

**THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
2008-2009 LECTURES COMMITTEE REPORT
May 15, 2009**

Lectures Committee:

David Wilder, associate professor of biomedical engineering, chair

Fred Streicher, College of Engineering director of marketing and communications, ex-officio member

Caterpillar “On the Edge of Technology” Seminar Series

The Caterpillar Foundation, Peoria, IL, generously provided financial support of the Caterpillar Colloquium Series for the 2008-2009 Academic Year to the Civil and Environmental Engineering, Industrial Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering programs – all of which are determined by the Caterpillar Foundation to be most relevant to Caterpillar Corporation’s business. Lectures held included:

- November 20, 2008 – Dr. Ozden O. Ochoa, professor of mechanical engineering, Texas A&M University, presented a Mechanical Engineering seminar on "Multiscale Models for Multifunctional Materials."
- November 20, 2008 – Dr. Sheldon Jacobson, Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign, presented a Mechanical Engineering seminar on "A Sequential Stochastic Security System Design Problem for Aviation Security."
- April 17, 2009 – Dr. Fred L. Mannering, professor of civil engineering, Purdue University, presented an Industrial Engineering seminar on “Risk Compensation and the Effectiveness of Vehicle Safety Features: Some New Evidence.”

Civil and Environmental Engineering will conduct its Caterpillar “On the Edge of Technology” seminar in early Fall 2009 semester.

Randall and Barbara Meyer “Grabbing the Globe” Seminar Series

For the 2008-2009 academic year, the College of Engineering continued the college-wide seminar series, titled The Randall and Barbara Meyer "Grabbing the Globe" College-wide Seminar Series. The seminar series recognizes UI Distinguished Engineering Alumni Academy member Randall Meyer (BS 1948 with highest distinction in mechanical engineering) and his wife, Barbara. Featured speakers included:

- September 27, 2008 – Hosted by Electrical and Computer Engineering, featuring Jody Howard (BS 1986 in electrical engineering), director of social responsibility at Caterpillar Inc., Peoria, IL. and member of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Advisory Board and the College of Engineering Advisory Board.
- October 9, 2008 – Hosted by Electrical and Computer Engineering, featuring College of Engineering alumnus Dr. Michael Foley (BS 1987 in electrical engineering), executive director of the Bluetooth Special Interest Group (SIG). His topic was "Creating an International Standard."
- March 26, 2009 – Hosted by the College, featuring Randall Swisher, recently retired executive director of the American Wind Energy Association and UI political science alumnus. Swisher spoke on preparing for a career in wind energy in the global marketplace.
- April 23, 2009 – Hosted by Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, featuring Engineering alumnus Tom Marriott (BS 1968 in chemical engineering), who spoke on "Successfully Managing Plant Operations in Multiple Foreign Countries."

Other Notable College-wide Seminars

- The Annual Kurtz Lecture was held September 18, 2008. Dr. Bruce Dale, professor of chemical engineering and materials science, Michigan State University, spoke on "Fuels from Cellulosic Biomass: Energy Security, Environmental Improvement & Rural Economic Opportunities."
- Paul D. Scholz Symposium on Technology and its Role in Society, sponsored by Tau Beta Pi, national engineering honor society, was presented April 16, 2009. Robert M. Chiusano, retired executive vice president and chief operating officer of Rockwell Collins, Inc., member of the University of Iowa Engineering Advisory Board and member of the Board of Directors of Winnebago Industries, spoke on "Leadership in Engineering."