the group arrived in China.

The students sailed to Osaka, Japan after spending two days in Shanghai. Parker spent 2 days on a home-stay with a Japanese family.

After these 5 busy months, the group arrived in Seattle, Wash.

"It was a great trip and I would love to visit any and all of the countries again," said Parker. "It is hard to pick a favorite country, because I did such different things in each of the countries."

To qualify for a semester at sea opportunity, students must be an undergraduate and in good academic standing with their home institution. The application involves some paperwork, along with a written essay and a transcript. The earlier the application is sent in the better chance students have for the time they prefer to sail.

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### *letter from page 2*

We're clearly in the age of electronic communication. I'd appreciate feedback from you on the merits of utilizing one or more e-mail lists to share information with our alumni. For example, would you enjoy receiving brief good-news items related to our department? Would you like to be notified electronically of upcoming events on campus? When notice of an employment op-

portunity crosses our desk, would you like to hear about it? We can't provide anything approaching an individualized e-mail service, but it should be possible to maintain a list or two for specific purposes. You have to tell us whether there would be value in this. Please let me know your thoughts (via e-mail of course!). And in any case, please do send me your e-mail address so that we can have that

information for our records.

In closing, let me sincerely thank you for your interest in, and support of, the Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering Department at Oklahoma State University. The Department has a wonderful heritage and an exciting future. We invite you to join us in that journey and to share your insights and suggestions. Best wishes to each of you, and please be sure to stay in touch.

# BAE student earns Houran scholarship

Mary Crawford, food and bioprocessing junior, is the recipient of the \$2500 Gordon Houran Food Engineering Scholarship. She will receive a \$500 travel grant in addition to the scholarship. This grant will be used to attend the Worldwide Food Expo 2001 in Chicago, Ill. Mary will attend the expo October 18-21.

To qualify for this scholarship, applicants must be classified as a sophomore or junior in engineering, scholastically outstanding,

have a well-rounded personality and have a demonstrated intent to pursue a career in the food industry. An anonymous jury selected Mary for this scholarship.

"I am very excited about receiving this scholarship. I have always wanted to work in a field where I can make a contribution to society", said Crawford.

Mary is currently serving as the 2001-2002 secretary in the student branch of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers

(ASAE). She is also involved in Iota Kappa, where she is serving as the community service chair, the Student Government Association Senate, the National Women's Fraternity and Alpha Epsilon.

She is uncertain of her plans after graduation. She would like to work in a field where she can create and produce new food products or continue her education and earn her master's degree.

## Noyes leads study abroad course in Turkey

Ron Noyes, professor in biosystems and ag engineering, led an agricultural, cultural and humanities course through western Turkey May 14-30.

Dan Tilley and Marcia Tilley, professors in agricultural economics, also participated in leading the course, agricultural economics 4803. The course focused on Turkish agriculture and cultural comparisons of modern Turkey and historic Turkey.

The key events on the program were a visit to Kemal KANTAR Ithalt Paz Company, Ltd., Turkish distributor for GSI Grain Storage Equipment in Istanbul; a meeting with Russ Nicely, agricultural attache for the U. S. Embassy; a meeting with the minister



of culture; the Turkish President's Symphony concert; a meeting with agricultural students from the Ankara University; a tour of the moonscape-like terrain of Cappadocia; a visit

to the Kistak Citrus Farm in Tarsus; a tour of the Konya Commodity Exchange (KCE); a visit to the ancient Roman city ruins at Side; a tour of St. Mary's home in the mountains above the ruins of Ephesus; a tour of the ruins of Troy; and crossing the Dardanelle Strait by ferry.

## Noyes honored

Ron Noyes was presented the Sarkey's Distinguished Professor Award in honor of Elmo Baumann. Sam Curl, dean and director of DASNR, presented Noyes the award at the fall faculty meeting.

## BAE welcomes new faculty and staff

**Roshani Jayasekara**  
**Rhonda Ladd**  
**Kim Lewis**  
**Jana Moore**  
**Pius Ndegwa**  
**Terri Qualls**

**Research Engineer**  
**Sr. Financial Assistant**  
**Research Engineer**  
**Sr. Secretary**  
**Assistant Researcher**  
**Word Processing Tech.**

## and says farewell to

**Andrea Chaney**  
**Shelley Hollrah**  
**Shelly Jobe**  
**Hope Nickles**

**Sr. Secretary**  
**Word Processing Oper.**  
**Sr. Financial Assistant**  
**Word Processing Tech.**

# 2001 Scholarship Recipients

## Incoming Students

Matthew Toews	W. B. Johnston Grain Company	1500
Kenrick Veit	Oklahoma Grain and Feed Association	1000
Robert Gouveia	David Batchelder	300
Melinda Drinnen	BAE Development Fund Scholarship	1000
Tyler McDonald	BAE Development Fund Scholarship	1000
Rachel Oller	BAE Development Fund Scholarship	1000
Kevin Cole	BAE Development Fund Scholarship	1000
Sarah Rose	BAE Development Fund Scholarship	1000
Matthew Engelman	BAE Development Fund Scholarship	1000
TOTAL		\$8800

## Continuing Students

Mary Crawford	Leon Crain Memorial	1500
Autumn Hood	Okla. Municipal Power Authority	1500
Elizabeth Willoughby	Okla. Association of Electric Cooperatives	1500
Jacob Hamburger	Jay G. Porterfield	1500
Laura Kennedy	Glen Morgan Memorial	1500
Chad Fisher	Lawrence O. Roth	1000
Candice Johnson	E. W. Schroeder	1000
Jake Holloway	McKay Brothers	1000
TOTAL		\$10,500

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## Congratulations

Several congratulations are in order in the department.

Brandon Claborn, 1996 B.S and 1998 M.S. graduate, and his wife Kym welcomed their baby girl, Kenlee Beth, into the world March 8.

Michael Buser, 1997 biosystems engineering graduate, and his wife Susie, former department staff member, announced the birth of their daughter, Kaleigh Michael, April 10.

John Solie, professor in biosystems and ag engineering, and his wife Lou, welcomed their first grandchild into the world June 23. Parents of Seth are Amanda and Caleb Stone.

Derek Whitelock, 1997 Ph. D. graduate announced the birth of his daughter, Matilda Grace, August 4.

Doug Enns, Applications Engineer, and his wife Stacia are the proud parents of Carly Alexandra. Carly was born August 29.

Christal Compston, 2001 biosystems engineering graduate, and Brett Whaley, were married May 26.

Sheila Youngblood, 1999 bachelor of science graduate, and Aric Myers were joined in marriage July 7.

Kim Lewis, research engineer and 1998 B. S. graduate, and Bobby Hornbuckle will be married Sept. 29.

# Meet the Faculty

## Biomechanical and Mechanized Agriculture



**John Solie**  
Professor



**Harry Field**  
Associate Professor



**Paul Weckler**  
Assistant Professor

John Solie, professor, teaches the second course in machine design as well as team teaching the precision agriculture course. His research efforts are concentrated in developing optical sensor based variable fertilizer and herbicide applicator machines and production systems. Solie is also serving as the senior adviser for the 2001-2002 student branch of ASAE.

Harry Field, associate professor, is part of the biomechanical group and spends the majority of his time teaching mechanized agriculture classes. The mechanized agriculture classes are service classes for other departments within the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology. In addition, Field provides technical workshops for secondary agricultural education instructors, directs the biosystems division of the OSU Interscholastics and provides assistance to extension and 4-H in the areas of agricultural safety and power and machinery.

Paul Weckler, assistant professor, is concentrating his research on the area of optical sensors, airborne remote sensing, automated control systems and other sensor/instrumentation applications. A current project includes the development of a digital imaging system to collect spectral bandpass imagery on biological materials. Weckler is also serving as the junior adviser for the 2001-2002 student branch of ASAE.

### Several initiated into Sigma Xi

Several members of the department of biosystems and agricultural engineering were initiated into Oklahoma State University's 101st Chapter of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society, March 22, 2001.

Those initiated as full members were Jerry Lalman, Kala Pandit and Jeyam Subbiah. Associate members included Sherry Britton, Shekar Patel, V. Rao Sridhar and John Tyner.

### A CORRECTION ...

The spring edition of *BAE Update* reported only seven cooperative extension faculty in biosystems and agricultural engineering.



Doug Hamilton, extension waste management specialist, was inadvertently left off the list. Hamilton earned his bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering at the University of Arkansas, his master's degree in agricultural engineering at Iowa State University and received his Ph. D from Pennsylvania State University in agricultural engineering.

He specializes in managing waste to reduce nonpoint source pollution, designing agricultural waste treatment systems and odor control for animal agriculture.

We apologize for this omission.

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# Alumni Success Stories

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## David Elkins 1984

David Elkins graduated from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor of science degree in agricultural engineering in 1984. David was involved in Engineering Student Council during his years at OSU.

David has worked for Aero Commander and Northrup Grumman, and is currently employed by Boeing Aerospace in Wichita, Kan. His job with Boeing consists of structural engineering, heavy maintenance and modifying aircrafts.

David enjoys landscaping and remodeling. He and his wife live in Wichita with their two daughters, Jordan, 11 and Shane, 8.

## Brian Haggard 2000

Brian Haggard graduated from Oklahoma State University with his Ph. D. in biosystems and ag engineering in 2000. He was recently awarded the outstanding thesis/dissertation award in the social science/engineering category by the Oklahoma State University College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

Currently, Haggard is working for USDA Agricultural Research Service in Fayetteville, Ark.

## Ken Fisher 1995

Daniel K. "Ken" Fisher graduated from Oklahoma State with a degree in biosystems engineering.

He recently moved from California to Stoneville, Miss. He is working in the Application and Production Technology Research Unit of the USDA Agricultural Research Service.

His position was created to address some of the issues facing irrigated agriculture in the Mississippi Delta, and to establish guidelines for efficient irrigation of cotton.

Ken lives in Greenville, Miss. with his wife Andrea and their two sons, David, second grade, and Michael, first grade.

## Gary Reeves 1976

Gary Reeves graduated with a bachelor of science degree in agricultural engineering from Oklahoma State University in 1976. While working on his degree, Gary was involved in Delta Tau Delta fraternity and intramural sports. He also worked in the agricultural engineering lab.

Gary worked for John Deere in Des Moines, Iowa for 13 years and is currently employed by Donaldson Company, Inc. where he is the manager for Advanced Manufacturing Technology. As manager, Gary provides engineering support for new product introduction, new process development and plant support for Donaldson manufacturing operations.

In his spare time, he enjoys home projects, playing golf, personal computers and traveling internationally. Gary has traveled to Canada, England, Wales, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, South Africa, Japan and Mexico. Gary lives in Minneapolis, Minn. with his wife, Lynn and their two sons.

## Paul W. Helberg 1970

Paul W. Helberg graduated from Oklahoma State University with his bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering in 1970 and finished his master's program in 1971.

Paul began his career as an engineer consultant for Miller-Newell Engineers Ltd. He is currently an investment representative for Edward D. Jones and Company in Malvern, Ark. His job requires him to give comprehensive investment advice to individual investors. Paul has also raised wheat and cattle for the last 10 years.

During the past five years, Paul has traveled to Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Denmark, Russia and the Caribbean. He enjoys deer hunting in his spare time. Paul and his wife Betty live in Malvern, Ark. and have three children, Scott, 32, John, 30 and Becky, 29.

Paul's eldest son Scott is also a graduate of Oklahoma State University with a degree in ag engineering.

## Seaborn Carter 1997

Seaborn Carter earned his bachelor of science degree from Oklahoma State University in biosystems engineering in 1997. Seaborn completed his master's degree at the University of Kentucky in 2000. He is currently teaching courses at Florida A&M University while completing his Ph. D in chemical engineering at Florida State University in Tallahassee. He is one of three faculty in the biological and agricultural systems engineering program at Florida A&M trying to get an accredited ABET engineering program. Seaborn lives in Florida with his wife and 3-year-old daughter.

## Richard Peralta 1979

Richard Peralta received his Ph. D. in agricultural engineering in 1979. Upon completing his degree at OSU, Richard became an assistant professor at the University of Arkansas, where he conducted research in drainage and conjunctive water management.

He is currently a professor in the department of biological and irrigation engineering at Utah State University and is a bioenvironmental engineer for the Air Force Pentagon. At USU, Richard teaches and researches in groundwater systems engineering. His job for the Air Force consists of advising concerning environmental policy, negotiating with regulators, evaluating remediation designs and making recommendations. His career has sent him to North America, South America, Central America, Asia and Africa for consulting.

Richard lives in Hyde Park, Utah with his wife Ann. They have four children, Lydia, Samantha, Nancy and Hugh.

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## Keep us informed

We want to hear your success stories. Please send it to BAE Update, Department of Biosystems and Ag Engineering, Oklahoma State University, 111 Ag Hall, Stillwater, OK 74078. Or you can send an email to [btessma@okstate.edu](mailto:btessma@okstate.edu).

## We Want To Know About You. . .

Return this form to *BAE Update*,  
111 Ag Hall, Oklahoma State University,  
Stillwater, OK 74078-6016

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Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Title \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

What year did you get your Biosystems, Agricultural Engineering or MECAG degree(s)?

BS \_\_\_\_\_ MS \_\_\_\_\_ Ph.D. \_\_\_\_\_

## Your News Is Good News!

We would like to include you in our "Alumni Success Stories." If you want to participate, please send a letter (or e-mail) to us describing your career (where you work and what you do on a daily basis), as well as any personal information you want to share.

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## Engineer named to national council

Jason Vogel, research engineer and December 2001 Ph.D. candidate in the department of biosystems and ag engineering has been elected to serve a term as an alumni representative of the National Council of Mortar Board.

Mortar Board members from colleges and universities across the nation elected Vogel to this position at the 2001 national conference.

He will represent Mortar Board members on a national level and serve as a liaison to many national committees.

Jason has served as the senior adviser for the Achafoa Chapter of Mortar Board at Oklahoma State University since 1997. He was nominated by the student members of the chapter for the Mortar Board Outstanding Adviser Award in spring 2001. He also served as the national Mortar Board Technology chair

from 1999-2001, and was the founder and chair of the national advisers committee in 1999.

Vogel is a 1995 graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His bachelor of science degree is in biological systems engineering and he earned his master's degree in agricultural engineering in 1997 from Texas A&M.

Mortar Board is a national collegiate senior honor society with over 200 chapters and 200,000 members initiated nationwide. Students are chosen for outstanding scholarship, leadership and service to their school and community. The Achafoa Chapter of Mortar Board at Oklahoma State is recognized for its annual calendar sales, selection of the Top Ten Freshmen Women and for completing various service projects throughout the year.

## Haan honored at meeting

Tom Haan, former biosystems and ag engineering faculty, was recently honored at the ASAE 2001 Annual International Meeting.

The SW-21 Hydrology group decided to organize a mini-symposium honoring the career and celebrating the retirement of Tom Haan, Ph.D.

The title of the mini-symposium "Statistical Methods in Hydrology" was derived from Haan's book of the same name. The session and special proceedings were organized as a forum presentation of research on stochastic hydrology and in tribute to Haan's contribution to this field.

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<http://biosystems.okstate.edu>

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## Mark your calendar

Oct. 1-2	Fall Break	Oct. 31	Halloween
Oct. 6	Parents Weekend BAE Tailgate Party	Nov. 22-23	Thanksgiving Break
Oct. 11	SPREC Dedication	Dec. 10-14	Finals Week
Oct. 12	ASAE Oklahoma Section Meeting	Dec. 15	Commencement
Oct. 17	CASNR Career Fair	Dec. 17-28	Winter Intersession
Oct. 26	Homecoming Walk-around	Jan. 14	Spring Semester Begins
Oct. 27	Homecoming OSU vs. Colorado	Jan. 21	Student Holiday
		Jan. 30	Internship Fair
		Mar. 18-22	Spring Break

*BAE Update* is published each semester. It informs alumni and friends of the activities in the department of biosystems and agricultural engineering.

We invite you to submit questions, comments, articles, ideas, etc. to:

### *BAE Update*

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