NEWSLETTER

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of Metallurgy and Mining Engineering

January 1973

Earl Eckel To Retire After 34 Years

This June, the end of an era in metallurgical education will be marked as the resignation of Earl J. Eckel takes effect. More than any other individual, Earl was responsible for molding the curriculum that for three decades so successfully prepared our students for their careers in engineering. Earl's courses were classic models of clarity and thoroughness. He devoted himself unstintingly to the preparation of his courses and to his students. He was always available to his students who freely consulted him on course work as well as many other areas of professional or personal problems in which his advice was so highly regarded.

Earl expected a lot from his students, and they knew that they had to be prepared for his classes. There may have been a few who didn't appreciate his efforts at the time, but they soon joined the "Thank God for Eckel" club when they were expected to perform on the job. Grateful acknowledgment for the insistence on excellence that he demanded is always a subject of conversation when alumni get together.

Earl joined the staff in 1939, shortly after the department was organized, and it is hard to imagine how the department will get along without him. We are urging him to develop texts from his extensive notes, handouts, and references. If he would do this, it would constitute an invaluable legacy to the students of metallurgy yet to come.

The only consolation we can find in Earl's announced retirement is the recognition that he will be able to enjoy a long and well-deserved retirement. It has been some time since one of our staff has lived to enjoy the pleasures of retirement. The Eckels plan to remain in the community, and Earl's many interests will keep him busy and active.

Everyone whose life has been touched and enriched by contact with Earl Eckel joins us in thanking him for his wonderful career and wishing him a long, healthy, and rich retirement.

New Curriculum in Effect

The curriculum revision that was outlined in last year's Newsletter has been now officially approved with only minor modifications, including the addition of the Physics of Metals course as required rather than elective.

The cooperation of the many alumni who took time to send in their comments is very gratefully acknowledged. The responses varied from strong approval to fears that the change was a serious mistake. The faculty felt the alumni reaction, on balance, implied endorsement of the proposed change.

The new program was actually put into effect this fall in anticipation of final University approvals, and the last class who followed the old program will graduate this June.

To summarize the new program briefly, graduation requirements

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Enrollment, Student Aid Continue Decline

Enrollment continues to be of critical concern. This year we had 57 undergraduates vs. 64 two years ago; comparable figures for the College of Engineering are 3130 and 3600—about the same rate of decline. Our recruiting efforts based on scholarship offers to high school students have been restricted somewhat as some of our industrial sponsors have cut back on this kind of spending. We are pleased to announce a new addition to the list of sponsors, however: the Abex Corporation. Fortunately, they share our concern about decreasing engineering enrollments, are able to foresee manpower shortages in the near future, and are willing to help us do something about it.

We clearly need to expand this program, and individual alumni are in a position to help. Your suggestions to top management that they participate would be much appreciated. Many companies that we have approached have referred us to their matching funds programs of aid to education, whereby employee donations are matched by the company. We have arranged with the University Foundation to establish a Metallurgy Education Fund, so that your donations to the Foundation can be earmarked to be used for financial aid to metallurgy students. If you have been making gifts to the Foundation, or feel such an urge coming on, we request that you consider this fund, making sure that you take advantage of any company matching plan. Thanks!

Alumni News

Harry M. Wilten, '21, wrote to wish success to the Fracture Control Program announced in last year's Newsletter. Mr. Wilten took his degree in mining long before a metallurgy degree was offered here, but the "last 32 years" of his engineering practice dealt with metal failures in the automotive, railroad, aircraft, and oil refining fields. Mr. Wilten now lives at 4600 Alamosa, Port Arthur, Texas 77640. Relative to the Fracture Control Program, Prof. Tom Dolan, who has been chairman of the steering committee, is resigning from the University this February, and George Sinclair, '48, will succeed him. George has been on the staff of the TAM Department since his graduation in metallurgy.

Don M. Coulter, '25, retired last year to his former home: 226 H Street NW, Miami, Oklahoma 74354. For the past 11 years, Don was with the Post Engineer Div., Ft. Wingate Army Depot, Gallup, N.M. Don expects to keep busy fishing and doing some research.

Leslie Voltz, '26, has unearthed photographs taken during a class field trip in 1925! He has been able to identify most of the people in the photos, and invites any who might recall that distant day to contact him so that he can send them a print. Mr. Voltz is now retired, but remains much interested in industrial safety, a field in which he spent the most interesting part of his professional career. Mr. Voltz's address is RR 5, Box 161, Logansport, Ind. 46947.

Harry Czyzewski, '41, has been named "Engineer of the Year" by the Professional Engineers of Oregon. Harry has been very busy in civic and professional activities in addition to operating MEI, his consulting and testing laboratory in Portland.

Charles Chao, '44, writes from Alameda, Calif., where he is a production metallurgist at the Naval Air Station specializing in failure analysis, to reflect on his career and education. Charlie plans to retire this year to devote his time to improving understanding between Americans and Chinese by leading trips to mainland China.

Burt Person, '47, is now Exec. Asst. to the President, ARA Services in Philadelphia. Burt's new home address is 229 Demerest Rd., Moorestown, N.J. 08057.

Robert Millhouse, '48, joined Chicago Castings Div. of Clark Equipment Co. in 1968, and is now Vice-President and General Manager.

Stewart Sandberg, '48, suffered a stroke last August. Stew's many friends join us in sending wishes for a speedy recovery.

We appreciated a letter from Don Bertossa, '50, with news from the Bay Area. Don was program chairman for the Golden Gate welding and materials conference last November. This was an extensive conference with over 100 papers given, and was co-sponsored by the technical societies in the Bay Area. Don gives us this information on some Illini: his brother, Bob, '50, has resigned as Exec. Vice-President of Coast Metals, and now is with Bechtel Engineering in San Francisco. Ed Kaminski, '50, is at Lockheed and worked with Don on the Santa Clara ASM Chapter yearbook. Wayne Drom, '50, is also at Lockheed, and a member of the Santa Clara AWS Chapter of which Don is treasurer.

Arlo Lundberg, '50, who has been with John Deere since his graduation, has been transferred to the Dubuque Tractor Works where he is supervisor of metallurgy.

Marvin Pohlman, '51, is Vice-President and General Manager, Eastern Caroline Steel, and has recently been named a director of the Nacor Corp. of Charlotte, N.C.

We were sorry to learn of the death of Harold Zahn, '52, last May. Our sympathy is extended to his widow.

Bob Draznik, '53, has a new address: 5920 Oakwood Dr., Apt. 2C, Lisle, Ill. 60532. Bob is manager of materials and processes, Sunbeam R & D Center in Oak Brook.

Joe Darby, '58, has been given leave from his position as group leader in the Materials Science Div. at Argonne National Lab in order to become a member of a four-man Long Range Planning committee. This is a full-time assignment, and the team's recommendations will have far-reaching consequences for the Laboratory.

Dick Haimbaugh, '58, is manager of engineering and sales for Induction Heating and Engineering Corp in Chicago. Dick visited the campus last year, and talked enthusiastically about his new solid state induction heaters.

Larry Hayes, '59, now lives at 238 Northmoor Pl., E. Alton, Ill., with his wife and three children. After four years with Union Carbide in Indianapolis, Larry joined McDonnell-Douglas Electronics Div. in St. Louis, and is now a senior group engineer dealing with materi-

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Department Alumni Form Constituency

The Alumni Association of the University has just officially approved the formation of a "Metallurgy and Mining Alumni Constituency." Such organizations within the Alumni Association have developed rapidly in recent years, and serve to link alumni closer to the unit of the University with which their associations are the strongest.

A portion of each member's Association dues will be given to the constituent organization. These funds can then be used to carry out departmental alumni activities: mailings, newsletters, meetings, etc. This is particularly important to us, since the use of State funds for these activities is no longer permitted and could not be carried out without this source of funds.

All graduates of the department will automatically become members of the M & M Constituency when they submit their dues. We hope this closer tie with the department will encourage more alumni to join the Alumni Association.

"Lost Alumni" List

The list enclosed with the Newsletter is names of those alumni for whom we do not have an address. Will you help us improve the accuracy of our files by letting us know if you are aware of the current address of anyone on the list? Your cooperation the last time we prepared such a list helped us "find" several, and perhaps we can have the same luck this time.

News About the Staff

During the past year, we have added two new men to the staff.

Harry Cook joined our staff in the fall as Assoc. Prof; his appointment is shared with mechanical engineering. Harry has a B.S. and M.S. from Case, and received his Ph.D. in 1966 from Northwestern in materials science. Harry came to us from Ford Motor Co., where his work concerned brakes. He will continue this interest in his work here, and is developing a laboratory to study braking systems, including such factors as squeal, fade, efficiency, and friction materials. This semester, Harry is offering a course on friction and wear.

H. L. Fraser will join us in February as Asst. Prof. of Metallurgy. Hamish has just completed his Ph.D. in Physical Metallurgy at Birmingham, England, where his research involved the study of crystal defects by high-voltage electron microscopy. He will continue in his interest in microscopy techniques here, and will also teach our graduate course on x-ray diffraction.

Paul Beck has been appointed this year as Associate in the University's Center for Advanced Study. This appointment relieves Paul of his teaching responsibilities and has permitted him to work on his book on magnetism in alloys. Since Paul's graduate students still continue their research under his direction, his time is not as free for writing as might be wished.

Ted Rowland will take a sabbatical leave this spring, and will spend six months at Bell Labs in Murray Hill, N.J., where he will work with the Chemical Research Dept. in the area of high polymers. Ted has been interested in polymers for some time, but this interest became more than casual this fall, when he offered a course on that topic for our seniors and grad students.

Neville Pugh is chairman of the corrosion-resistant metals committee of AIME, and chairman of the NACE 1973 Corrosion Research Conference. Nev has developed an active research program here on stress corrosion cracking.

R. K. Viswanadham, one of our graduate students, won honorable mention in the annual Metallographic Exhibit in Cleveland for his picture showing strain fields in niobium.

Charlie Wert and Howard Birnbaum have completed their manuscript for the 1974 edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica on the solid state of matter.

Dave Lieberman is spending the year in Israel on a Fulbright Fellowship as a visiting professor at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Dave's principal activity is to assist in curriculum development in the technical institute.

Carl Altstetter went to Japan last May in connection with a U. of I.-Univ. of Tokyo exchange sponsored by NSF and the Japan Society for Promotion of Science. Prof. Hasiguti will visit us soon, and Charlie Wert will visit Tokyo this May as a continuing part of the exchange that deals with solutes in refractory metals.

New Curriculum (continued from page one)

have been reduced from 136 to 128 hours. The required core of metallurgy courses has been reduced from 38 to 27 hours, with a new 12-hour sequence of physical metallurgy (lecture and lab) replacing the old 16-hour Met. E. 201-203-208-210-251-253 physical metallurgy-metallography core. Elective choices include 18 hours of social science and humanities, six hours of free electives, and 21 hours of technical electives, nine of which are to be taken outside the department. Incidentally, the University has now dropped the two years of physical education requirement.

More Alumni News

als, processes, and printed wiring technology. Larry also has managed to get his M.S. in business from SIU.

Robert Leutje, '59, has been appointed supervising developmental engineer for Armco Steel's market development organization. Bob has been with Armco since graduation, and most recently served as a patent engineer.

M. N. Parthasarathi, '60, was in Urbana last spring while on a world tour that included the Zinc Institute meeting in Montreal. Parthi is Director of the Indian Zinc Institute. He is sending his son, Arvind, to begin graduate studies here next semester: if he is anywhere near the student his father was, he will do well indeed.

George Roman, '61, is district manager, Forest Resources Div. of Millar Freeman Publications, with offices in New York. George's home address is 79B Birch Rd., Cedar Grove, N.J. 07009.

Tom Drews, '61, is a research metallurgist for International Harvester in Chicago, and is living in Downers Grove at 1940 Oxnard Dr., 60515.

Kalinath Mukhurjee, '63, has been promoted to Professor at Brooklyn Poly. Last year, he was recipient of BPI's Distinguished Teacher Award.

Ken Boris, '63, has received his MBA from Loyola Univ., and is now Manager, Quality Assurance, for Anaconda in Waterbury, Conn.

Dennis Acuncius, '63, received the 1972 Jules Garnier Award. This is an international award made by the Societe Francaise de Metallurgie to the person making the most significant contribution to the metallurgy of nickel alloys. The award was 5000 francs and a trip to Paris. Dennis' work involved the development of Hasteloy S. He is a senior engineer for Stellite in Kokomo, Ind., after earlier having worked at Battelle-Columbus.

Tom Finch, '63, is annoyed that (1) his mail is addressed to the Bureau of Mines Research Center instead of to the Mining Engineering Dept. at Montana Tech where he is Asst. Prof., and (2) his Newsletter arrives after his brother-in-law, Dave Franklin, '65, at Argonne's Idaho Div., receives his. We can correct our files, Tom, but we can't help that the Postal Service has trouble finding Butte.

Sylvester Scott, '63, visited with us this fall while on a recruiting trip for Alcoa's Davenport plant. He reported that Jerry Schuster, '63, is now with Alcoa Process Development Lab at the Alcoa Tech Center in Merwin, Pa.

Ed Van Reuth, '64, is now Asst. to the Director, Materials Science Office, ARPA, and has a new home address: 1400 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Va. 22209.

Chuck White, '65, was promoted to Assoc. Prof. of Metallurgy at General Motors Institute in Flint. Chuck has provided us with two address up-dates: Tom Faro, '65, is now in Chicago with Western Electric, and Bob Howe, '65, is with Esso Research, Box 101, Florham Park, N.J. 07932.

Ron Gibala, '65, was awarded the technical achievement award of the Cleveland Technical Societies Council for 1972. Ron is professor of materials science at Case-Western Reserve.

Mike Fiene, '68, has left INCO's lab at Sterling Forest, and is now at GE's Large Steam Turbine Div. in Schenectady. Mike has been married now for two years and recently added a son to the family, now living at 12 Shadow Wood Way, Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019.

Emmanuel deLamotte, '68, is now at Westinghouse Research Lab in Brussels; he formerly was with Brown Boveri in Zurich.

M. S. Rashid, '69, who was at Iowa State, has taken a position at the GM Technical Center.

Dale Matthews, '69, dropped by last July on his way back to Dallas on such a typical corn-growing day that even getting to Texas sounded good. Dale is making thin film devices for Texas Instruments. Dale's father, an engineer with GM's Electromotive Division in LaGrange, was one of our hosts when we visited that plant on a field trip last year.

Bob Port, '70, has moved from U.S. Steel in Gary to Taussig Associates, consulting and testing metallurgists, in Chicago. Bob will be the right-hand man of Lyle Jacobs, '57, who is now Exec. Vice-President. Bob lives at 17602 66th Court, Tinley Park. Lyle also has a new home address, having moved out into the country last summer: 2213 Riverview, Fox River Grove, Ill. 60021.

Krishna Chawla, '71, is learning Portuguese and enjoying living in beautiful Rio de Janeiro where he works in the materials science section of the military engineers institute. Congratulations are due on the birth of a son since arriving in Rio.

Don Warren, '72, after less than a year with John Deere in Moline, was promoted to Asst. Chief Metallurgist at Deere's consumer product plant in Horiken, Wis.