

assure that Gulfstream's experimental planes perform according to specs before they are released for sale. McFall lives in Savannah, Georgia.

Other Events Involving AE Alumni

■ Alumni who participated in the 2003 Engineering Expo on campus recently included **Nick Evans** ('99), **Min-Po Shiue** (MS '01), and **Rachel Landess** ('99), of Lockheed Martin; **Doug Heinrichs** ('92, MS '94) of Boeing, and **Daniel Jensen** ('88) of Rolls-Royce.

■ In October 2003, the AE Department restarted a tradition that had lapsed. Faculty and staff pitted their batting skills against graduate students in a softball game on the grounds of Parkland College in Champaign. **Jason Merret** ('99, MS '01) captained the graduate students, with Philippe Geubelle leading the faculty and staff.

■ **CU Aerospace** was one of about 40 companies exhibiting in Champaign County's fourth techShow, held on September 24 at the Urbana Holiday Inn. Wayne Solomon, Aerospace Engineering's former department head, is president of CU Aerospace, and **David Carroll** ('85, MS '86, PhD '92) is its engineering director. The company highlighted two versions of its pulsed plasma thruster, as well as a laptop presentation of its UltraSail concept.

Founded in 1998, CU Aerospace is engaged in identifying and developing promising new aerospace technologies, ultimately for commercialization and distribution. Other alumni principals in the company are **Mike Bragg** ('76, MS '77) and **Victoria Coverstone** ('85, MS '86, PhD '92). AE alumni employees include full-timer **Darren King** ('96, MS '00) and part-timers **Gabriel Benavides** ('01) and **Julia Laystrom** ('00).

Many local high-tech firms work as contractors for the Department of Defense, the Internal Revenue Service, National Security Agency, and other federal agencies. Of the 87 companies listed in the Advanced Technology Directory, 69 are headquartered in Champaign County.

■ Two AE alumni who attended the Society of Automotive Engineers' alumni reception in Detroit in March 2003 were **Greg Fadler** (MS '90) and **Gus Nystrom** ('70).

FACULTY NEWS

Michael Bragg ('76, MS '77) was elected as chair of the Aerospace Department Chairman's Association (ADCA) at AIAA's Aerospace Sciences and Exhibit meeting in Reno, Nevada, in January 2003. He was the association's secretary/treasurer. Chairs or heads of accredited departments that grant degrees in aerospace engineering or similar fields are automatically members of the ADCA.

Bruce Conway, **Victoria Coverstone**, **Gregory Elliott**, and **Philippe Geubelle** were cited by students as excellent teachers, based on data collected in spring 2003. Their names appeared in the fall 2003 list.

Bruce Conway and **John Prussing** attended the 2003 AAS/AIAA Astrodynamics Specialist Conference in August in Big Sky, Montana. Alumni who also attended included **Daryl Boden** (PhD '86), who is on the faculty at the U.S. Naval Academy; **Robert Farquhar** ('59), of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory; **Alan Hope** ('89, MS '91), of the Naval Research Laboratory; **Ron Lisowski** (PhD '84), on the faculty of the U.S. Air Force Academy; **Steve Tragesser** ('92), on the faculty of the Air Force Institute of Technology; **Aaron Trask** ('98, MS '00, PhD '02), of the Naval Research Laboratory, and **Scott Zimmer** ('01), currently a graduate student at the University of Texas, Austin. **Chris D'Souza** ('83, MS '84) of the C.S. Draper Laboratory was co-author on a paper that was presented during the meeting.

J. Craig Dutton, an affiliate professor in aerospace engineering, was invested in September as a Donald Biggar Willett Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. Dutton is an affiliate professor in aerospace engineering and is an expert in the areas of high-speed separated and mixing flows and shock wave/boundary layer interactions. He is also an AIAA associate fellow.

Gregory Elliott was recently named an AIAA Associate Fellow. Elliott joined the Aerospace Engineering Department in January 2003 as an associate professor.

John Prussing attended the AAS/AIAA Space Flight Mechanics meeting in February 2003 in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He presented two papers for authors who were unable to attend. AE alumni at the conference were **Ron Lisowski** (PhD '84), on the faculty at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and **Aaron Trask** ('98, MS '00, PhD '02), from the Naval Research Lab.

Michael Selig ('84) was featured on The Discovery Channel's "Unsolved History" series in December 2002, in a documentary about how the Red Baron died. Selig worked with **Brian Fuesz** ('83) to create a simulation of Baron Manfred von Richthofen's last flight in 1918, in which he was shot down. There are conflicting accounts of whether the Red Baron was downed by ground fire or at the hands of the Canadian pilot, Capt. Roy Brown. Selig worked on aerodynamics, propulsion, and gyroscopic forces for the flight models of the Fokker triplane and Sopwith Camel. Fuesz put together the simulation, complete with joysticks, moving control surfaces, Vickers machine guns, and realtime bullet trajectories. "The basic conclusion from our part of the show is that it's highly improbable that the Baron was shot by Capt. Brown. After our flight sim part, the show moves on to suggest that von Richthofen was shot by ground fire."

Lee Sentman ('58) received the 2003 AIAA Sustained Service Award at the Plasmadynamics and Lasers

award luncheon in Orlando, Florida, in June. This annual award, instituted in 1999, recognizes sustained, significant service and contributions to AIAA by its members.

Scott White and co-authors Nancy Sottos and Eric Brown received an award for best paper at the 2003 conference of the American Society of Composites (ASC). Their paper, "Microcapsule induced toughening in a self-healing polymer composite," was presented at the 2002 ASC conference.

Faculty members from the department were interviewed in the wake of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* break-up during re-entry to Earth on February 1, 2003. Professors **Bob Beddini, Mike Bragg, Rod Burton, Victoria Coverstone, Harry Hilton, John Prussing, and Wayne Solomon** were consulted by local and Chicagoland radio and TV stations, the *News-Gazette*, and the *Chicago Tribune*. Hilton even received a call from a reporter in Tampa, Florida.

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UD01

Donors for 2002—Thank You for Remembering Us

Recorded below are the names of alumni, friends, and corporations who donated generously in 2002. We make every effort to be accurate but if we have omitted your name or company, please let us know, and we will make the correction in our next newsletter. We thank you for your continuing investment in AE and its activities.

Individuals

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Erwin W. Wuttke, '69

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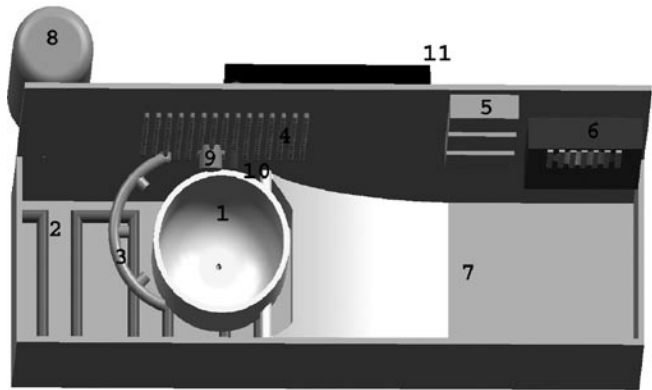
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Two AE Teams Win Space Design Competition

Two undergraduate teams from Aerospace Engineering placed in the AIAA Foundation's 2002-2003 Undergraduate Team Space Competition. The first prize went to the Mars Research Team, led by Heidi Meicenheimer, for its Mars inflatable plant growth module mission. Team members were **Lucas Allen** ('03), **Adam Stevens** ('03), Wei (Danny) Tang, David Tess, Michael Wang, **Asher Yap** ('03), and **John Yim** ('03). Included in the first prize is an invitation to send



The Mars Research Team superimposed on a picture of the Gusev Crater (from left to right, front row): Asher Yap, Heidi Meicenheimer, Lucas Allen, Danny Tang, John Yim; (back row): Adam Stevens, David Tess, and Mike Wang.



- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1-Growing Pot | 7-Waste disposal area |
| 2-Heat Pipes | 8-Seed sphere storage |
| 3-Watering pipe | 9-Seed sphere dispenser |
| 4-LED array | 10-Nutrient Gel dispenser |
| 5-Inlet gas filters | 11-Right arm DC motor |
| 6-Dehumidifer | |

The top-front view of the Mars inflatable growth module.

a representative to the Habitation 2004 Conference in Orlando, Florida, in January 2004, to do a presentation on the project.

The third-place team, led by **Matthew Wright** ('03), won for its autonomous regenerative environmental system. Team members were Jason Amundson, **Kevin Brown** ('03), **Richard Gimlin** ('03), **Richard Hudec** ('03), Andrew Oestreich, and Shane Wake.



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