CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

2014

HALL OF FAME

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
AHMAD ADEL AL-KHATIB (EE 1983)  
Founder & CEO, SIGMAnet

DANIEL MAN-CHUNG CHENG (IE 1981)  
Managing Director, Dunwell Enviro-Tech (Holdings) Limited

MARTIN J. COLOMBATTO (ET 1982)  
Independent Consultant  
Director of the Board, ClariPhy Communications  
Luxtera Corporation, and PLX Technology

RICHARD A. CROXALL (ME 1963)  
Vice President & Chief Engineer (Ret.), Northrop Grumman Corp.

NATO FLORES (ME 1979)  
President & Majority Owner, Tower General Contractors

LAWRENCE M. GATES (CE 1987)  
President, DRC Engineering Inc.

VIRGINIA GREBBIEN (CE 1986)  
President, Parsons Environment & Infrastructure

PETER HADINGER (EE 1981)  
President, Inmarsat Inc.

EDDY W. HARTENSTEIN (ARO 1972)  
Publisher & CEO, Los Angeles Times

DARCEL L. HULSE (ME 1970)  
President & CEO (Ret.), Sempra LNG

BRIAN JARAMILLO (ET 1987)  
President, Tilden-Coil Constructors Inc.

BOB KALLENBAUGH (CE 1974)  
CEO, RBF Consulting

JACK H. KULP (ME 1963)  
President, TrafFix Devices Inc.

LYNNE LACHENMYER (CHE 1980)  
Senior Vice President, ExxonMobil Chemical Company

RICK MORROW (CHE 1972)  
Senior Vice President, Gas Operations & System Integrity  
Southern California Gas Company  
San Diego Gas & Electric

DR. CORDELIA ONTIVEROS (CHE 1978)  
Associate Dean for Academic Programs & Student Services  
Cal Poly Pomona, College of Engineering

REBECCA RITT RHOADS (EE 1980 & MSEE 1986)  
President, Global Business Services, and  
Chief Information Officer, Raytheon Company

JOSEPH M. RIVERA (CE 1973)  
Director, Gas Engineering, Southern California Gas Company

GERRY SALONTAI (CE 1977)  
President, CEO & Chairman (Ret.), Kleinfelder Inc.

MARK A. STEVENS (ME 1975)  
Senior Vice President, Corporate Risk, Fluor Corporation

THOMAS VOS (EE 1964)  
Vice President & General Manager (Ret.), Hewlett-Packard

JAMES R. WILLIAMSON (EE 1982)  
Vice President, Technology Standards (Ret.), Sony Electronics and Member of Iggy and The Stooges

HALL OF FAME 2014 INDuctees
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014

PROGRAM

Reception
Cal Poly Pomona Jazz Ensemble

Welcome
Dr. Mahyar Amouzegar, Dean
College of Engineering

Co-Masters of Ceremonies
Leslie Livesay, Director
Engineering and Science Directorate NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Dr. J. Michael Ortiz, President
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Remarks from Dignitaries

Dinner
Cal Poly Pomona String Ensemble

Induction Ceremony

Closing Remarks
Dr. J. Michael Ortiz
Dr. Mahyar Amouzegar

Hall of Fame Class of 2014
Group Photo

Adjourn
February 19, 2014

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the College of Engineering, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Hall of Fame inductees.

The establishment of a Hall of Fame is a central element of the College of Engineering’s long-term vision for addressing the grand engineering challenges of the twenty-first century. In preparing our students to earn leadership roles in the global marketplace, we feel that it is imperative that they be afforded the inspiration and empowerment that comes from knowing the stories of their eminent predecessors.

Tonight’s inductees were selected by a distinguished committee of academics, corporate officers, and university administrators, and their task was, to be sure, a formidable one — identifying the most accomplished College of Engineering alumni from among the twenty-five thousand engineers who have gone on to make their marks in the community and the global marketplace over the past 55 years.

Particularly essential to any viable long-term vision for addressing the challenges of our times is to entice as many talented people as possible to pursue careers in engineering and science. It is with great reverence that we induct four women into the Hall of Fame tonight. Their accomplishments will serve as invaluable testimony to future generations of young women that there is room for them at the highest echelons of the engineering profession.

Though tonight’s inductees hail from a very diverse range of fields and disciplines, each inductee has created a legacy of truly inspired leadership coupled with exceptional contributions to industry and society. The College of Engineering takes immense pride in each of tonight’s inductees and the distinction that each brings to our program and the Learn by Doing philosophy. Their extraordinary careers will henceforth serve as testimony that our students may lay rightful claim to the highest aspirations of the engineering profession in the twenty-first century.

Congratulations to all the inductees and their families and friends.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mahyar Amouzegar, Dean
College of Engineering
February 19, 2014

Dear Inductees and Guests,

During our 75th anniversary year, it is appropriate to reflect on the people who have helped make Cal Poly Pomona and this community such a special place. Tonight, we will honor some of our most notable alumni as the College of Engineering inducts 22 members into its Hall of Fame. This is truly an elite group, given the college has graduated over twenty-five thousand successful engineers in its 55-year history.

Cal Poly Pomona takes great pride in its outstanding alumni, and the inaugural Hall of Fame class of 2014 represents some of our best graduates who have demonstrated leadership, innovation, and creativity in their diverse and exciting careers. Each inductee helps to showcase the college’s rich history of Learn by Doing, which blends theory and practice and prepares students to succeed in industry and beyond.

It is a rare event to honor so many accomplished alumni at one time, and tomorrow will be a truly unique opportunity as your stories of success are shared on a larger stage, gracing the engineering halls for thousands of students to see and be inspired by as they travel on their own path to success.

Congratulations on your achievements and thank you for contributing to the impressive legacy of the College of Engineering.

Sincerely,

J. Michael Ortiz, Ph.D.
President
February 4, 2014

Dear Inductees and Guests:

It is a remarkable moment in the history of a college when it comes to a point in time to celebrate its anniversary and at the same time honor the legacy of some of its finest alumni. I am pleased to share in this celebration of the inaugural Engineering Hall of Fame ceremony during the 75th anniversary of Cal Poly Pomona and the 55th anniversary of the College of Engineering. On behalf of the Office of the Chancellor, I offer congratulations to each of the Hall of Fame inductees.

Across the California State University system, Cal Poly Pomona serves as a center of excellence in undergraduate engineering education, producing graduates who make immediate and lasting contributions to society and the economy. Combined with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, this is the largest engineering program in the country and is of vital importance to the state as well as the nation’s economic growth.

As many of you know, a generation ago higher education was able to fulfill its mission of offering access to an affordable education that would lead to greater opportunity and prosperity. Today, the mission of the CSU has been threatened as public funding has decreased and student fees have increased. For this reason, I urge inductees to act as ambassadors for Cal Poly Pomona by sharing your success stories and the value of your education, and by helping to spread the message that the College of Engineering is worthy of investment and important for the future of California.

Congratulations to inductees on your personal and professional achievements. It is my hope that your membership in the College of Engineering Hall of Fame inspires others as they hear your stories.

Sincerely,

Ephraim P. Smith
Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer
The California State University
January 17, 2014

Dr. J. Michael Ortiz  
President  
Cal Poly Pomona

Dr. Mahyar Amouzegar, Dean  
College of Engineering  
Cal Poly Pomona

Dear President Ortiz and Dean Amouzegar:

Congratulations to you both on the 75th anniversary of Cal Poly Pomona and the 55th anniversary of the College of Engineering!

It has been my great pleasure over the past decade to partner with the faculty of the College and help secure federal resources to upgrade laboratory facilities and enhance hands-on-learning experience for your students.

It is especially gratifying that Cal Poly Pomona’s College of Engineering supports numerous outreach programs that are attracting more and more young people, especially those from low income and minority communities, into the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields. That broad support for students at the elementary and secondary school levels translates into significant numbers of graduating students who truly reflect the diversity that is our San Gabriel Valley. There is no engineering program in California that graduates more Hispanic engineers than Cal Poly Pomona, a fact to which I can point with great pride.

As we celebrate these achievements, we look forward to the critical role you will continue to play in our community and State. The engineers who have graduated and future graduates will continue to rebuild, maintain and enhance our water and transportation infrastructure and continue to grow our high-tech industries.

It has been a privilege to work Cal Poly Pomona and congratulations again on your 75th and 55th anniversaries!

Warm regards,

Grace F. Napolitano

Member of Congress (CA-32)
Ahmad Adel Al-Khatib is a native of Lebanon. He came to the United States to study at Cal Poly Pomona in 1980 at age 19, pursuing a bachelor’s degree in electrical and electronics engineering.

While pursuing a master’s degree in engineering and an M.B.A. at Cal Poly Pomona, Ahmad started working with a friend selling personal computers. In 1985, Ahmad met the dean of computer information systems at Mt. San Antonio College and was asked to teach a personal computer class. He designed the curriculum and taught DOS, WordStar, SuperCalc and dBASE II courses at the community college, teaching there until 1990.

“I loved teaching and interacting with my students,” Ahmad says. “Many of them were local businessmen and women who needed guidance in the practical applications of computers to improve their business processes. It was a pleasure to be able to train others with what I learned at Cal Poly Pomona.”

In 1986, Ahmad started his own business, offering computer networking and consulting services to small- and medium-size companies. Four years later, he incorporated the business as SIGMA.net Incorporated and now serves as its CEO. Today, SIGMA.net is one of the leading information and communication technology companies in California, offering consulting, solutions and services to medium and large companies, government agencies and educational institutions. The company has over 300 employees, with headquarters in Ontario, California, and offices in Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Jose.

SIGMA.net has been listed as one of the top 250 IT solution providers in North America by CRN. The company has partnered with manufacturers including Apple, Cisco, Dell, EMC, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Microsoft, NetAPP and VMware.

Ahmad and his wife, Mona, live in Chino Hills with their six children. His eldest daughter is currently a junior at Cal Poly Pomona, pursuing a degree in business administration and finance, and his second daughter will soon enroll at Cal Poly Pomona in the College of Engineering.
Daniel Man-Chung Cheng worked full-time while going to school and worked three jobs during the summers to support himself as he pursued a degree in industrial engineering at Cal Poly Pomona. After graduating, Daniel worked for several companies in Southern California before returning to his native country of Hong Kong, where he turned a VHS components company into the world’s largest videocassette stainless steel component supplier before moving on to serve as managing director of Dunwell Enviro-Tech (Holdings) Limited, a company that specializes in used oil recycling and wastewater treatment.

Under Daniel’s leadership, Dunwell’s advanced environmental technologies have been honored with awards including the 2006 Institution of Chemical Engineers Environment Award, the 2006 Bronze Prize from the Wall Street Journal Asia Asian Innovation Awards, the 2008 Hong Kong Awards for Industries Technological Achievement Grand Award, and the 2008 National Environmental Science and Technology Awards Silver Award from the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People’s Republic of China.

“Cal Poly Pomona’s industrial engineering program was perfect for preparing well-rounded engineers, as well as entrepreneurs like me, covering a wide engineering spectrum with practical hands-on training,” Daniel says.

Daniel received a Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Medal of Honor for his contribution to the local environmental industry. He’s the past winner of the Hong Kong Ten Outstanding Industrial Engineers Award, the Innovative Entrepreneur of 1996 award and The Young Industrialist Award of Hong Kong.

He serves as the deputy chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries and is a fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Engineers. He served as the founding president of the Hong Kong Environmental Industry Association and was appointed a non-official Justice of the Peace in Hong Kong.

Daniel was appointed by the government of Hong Kong to serve as a member of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the Hong Kong Productivity Council and the Vocation Training Council. He is also a member of the country’s Economic Development Commission, Energy Advisory Committee, Innovation and Technology Fund, and Trade and Industry Advisory Board.

Daniel received an Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) scholarship while studying at Cal Poly Pomona and started the IIE Hong Kong Chapter scholarship program in 1985 to help other engineering students. He served as the chapter’s president from 1988 to 1989 and as IIE’s Regional Vice President in 1992.

Daniel is married to his high school sweetheart, Jeannie, and together they have a daughter, Serena.
Martin Colombatto was born in 1958 to Joe and Joyce Colombatto. He credits his parents for instilling a strong work ethic at an early age and providing the structure and freedom that have enabled him to discover and cultivate his passions in life.

Marty enrolled at Cal Poly Pomona after spending a year at the University of Utah. That initial year of engineering school left him questioning his decision to pursue higher education, so he tried work as an electrician for a couple of years. Working through a couple of Utah winters, and the desire to continue his education, led him back to school. He was searching for an engineering school with a hands-on focus. When he discovered Cal Poly Pomona’s Learn by Doing philosophy, he was convinced he had found the perfect fit.

“It’s the way my brain is wired,” Marty says. “If I learned how to build a circuit in a book, I sort of got it, but if I had the chance to build and test the circuit in a lab, I really understood it.”

Marty graduated magna cum laude in 1982 with a degree in engineering technology. He credits a professor at Cal Poly Pomona for urging him to explore opportunities in the business of electronics. That advice served him well.

During his more than 30 year career in the semiconductor industry, Marty held positions in sales and marketing, general management, and eventually chief executive officer and chairman of the board with industry leaders including Texas Instruments, Reliance Electric A.G., LSI Logic Corporation, Broadcom Corporation and Staccato Communications.

Marty cites joining Broadcom Corporation as the seminal event in his career. He was employee No. 52 at the company, which developed the market for high-speed digital communications. Broadcom was one of the most successful IPOs in the late 1990s, was the fastest semiconductor company to reach $1 billion in sales and today remains the undisputed leader in its field. During his tenure as vice president and general manager of the networking division, Marty built the business from inception to over $400 million in revenue and oversaw the acquisition of over 20 companies.

Today, he serves as an independent consultant and on the board of directors for fabless semiconductor companies ClariPhy Communications in Irvine, Luxtera Corporation in Carlsbad and PLX Technology in Sunnyvale.

In 2012, the College of Engineering dedicated the Colombatto Family Laboratory in honor of Marty and his wife, Stefanie, who donated $100,000 to the college for new lab equipment. “I was really happy to do that given how much those labs contributed to my education,” he says. “Cal Poly Pomona gave so much to me.”

Marty and Stefanie reside in San Clemente with their children Nicolas, Christina and Marco.
Richard A. Croxall began his engineering career with a summer internship at Giannini Controls Corporation (later Conrac), where he worked as a development engineer in the advanced gyrocompass area. After graduating from Cal Poly Pomona with a degree in mechanical engineering, he was hired full-time at Giannini Controls as a project engineer. Two years later, he was recruited by TRW Systems Group (now Northrop Grumman Corporation), where his first assignment was as a responsible engineer for development of a guidance and control subsystem on a major space surveillance program. Dick was subsequently appointed head of the hardware development laboratory in the applied technology division of TRW.

“I was one of the few recent engineering grads who could work with the leading scientists and technologists of the time because of my practical solutions to their advanced technology concepts, mostly due to my broad Cal Poly Pomona engineering background,” Dick says. “I relied on that education for my entire career.”

Dick later served as program manager on several large space programs, director of mission system engineering, division general manager, vice president of mission assurance, and vice president and chief engineer in the TRW Space & Electronics Sector.

When TRW was acquired by Northrop Grumman in 2002, Dick was appointed sector vice president and chief engineer for the newly formed space systems sector. He also served as chairman of the Northrop Grumman Corporate Quality Council and Engineering Council. Over his 39 years with TRW and Northrop Grumman, Dick held leadership roles in six different divisions in eight different engineering and development disciplines. Among the honors he received as chief engineer were the NASA George M. Low Award for Space Quality and a Program Excellence Award from a classified customer for his work on national space systems.

Dick is also a graduate of the UCLA Anderson School of Management executive program. Following graduation from UCLA, Dick served on the Dean’s Council, providing an engineering perspective to the graduate business curriculum.

To help promote diversity in engineering schools, Dick was founding executive sponsor for the TRW/Northrop Grumman Women’s Network Group and the executive sponsor of Adelante, the TRW Hispanic Network and the Native American Caucus.

“I learned at Cal Poly Pomona the value of diversity in fostering creativity and innovation in a development environment and incorporated it throughout my career,” he says.

During his tenure as vice president and chief engineer, Dick worked closely with the top engineering programs nationwide to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education and hands-on engineering curriculum.

In addition to his corporate and industry achievements, Dick served his hometown of El Segundo as a member of the board of education, where he promoted STEM curriculum, as chairman of the Recreation & Parks Commission, and as representative to the Los Angeles International Airport Area Advisory Committee. He also coached youth and high school baseball.

Following retirement, Dick volunteered at the Petersen Automotive Museum, the Automobile Driving Museum and the Palos Verdes Concours. He owns several collector automobiles. Dick is currently a senior engineering consultant for the Aerospace Corporation.

“I truly believe that whatever successes I’ve had in my engineering career, and other areas where I have contributed, are due in large part to the Cal Poly Pomona hands-on Learn by Doing education philosophy,” he says.
As a high school student, Nato Flores planned to start a concrete construction company after graduating, doing the same work his father did, but an afterschool program at the Rockwell International Corporation plant in Downey changed his plans. The company was designing the space shuttle when Nato was taking his introduction to engineering class. He was awarded a $4,400 scholarship through the program, which he used to attend Cal Poly Pomona.

Despite his passion for mechanical engineering, Nato struggled in his first quarter at Cal Poly Pomona, the math curriculum a challenge for the student who had barely passed Algebra I and Algebra II in high school.

“I decided right then and there that I wanted to stay and finish, if for no better reason than my father would not have to explain to friends and family that his son had to drop out of college,” he says.

Success in college was achieved by following these five steps: recognize a problem that needs correcting, get organized, understand your environment, get help and go to experts when you need to.

After earning his mechanical engineering degree, Nato worked as a design engineer for Ameron International, where his responsibilities included design, fabrication, testing and curing of fiberglass-reinforced systems. While with the company, he was tasked with constructing a fiberglass pipe manufacturing plant in Saudi Arabia.

In 1985, Nato and fellow Cal Poly Pomona alumnus Bob Freeman started Tower General Contractors Incorporated, a Sun Valley company that specializes in projects for clients in the educational, healthcare/biomedical, entertainment, retail, industrial, government and defense industries. The company’s projects have included renovating Beverly Hills City Hall, renovating the Gibson Amphitheatre in Universal City, expanding the emergency facilities at Huntington Memorial Hospital, and renovating and seismically retrofitting the Theme Building at Los Angeles International Airport.

Tower General Contractors built the Columbia Memorial Space Shuttle Center in Downey, located on the site where Nato attended the Rockwell afterschool program.
As the son of a U.S. Air Force colonel, Lawrence M. Gates spent his childhood in many places including Germany, England, Hawaii and Texas before his family settled in Redlands during his junior high and high school years. After graduating in 1997 from Cal Poly Pomona with a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering, Larry worked for several engineering firms in Southern California, during which time he also completed his M.B.A from Pepperdine University's executive program. Then fulfilling a commitment he made to himself when he graduated from Cal Poly Pomona, Larry took a three-month sabbatical to backpack around the world. Energized and motivated upon returning from his trip, he founded DRC Engineering Incorporated in 1997 with fellow Cal Poly Pomona alumnus Warren Williams Jr.

DRC Engineering is an Anaheim Hills-based consulting, engineering and land-surveying firm. The company’s projects have included The District at Tustin Legacy, the Chino Spectrum Towne Center and the Burbank Empire Center. The firm is currently involved in several large projects including the expansion of the Azalea Shopping Center in Southgate and the Desert Hills Premium Outlets in Cabazon.

Since its inception in 1997, DRC Engineering has employed many graduates from Cal Poly Pomona’s civil engineering department, and currently supports future graduates by providing summer internships.

Larry credits his education from Cal Poly Pomona as one of the major keys to his success.

“My experience at Cal Poly Pomona was exceptional due to the great professors and the ability to learn both in the classroom and in the laboratories,” Larry says. “My confidence in the workplace came from the superior and practical education I received at Cal Poly Pomona, and I always felt better-prepared and that I was more knowledgeable than other engineers with degrees from competing universities throughout the country.”

Larry and his wife, Amy, have been generous patrons of the College of Engineering for many years, including endowing two scholarships (one in honor of his father and one in honor of a family friend), providing funding for the American Society of Civil Engineers concrete canoe and steel bridge competitive teams, sponsoring upgrades to the Infrastructure Design Laboratory, and making gifts to help upgrade the Hydraulics Laboratory and the Water Analysis Laboratory.

Larry serves as the chairman of the Dean’s Leadership Board for Cal Poly Pomona’s College of Engineering, is on the board of the Bourke Family Foundation, a charitable organization that delivers lights to impoverished schools in Africa, and is a member of the Orange County Chapter of the Young Presidents’ Organization. Larry is an avid world traveler, mountaineer and skier.
Virginia Grebbien joined Pasadena-based Parsons Corporation in 2008, serving as executive vice president and global business development manager of Parsons Water & Infrastructure Incorporated. She was later named president of the business unit, which is now part of Parsons Environment & Infrastructure (PE&I). PE&I provides customers with full-service engineering, construction and management services in environmental, water and sustainable energy infrastructure development.

“At Cal Poly Pomona I first encountered not only the Learn by Doing methodology but supportive and collaborative teams,” Virginia says. “I learned how to work in multidisciplinary teams solving real engineering problems that were consistent with issues I would face in the workforce. It was exciting to work in a team that valued all its members for what we brought to the table and I appreciated the culture at Cal Poly Pomona that encouraged and supported diverse teams.”

Prior to joining Parsons, Virginia held executive management positions at water management agencies in Southern California, including serving as manager of the Orange County Water District and the West Basin Municipal Water District. She also served as the western division director for MWH America Incorporated, a water and wastewater treatment, environmental engineering, sustainable construction, and construction management firm.
Peter Hadinger grew up in Southern California and knew he wanted to be an electrical engineer from the age of eight when he built his first tube radio. There was certainly something in the genes—Peter's father, Richard, worked at General Dynamics in Pomona and his mother, Beatrice, studied engineering and worked at an aerospace firm. They both encouraged his tinkering and gave him garage space for his “lab.” In high school he worked for a wholesale electronics distributor, recycling most of his earnings into test equipment and parts.

Peter was drawn to Cal Poly Pomona by its labs and hands-on nature. He worked part-time at General Dynamics on the standard missile program while earning his degree, designed a digital tracking receiver for his senior project and, in 1981, graduated early with a bachelor's degree in electrical and electronics engineering.

Hired by TRW Systems Group (now Northrop Grumman Corporation) in Redondo Beach, Peter designed the processing core of the MILSTAR satellite payload and quickly became manager of a department that developed complex analog and digital subsystems for government satellites. In 1992, he was asked to go to Washington, D.C. to develop the company’s technical relationship with key customers there.

After arriving in Washington, Peter was nominated for a Brookings Congressional Fellowship and served in the U.S. Senate as a legislative assistant in the 103rd Congress, focusing on technology, trade and budget matters. In 1996, Peter earned an M.B.A. with an emphasis in corporate finance from George Mason University.

In 2002, TRW was acquired by Northrop Grumman. There Peter directed programs and initiatives including advanced ISR and Satcom programs, air-space integration, and cyber, international and regulatory efforts. He served as the vice chairman of the Federal Communication Commission’s WRC-07 Advisory Committee, vice chairman of the Satellite Task Force for the U.S. President’s National Security Telecom Advisory Commission and chairman of the Satellite Industry Association. Peter currently serves on the advisory boards for the Bradley Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering and the Center for Space Science and Engineering at Virginia Tech. He holds multiple U.S. and international patents in communications.

Today, Peter is president of the U.S. government business unit of Inmarsat, the London-based owner and operator of global satellite networks that provide communication services to maritime, enterprise, government and aviation clients worldwide. He continues to invent communications solutions that solve difficult problems for national security.

Peter worked on animation controls for the university’s Rose Parade float during his time at Cal Poly Pomona, and it was there that he met his wife, Cheryl, a park administration major. They have five sons, raising three engineers thus far, including one who graduated from Cal Poly Pomona.

“From engineering labs to Rose Parade float labs, from love of engineering to the love of my life, I have always felt that Cal Poly Pomona is what made it all happen,” Peter says. “When you love to learn and love what you do, there is nothing better than Learning by Doing.”
Eddy W. Hartenstein began his career at Hughes Aircraft Company in 1972, where, over time, he developed the idea for direct-to-home satellite television while working as vice president of its subsidiary, Hughes Communications Incorporated. This led to the 1991 formation of GM Hughes Electronics’ satellite television service provider, DirecTV, where Eddy served as the company’s founding chairman and CEO. He was elected into the National Academy of Engineering in 2001 and received an Emmy for lifetime achievement from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences in 2007 for his work on satellite television development.

Eddy has served as publisher and CEO of The Los Angeles Times since 2008 and is a board member for The Times’ parent company, Tribune Company. Eddy also serves on the boards for Broadcom Corporation, City of Hope, SanDisk and SiriusXM Radio. He served as CEO of Tribune Company from 2011 to 2013.

Eddy earned a master’s degree in applied mechanics from Caltech in 1974. He worked at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Lab from 1977 to 1979 in-between his early years at Hughes.

“At Cal Poly Pomona’s College of Engineering, curriculum imitates reality,” Eddy says. “The program taught us how to break complex problems down into discrete parts and determine where subsystems overlap, and how each of those interfaces can be integrated into understanding an entire system. As students, our studies prepared us for the real-world epiphany that everything’s connected to everything else. Cal Poly Pomona’s emphasis on strong academic knowledge in conjunction with hands-on experience provided me the confidence to successfully tackle a lifelong variety of career challenges and opportunities. For this, I remain forever grateful.”
After earning his mechanical engineering degree from Cal Poly Pomona, Darcel L. Hulse began working for Unocal Corporation as an engineer in its Los Angeles refinery. He rose through the company’s ranks, serving as vice president for the company’s corporate engineering and construction division, then as president of the geothermal power division and president of Asia-Pacific ventures.

Darcel joined San Diego-based Sempra Energy International in 1999 and later served as its president. He retired in 2012 as president and CEO of Sempra LNG, a subsidiary of holding company Sempra Global.

“Above and beyond the engineering principles learned while obtaining my engineering degree, my career has been more served by the disciplined problem-solving approach that is ingrained into every engineering student at Cal Poly Pomona,” Darcel says. “The process of formally writing down everything you know about the problem and then focusing on how you address the unknowns is a skill that is applicable to every facet of life. Good leaders usually possess good problem-solving skills.”

Darcel stayed involved with Cal Poly Pomona by helping form the College of Engineering Industrial Action Council and serving as its founding chairman. This council was largely responsible for developing the current Engineering Laboratory Building. He later served on the National Development Council.

Darcel has served as a member of the boards of directors for the Institute of the Americas, the Los Angeles World Affairs Council, the Pacific Council on International Policy and the San Diego/Imperial Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He served as a trustee for the UCSD Foundation and as a member of the University of Illinois Engineering Advisory Council.

“My education at Cal Poly Pomona opened the door to a wonderfully enjoyable 42-year career in the international energy business and I will be eternally grateful for the many outstanding professors and my wonderful parents, who prepared me so well for this incredible journey,” he says.
Brian Jaramillo entered Cal Poly Pomona after earning an associate’s degree from Chabot Community College in Hayward. He joined Tilden-Coil Constructors, a Riverside-based full-service general contractor and construction manager, as an intern while earning his degree in engineering technology at Cal Poly Pomona. He accepted a full-time position at Tilden-Coil after graduating, working for the company as a project manager with the goal of one day starting his own construction firm.

“I vowed to make my mistakes with someone else’s money in my first five years after college and then start my own construction company,” Brian says.

Instead, he stayed with Tilden-Coil and put his engineering, management and leadership skills to work. In 1998, Brian was appointed vice president of construction and purchased a minority ownership share in the company. In 2006, he became only the fourth president in Tilden-Coil’s 75-year history and is now the majority owner. In 2010, Tilden-Coil Holdings Corporation acquired Illig Construction Company, a Los Angeles-based general contractor established in 1919 that adds additional market diversification and geographic positioning to the work of Tilden-Coil.

Tilden-Coil’s clients include public and private schools, colleges and universities, as well as multi-family developers, municipalities, commercial and industrial clients. The company’s project list includes renovating the Riverside Historic Courthouse, the Julia Morgan-designed Riverside Art Museum and the University of Redlands Memorial Chapel. The company has been also honored to build numerous memorials including the Medal of Honor and POW/MIA memorials at Riverside National Cemetery. Brian built the 265,000-square-foot Martin Luther King High School that his children attended and the 145,000-square-foot Grove Community Church that his family attends.

“From intern to president, I was blessed with opportunity,” Brian says.

Philanthropy is a cornerstone at Tilden-Coil. Brian served as the corporate walk chairman for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Inland Empire Light the Night Walk. In just five years of participation, Tilden-Coil has raised over $250,000 to fund cancer research and patient support. For the past eight years, Tilden-Coil has hosted a golf tournament that has grown to consistently yield over $50,000 a year in support of the Riverside Educational Enrichment Foundation.

In 2013, Brian had the honor of representing the Mission Inn Foundation Board in its campaign to secure the land and Father Junipero Serra Cross that sits atop Mount Rubidoux. The foundation placed this historic Riverside monument in a fully funded trust to protect it for public enjoyment in perpetuity. Brian currently serves on the Grove Community Church Board.

Brian and his wife, Vesta, a 1990 Cal Poly Pomona communications graduate, have three children, Hannah, Emma and Jackson.
Bob Kallenbaugh was introduced to Cal Poly Pomona by a friend while working at the Westside YMCA of Los Angeles. This friend and early mentor, Ralph, was a mechanical engineering major at the university and a resident advisor. Bob enjoyed studying math and science in high school and had a great love for the outdoors. Studying civil engineering at Cal Poly Pomona was well suited to his strengths and fit well with his interests, bringing science and math together with the environment.

Following graduation from Cal Poly Pomona in 1974, Bob earned his master’s degree in civil engineering from Stanford University. He began his career with the Orange County Flood Control District, where his responsibilities included reviewing field conditions and watching construction occur.

In 1977, Bob joined RBF Consulting, a company that provides civil engineering, land surveying, planning and construction management, as a project engineer, working on projects for public and private clients. He was named president in 1991 and, in 2008, was named CEO of the company, which was acquired by the Michael Baker Corporation in 2011. In addition to his duties as CEO, Bob also serves on the operations management committee and is executive vice president of infrastructure for subsidiary Michael Baker International.

“Cal Poly Pomona prepared me well for the future,” Bob says. “From meeting my wife, Chris, in the dorms as a freshman to developing leadership skills that could be applied later to some of our nation’s premier projects, Cal Poly Pomona was the right university for me as the foundation for a successful future.”

Bob is a member of the American Council of Engineering Companies of California, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Urban Land Institute. He’s past president of the Orange County Chapter of the Consulting Engineers and Land Surveying Organization of California, and a past board member for the Building Industry Association of Orange County. Bob is also a member of the Mission Hospital Philanthropic Circle and is a past board member of the YMCA of Orange County.
Jack H. Kulp and his wife, Sue, founded TrafFix Devices Incorporated, a San Clemente-based producer of traffic control and safety products, out of their home in 1986. Today, the company’s products are sold to barricade rental yards, traffic control companies, highway contractors, state government departments, cities and counties around the world.

TrafFix operates four factories and four manufacturing locations in the United States and Mexico. Its 2013 sales exceeded $54 million.

After earning his mechanical engineering degree from Cal Poly Pomona, Jack began working at Vard Incorporated as a design engineer, where he designed a cutting and welding machine to weld in and remove control rod mechanisms for nuclear submarine reactors. He later worked in sales for the Dairy Industry Company, as a sales engineer for Terra Tires & Wheels, a sales engineer for Royal Industries and, before founding TrafFix, as president for the signal division of Lear Siegler Incorporated. Jack also holds over 50 patents for inventions including an orange plastic channelizing drum and mobile crash attenuators.

“My Cal Poly Pomona experience provided me with a solid, practical education and helped me to look for simple, practical and cost-efficient solutions to complex and difficult-to-solve product design problems,” Jack says. “It has worked for the past 50 years of my professional building career.”
Lyne Lachenmyer was born in Phoenix, Arizona and is the eldest of three daughters born to Marvin and Marge Anderson. Raised with the advice, encouragement and belief that anything is possible with hard work and dedication, she graduated valedictorian of Glendora High School, and was the first in her family to graduate college. Her love of math and science led her into engineering, where she earned her bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from Cal Poly Pomona in 1980.

Lyne began her career working for Mobil Oil at the Torrance California refinery, and after more than a decade transferred to the corporate headquarters in Fairfax, VA, where she worked in strategic planning, supply, logistics and fuels marketing.

After Mobil merged with Exxon, Lyne was vice president of the aromatics global business. In 2004, she moved to Singapore as Regional Manufacturing Director for ExxonMobil Chemical Company. During her time in Asia she worked with Sinopec and Aramco to form an integrated joint venture involving refining, petrochemicals and marketing in the Fujian, China province.

In 2007, Lyne returned to the US as vice president of operations for ExxonMobil Lubricants and Specialties Company and assumed her current position of senior vice president for the Houston-based ExxonMobil Chemical Company in 2010.

“Cal Poly Pomona provided a practical, hands-on, team-based learning experience that I later realized mirrored the ExxonMobil workplace environment where I’ve spent my career,” Lyne says. “The engineering curriculum taught me how to approach problems, identify issues, seek input from multiple sources and make data-driven decisions. This disciplined approach to thinking, strong interpersonal skills and valuing of diverse perspectives has proven to be a winning combination for succeeding in business. With this educational foundation, and a continuous-learning mindset, I’ve had the opportunity to work in a wide variety of roles, manage large global organizations, live internationally, travel extensively and experience a lifetime career well beyond my dreams.” Lyne is currently leading a multi-billion dollar investment project for her business in Texas.

Lyne has served on the Singapore Economic Development Board, Petro Stopping Centers Board; an Advisory Council for Women’s Economic Opportunity Initiative and is currently serving on the Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas and ExxonMobil Foundation boards.

Lyne and her husband, Todd, have two sons, Kevin and Eric. Todd and Lyne believe in giving back to the communities in which they live, and place a high value on education. Lyne is actively involved in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) outreach programs. They established the Young Leaders in Engineering Scholarship, which recognizes the academic and leadership accomplishments of members of the Cal Poly Pomona chapter of the Society of Women Engineers. Lyne was recognized as the Distinguished Alumnus in Engineering for Cal Poly Pomona in 2011.

Envisioning a project, shaping the outcome, and bringing the project to successful conclusion, whether in business or in a garden, is something Lyne finds great satisfaction in doing.
After earning his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Cal Poly Pomona and his master's degree in chemical engineering from UC Davis, Rick Morrow began his career with the Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) in 1974 as a materials and equipment application engineer. When he joined the company, the country was experiencing a shortage of natural gas. SoCalGas was pursuing opportunities to develop non-traditional gas supply sources. Rick was drawn to SoCalGas because of his interest in synthetic fuels.

From 1976 to 1984, he held positions of increasing responsibility in the company’s gas supply department, where he led efforts to develop and secure new gas supply sources for Southern California consumers. In 1984, Rick became manager over the company’s underground gas storage operation. He obtained his professional engineer license in petroleum engineering in 1987. In the years to follow, Rick directed functions in environmental engineering, gas distribution and customer service.

In 1992, Rick assumed a leadership role in the company’s marketing department and was promoted to vice president in 1995. Rick held various executive positions in customer service and marketing for SoCalGas and San Diego Gas & Electric. In 2010, Rick became vice president of engineering and was promoted to senior vice president of gas operations and system integrity in January 2014.

During his career, Rick has served on numerous industry boards. He’s the past chairman of CALSTART, a nonprofit organization that works to accelerate the growth of the clean transportation technology industry. Rick served on the executive board of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, the Orange County Business Council and the Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition. He currently serves on the board for the Pipeline Research Council International. Rick is also frequently called upon to testify before regulatory agencies on energy issues.

Rick attributes much of his success to the education he received at Cal Poly Pomona. “My chemical engineering education at Cal Poly Pomona set the foundation for my career at the Southern California Gas Company,” Rick says. “Of particular importance was the industry focus and practical problem solving that was emphasized throughout the curriculum. This training and education allowed me to experience a wide variety of exciting and challenging positions that have had a significant impact on the energy industry in Southern California.”

Rick and his wife, Chari, live in San Clemente and have three children and five grandchildren.
Dr. Cordelia Ontiveros was born and raised in California. Cordelia's parents, Pete and Carmen Ontiveros, were her biggest source of support and inspiration and were true pioneers for their generation. Her father was a decorated World War II veteran who received a degree in engineering and worked for Rockwell International in the space program, and her mother was trained through the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and was a registered nurse. Together, they raised six children, all of whom earned college degrees.

Cordelia loved math since she was young and came to Cal Poly Pomona to study chemical engineering. Just three years after graduating from high school, Cordelia graduated from Cal Poly Pomona with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. She went on to receive a master's degree and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Princeton University. In addition, she attended the Harvard University Management Development Program.

Her career has included work in the private sector, at NASA's John F. Kennedy Space Center and in academia. Within the California State University, Cordelia has held positions as professor, department chair, associate vice president for faculty affairs, senior director for academic human resources and associate dean for academic programs & student services.

As senior director for academic human resources, Cordelia was responsible for developing and implementing policies that affected more than 20,000 faculty members at the 23 campuses of the California State University system.

Cordelia was selected as an American Council on Education Fellow and as a California State University Executive Fellow. She was named Outstanding Educator of the Year, College Level, by HENAAC (Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference). She is a registered professional engineer in chemical engineering in California and is certified as a corrosion specialist by NACE International – The Corrosion Society.

In addition to her professional achievements, Cordelia is an accomplished dancer, starting at an early age when her parents sent her to ballet class. She has performed and competed in flamenco, west coast swing, ballroom and a variety of folk dances at venues such as Epcot Center, Orange County Performing Arts Center and the U.S. Open Swing Dance Championships.

Cordelia is committed to the mission of the California State University and inspiring the next generation to pursue their dreams through higher education. At Cal Poly Pomona, she is working on initiatives for K–12 and postsecondary STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education enhancement.

Cordelia uses her vast experience to advise young people to reach for the stars and pursue their dreams. She’s leading several major programs in the college to support STEM education for historically underrepresented groups, including women, such as PLTW (Project Lead The Way) and CPP WE (Women in Engineering).

She and her husband met in graduate school. They have traveled extensively, including visiting all 50 of the United States.
Rebecca Ritt Rhoads was born in Indiana. Her parents, Lou and Virginia, impressed upon her that she could do anything if she put her mind to it. Following in her father’s footsteps, she chose to study electrical engineering at Cal Poly Pomona because she believed electronics would play a significant role in the future, particularly in computing and automation. Cal Poly Pomona was a perfect fit with a Learn by Doing philosophy, which has proved to be invaluable throughout her career.

Rebecca received her bachelor’s degree in electrical and computer engineering in 1980 and her master’s degree in electrical engineering in 1986, both from Cal Poly Pomona. She completed the executive program in management at the UCLA Anderson School of Management in 1994. Early in her career, Rebecca taught electrical engineering courses for the Cal Poly Pomona’s College of Engineering.

Rebecca began her career as an electrical engineer at General Dynamics in 1979 and, through a series of acquisitions, became part of Raytheon Company, a Massachusetts-based a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, security and civil markets throughout the world, in 1997. Her engineering career included designing automated test systems for RAM and Stinger missile programs. She worked in engineering and operations, holding various assignments of increasing responsibility. As an engineering leader at Raytheon, Rebecca consistently delivered results, generating growth and profitability in her organizations.

In 2001, she transitioned into information technology as chief information officer, where she drove Raytheon’s post-merger consolidation. She worked with senior leaders to lead a comprehensive strategy to build a one-company platform, deploying network, communications, collaboration and security solutions across the company. She established industry-leading cyber capabilities and continues to champion cyber defense for Raytheon. From 2001 to 2014, while Rebecca was the CIO, shareholder value increased 170 percent.

Through this intense IT evolution, Rebecca focused on her core principles, promoting Raytheon values in diversity, trust and respect. She was named Raytheon’s Executive Diversity Champion in 2014. In 2007, Rebecca was inducted into the CIO Hall of Fame by CIO Magazine. She was ranked No. 1 on the “Most Powerful Women in Technology” list by The Boston Globe. She was also named one of Corporate America’s Top 100 Influential Leaders and one of the Top 50 Women in Technology.

Rebecca currently lives in Boston with her husband of 33 years, Ken. They have two adult children, Dustin and Julianne.

Rebecca’s success at driving transformational change, delivering new capabilities and improving efficiencies was a springboard to her current role leading Raytheon Global Business Services, an organization that provides innovative, high technology services and solutions to Raytheon, delivering world-class services across the globe. Today, Rebecca is president of Global Business Services and is CIO for Raytheon.
Southern California native Joseph M. Rivera grew up knowing that he would attend Cal Poly Pomona to study civil engineering. After earning his bachelor’s degree from the university, he began his career with the Los Angeles-based Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) as an associate engineer in 1974. Today, he serves as director of gas engineering for the utility, where he directs all activities related to engineering policy, standards and design for a gas distribution and transmission system that consists of 60,000 miles of pipeline, five underground storage fields and 20 compressor stations.

“Cal Poly Pomona provided me a foundation that launched my career and served me well for 41 years,” Joseph says. “The university understood that the foundation must include strong technical skills, and an understanding of the importance of the profession and the keys to becoming successful in the workplace. All three of these critical elements were included in the education and thoughtful mentoring that I received. I did not fully realize back in 1972 that Cal Poly Pomona would provide me an opportunity to begin my career as an associate engineer and reach my goal to become director of engineering.”

Joseph’s the chairman of the statewide board of directors for the MESA (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement) program of the University of California system, an academic preparation program that serves more than 20,000 educationally disadvantaged pre-college, community college and university students throughout the state.
Gerry Salontai was born in California’s Imperial Valley to his parents, Joseph and Katherine. Gerry’s interest in civil engineering was sparked by summer engineering intern jobs his father, a water department engineering design technician, had arranged for him when he was in high school. Gerry earned an associate’s degree in engineering from Imperial Valley College before following in the footsteps of his brother and sister and enrolled at Cal Poly Pomona, where he pursued his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering.

Gerry worked in Southern California for a small engineering company for five years after graduating. He became a professional civil engineer (PE) in California in 1978. Gerry also attended CSU Long Beach during this time, earning a master’s degree in civil engineering in 1981.

Gerry then joined Kleinfelder, a San Diego-based architecture, engineering and science-consulting firm, as senior engineer in the Reno, Nev., office. Gerry was almost immediately appointed to manage the office. After spending five years in Reno, he went on to lead a multi-office region, established a national transportation business line and led the California division at Kleinfelder before being named president and CEO in 1998.

“The practical approach to the engineering curriculum at Cal Poly Pomona accelerated my knowledge of how things really work, thus allowing me to take more responsibility than my peers who attended other universities,” Gerry says.

Prior to being named CEO, Gerry completed the executive management curriculum at UC Berkley’s Haas School of Business.

Gerry retired from the company in 2009 and founded Salontai Consulting Group, a strategy, business and leadership-consulting company based in Rancho Santa Fe. He continues to be active in the engineering and construction industry by helping companies and young professionals globally. He also continues his involvement with ASFE/GBA, the Geotechnical Business Association, and ACEC, the American Council of Engineering Companies. Gerry is a past president of ASFE/GBA and is currently the president of the Engineers’ Leadership Foundation.

Gerry spends more time today enjoying life traveling and pursuing his recreational passions with his wife, Cindy, children, Heather, Jennifer and Brandon, and grandchildren, William, Emma, Elena, Lilyana, Daniela and Paige.
Shortly after earning his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from Cal Poly Pomona, Mark A. Stevens joined Fluor Corporation, a Dallas-based company that provides engineering, procurement, construction and project management services. He later served as vice president of power generation; vice president of Latin America operations; president of the company’s oil, gas and power strategic business unit; and president of the company’s energy and chemicals strategic business unit.

Today, Mark serves as Fluor’s senior vice president, corporate risk, with responsibilities for the company’s project risk review processes and for identifying opportunities to improve its commercial approaches.

“My biggest lesson from my years at Cal Poly Pomona was not the memorization of equations in thermo or fluid mechanics, but instead was the ability to analyze any problem and come up with a logical approach to addressing it,” Mark says. “This is a lesson that stays with you for life.”

Mark earned an M.B.A. from CSU Fullerton.

“Cal Poly Pomona helped me understand that the individual who consistently works harder and spends the most time on life’s ‘homework’ is the individual best able to solve the intricate puzzles that life puts before him or her,” he says.

Mark served as Fluor’s executive chairman for the United Way campaign, and as chairman of the board of directors for CHOC Children’s Orange, CHOC Children’s at Mission Hospital and Children’s Healthcare of California.

He has coordinated more than $500,000 in gifts to Cal Poly Pomona. During Mark’s time with the company, Fluor has participated in Maximizing Engineering Potential, the Engineering Lab Revitalization Project and various recruitment activities at the College of Engineering.
Thomas Vos was born and raised on a dairy farm in central Minnesota. His interest in things technical started in elementary school. Physics was a favorite course of study in high school and led to building simple radios as a hobby. After graduating from high school, Tom enlisted in the U.S. Navy, encouraged by a recruiter’s promise that his first assignment would be to spend a year in electronics school. He was next assigned to a destroyer in San Diego, on which he rose to the rank of lead operations petty officer.

Instead of pursuing an electrical engineering degree with a full scholarship from the Navy, with the potential for regular promotions and a commission as lieutenant but little opportunity for hands-on engineering work, Tom chose to pursue an engineering career and enrolled at Cal Poly Pomona, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering.

“I chose Cal Poly Pomona because of the emphasis on the practical application of the engineering sciences,” Tom says. “The curriculum cautioned not to try to fool Mother Nature. When solving a problem or creating an opportunity, her principles needed to be rigorously adhered to.”

Tom joined Palo Alto-based Hewlett-Packard in 1966, where his projects included the 9125A single-pen flatbed plotter, a companion for the 9100 calculator that appeared in the 1971 film “The Andromeda Strain.” At Hewlett-Packard, he held positions as product development engineer, project manager, manufacturing engineering manager, research and development manager and marketing manager of the San Diego division (now the inkjet printer division). He was promoted to general manager of the Colorado Springs division, then general manager of the Electronics Instrument Group and, in 1995, vice president of the company.

During his time with Hewlett-Packard, Tom graduated from executive education program at the Stanford Graduate School of Business in 1985. Tom was appointed to and served on the Congressional Business Advisory Council from 1995 to 2005. Tom retired from Hewlett-Packard in 1998. Tom also serves on several nonprofit boards.

Tom and his wife, Nansi, chose to make Tom’s native Minnesota home in retirement. They have four adopted children, two boys and two girls, and grandchildren are now extending the family.
James R. Williamson was born in 1949 to James D. Williamson, M.D. and Dorothy M. Williamson of Castroville, Texas. When his father died suddenly, four-year-old James moved with his mother and two sisters to nearby San Antonio. There, his mother married an Army colonel who had graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from West Point Academy.

With a new stepfather, the family moved to Fort Sill in Lawton, Oklahoma, where James got his first guitar. Six years later, the family transferred to Detroit, where James graduated from high school and ultimately joined the band Iggy and The Stooges.

During these years, the band moved to London and, in 1972, recorded the album “Raw Power,” which was entirely co-written by James and Iggy Pop. The album was critically acclaimed but commercially unsuccessful. Three years later, after another unsuccessful record attempt, the band broke up, which led James to reevaluate his career options.

“One that had run its course, I became fascinated by the emerging technology of the personal computer and knew I wanted to become an electronics engineer to work on such things,” James says. “Cal Poly Pomona was a natural choice for me.”

After earning his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Cal Poly Pomona in 1982, James accepted a position with semiconductor manufacturer Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), located in Sunnyvale, in the heart of Silicon Valley. This first position was directly related to the work he did on his senior project at Cal Poly Pomona under the advice and direction of Professor Wendy K. Wanderman. James remained at AMD until 1997, moving through various management positions.

In 1997, Williamson was hired as director of applications at Sony Semiconductor of America, but, within a year, was asked by the president to head up a newly formed Office of Technology Standards for The Americas. Williamson retired from Sony as vice president of technology standards in 2009.

That year, James rejoined Iggy and The Stooges and began touring the world again as a rock and roll guitarist. The band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2010.

James has served as a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers board of directors and as a member of its corporate advisory group. He has also served on the board of directors of the Alliance for Telecommunications Solutions.

James has received numerous awards, has published several technical articles in industry journals, holds patents, and has given many speeches on both technology and music.

“My story is proof-positive that Cal Poly Pomona can give you the tools to succeed and realize your dreams,” he says. “When I got my first engineering job, I couldn’t believe that I was actually getting paid to do it—it was so much fun.”

Williamson and his wife, Linda, have two children, James and Elizabeth.
The College of Engineering would like to thank the following generous supporters of the inaugural Cal Poly Pomona College of Engineering Hall of Fame 2014

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2014

HALL OF FAME
Public Unveiling

CAL POLY POMONA
Engineering Building 9
Second Floor Main Entrance
3801 W. Temple Ave. Pomona, CA 91768
(909) 869-2513

3 p.m.
Inductee and Special Guest Arrival

3:30 p.m.
Inductee Group Photo in Hall of Fame Jacket

4:00 p.m.
Public Unveiling Ceremony

4:15 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Guided Tours of the Hall of Fame in Engineering Buildings 9 and 17