

2011 LOUISIANA ENGINEERING FOUNDATION ENGINEERING FACULTY PROFESSIONALISM AWARDS

The objectives of the **Engineering Faculty Professionalism Award** are to bring to the attention of all faculty those members who are licensed professional engineers at their university; to present registration in a positive light which should encourage faculty to work toward licensure and professionalism; and to benefit the students and the profession with the promotion of professionalism in the universities. LEF has four deserving recipients. The recipients of this year's awards are Dr. John Smith, LSU, Dr. Stan Cronk, LA Tech, Dr. Terrence Chambers, ULL, and Dr. Emmanuel Nzewi, Southern University. Dr. Jim Bowie, PhD, P.E. presented each gentlemen with a plaque at the 15th LA Joint Engineering Societies Honors and Awards banquet on January 20, 2011.

Dr. John Smith, a professor from Louisiana State University is recommended for this award based on his contributions to the BP Horizon Oil Spill Response since April, 2010. His contributions include over 100 interviews with the state, national, and international media. During all those interviews, Dr. Smith endeavored to educate the public and help in understanding the cause and impact of the spill. He exhibited the highest level of professionalism in ensuring that his comments reflected a thorough understanding of the technical aspects of the spill and subsequent actions to contain it, and avoided sensational, unfounded comments. Dr. Smith is recognized as an expert in floating drilling operations, and his assistance was requested on several occasions. He acted as a consultant to the Coast Guard/MMS to review the incident. Dr. Smith was asked to review the 24 hours of operations prior to the blowout, and testify under oath to the review panel. He has participated as an advisor to the Presidential Oil Spill Commission. Dr. Smith is recognized as one of the few experts on floating drilling operations not currently employed by industry, and has been sought after as an unbiased engineer with expertise relevant to the incident. He has done an outstanding job of aiding the Commission in understanding the incident and attempts to control the aftermath of the spill.

Dr. Stan Cronk is the recipient of the Faculty Award from Louisiana Tech University. Dr. Stan Cronk is a Lecturer in Industrial Engineering in the College of Engineering and Science at Louisiana Tech University. He received his BS and PhD degrees, both in Biomedical Engineering, from Louisiana Tech University. Prior to joining the faculty at Louisiana Tech, he was a rehabilitation engineer/senior specialist at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis for fifteen years. At UTHSC he co-developed and then directed a state-wide network of assistive technology clinical service delivery centers for the Tennessee Division of Rehabilitation Services, with budgets totaling over \$5 million over a 12-year period. Besides administering the center contracts with the state and training center personnel in service delivery activities, he evaluated persons with physical disabilities and/or visual impairments throughout the state for accommodations for employment or education, particularly for computer access. While at UTHSC, Dr. Cronk joined the faculty of the Joint Program in Biomedical Engineering, collaboration between UTHSC and the University of Memphis. Before becoming a lecturer, Dr. Cronk's research efforts primarily focused on human-computer interfaces for persons with a severe physical disability. He is the author or co-author of over 40 publications and presentations.

Dr. Cronk now holds responsibilities for teaching in the first-year engineering curriculum, called Living with the Lab, at Louisiana Tech. He also teaches several classes for the Industrial Engineering Program, including classes on computer applications for industrial engineers as well as classes on work design, ergonomics, human factors, engineering economy, and engineering management. Dr. Chambers' research interests include engineering design and optimization, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and alternative energy. He is the author of over fifty technical and pedagogical papers, and has been awarded roughly two million dollars in externally funded research grants.

Dr. Terrence L. Chambers is the recipient for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Dr. Chambers currently serves as Associate Dean of Engineering at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Prior to that appointment he taught in the Mechanical Engineering Department for 12 years, and served for one year as the Interim Department

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Head. He regularly teaches classes in the areas of 3D Solid Modeling, Numerical Methods, Finite Element Analysis, and Design Optimization.

Dr. Chambers received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Brigham Young University in 1986 and worked at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, in Keyport, Washington for three years before returning to BYU in 1989 to perform his graduate studies. Dr. Chambers received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering in 1994, with an emphasis in Design Optimization. After serving briefly as an adjunct at BYU, Dr. Chambers took his first permanent academic position at Lamar University in 1995, and moved to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in 1997. His industrial experience includes his work for the Navy, two years as the President of Design Synthesis, Inc., an engineering software company, and extensive consulting work, primarily in the area of new product design. He is an active member of ASEE, ASME, LES, and is a registered Professional Engineer in Louisiana.

Dr. Emmanuel U. Nzewi is the recipient from Southern University for the Faculty Award. He established FE review course in College of Engineering and lead re-accreditation for the Civil Engineering program in the fall of 2009. Dr. Nzewi is active in emerging and innovative technologies committee (ASCE –EWRI) at the national level in Water Resources Community. He introduced major improvements to advising program in CE Department. Dr. Nzewi also contributed to the development of alternative water supply schemes in developing regions.