HALL OF FAME
2019

Cal Poly Pomona
College of Engineering
HONORING THE PAST

INSPIRING THEIR FUTURE
College of Engineering
Hall of Fame
Induction Ceremony
Wednesday, March 20, 2019

PROGRAM

Reception
The Kyle Martinez Group

Welcome
Dr. Joseph J. Rencis, Dean
College of Engineering

Master of Ceremonies
Brian Jaramillo, Chair
Dean’s Leadership Board

Opening Remarks
Dr. Soraya Coley, President
Cal Poly Pomona

Dinner
The Bill Borjan Quintet

Student Remarks
Teresa Rodriguez
Hernan Lopez

Induction Ceremony

Intermission

Induction Ceremony (continued)

Closing Remarks
Dr. Joseph J. Rencis
Clark Rucker
Brian Jaramillo

Group Photo: Class of 2019 &
Celebratory Toast
Brian Jaramillo
HALL OF FAME 2019 INDUCTEES

Michael Beckage (’87, Engineering Technology)
Co-Founder & CTO
Diversified Technical Systems, Inc.

Krista L. Harper, P.E. (’86, Engineering Technology)
Vice President & Principal Engineer
Harper & Associates Engineering, Inc.

Dr. Edward C. Hohmann (Posthumous Honorary Inductee)
Former Dean of College of Engineering
Cal Poly Pomona

Bridget Kimball (’89, Electrical Engineering)
Vice President, Fellow & Chief Architect
Intuit Consumer Group

Clark D. Rucker (’83, Engineering Technology)
Director, Phantom Works Quality
Boeing Defense, Space and Security
The Boeing Company

Eric E. Schmidt (’92, Aerospace Engineering)
President
Exquadrum, Inc.

Kelly M. Sigmon (’89, Industrial Engineering)
Vice President, Customer Experience
United States Postal Service

Dr. John Valasek (’86, Aerospace Engineering)
Professor & Director
Vehicle Systems & Control Laboratory
Aerospace Engineering Department
Texas A&M University

Tom VanDorpe, M.S.S.E. (’89, Industrial Engineering)
President & CEO
VCA Consultants, Inc.
Dear Inductees and Guests,

On behalf of Cal Poly Pomona College of Engineering, welcome to the 2019 Engineering Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Over the course of several months last year, our Hall of Fame Selection Committee deliberated and evaluated many potential Hall of Fame nominees. Our public call for nominations, a first for the Hall of Fame selection process, resulted in much to consider, thanks to passionate nominators who took the time and effort to complete the rigorous submission process.

Tonight’s nine new inductees is the result of this extensive selection process. What began in 2014 with an inaugural class of 22 engineers and engineering technologists will now grow to a Hall of Fame membership of 49 by the end of this special night. Inductees are recognized for professional distinction through outstanding contributions to the field of engineering, creativity and entrepreneurship, as well as service to society, the professional community, and our departments, college or university.

Each inductee embodies our hands-on, learn by doing paradigm and their stories serve as an inspiration to our students for years to come. We are nationally recognized as one of the best public engineering programs in the nation, and their contributions have advanced our reputation of producing excellent engineers and engineering technologists who enter the workforce to uplift themselves and society.

Congratulations to all our inductees and their families for elevating the legacy and stature of Cal Poly Pomona College of Engineering.

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Rencis, Ph.D., P.E.
Dean, College of Engineering
March 20, 2019

Dear Inductees and Guests:

It is a great pleasure to congratulate the latest inductees to the Cal Poly Pomona College of Engineering Hall of Fame, and I join family, friends, faculty, and alumni in honoring your achievements. By entering the Hall of Fame, tonight’s inductees join a host of esteemed engineers and engineering technologists who have made significant contributions in their profession and their community, and who have elevated the reputation of Cal Poly Pomona. This is a truly distinguished recognition that exemplifies the creativity, discovery, and innovation that define our university.

These honorees are symbols of the polytechnic advantage — Cal Poly Pomona’s unique commitment to experiential and collaborative learning, community engagement, critical thinking and problem solving. Each have used these skills to make a profound impact in a wide range of ways, in the public sector, in private industry, or by serving in higher education.

By inducting these nine individuals into the Hall of Fame, we not only recognize their unique talents and successes but also those of countless others. We honor also the faculty, staff, and fellow students who were part of their journey at Cal Poly Pomona. Likewise, we celebrate the inspirational role that the new inductees play for our current and future students.

On behalf of the entire Cal Poly Pomona community, I congratulate the newest members of the College of Engineering Hall of Fame and thank you for contributing to the legacy of Cal Poly Pomona and the College of Engineering.

Sincerely,

Soraya M. Coley, Ph.D.
President
March 21, 2019

Dear Inductees:

As Mayor of the City of Pomona, I recognize that Cal Poly provides an invaluable pathway to upward social mobility. As you know, the opportunities presented to graduates of Cal Poly Pomona can be life-changing.

As inductees to the Cal Poly Pomona Engineering Hall of Fame, you are each an important part of the ripple-effect that occurs when graduates go back to their communities and change them for the better.

The City of Pomona would like to congratulate the latest College of Engineering Hall of Fame inductees for their accomplishments and distinguished contributions to the community and the engineering profession.

Individually, you represent some of the best graduates from Cal Poly Pomona. You each serve as a source of inspiration for future generations of Cal Poly Pomona engineers. Congratulations to the class of 2019!

Sincerely,

Tim Sandoval

City Hall, 505 S. Garey Avenue, Box 660, Pomona, CA 91769 (909) 620-2051 Fax (909) 620-3707
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Congratulations to the Hall of Fame 2019 Inductees
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Cal Poly Pomona University Advancement

ΣΠΦ
Michael Beckage became fascinated by science and technology at an early age. His father and brother were always working on mechanical and electrical projects, and he began helping them repair cars and electronics when he was in middle school.

Because Michael paid his own way through college, he earned as many units as possible at Riverside City College before transferring to Cal Poly Pomona. While attending Cal Poly Pomona, Michael worked as an electronics technician at Mobility Systems & Equipment Company—often between 30 to 40 hours a week.

“The hands-on design and experimental concepts taught at Cal Poly Pomona were put to good use immediately,” he says. “I truly learned how to identify a problem, propose a viable solution and then carry the concept forward to fruition in an effective way. Many of my classroom and lab experiences immediately made me a more valuable employee and led to an engineering position even before I graduated.”

As Michael neared graduation, he was promoted to test engineer, and a year later, senior test engineer. In this role, he was responsible for all aspects of data collection and analysis in safety tests performed for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).
In 1988, Michael accepted the role of engineering specialist in the Technical Compliance Department of Nissan Motor Corporation’s U.S. headquarters, where he served until 1995. He was responsible for analyzing and reporting on potential safety or emission issues and corresponding with government representatives at the NHTSA and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Meanwhile, in 1990, Michael decided to cofound his own company as a side business, called Diversified Technical Systems (DTS). For the next five years, Michael worked on about 40 engineering-for-hire projects until 1995, when DTS won a contract to develop a state-of-the-art, high-speed data collection system that could withstand automotive and aerospace crash tests. This allowed Michael and his business partner, Steve, to focus full-time on DTS.

Today, DTS has nearly 100 employees and a 15-year history of growth and profitability. DTS has several Cal Poly Pomona graduates on staff, including the third co-owner of DTS, Tim Kippen.

Michael’s advice to the next-generation of engineers is simple: “If you study diligently, work hard, persevere and pay supreme attention to detail in everything you do, your education at Cal Poly Pomona will take you far. Don’t be afraid to sign up to do things you’re not sure how to do. You will learn and grow through the process of doing the hard jobs.”
Being great at math in school, Krista L. Harper thought she would be an accountant. She was accepted at Cal Poly Pomona as an accounting major, but everything changed during her senior year of high school when she took a drafting class and loved it. She started researching other careers that required math and drafting, and in her freshman year, Krista switched her major to construction engineering technology. Her dad was a contractor in the construction industry, so it was a perfect fit.

Earning an engineering technology degree, however, was not easy. The design classes were extremely difficult and it was challenging being one of the only women in the program. Being married, she did not study with the men and often studied alone. But for Krista, a first-generation college student, failing was not an option, so she worked hard and persevered.

Krista worked part-time through most of college, but took a full-time job at a construction company, Matich Corporation, at the beginning of her senior year. When balancing full-time work and part-time school became too difficult and was extending school into a sixth year, she left the job to focus on completing her degree. That company hired Krista back after graduation.

“I’m a firm believer in the learn by doing paradigm,” she says. The College of Engineering gave her the foundational knowledge she would need to be successful at future jobs.
Later Krista moved to Kasler Corporation, where she was project engineer on the 105/605 freeway interchange project—involving 22 bridge structures, 12 subcontractors and miles of concrete and asphalt paving. Her experiences and education equipped her well and gave her the confidence that there was no task she could not figure out how to do. “As a woman in the male-dominated construction field, it was very challenging, especially in the 1980s and 1990s. It was difficult to get men to take me seriously at first, but I knew I could do the job and I worked hard to prove my ability to do the job.”

In 1995, Krista joined Harper & Associates Engineering, a corrosion and tank structural consulting firm, operating since 1979. She worked there full-time as a project engineer and learned the business while her husband, Andre, stayed at home to care for their first baby and worked to earn his engineering degree at Cal Poly Pomona. In 1997, after Andre graduated, Krista and Andre took over the company from his grandfather who was ready to retire. Since then, the firm has grown from $500,000 per year to over $2 million in 2018.

“Life is a journey, and each experience and job you have builds upon the other,” she says. “I learned things at my first job that still help me do my job today.”
Dr. Edward C. Hohmann was a dean of the College of Engineering with a tenure at Cal Poly Pomona of nearly four decades.

Ed joined Cal Poly Pomona in 1971 as an assistant professor in what was then known as the chemical engineering department in the School of Engineering. By 1979, he became department chair. Five years later, he became dean and retired in 2010, earning the distinction of being the longest-serving dean of any engineering college in the entire California State University system.

Among his accomplishments during his deanship, he established the Industry Action Council (IAC) to build lasting ties between the college and the business community. The IAC was an instrumental fundraising apparatus of the college. It allowed the college to expand and dramatically transform. Upgrades were made to buildings 9 and 13 and several older buildings were demolished to make way for building 17, which added 118,000 square feet of classroom and laboratory space. Ed also served as interim vice president of Academic Affairs and helped found the Division of IT as the first vice president.

“Ed made so many contributions to the college that his memory should be preserved in a lasting way,” says Darcel Hulse (’70, mechanical engineering), a College of Engineering Hall of Fame member and one of the original members of the IAC that Ed created for the college.
Ed grew up in West Hollywood and graduated from Fairfax High in Los Angeles. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from USC in 1966, then a Master of Science degree from Michigan State University in 1967. He returned to USC to earn a Ph.D. in chemical engineering in 1971.

Ed was an ardent believer in the learn by doing philosophy and his leadership was informed by this foundational approach to teaching. “There is a broad boulevard to success,” he would often say. “If you set it up correctly, the answer will fall out.”

He is survived by Lotte Hohmann, his wife of 49 years; three children, Christa, Michael and Stephen; seven grandchildren; his mother, Mary J. Hohmann; and his three younger brothers, Thomas, John and Paul.
Bridget Kimball’s engineering inspiration began at a young age—she enjoyed math and science classes, and was fortunate to be exposed to computer programming while in elementary and middle school. She loved the structure and ability to create solutions to problems, which piqued her interest in engineering as a career.

When it came time for college, Bridget had a decision to make. She was offered a scholarship to another university, but was not thrilled with the idea of large classes of hundreds of students taught by graduate students. Cal Poly Pomona offered small classes and it had a strong reputation for building theoretical understanding and hands-on skills. Decision made.

At Cal Poly Pomona, Bridget originally studied chemical engineering, but changed to electrical engineering during her second year when she realized she wanted to work in aerospace, particularly space applications. She changed majors and made up some lost time—despite a full class load and a demanding internship—ultimately graduating on time and becoming co-valedictorian of the College of Engineering in 1989.

“The most valuable skill I learned at Cal Poly Pomona was how to think—how to frame a problem, break it down into its components and consider different solutions in any situation,” she says. “Those skills continued to be very useful when I moved into leadership roles.”
Bridget’s first job out of school was at Hughes Space and Communications, working as a payload systems engineer on communication satellites. Since then, she has served in senior engineering and leadership roles at General Instrument, Copper Mountain Networks, Motorola and Comcast, before landing in her current role as vice president, fellow and chief architect at Intuit’s Consumer Group, focusing on products for personal tax and finance management.

Along the way, Bridget received numerous industry awards and recognition, including the 2016 CableFax Most Powerful Women in Cable (Technology Award), and developed a strong commitment to mentoring the next generation of women in technology.

“Career advancement is not always a straightforward path up,” she says. “The advice I would give is to stay flexible and take any opportunity to learn something new. View it as preparing yourself to be ready when the advancement opportunity comes along. Take a long view and remember that setbacks are temporary—pick up and keep going.”
Since youth, Clark Rucker was always curious and fascinated by technology. He always wondered how things worked—everything from electricity to planes and helicopters. He was the child who would take things apart just to see what was inside. In school, he was very proficient in math and science—so much so that his high school physics teacher suggested a career in engineering. After investigating this, Clark took an engineering aptitude test and scored very high, solidifying engineering as his career field of choice.

After high school graduation, Clark was accepted into four universities, including MiT and CalTech, but Cal Poly Pomona was the closest to his family and friends in San Diego, so that was the logical choice. Clark found his Cal Poly Pomona professors challenging. He was homesick, but his father encouraged him to persevere. He did, and this forced him to engage in his studies like he had never done before. Clark heeded his father’s advice to toughen up and complete what he started.

Two years into his studies, he took a part-time job with General Dynamics, working as a test technician on the Standard Missile program, and this began his aerospace career. He continued working at General Dynamics one additional year beyond graduation, before moving to the Systems Engineering/Reliability team at Northrop ASD on the B-2 aircraft program. After five years there, he joined McDonnell Douglas/Boeing, where he has worked for the past 30 years.
Clark is currently director of Phantom Works Quality at The Boeing Company, where he and his team provide the resources to support pursuits before, during and after Phantom Works contract awards, using rapid development/prototyping tools and techniques.

Reflecting on his career path and advancements, Clark attributes his success to a number of things.

“I raised my hand and was generally the first to volunteer,” he says. “If asked to try something new, I did and would try to find ways to make it better than it was before I began. I sought out mentors who would give me advice on how to establish ‘BHAGs’ (Big Hairy Audacious Goals) and help me understand how I could achieve them. Most importantly, I stayed focused and used the work ethic that I gained at Cal Poly Pomona to my advantage, ensuring that I always delivered on customer expectations.”
Engineering runs in Eric E. Schmidt’s family, even though he is the first to earn a degree in his immigrant Argentine family, for which he felt a great sense of responsibility. His father was a watchmaker and jeweler, and had an innate ability to mix ingenuity and creativity to solve real-world problems. Eric also enjoyed exploring the bounds of his math and science skills through engineering in high school, prompted by teachers who recognized his natural gifts.

A young husband and father, Eric pursued his engineering education while his wife, Cindie, worked to put him through college. He enrolled in Cal Poly Pomona to allow him to commute from his home in Hesperia and because of its excellent aerospace program. Despite his skills, earning an aerospace engineering degree from Cal Poly Pomona was tough.

“The biggest hurdle I had to overcome was the intensity and difficulty of the curriculum,” he says. “Many times I felt like I wanted to give up, transfer to a simpler major, and just graduate so I could support my growing family. It took adapting, growing, learning and having the support and belief from my loving wife to eventually find my stride in order to persevere and finish strong.”

Eric graduated at a time when it was not easy to find work in the aerospace/defense industry. Fortunately, he had spent the last two years at Cal Poly Pomona in an internship at the Air Force Rocket Propulsion Laboratory (now the Air Force Research Laboratory) at Edwards Air Force Base, which led to his first job after graduation. The internship was a direct result of Michael Huggins, who
was inducted into the Engineering Hall of Fame in 2015, and his effort to bring in Cal Poly Pomona students. Eric learned firsthand the value of nurturing relationships and how that can impact one’s career.

Later, Eric’s technical skills in information technology led him to deviate from aerospace and pursue software systems for artificial intelligence. He founded an artificial intelligence software company called agentAI, Inc. and later, founded Exquadrum, Inc., an aerospace company, where he currently serves as president.

“The most significant lesson I’ve learned over nearly 30 years in rocket engineering is that the community is small and that building relationships has been extremely important to my career,” he says. “Technologies will change, companies will change, budgets will change, but making sure that strong and lasting relationships are maintained throughout all those changes is something that is in your control.”

Eric also recognizes the power of Cal Poly Pomona’s learn by doing paradigm.

“The skill to arrive at elegant answers for complex problems was nurtured at Cal Poly Pomona and has become the hallmark of my company, Exquadrum, which is known for thinking outside the box by our customers.”
Kelly M. Sigmon started at Cal Poly Pomona with an undeclared major, but after doing some research and networking, she found her niche in industrial engineering.

One challenge Kelly faced while in school was having to work through most of college to cover her own expenses. “Often working 30 to 40 hours per week, I had a variety of jobs,” she says. “At Disneyland, I found their industrial engineering department and asked if I could volunteer to work for them to get experience.” She leveraged her work experience to determine what type of position she wanted to pursue after graduation.

Upon earning her engineering degree, Kelly started with the USPS as an industrial engineering trainee, and learned the ropes of processing and distribution operations by shadowing employees and managers. This experience and insight benefited her greatly over the years, especially as she moved into management later in her career.

Later, as an industrial engineering analyst, she worked on a variety of large projects, including implementation of a new technology that enabled the USPS to automate mail sorting, as well as the simulation tool to project the impact of this equipment nationwide. She trained over 200 sites to use this tool.
After becoming a manager, Kelly learned how to work with and through employees. “When I first became a manager, I told my manager that I loved the job except for the ‘people part’—that terrified me,” she says. “Today, it’s the ‘people part’ of my job that gives me the most satisfaction.”

Those skills became paramount in another role, during which Kelly’s team was tasked with consolidating five facilities into a large mail processing and distribution center—a project affecting more than 1,200 employees. Kelly created and managed a comprehensive project plan, as well as activation teams, employee communication plans and public meetings with customers.

As she climbed to vice president of Retail Operations, Kelly oversaw over 30,000 locations. To improve the customer experience, her team redesigned their retail platform and upgraded both the hardware and software of their retail technology. She also led the reformatting of USPS’ training program for new and existing sales service associates that focused on customer interactions, training over 15,000 associates. Over a five-year period, performance improved by over 50%.

Throughout Kelly’s career, she has always appreciated the engineering foundation she received at Cal Poly Pomona. “As I’ve increased my responsibility and challenges, I’ve been able to draw on my industrial engineering background to apply the principles that I learned in college to develop data-driven solutions for many business problems,” she says.
Dr. John Valasek says he was destined to become an aerospace engineer, pointing to the fact that his mother attended a Blue Angels airshow when she was seven months pregnant with him in 1961. His parents never hesitated to attribute John's strong interest in aerospace to that first airshow. Since childhood, John showed a strong interest in aircraft, and he has never looked back. In terms of careers, there was never consideration of anything other than aerospace.

For John—among the first in his family to attend college—making the choice to attend Cal Poly Pomona was easy.

“Aerospace engineering alumni that I knew raved about the quality of the program and the education they received—not to mention the excellent hiring record of graduates-to-positions in industry,” he says.

He commuted a long distance to school, and worked off-campus to support himself. He says properly balancing his time between these competing demands was the most challenging aspect of his education.

John got his first engineering job in Northrop Corporation’s Aircraft Division and cites learn by doing for being the main reason for being hired. Northrop was familiar with Cal Poly Pomona’s paradigm and wanted more engineers with that background and skill.
“I learned to keep applying learn by doing throughout my career, rather than just view it as a paradigm that is only applied in college,” he says.

John’s career path took him from a flight controller engineer in Northrop’s Flight Controls Research Group to a researcher in the aerospace engineering department at the University of Kansas, while he earned his doctorate degree. In 1997, he joined Texas A&M University, where he serves today as professor in the aerospace engineering department and teaches a variety of courses, including aircraft design, atmospheric flight mechanics, flight test engineering and modern control of aerospace systems. He is also the director of the university’s Vehicle Systems & Control Laboratory.

In 2017, John was elected as a fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) for his pioneering contributions and leadership in flight mechanics and control, leading to new capabilities in autonomous air refueling, morphing flight and flight safety. He also influenced aerospace on a national level by providing expert input to federal law makers of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

John’s advice to engineering students is simple: “Advancing a career is done proactively, not reactively. Determine where growth needs to occur, and make it happen.”
Tom VanDorpe attributes success to his faith, family and business partners. His decision to pursue an engineering career was influenced by his father, who was a well-regarded engineer who inspired many with his ability to balance theory and pragmatism. Growing up, Tom worked at his father’s engineering firm. Tom enrolled at Cal Poly Pomona because he heard others, including his father, say that “Cal Poly Pomona is the biggest educational bargain for engineering students.”

Tom recalls that at his graduation ceremony the department chair stated “we estimate that you will only use 20 percent of what we taught you after graduation, but unfortunately we don’t know which 20 percent it will be.” Prophetically, the most valuable professional skills did not turn out to be what Tom originally envisioned.

“Early in my career I thought the successful engineer was the one most familiar with the technical codes of practice,” he says. However as his career progressed he found that success was tied to leveraging one’s abilities through others by building an organization and developing systems that integrate together. Thus, the most valuable skills in Tom’s career were addressing the human side of the equation and making effective decisions amid uncertainty or outside the normal comfort zone.

Today, Tom is president and CEO of VCA Consultants, Inc. and has grown it to a leading mid-sized engineering firm in the building industry with an enviable clientele.
Tom and his partners at VCA Structural have served as engineer of record for an impressive amount of new construction, which has an estimated construction value of over $30 billion and houses over 500,000 people.

The VCA Code division has performed plan reviews on over 40,000 structures of all sizes on behalf of jurisdictions. VCA Green has worked on over a thousand new development projects, saving energy costs and gaining certification through LEED® or other sustainability programs. Today, VCA employs over 100 professionals.

Tom advises young professionals to always do the right thing and to learn how to leverage their abilities through others: “Find the right coaches and mentors, and don’t forget to show appreciation when they take their time to invest in your success,” says Tom. “You can go far in life by simply learning how to lead a team and learning how to bring out the best in everyone.”
HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2014

Ahmad Adel Al-Khatib (’83, Electrical Engineering)

Daniel Man-Chung Cheng (’81, Industrial Engineering)

Martin J. Colombatto (’82, Engineering Technology)

Richard A. Croxall (’63, Mechanical Engineering)

Nato Flores (’79, Mechanical Engineering)

Lawrence M. Gates (’87, Civil Engineering)

Virginia Grebbien (’86, Civil Engineering)

Peter Hadinger (’81, Electrical Engineering)

Eddy W. Hartenstein (’72, Aerospace Engineering)

Darcel L. Hulse (’70, Mechanical Engineering)

Brian Jaramillo (’87, Engineering Technology)

Bob Kallenbaugh (’74, Civil Engineering)
HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2014 (cont.)

Jack H. Kulp (’63, Mechanical Engineering)

Lynne Lachenmyer (’80, Chemical Engineering)

Rick Morrow (’72, Chemical Engineering)

Dr. Cordelia Ontiveros (’78, Chemical Engineering)

Rebecca Ritt Rhoads
(’80, Electrical Engineering & ’86, MS Electrical Engineering)

Joseph M. Rivera (’73, Civil Engineering)

Gerry Salontai (’77, Civil Engineering)

Mark A. Stevens (’75, Mechanical Engineering)

Thomas Vos (’64, Electrical Engineering)

James R. Williamson (’82, Electrical Engineering)
HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2015

Dr. Robert W. Brodersen ('66, Electrical Engineering)

Steven Healis ('82, Industrial Engineering)

Michael Huggins ('85, Aerospace Engineering)

Jacob Lipa ('76, Civil Engineering)

Mel Melaku Negussie, Esq. ('87, Chemical Engineering)

Ganpat “Pat” Patel ('70, Electrical Engineering)

Joan Robinson-Berry ('82, Engineering Technology)

Sohrab Rob Salek
('73, Mechanical Engineering & '75, MS Engineering)

Peter S. Silva ('77, Civil Engineering)
HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2017

Jeffrey S. Berk (’88, Civil Engineering)

Deborah Flower Boice (’86, Chemical Engineering)

Deborah R. Castleman (’81, Electrical Engineering)

Kevin Patrick Grundy
(’79, Electrical Engineering & ’82, MS Electrical Engineering)

Pete Rodriguez (’90, MS Electrical Engineering)

Klaus F. Stricker (’70, Mechanical Engineering)

Thomas J. Tiernan (’85, Electrical Engineering)

Patti Wagner (’84, Chemical Engineering)

Enrique C. Zaldivar (’85, Civil Engineering)
Cal Poly Pomona Women in Engineering (CPP WE)

Cal Poly Pomona Women in Engineering (CPP WE) is dedicated to engaging all women undergraduate and graduate students, and faculty within the College of Engineering. CPP WE strives to recruit female engineers by bringing awareness and exposure of engineering programs to women while retaining and graduating current students by providing a welcoming environment for them.

The program provides greater participation by women through K-12 outreach activities, inspiring prospective and current students to be successful engineers and continuing engagement with alumnae in engineering industries. CPP WE promotes a close community for female engineering students through proactive retention activities and seeks to create an environment in which women can thrive in the classroom and beyond in their careers. Since inception, over 7,000 students have been served through this program and engineering first-time freshman female enrollment has grown to 21 percent overall.
Maximizing Engineering Potential (MEP): Center for Gender, Diversity and Student Excellence

The mission of Maximizing Engineering Potential (MEP): Center for Gender, Diversity & Student Excellence is to prepare first-generation, historically underrepresented minority, low-income and women engineering students to become professionals and leaders capable of tackling life-long, intellectual, socio-ethical and career challenges in a changing world.

MEP implements a strong student centric approach toward academic retention and graduation success. MEP provides regular support and intervention to all students, facilitates a well-balanced educational plan for each student, encourages the use of university/college resources for academic, personal or financial barriers to success. By instilling behaviors that enhance the dignity and worth of all individuals and by promoting the value of personal tenacity and social responsibility, MEP strives to produce engineering professionals, scholars, and leaders of all backgrounds.
DEAN’S LEADERSHIP BOARD

CHAIRMAN
Brian Jaramillo ('87, ET)
President & CEO
Tilden-Coil Constructors

BOARD MEMBERS
Ahmed Al-Khatib ('83, EE)
Founder
Agiline LLC

Lindon Baker ('78, ET)
Senior Partner & Co-Founder
Pentad Design Corporation

Stephen Bedolla ('90, ET)
Senior VP, Project Director
Fluor Corporation, Energy & Chemicals

Jeff Berk ('88, CE)
Regional Business Development Lead
GHD, US Western Region

Martin J. Colombatto ('82, ET)
Independent Consultant

Mark T. Czaja
VP, Technology & Innovation
Parker Aerospace

Norm Eng
VP, Palmdale Aircraft Integration
CoE & Oklahoma City Engineering
Northrop Grumman
Aerospace Systems

Nato Flores ('79, ME)
Independent Consultant
Flores Consulting Services, Inc.

James Fruth
Founder & CEO
Fruth Custom Plastics, Inc.

Lawrence M. Gates ('87, CE)
President
DRC Engineering, Inc.

Kevin P. Grundy ('79 EE & '82, MSET)
Independent Consultant

Michael Huggins ('85 ARO)
Chief Engineer
Aerospace Systems Directorate
Air Force Research Laboratory

Bob Kallenbaugh ('74, CE)
Consultant
Kallenbaugh Consulting Group

Kevin Klowden
Executive Director
Center for Regional Economics and California Center
Managing Economist
Milken Institute

Lynne Lachenmyer ('80, CHE)
Former VP, Safety, Security, Health & Environment (Retired)
ExxonMobil Chemical Company

Jacob Lipa ('77, CE)
Founder & CEO
Micropolitan

Maria Mehranian
Managing Partner & CFO
Cordoba Corporation

Renita M. Mollman
VP & General Manager,
Southern California
Burns & McDonnell

Mel Negussie ('87, CHE)
COO & General Counsel
Ethio-American Doctors Group, Inc.

Rebecca Rhoads ('80, EE & '86, MSEE)
CIO & President, Global Business Services
Raytheon Company
Global Headquarters

Clark D. Rucker ('83, ET)
Director, Phantom Works Quality
Boeing Defense, Space and Security
The Boeing Company

Peter Silva ('77, CE)
President
Silva-Silva International

Michael P. Smith ('85, ET)
Director of Engineering
Entercom Radio, San Francisco

Patti Wagner ('84, CHE)
CEO
Southern California Gas Company

Enrique Zaldivar ('85, CE)
Director & General Manager
LA Sanitation (LASAN)
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The College of Engineering Hall of Fame initiative is designed to honor the outstanding accomplishments of our preeminent engineers, but it also serves as a vehicle to provide inspiration for students, faculty, industry partners, and the donors who believe in and support our academic mission.

We wish to acknowledge the generous donations from our existing Hall of Fame members, college alumni, friends and industry sponsors who have not only made tonight’s event possible, but also accelerated our efforts in upgrading our infrastructure in support of student success. On behalf of the community of students, faculty and staff in the college, we thank you for your support and advocacy of our students and programs.

To learn more about other ways you can help support our students and create transformative educational experiences, please contact the Office of College Development at (909) 869-4468.

Hall of Fame 2019 Musical Performances

Hall of Fame Reception & Unveiling Ceremony
The Kyle Martinez Group (KMG) is a quintet that performs music in the roots of jazz, hip hop, and funk. KMG was founded in Pomona, California and, originally, the group’s members were all students attending Cal Poly Pomona. Additionally, all of the group’s members were from Rancho Cucamonga, California. The ensemble has since then turned into a collective that has been home to many musicians having gone through the music program at Cal Poly Pomona. KMG is also involved in community outreach by having some of its performing members as band directors of local high schools and other local, professional musicians.

Hall of Fame Dinner
The Bill Borjan Quintet is a group of local players that attended Cal Poly Pomona and played in the music department between 2000 and 2017. The group has performed with the Cal Poly Pomona big band in many venues in Southern California and across the country on various tours over the years. This group of alumni is proud to have played for the Engineering Hall of Fame in the past and this year as well.
HALL OF FAME
UNVEILING CEREMONY

VIP Breakfast & Unveiling Ceremony
THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

Cal Poly Pomona
3801 West Temple Ave.
Pomona, CA 91768
(909) 869-2513

VIP Breakfast
9:30 am
Cal Poly Pomona
Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major

Unveiling Ceremony
12:00 pm
Cal Poly Pomona
Engineering Building 17 Atrium