

ROBERT BRADFORD NEWMAN

NEWSLETTER 03

S T U D E N T A W A R D F U N D

FUND'S SECOND FULL YEAR AT ASA IN MELVILLE

On December 31st, 2003 the Newman Fund completed its second year of operations from the Acoustical Society's Headquarters in Melville, New York and its 19th year since a group of the late Professor Bob Newman's friends and colleagues initiated the Fund to promote the teaching of courses in architectural acoustics and rewarding students and teachers who have demonstrated meritorious work in this challenging field. Including 12 Newman Medals awarded to students in 2003, 157 Medals have now been awarded at just under 40 schools of architecture, engineering and music. Many Newman Medalists have gone on to rewarding careers in the building professions as well as in teaching, research or consulting in acoustics. Three past medalists are members of the Fund's Advisory Committee.

With two additional Schultz Grants awarded in 2003, there are now nine "Schultz scholars" who have contributed valuable research and tools for improved teaching methodology in architectural acoustics. Also five student teams received Harry Wenger Prizes in 2003 for their meritorious design work displayed at the ASA Student Design Competition held in Nashville in April 2003.

In all, 2003 has been another banner year for the Fund and the deep appreciation of the Advisory Committee is extended to students, teachers, consultants and other professionals who make this possible as well as thoroughly enjoyable. Particular thanks go to Elaine Moran and her office staff at ASA who help the Fund's rather diverse activities run so smoothly. We look forward to an even more rewarding year in 2004.

Mary Shaw Newman, Carl Rosenberg and Bill Cavanaugh

TWELVE NEWMAN MEDALS AWARDED IN 2003

During the year twelve students were awarded Newman Medals for excellence in the study of architectural acoustics. Five of these were for study in preceding years but their presentations were delayed because of administrative oversights. The medalists, their schools and the subjects of their research or senior projects follow:

1999 PATTRA SMITTHAKORN

University of Florida
"Investigation of New Design Methods for Theaters: Integrating Historic Precedents and Computer Aided Design"

2000 MICHAEL G. ERMANN

University of Florida
"Architectural, Urban and Acoustical Design of a Large Amphitheater"

2001 HYEONGSEOK KIM

University of Florida
"Study of Community Noise Propagating from Cooling Towers and Condensing Units"

E. STEPHEN SKORSKI

University of Florida
"Rethinking Theater Design: Design of a New Performing Arts Center"

2002 MITCHELL L. LEHDE

University of Florida
"Classroom Acoustics: Case Study Research and Quarter Full Scale Acoustical Model Studies"

2003 WILLIAM J. ELLIOT

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
"New Academic Building for a College Campus"

JESSICA M. HALL

University of Nebraska, Lincoln
"Development of Concert Hall Website
www.concerthalls.org and Acoustical Study of Main Stage Auditorium, Omaha Community Playhouse"

ROBERT E. LEE

University of Kansas
"The 'Resurrection' of two Professional Monitor Loudspeakers, originally designed in 1944, their Acoustic Equalization and Re-use in an Acoustical Laboratory"

SANG JUN LEE

University of Florida
"Optimization of Worship Spaces for the Spoken Word Using Computer Aided Design"

DENISE MARIE MILLER

University of Hartford
"Comparison of Binaural Recordings and Auralization of Millard Auditorium at the University of Hartford"

OMAR SAAD

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
"Acoustical Modeling Software for Result Verification"

SUGANYA THIAGARAJAN

University of Southern California
"Acoustics of Bing Theatre: Computer Simulation for Acoustical Improvements"

VISIT THE FUND'S WEBSITE AT www.newmanfund.org

Through the continuing good efforts of University of Nebraska Professor Lily Wang and her students, the Fund's website is up and running. Faculty members at schools offering courses in architec-

tural acoustics may download forms for qualifying the school for awarding Newman Medals, as well as forms for nominating student medalists. In addition, forms are available which permit individuals who wish to serve as Professional Sponsors for the Newman Fund providing liaison to local universities including lecturing and teaching courses in architectural acoustics.

The results of past Acoustical Society Student Design Competitions may also be viewed including the recent competition in Nashville. Plans are underway to include Newman Fund Newsletters, lists of past Newman Medalists, Harry Wenger Prize winners and Schultz Grant awardees. For questions and suggestions contact lwang4@unl.edu.

SPOTLIGHT ON FUND ADVISOR BOB COFFEEN



"Professor Coffeen (right) and 2003 Univ. of Kansas Newman Medalist Robert Lee (left) at the Department of Architecture Spring 2003 Awards Ceremony"

Bob began his career in acoustical consulting in 1959 designing "communications" for Dulles International Airport while working for Burns & McDonnell Engineering in Kansas City. Bob's degree from the University of Illinois (1953) in electrical engineering with a communications option and his experience in the U.S. Army as a radio engineering officer led to this opportunity. And, this opportunity put Bob in contact with Bolt Beranek and Newman who were engaged by Eero Saarinen Associates as acoustical consultants for the new Dulles airport terminal. With assistance from BBN, Bob designed his first major sound system which included several innovative features. This assignment led to other sound system design work and in 1964 Bob formed R. C. Coffeen & Associates to provide professional consulting services in acoustics and electro-acoustics. Considerable encouragement from Lyle Yerges, C. Paul Boner, Bill Cavanaugh, and others helped his firm survive and prosper as time progressed.

R.C. Coffeen & Associates became successively Coffeen Anderson & Associates, Coffeen Anderson Fricke & Associates, and Coffeen Fricke & Associates with Bob's retirement from the firm at the end of 1995. While Bob was a principal of the firm consulting services were provided for approximately 3,000 projects located throughout the United States and in Canada, Japan, Korea, China, Italy, Germany, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt.

In 1992 Bob began teaching in the architectural engineering program at the University of Kansas. Today he is a member of the faculty of the School of Architecture and Urban Design teaching courses primarily relating to room acoustics, noise control, and electro-acoustics including a new course for architecture students "Listening to Architecture". While teaching at KU Bob has been instrumental in guiding approximately seventeen KU students and several students from Kansas State University into acoustical consulting careers. Several of Bob's students have been awarded the Newman Medal. Bob considers teaching to be the ultimate opportunity to give to students some of the knowledge he has been so fortunate to obtain through his consulting experiences.

For the past decade Bob has organized the annual student design competition sponsored by the Acoustical Society of America, the National Council of Acoustical Consultants, and the Newman Student Award Fund. During the past several years Bob has had excellent help in this activity from Lily Wang and Robin Glosemeyer. Several years ago five KU students with Bob's supervision prepared the ASA booklet on classroom acoustics which has been circulated worldwide.

Bob is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, a life member of the Audio Engineering Society, and a member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers. He continues to provide acoustical consulting services for selected projects as R. C. Coffeen Consultant in Acoustics, and is a member of the National Council of Acoustical Consultants.

2002 SCHULTZ GRANTS ANNOUNCED

DR. JIAN KANG

Reader in Acoustics
The University of Sheffield, England, UK
"Computer Tools for Architectural Acoustics Education"

PROF. JAMES COWAN

School of Architecture
Boston Architectural Center, and Senior
Consultant, Acentech Incorporated "Model On-line Basic Course in Architectural Acoustics"

The two 2002 awards bring the total Schultz Grants awarded since the program was initiated in 1990 to eight. Proposals for the 2004 Schultz Grant are due at the Newman Student Award Fund address below, Attn: Schultz Grant, by December 31st, 2004. Proposals must include a description of the project for which grant support is being sought, a curriculum vitae of the principal investigator and a budget expense outline for the overall project. Questions may be addressed to crosenberg@acentech.com.

2003 STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION RESULTS

The 2003 Student Design Competition Sponsored by ASA's Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics (TCAA), supported by the National Council of Acoustical Consultants (NCAC) and the Newman Student Award Fund, was judged at the 145th ASA Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee in April 2003. The competition included 16 posters from students at 9 universities and involved the schematic design of a music education building at a small college. A distinguished panel of acoustical consultants, architects and educators awarded the following honors:

FIRST HONORS [\$1,000 Wenger Prize]

BRANDON CAMPBELL
University of Arizona
Faculty Advisor:
Professor William Bickell

FOUR COMMENDATIONS [\$500 Wenger Prizes]

DAVID FANNON, NICHOLL CAMPBELL
and WEIFANG WANG
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Faculty Advisors:
Professors Yasushi Shimizu and Rendell Torres

BILL ELLIOTT
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Faculty Advisor:
Professor Bill Hubbard

ROBERT E. LEE
University of Kansas
Faculty Advisor:
Professor Robert Coffeen

GEOFFREY SPARKS, MATTHEW HALL
and JOSHUA BONATI
Johns Hopkins University
Faculty Advisor:
Professor Neil Thompson Shade

The 2004 Student Design Competition is scheduled for the 146th ASA meeting in New York City in May. Information on the 2004 competition is available on the Fund's website.



SHURE JOINS FUND'S CORPORATE SPONSORS

With a generous annual donation to the Newman Fund, Shure Incorporated, a leading manufacturer of microphones and communication systems equipment, joins a growing list of Corporate Sponsors whose support enables the Fund to carry out its diverse activities. Mr. Michael Pettersen will serve as liaison between Shure and the Fund. He may be reached at: [pettersen_michael@shure.com]

ROBERT BRADFORD NEWMAN STUDENT AWARD FUND

Advisory Committee:

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Lily M. Wang, * Secretary

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* Past Newman Medalists

SPONSORS:

The Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics of the Acoustical Society of America with the cooperation of:

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School of Architecture and Planning
National Council of Acoustical
Consultants
Rhode Island School of Design, Division
of Architectural Studies
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Shure Incorporated
Wenger Corporation

Please address correspondence to:

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