



Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering

FALL Newsletter 2014

ECE is Everywhere!

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SPECIAL ISSUE: ECE is Everywhere!

From nanoscale devices to cell phones...from bioelectronics to secure computing...from robots to airplanes...from the power grid to the internet.

UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



ECE is Everywhere!

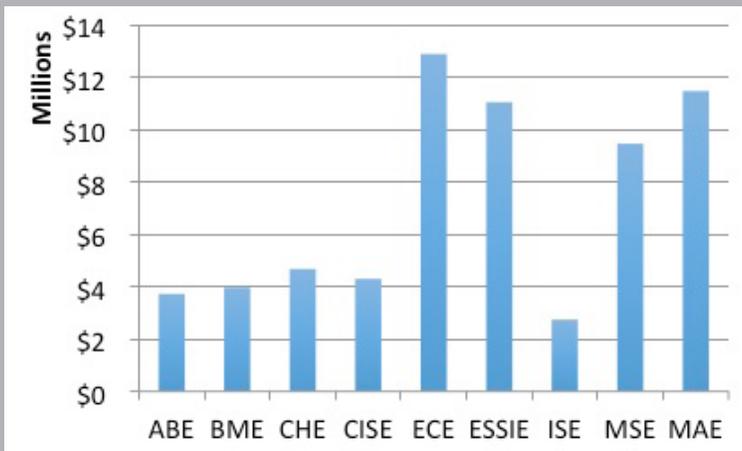
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ECE led the college in research expenditures in Fiscal Year 2013-2014 with \$12.9M. Total college expenditures were \$64.3M.

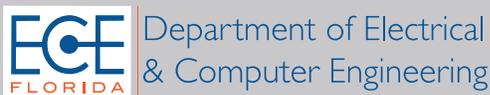


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Message from the Chair



Department of Electrical
& Computer Engineering



Welcome to our ECE newsletter, highlighting **ECE is Everywhere!**

The big news in our department is that we have hired six new faculty members since last year, four of these as a result of the university's preeminence initiative. This initiative is a part of a strategic investment from the Florida Legislature to boost the University of Florida to the top 10 public universities in the nation. These new positions are in the following areas: big data, cybersecurity, neuroengineering, power systems and power electronics. These areas match well with the areas that were targeted in our department strategic plan last fall.

Our first two preeminence hires have already arrived. **Dr. Karim Oweiss** was an associate professor at Michigan State University and specializes in brain machine interfaces. **Dr. Daniela Oliveira** was an assistant professor at Bowdoin College and specializes in computer security and operating systems. Two more preeminence hires will arrive in January of 2015. **Dr. Arturo Bretas** is a PhD graduate from Virginia Tech and specializes in power systems protection and the smart grid. **Dr. Shuo Wang** is also a graduate from Virginia Tech and joins us in power electronics, smart grid, renewable energy conversion and electrification of transport. We are still in the process of hiring our fifth preeminence line, the Intel Chair in Information Technology.

In addition, we have hired two other faculty members through other initiatives.

Dr. Sanjeev Koppal is a Ph.D graduate of the Robotics Institute at Carnegie Mellon University. Dr. Koppal specializes in computational photography and computer vision. **Dr. Tuba Yavuz** is an expert in software engineering and concurrent systems. She is a Ph.D graduate from the University of California, Santa Barbara, who had previously been a research faculty member in the UF CISE Department.

Finally, we wish to welcome another faculty member joining our department in January—

Dr. W. Kent Fuchs—the new president of the University of Florida. Dr. Fuchs earned his PhD in electrical engineering from Illinois in 1985. He has since served on the ECE faculty at Illinois, as ECE Department Chair at Purdue, as Dean of the College of Engineering at Cornell, and as Provost at Cornell. Dr. Fuchs is a leading researcher in computer engineering, particularly in areas of dependable computer systems and the testing/failure analysis of integrated circuits.

As is very fitting with our the "ECE is Everywhere" theme of this newsletter, we look forward to welcoming Dr. Fuchs as the next president of the University of Florida and as our newest ECE faculty member.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Harris'.

Professor and Chair