

with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, Calif., was responsible for the development and launch in February 1999 of the Stardust mission. This mission is the fourth in NASA's Discovery series, following the Lunar Prospector, the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR), and Mars Pathfinder. Atkins joined Stardust in 1995 with 40 years of technical and management expertise gained from 10 years as a pilot and missile crew commander in the U.S. Air Force and 29 years at JPL in various technical activities.

His career with JPL began with assignments in advanced propulsion and in mission analysis related to asteroids and comets. He



*Kenneth Atkins (left) receives a 1999 Distinguished Alumnus Award from outgoing department head Wayne Solomon.*

later moved to manage the JPL Power Systems section, "where the focus was on the successful delivery of the Galileo and Cassini electric power subsystems." In June 1993, he managed the Flight Command and Data Systems section, which delivered the Cassini command and data subsystem and developed flight software for the Galileo mission and flight operations for Voyager, Galileo, and Mars Observer. In June 1994, his management responsibilities shifted to include the full spectrum of avionic equipment. "A key challenge was the team's integrated avionics

development for the very successful Mars Pathfinder mission," says Atkins.

**Eugene G. Hill, '57**, has been employed since September 1996 as the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) national resource specialist for flight environmental icing. In this role, he serves as a national and international expert and consultant in the field of aircraft ice protection as it applies to certification requirements, policy, and research. Hill also defines, evaluates, and recommends any ice protection concepts, systems, products, and techniques that may alleviate this problem.

Before joining the FAA, he worked for Boeing from 1959 to 1996 in aerodynamics engineering, with 18 of those years as manager. His assignments included certification of the Boeing 707, 720, 727, 737, and 767 models to airworthiness requirements, and he was responsible for the aerodynamic configuration design and performance of the latest 737 family of air transports. He became involved in aircraft de-icing and anti-icing issues in the late 1980s and early 1990s. He has worked closely with European airlines on researching and testing the aerodynamic effects of thickened anti-icing fluids and introduced improved formulations of these fluids to North America. Hill, who was not able to attend the banquet because of several commitments, thanked AAE "for the highly professional research performed by (Mike Bragg), other faculty, and students . . . . Your performance has established the department as a highly respected, capable, and reliable source of research in this area by the FAA and NASA."

## OUTSTANDING RECENT ALUMNA AWARD

Given to recent graduates who have distinguished themselves

early in their careers. The first award was given in 1973.

**1998**

**Shirley J. Dyke, '91**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., where she teaches courses in structural dynamics and engineering design. While working towards her doctorate at the University of Notre Dame, she supervised several undergraduate research assistants under a National Science Foundation program, advising them on various projects relating to the analysis, design, and laboratory implementation of structural control systems. In 1997, Dyke was a visiting researcher to both the University of Pavia, Italy, and Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia. Her other honors include an invited short-term fellowship with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and the National Science Foundation's CAREER Award, both in 1998. She



*Shirley Dyke receives the 1998 Outstanding Recent Alumna Award from AAE Professor Lawrence Bergman.*

is a member of several committees in the American Society of Civil Engineers. (See related story, Class Notes, 1990s.)

**1999**

**Catherine A. Koerner** (née Larson), '87, MS '89, was recently promoted to propulsion systems group leader for space shuttle activities at Johnson Space Center (JSC), Houston, Tex. As such, she is responsible for the organization,

direction, and training of the 15-person propulsion systems group. Previously for eight years, she was a propulsion systems flight controller. Koerner is one of only three individuals nationwide who currently holds all six Space Shuttle propulsion systems flight control certifications. She has supported 37 flights as a certified flight controller (STS-44 through STS-95), four flights as the lead propulsion officer, and was rated "excellent" on flight director feedback. In December 1997, she received Hang the Plaque honors for STS-87. In 1996, she received the JSC Superior Achievement Award for STS-77, and she has also received several group achievement awards, most recently in April 1999.

## STUDENT AWARDS

### H. S. STILLWELL MEMORIAL AWARD

Two are presented annually for outstanding scholastic achievement and extracurricular activities.

#### 1998

During her time at Illinois, **Holly D. Bork**, a native of Piper City, Ill., was the undergraduate assistant of aquatics and head lifeguard at the Division of Campus Recreation. She helped manage the Aquatics Division and train the guarding staff of 80. She was also a swim instructor. Among other activities, she was treasurer for Sigma Gamma Tau, the aerospace honor society; secretary for the Society for Experimental Mechanics; a campus tour guide for the Engineering Information Bureau; a First Aid and CPR officer for Illini Emergency Medical Service; and director of ushering for the Krannert Center Student Association. She also worked for Volunteer Illini Projects. Bork's academic honors included several scholarships, Dean's List, and the Edmund

James Scholar honors program. Bork is now working for Boeing in Seattle after graduating in May 1998.

**Kelly J. Sinnock** of Quincy, Ill., received a bachelor's in AAE from the University of Illinois in May 1998 and a bachelor's degree in physics with a minor in math from Western Illinois University in summer 1998. While studying at UIUC, she worked as a student researcher for Michael Selig, analyzing airfoils for low-speed airfoil tests and performing drag-profile analyses of wind-tunnel data from airfoil tests. She was also in the cooperative education program, working for Rockwell International-Collins Avionics and Communications Division in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Sinnock is a



*Kelly Sinnock receives the 1998 Stillwell Memorial Award from Wayne Solomon.*

second lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, and is a licensed private pilot. She was a member of five campus honor societies and was active in intramural athletics and youth soccer. Since her graduation in May 1998, she has been working for Raytheon in Arizona.

#### 1999

**Pong Kwong Lee**, from Garland, Tex., pursued a double major in aeronautical and astronautical engineering and computer science. He was the 1998-99 president of the Illinois Alpha chapter of Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society, and served for a year, until



*Faculty member Philippe Geubelle presents the 1999 Stillwell Memorial Award to Pong Kwong Lee (right).*

May 1998, as the Sigma Gamma Tau (the national aerospace engineering honor society) representative to Engineering Council. Lee has received numerous scholarships, among them the Charles S. Pillsbury scholarship, the 1997 AIAA Foundation Undergraduate scholarship, the 1997 Illinois Society of Professional Engineers/M. E. Amstutz Memorial Award scholarship, the David and Mary Bloom scholarship, and the Fred E. Sweitzer scholarship. For the past four years he has been a James Scholar, on the National Dean's List since 1996, and on the Dean's List for six semesters. Lee graduated in May 1999 and is pursuing a graduate degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**Jason M. Merret** of Lake Forest, Ill., was the project leader and pilot for the 1998-99 radio-controlled Design/Build/Fly competition. He graduated in May 1999 and will continue for a master's degree in



*AAE professor John Prussing (right) congratulates Jason Merret as he receives the 1999 Stillwell Memorial Award.*

*continued on next page*

AAE. In 1998, he also received the department's Robert McCloy Memorial Award and the Andersen Consulting Outstanding Student Award.

## ROBERT W. McCLOY MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented annually to a junior or first-semester senior student for outstanding academic performance.

### 1998

**Jason M. Merret**, Lake Forest, Ill., was a research assistant for Professor Michael Bragg, where he tested seven-hole probe survey methods in the subsonic wind tunnel. He also completed research under Professor Kenneth Sivier on a new aircraft analysis program. Merret was the president of Sigma Gamma Tau in 1998–99 and was on the Dean's List. He was on the team of the 1997–98 Design/Build/Fly competition.

### 1999

**Jennifer M. Jones** of Cary, N.C., is a member of the Float'n Illini team, which designed a fluid physics experiment as part of NASA's Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities program (see article this issue). She is also a member of the control system group in Professor Scott White's human-powered hydrofoil design team. She has worked at NASA Johnson Space Center since 1997 as a cooperative education student. Jones is on the corporate



*Jennifer Jones receives the 1999 McCloy Memorial Award from John Prussing.*

programs and outreach committees of the Society of Women Engineers, has designed and moderated a science program for grade-school students, and updated the society's database of corporate contacts. She is also a James Scholar and on the Dean's List and was the 1999 AIAA Engineering Open House chairperson. During her time at the university, she has taken part in intramural softball and has won three intramural tennis championships. In April 1999, she received the College of Engineering Honeywell Award, which recognizes distinguished individual performance by a junior in the college. She maintains a 4.0 grade-point average.

## ROGER A. STREHLOW MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented annually to a graduate student for outstanding research accomplishment.

### 1998

**Ashok Gopalathnam**, of India, is pursuing a PhD degree under Michael Selig. He received a bachelor's of technology degree in aerospace engineering in 1989 and a master's in aerospace engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

Gopalathnam worked as a scientist and engineer for the National Aerospace Laboratories in Bangalore, India, while he was pursuing his master's and after his graduation. He was a coordinator of the design group of India's first all-composite light airplane. The prototype, named Hansa-2, flew a successful maiden flight in November 1993. He has been an instructor for the Illinois Aerospace Institute summer camp and is currently a research assistant for Selig to develop methods for inverse design of three-dimensional aerodynamic systems, including wings, wing-wing, and wing-body junctures. Gopalathnam is an



*1998 Strehlow Award winner Ashok Gopalathnam attends the banquet with his wife Godha.*

elected member of the AIAA Applied Aerodynamics Technical Committee. He holds a private pilot's license for single-engine light airplanes and gliders.

### 1999

The research of **Philippe Giguère**, of Québec, Canada, focuses on low-speed aerodynamics, wind energy, and genetic algorithms. For his doctorate, he is developing a method to optimize blade geometry for the design of horizontal-axis wind turbine rotors. Giguère earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering with an aeronautical engineering option from McGill University, Montréal, Québec, in 1992. He earned a one-year degree in education and a master's in mechanical engineering from Université Laval, Québec City, in 1994. He was the recipient for two years of the Mavis Scholarship Award, given by the University of Illinois College of Engineering to graduate students who have the potential to become future engineering professors. He has been involved in Professor Michael Selig's low-speed airfoil tests for four years; his main responsibilities were in developing the correction method to account for wall effects and testing airfoils

for wind turbine applications. Giguère has coauthored three books documenting these wind-tunnel tests. He has twice taught classes and led labs for the Illinois Aerospace Institute, AAE's one-week summer program for high-school students interested in aeronautics and astronautics. As a graduate research assistant from 1994–98, Giguère worked on a subcontract to advance the aerodynamic design of horizontal-axis wind turbine blades sponsored by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colo. In 1997–98, he designed the blades of a new wind turbine for the WindLite Company of Mountain View, Calif., and was part of a team that performed a critical analysis of wind turbine technology for Caterpillar. Since January 1999, Giguère has been a consultant for Zond Energy Systems, Tehachapi, Calif., and is developing a course in his research area on the World Wide Web as part of a subcontract from NREL. He plans to defend his dissertation in fall 1999.

## DALE S. MARGERUM MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented annually to the AAE undergraduate who exemplifies outstanding leadership qualities by participating in departmental extracurricular activities.

### 1998

**Jeffrey A. Scott** of Lake in the Hills, Ill., is a master's candidate in AAE, where he is working to develop a reconfigurable flight simulator to study aircraft icing and safety systems. From 1997–98, he was an undergraduate research assistant for Professor Wayne Solomon and Professor Michael Selig, testing a hybrid rocket engine and analyzing drag characteristics of low-speed airfoils. He held an internship position at the NASA Langley Research Center during the summer of 1997. Scott is

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NAMES NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Loren R. Taylor is the new president and chief executive officer of the University of Illinois Alumni Association. He succeeds Louis Liay, who retired on May 31, 1998, after 36 years in alumni relations at the university.

Since 1993, Taylor had served as the associate vice president and executive director of the University of South Florida Alumni Association in Tampa. The 44-year-old native of Lawrence, Kans., says he welcomes his return to the Midwest and is enthusiastic about joining Illinois.

Before serving at the University of South Florida, Taylor was executive director of alumni programs for two years for the College Park Alumni Association at the University of Maryland. He also spent six years at the University of Kansas Alumni Association, where he served as director of alumni chapters and student programs and as director of external affairs and membership development.

Taylor has a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's in communications studies from the University of Kansas, Lawrence. —information courtesy of *Illinois Alumni*, July/August 1998



*Loren Taylor, president and chief executive officer of the U of I Alumni Association.*

a member of the Golden Key national honor society and Sigma Gamma Tau. He has been an officer in the local Sigma Gamma Tau chapter for the past two years, where he began an online career service for students and recruiters. During two years of undergraduate work at UIUC, he was on the College of Engineering's Dean's List three times and the National Dean's List in 1998. Scott also appeared in *Who's Who Among American Junior College Students* in 1996.

### 1999

**Jeremy Norris** of Chicago, Ill., has been an undergraduate research assistant at the AAE Department since May 1998, where his duties include preparing test equipment and test simulation for the Electric Propulsion Research Group. In summer 1997, he worked at the Grainger Engineering Library as an assistant network analyst for the library's computers. In 1995 and 1996, Norris was a cooperative



*The 1998 Margerum Award is presented to Jeffrey Scott by faculty member John Prussing (right).*

education student at Delco Electronics, Kokomo, Ind., where he worked as an engineer in product design and manufacturing. He is the current president of the University of Illinois chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers and a member of the Association of Minority Students in Engineering and the Society of Women Engineers. He graduated in May 1999 and is now working for the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C.

## CLASS NOTES

### 1940s

**James Sutton**, '49, and his wife visited the campus in October 1998. He is now retired from Lockheed in California and lives near Lake Tahoe.

### 1950s

**Dwight Moberg**, '54, is touring the world after his retirement from TRW Inc. in 1997 as the program manager for MIRACL (Mid Infrared Advanced Chemical Laser). He and his wife June have taken 16 or more cruises, most recently a U of I alumni tour that cruised from Amsterdam to Budapest in 16 days via various canals that included 67 locks. Moberg says he has kept his running streak alive (he has been running about 5½ miles daily since October 5, 1979). His other activities include golfing, surfing the 'Net, watching his four grandchildren grow up, and watching the stock market go up and down.

**Helen** (née Kava), '50, and **Joe Zabinsky**, '49, MS '50, visited the Cook Islands and French Polynesia recently with the Elderhostel program. Helen Zabinsky was the first woman to graduate from the AAE program.

### 1960s

**Edward J. Ford**, '62, is director of Special Programs/New Business Development at the Aerotherm Corporation in Mountain View, Calif. He retired from Lockheed Martin in August 1998 after 32 years.

**Phil Hinrichs**, '69, MS '72, continues to work for the state of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. He is currently the "air czar" of southwestern Ohio. Outside of work, Hinrichs and his bicycle are inseparable: he has cycled both the north and south

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### LESLIE M. CORLEY, '69

Like many an undergraduate who chooses aeronautical and astronautical engineering, Leslie Corley wanted to be an astronaut. If not that, then to be a U.S. Air Force pilot. But he didn't have 20/20 vision. The Edmund James scholar chose instead to add the perspective of "finance and investment engineering" to his résumé—he applied to enter Harvard Business School right after his graduation from the University of Illinois. Instead of flying high in space, Corley, originally of Chicago and now of Palm Beach, Fla., has been flying high as president and chief executive officer of LM Capital Corp., where he is in the merchant banking business, buying and selling companies and securities.

In the mid-1960s when he was an AAE undergraduate, Corley remembers being the only black student in the Edmund James honors program. He graduated with high honors and was immediately accepted into Harvard on a fellowship. "I was one of the few people admitted to Harvard MBA straight from college," says Corley. This admission was unusual because "Most admissions have three to seven years of experience before being accepted."

After graduating from Harvard in 1971, he went to work for Fidelity Investments in Boston, as "1 of 20 (investment research) analysts supporting over a dozen mutual fund managers." He refined his business skills under the tutelage of Peter Lynch, the financial wizard who powered Fidelity Magellan to the forefront as one of the most successful mutual funds in the 1980s. Lynch "was the metals and mining analyst when I joined the firm," said Corley. "He preceded me by about three years and soon became the director of research, and hence, my boss. He was . . . very pragmatic and thorough, and a strong believer in the value of fundamental research, the detailed analysis of a company's management, markets, competitors, and earnings prospects."

Corley left Fidelity in 1977 to join Norton Simon, Inc., of New York City, where he was instrumental in the acquisition of the rental car company, Avis. He later became a partner at Kelso & Co., where he personally directed 11 acquisitions and leveraged buyouts valued at over \$1.5 billion. In 1988, he decided to strike out on his own. He established LM Capital, based in West Palm Beach, Fla., becoming its sole shareholder. In 1995, his company, with its controlling interest in Convenience Corp. of America (CCA), acquired 146 Midwestern 7-Eleven convenience stores. This deal

**Hassan Ahmad Hassan**, MS '53, PhD '56, is the 1999 recipient of the AIAA's Thermophysics Award, which is presented for an outstanding singular or sustained technical or scientific contribution by an individual in that field. Thermophysics involves the study of thermal energy transfer and the environment's effects on such transfers. The award was presented to Hassan at the AIAA Thermophysics Conference in Norfolk, Va., in June 1999. He is a professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering at North Carolina State University, Raleigh. Hassan says that he is proud of the fact that he was one of the first to receive a doctorate from AAE.



*Hassan Ahmad Hassan*