At the end of June, my year as REA president came to a close. It was an honor to serve this organization for the past year and to contribute to our mission of supporting students, connecting alumni and encouraging excellence. Here are a few of the ways we contributed to this mission last year:

- We expanded our support of students with a new financial commitment to sponsor a senior design team.
- We expanded our network by hosting a special event in Washington, D.C., and by creating two new regional chapters in Dallas–Fort Worth and the San Francisco Bay Area.
- We also established a new Distinguished Service Medal as part of our annual alumni honors program to encourage excellence.

Thank you for your continued support of REA. Whether you are an REA Sponsor, attend events or tell your colleagues and friends about the excellent opportunities that come to those with a Rice engineering degree, you are the reason that we are successful.

With thanks,

Kate Hallaway, P.E., CE ’04, MBA ’13
Past President, Rice Engineering Alumni

I am excited to greet you as the new president of REA for the 2013-2014 year and to introduce our first annual REA Report. This publication will give you an overview of the many exciting things your Rice Engineering Alumni organization is doing, both to support current students and to engage with alumni and the broader Rice community.

Our six incoming board members come to us from around the U.S., expanding our board representation beyond Houston to San Francisco, Austin, Dallas and other cities. This year, we are planning alumni events in Houston and each of our three regions, and we are always excited about opportunities to gather with alumni in additional locations.

We are very enthusiastic about the current direction of REA. We have been adding opportunities to support student projects directly, and we look forward to funding more this year.

Thank you for your interest in and support of your Rice Engineering Alumni organization.

Sincerely,

Ted Oldham, ME ’90
President, Rice Engineering Alumni
Supporting Students

REA Grants
In 2012-2013, REA gave nearly $20,000 in grants to support Rice engineering students.

Team Timekeepers: Accurate, Automatic Timing for Beer Bike
Team Timekeepers, a senior engineering design team, developed and successfully race-tested an automated timekeeping system for Beer Bike that uses helmet-mounted radio frequency identification (RFID) tags. Their cap-stone engineering project won them the Willy Revolution Award for innovative design. Proposals for future projects include a web interface for real-time online updates (great for out-of-town alumni) and an onsite leaderboard.

Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen
REA contributes to the Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen (OEDK) as part of a $100,000, multi-year commitment to support the original renovations to the facility and improve programs. The OEDK provides a space for undergraduate engineering students to design, prototype and deploy solutions to real-world engineering challenges.

Student Grants
REA provides support and funding for student-led engineering projects. This year, REA supported Rice’s concrete canoe race team in a national competition, a student-led research symposium to help underrepresented minorities become more involved in engineering, and OwlSpark, Rice’s first accelerator program to support entrepreneurship and help students launch new companies and technologies.

Awards and Scholarships
In addition to the REA programs funded by sponsorship (shown above), we are proud to distribute to engineering students a number of financial awards and scholarships derived from permanent endowments at Rice and from other sources of funding. At REA’s End-of-Year Picnic in April 2013, more than $100,000 in awards and scholarships were presented to outstanding students in the George R. Brown School of Engineering. Awards include departmental merit awards for juniors and seniors; leadership, research and service awards; and other special named awards. Join students, faculty, staff and alumni in celebrating student achievements at next year’s picnic on Saturday, April 12, 2014!

2012-2013 REA Sponsorship

$38,900 Total dollars donated to REA in FY2013.

55% Increase in REA sponsorship over last year.

197 Number of donors, including corporations and foundations.

REA Contributions to Student and Alumni Programs
Connecting Alumni

Expanding the REA Network

REA seeks to be relevant and impactful for all of its members, not just those in Houston. REA regional chapters provide alumni with opportunities to network locally and to engage with students (e.g., through new engineering internships).

REA launched its Austin chapter in 2011 and, this past spring, formally launched chapters in Dallas–Fort Worth (DFW) and the San Francisco Bay Area (SFBA), areas with large Rice engineering alumni populations and active Rice alumni communities. REA also hosted a special event in Washington, D.C. The DFW inaugural event featured a “Vision for Rice Engineering” by Dean of Engineering Edwin L. “Ned” Thomas. SFBA’s event featured a carbon nanotechnology presentation from Professor James Tour, followed later in the summer by a fireside chat with Bob Maxfield, EE ’63, and moderator Forest Baskett, math ’65, on entrepreneurship and Silicon Valley. This was a new format for REA events and was very well-received. We expect to offer similar opportunities in other regions in the future.

Each chapter is led by a volunteer steering team, and one or two volunteers from each team also serve on the REA board of directors. Together with the REA Austin chapter, these chapters give REA a permanent presence in the metro areas with the largest populations of Rice engineering alumni. We welcome applications for new board members and chapter steering team volunteers. For more information, please visit alumni.rice.edu/rea/leadership.

Show Your Support: 75th Anniversary Sponsorship Challenge

To commemorate our 75th anniversary, an anonymous donor is offering a challenge to fellow Rice engineering alumni and friends.

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<th>Sponsor Level</th>
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<td>Blue Young Alumni</td>
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If 75 individuals become REA Sponsors between July 1 and December 31, 2013, our challenger will make an additional $7,500 gift to REA.

Our sponsors enable REA to achieve its mission of supporting students, connecting alumni and encouraging excellence. Please consider sponsoring REA at one of the levels listed above and “round” your gift to the next $75 in support of the challenge and the generosity of our donor.

Visit alumni.rice.edu/rea/support-rea to initiate or renew your sponsorship for 2013-2014.
Encouraging Excellence

The George R. Brown School of Engineering recognizes exemplary engineering alumni in our alumni honors program, which is administered on behalf of the school by the REA board of directors. Please join us from 4-6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15, for a presentation and reception honoring the 2013 awardees (more information can be found on the back of this report).

2013 REA Honorees

Outstanding Engineering Alumnus

Juan C. Meza, EE '78, MEE '79, Ph.D. CAAM '86

Juan Meza is the dean of natural sciences at UC-Merced and was formerly a senior scientist and department head in high-performance computing research at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. He has made substantial and numerous technical contributions to the development of high-performance computational science tools that tackle complex problems ranging from the modeling of contaminant transport to vulnerability detection in large electrical networks.

Outstanding Young Engineering Alumnus

Andrew J. Schaefer, MCAAM '94, Ph.D. Georgia Tech

Andrew Schaefer, the William Kepler Whiteford Professor of Industrial Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh, is one of the leading scholars in the country in the field of operations research. His major contribution has been in helping to integrate industrial engineering with operations research and medicine, so that physicians can effectively utilize clinical data to make better decisions in patient treatment and care.

Distinguished Service Medal

C. Sidney Burrus, EE '57, MSEE '60, Ph.D. Stanford

Sidney Burrus is being honored for more than 30 years of exceptional service to the George R. Brown School of Engineering. He has served Rice University and the Brown School of Engineering for many years, even returning after his official retirement in 2005 to serve as interim dean from 2010 to 2011. In addition to excelling in his academic and research career, he has continually provided exemplary leadership and guidance to students and faculty.

“The REA has helped me connect with current students and the broader university community, while staying up-to-date on the most current technology and innovations being developed at Rice. Congrats on 75 years of Rice engineering excellence — REA has made a significant impact on the world!”

— Wendy Hoenig, MSci ’86
Upcoming Events

REAs 75th Anniversary, Nov. 15

REA was founded in 1938, making it Rice's oldest alumni organization. Please join us at Rice Homecoming and Reunion on Nov. 15 to celebrate 75 years of beneficial collaborations and lifelong connections between alumni and the school. For more information, visit alumni.rice.edu/rea/75th-anniversary.

State of the School of Engineering
2:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 15
McMurtry Auditorium, Anne and Charles Duncan Hall
Featuring Ned Thomas, the William and Stephanie Sick Dean of the George R. Brown School of Engineering and professor in mechanical engineering and materials science and in chemical and biomolecular engineering

Awards Presentation and Reception
4-6:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 15
McMurtry Auditorium, Anne and Charles Duncan Hall

REA Fall Social, Dec. 3

Saint Arnold Brewery, Houston, Texas
7–9 p.m., Dec. 3
$10 per person. Free for REA Sponsors.

Hear Lin Zhong, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, tell us how his research is helping shape the future of mobile communication tools, such as tablets and smartphones, and feast on some of Houston's best cuisine and brew. Treebeards will cater, and we will have an open bar featuring an assortment of Saint Arnold's fine brews, all of which is included with your admission. Register at alumni.rice.edu/rea/Houston-Social-Events.