Welcome From the Director

Another school year has begun and I would like to mention a few things that didn't make this newsletter, but we are very excited about anyways! CBME enrollments are at an all-time high, meaning more Chemical Engineers going out into the world. Our student quality is still extraordinarily high; as one measure of this quality, one out of every seven of our students is a National Merit Scholar. Our Unit Operations lab upgrade is coming along fine; in the next newsletter we will bring you up-to-date on how our lab is being transformed by the generous gift from Jim Gallogly and his family. We highlight one student award winner below but there are many others that should be mentioned. Last May, Jennifer Carmichael was selected as the Outstanding Senior Woman on Campus, Isaac Hill was one of ten juniors selected as "Big Man on Campus" and Darius Aruho was selected for one of eight Regents Awards for Outstanding Juniors. You can read more about these fine students and other award winners on our Facebook page (if you haven't yet liked our page, we would very much appreciate if you did so in order to keep up with happenings in CBME).
Finally, and most importantly, please feel free at anytime to drop me a line at bpgrady@ou.edu.

Bree Cooper
Awarded Nicholas Chopey Scholarship

Late this summer, the Southwest Chemical Association named Bree Cooper the awardee of the Nicholas Chopey Scholarship at its annual Scholarship Luncheon in Houston. The CBME junior was the recipient of $4,000 for her essay explaining where she thinks she could make the greatest impact in the engineering industry and why her contributions would be important to the industry itself.

Cooper describes herself as being, “from one of those small towns where you know everyone…it has a population of about 1,600 and I graduated with about 50 other kids.” Her interest in STEM was ironically encouraged by a lack of upper-level math and science courses in her high school. Feeling that she was missing out on a bigger understanding of the world, she chose to attend the Oklahoma School of Science and Math’s satellite campus her senior year of high school in order to take the more challenging classes.

Read more.

Introducing Keisha Walters to the CBME team

The School of Chemical, Biological and Materials Engineering welcomed its newest member, Keisha Walters, to the
faculty starting this fall. The South Carolina native, the first of her family to graduate from college, grew up near Greenville and graduated with her B.S. degree from Clemson University. For a few years, she worked in industry as a chemist in the area of polymer additives alongside other chemists and chemical engineers in research and development labs and pilot plants before deciding to return to Clemson to complete her graduate degree.

Walters originally intended to study for her master's degree, but discovered she had "a passion for creative, open-ended research and innovation." She chose instead to get her doctorate in chemical engineering because "it was interesting, combined my interest in chemistry and polymer materials, was challenging, and would allow me to work in a large number of different fields." She intended to return to industry once completing her Ph.D. but instead found herself considering academia, joining the faculty in the Swalm School of Chemical Engineering at Mississippi State University and serving from 2005-2016 as the director of PolySEL: Polymer Science and Engineering Laboratory. Read more.

Daniel Resasco Named Inaugural Gallogly Chair

It is the great pleasure and honor of the School of Chemical, Biological and Materials Engineering to announce that Dr. Daniel Resasco was named the Inaugural Gallogly Chair of the Gallogly College of Engineering this September, pending Regents’ approval in October. Resasco has served as a member of the CBME faculty since August of 1993 and currently holds the titles of the Douglas and Hilda Bourne Chair and the George Lynn Cross Professor of Engineering.

His list of achievements include but are not limited to more than 40 patents
(the greatest number in the GCoE), more than 250 publications and an average of nearly $1 million per year in research funding for the past five years. He has served on the executive committee for the International Congress on Catalysis and as the associate editor of the Journal of Catalysis since 2001. He worked as the senior scientist at Sun Company, Inc., and is the founder of SouthWest Nanotechnologies, Inc. Read more.