Dear Alumni and Friends,

Please join us in offering congratulations to the Class of 2007. On May 17th, 196 undergraduate and 35 graduate students received their degrees from the College of Science and Technology. I was proud to welcome P. Roy Vagelos, M.D., chairman of Regeneron and former CEO of Merck and Company, as our graduation speaker.

CST graduates will make valuable contributions to their fields and to society as a whole, whether entering industry, teaching, or continuing their education and performing research. Many of this year’s graduates have secured employment in industry; others are pursuing graduate or professional degrees in areas as diverse as pharmacy, medicine, technology, and law.

I am also pleased to report that we received 3,800 applications for the Class of 2012 and that the enrollment for the incoming freshman class has increased 10 percent over last year’s class; as of May 25th, we project that 1,100 students will come to CST in the fall, representing approximately 22 percent of the enrollment total for the University. I look forward to welcoming these students in September.

Sincerely,

Hai-Lung Dai
Dean and Laura H. Carnell Professor

News & Updates

- Elliot Seifert, a first-year graduate student in CST’s department of biology, was named the male student athlete of the year at Temple’s fourth annual Breakfast of Champions on April 25th. Seifert, an offensive lineman on Temple’s football team, started 34 consecutive games this season as an offensive tackle. He earned his undergraduate degree in biology in May 2006 and has been cited on both the Dean’s List and Athletic Director’s Honor Rolls during his academic career. Seifert is currently working on his master’s degree.

- Jin Kyung Kim, a fourth-year graduate student in the department of chemistry, won third place in the research poster competition at the Philadelphia Organic Chemists’ Club Day on April 19th.

- CST students Lisa Di Yan, Allison Pymer, Sony Chau, Matthew Fenty, Tarlay Morlu, Si Lam, Andrew Yanaka and Hetvi Desai participated in the research poster session of the Temple University Undergraduate Research Forum and Creative Works Symposium, held April 5th.

- A number of graduating seniors received achievement awards on graduation day. To name a few, Anne C. Farbman and Hadiza Shu’aib Kazaure received the Mark Berger Prize for their interest and ability in neurobiology research; Alexander Sullivan Augustine received the Al Cotton and Al Tulinsky Prize for the highest grade point average in chemistry; Kathy Adda Tran received the Murray Green Memorial Prize in Physics; and Gulseher Sarah Sirin and Ebikaboere Linda Youkedebah received the Hazel M. Tomlinson, Ph.D. Memorial Scholarship in Chemistry. In the fall, the College will hold its first annual distinguished faculty and student scholarship award event.

- Eric Borguet, associate professor in the department of chemistry, recently received nearly $500,000 from the National Science Foundation as part of a $2 million collaborative research grant to study how electronic charge moves through peptide nucleic acid.

- Cristian Gutierrez, associate professor in the department of mathematics, has been appointed a member of the National Academy of Sciences of Argentina. According to the Academy, “This title constitutes an honor which is conferred on those who have dedicated, with relevant merits, to the cultivation and development of the Exact and Natural Sciences.”
John T. Nosek, associate professor in the department of computer and information sciences, lectured on virtual instructional presence at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in May. Dr. Nosek was also recently appointed senior editor of the Information Systems Management Journal.

Zein-Eddine Meziani, professor in the department of physics, was invited to serve on the editorial board of the European Physics Journal. Dr. Meziani will serve as co-editor for a period of three years.

Robert M. Aiken, professor in the department of computer and information sciences, received a Recognition of Service Award from the Association for Computing Machinery. He was honored for his 22 years of service on the association’s board, including four years as chair. Dr. Aiken will become president of Temple’s Faculty Senate on July 1.

Omar Hijab, professor in the department of mathematics, released a second edition of his textbook, Introduction to Calculus and Classical Analysis. It was published by Springer in May.

Zein-Eddine Meziani, professor in the department of physics, was invited to serve on the editorial board of the European Physics Journal. Dr. Meziani will serve as co-editor for a period of three years.

Pennsylvania House Speaker Emeritus John Perzel and Republican Appropriations Committee Chairman Mario Civery, Jr. participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Translational Drug Development and Molecular Biotechnology Laboratory at the Sbarro Institute for Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine at Temple University. The ceremony recognized Mr. Perzel and other contributors’ continued support of SHRO’s research.

New Initiatives & Opportunities

CST has debuted a new alumni and friends Web site with content specific to the College, including an honor roll of donors, online class notes, news and events, the capability to update your contact information, and online giving information. Please visit us online at www.temple.edu/cst/alumni.

The College will honor faculty members with the first annual Distinguished Faculty Awards this October. Several faculty awards are being endowed by generous alumni, and the College is grateful for their commitment to supporting excellence in teaching.

Steven Petchon, CST ‘80, and an anonymous donor have endowed the new Computer and Information Sciences Undergraduate Student Activities Fund, which supports student travel to conferences, international ACM programs and contests, and fees associated with acceptance of undergraduate papers and professional publications.

Several new scholarship funds have also been established: the Dean’s Scholarship Fund, for undergraduate students, and the Peter Havas Scholarship for Outstanding Physics Graduate Students. The Havas Memorial Scholarship was established by Dr. Angelo Armenti, CST ’65 ’70, and family and friends of Dr. Havas.

In May, CST celebrated the opening of the new location for our Office of Student Services at 1810 Liacouras Walk. The new facility, which is comprised of the advising office and the Math and Science Resource Center, is designed to optimally meet the needs of all the College’s students.