

From the Executive Director

Innovation abounds at Case Western Reserve. As we end the academic year, we also approach the end of Rob Widing's first academic year as the new Dean of the Weatherhead School of Management (WSOM).

Several new initiatives have originated at Weatherhead this year. The launch of a new Design & Innovation Department provides further academic and practice expansion of Weatherhead's core theme of Manage by Designing, by combining the Department of Information Systems (IS) and the Department of Marketing and Policy Sciences (MAPS). The merger will strengthen the Weatherhead School's reputation for bold and innovative scholarship that anticipates and leads emergent business practice, both for entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs - defined as an entrepreneur within a company: an employee with a flair for innovation and risk-taking who is given unusual freedom to develop products or subsidiary businesses within a company. Professor Richard Buchanan was appointed the new department chair effective July 1. Weatherhead's new Design & Innovation Department further enhances the University initiative to build Interdisciplinary Alliances, which is the centerpiece of the university's strategic plan, "Forward Thinking".

In other exciting news, Weatherhead's first chair in accounting and auditing was created in April. The Andrew W. Braden Professor in Accountancy and Auditing will be held by Professor Mark Taylor. Mark will also be the chair of accountancy effective July 1, 2013. Andrew "Andy" D. Braden, CPA (1916-1993) was a beloved professor who taught accountancy at Case Western Reserve for more than 40 years.

We invite you to engage with us and learn more about these and other initiatives by contacting us at corporaterelations@case.edu

All my best,

Anne M. Borchert
Senior Executive Director of Corporate Relations and Strategic Projects

Events Around Campus

On April 12, Rhodes Scholar, White House fellow, best-selling author, youth advocate, Army combat veteran and social entrepreneur **Wes Moore** delivered the keynote address at the [Unity Banquet](#). The annual **Unity Banquet & Scholarship Dinner** celebrates the academic accomplishments of underrepresented students and graduating seniors at Case Western Reserve University.

Turning 50! The Department of Macromolecular Science and Engineering, the oldest polymer department in the country, will celebrate its 50th anniversary. As part of the celebration, the department will host the **MACRO Frontiers Conference** from June 6 – 8, 2013. [Learn more here.](#)

This year's **Inamori Ethics Prize** honoree is **Yvon Chouinard**, founder of Patagonia and one of the most successful and ethical outdoor industry businessmen alive today. The Inamori Ethics Prize will take place on September 12, 2013. [Learn more about the Inamori Ethics Prize here.](#)

Underwriters Laboratories helps launch a Master's degree in fire science and engineering at CWRU

With the support of UL (Underwriters Laboratories), Case Western Reserve will offer an MS in fire science and engineering this fall. The master's degree will focus on the scientific disciplines of combustion, found in mechanical engineering, and flammability, found in macromolecular science and engineering.

"The program reflects the growing need for fire engineers and scientists who can research and improve products, building materials, structures and more in the ever-changing environment," said August Schaefer, senior vice president and public safety officer at UL.

"Business surveys, as well as industry partners and trade organizations, say there is a need for fire prevention engineers and desire for new fire protection and safety research", said Iwan Alexander, chair of mechanical and aerospace engineering.

Mechanical engineering has long offered combustion engineering as a subfield, but the new master's program includes courses from chemical engineering and materials science and several from macromolecular science and engineering.

[Learn more about this new master's degree and other new programs in the Case School of Engineering.](#)

Atotech invests in electroplating research at CWRU

The world's lead manufacturer of chemicals for the metal finishing and electroplating industry has just signed a major research agreement with Case Western Reserve University. Atotech Deutschland GmbH, headquartered in Berlin, a global company with 4,000 employees, has been collaborating with researchers at Case Western Reserve University for the past six years on developing improved chemistries and characterization techniques for advanced metallization of semiconductor devices by electroplating.

The research program will centrally involve four faculty members from chemical engineering, materials science and engineering, and the macromolecular science and engineering departments. In addition to the graduate students involved in the research, Atotech will dedicate several of its own scientists to the program, who will be on-site at Case actively participating in the research and facilitating the collaboration and communication between the university and the company.

One of the faculty members involved is Rohan Akolkar of the Chemical Engineering Department. Akolkar recently joined Case Western Reserve University after spending many years at Intel's R&D division in Portland, where he led research teams focused on developing novel interconnect strategies. His research interests here include electrochemical phenomena in next-generation batteries, photovoltaic and semiconductor devices.

[Read more about this collaboration.](#)

Dominion funds pilot program to improve STEM pipeline

[The Dominion Foundation](#) awarded Case Western Reserve University a small grant to help launch The Saturday Academy, which is designed to change the lives of underrepresented minority students in northeast Ohio; specifically the pilot program aims to introduce and encourage approximately 20 students to explore a career in the STEM disciplines. The program is an initiative of the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity; and serves students in grades 6-10. The program partners with various community organizations, to enhance the traditional education experience by providing ancillary programming in various emerging fields of study. Pictures featured in this story, are from "Links Day," where we welcomed over 35 East Cleveland school district students, in partnership with the Links, Inc., one of the oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of women committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry.

[Visit the Office of Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity website to learn more about their other programs.](#)