

## Co-Op Assignments Lead to National Recognition for Outstanding CEE Student

The Cooperative Education Division (CED) of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) recently recognized University of Tennessee civil engineering senior Joey Barbeauld as a 2006 National Co-op of the Year finalist for his work through the Office of Professional Practice (OPP).

“Let me just say that Joey is highly touted,” said Mr. Walter Odom, OPP Director. “He started his work here in 2004 with high academic standards, 4.0 GPA all the way through and exceptional entrance scores, but the biggest thing that transpired with Joey was his maturity.”

Founded in 1893, the ASEE is a nonprofit organization comprised of individuals and institutions committed to furthering education in engineering by enhancing professional opportunities for engineering students through cooperative education. Each year, employers and co-op representatives nominate students for the National Co-op of the Year Award, which provides the winning student with cash and national recognition at the annual CED Conference.

“Every major engineering program in the United States is involved with ASEE and every major co-op program in engineering is involved with CED,” said Odom.

Cooperative education is an important component of an engineering education at UT. During his freshman year, Barbeauld learned about internship opportunities through the co-op office. As he finishes his senior year, Barbeauld is not stressed about finding a job, thanks to the OPP.

Barbeauld co-oped with the EMJ Corporation in Chattanooga, Tenn., where he worked with superintendents on job sites and saw first-hand how buildings were structured. The focus on project management appealed to



Civil engineering senior Joey Barbeauld is congratulated for his achievements by (seated) CEE Department Head Greg Reed, (standing left to right) OPP Director Walter Odom, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs Masood Parang and Dean Way Kuo.

Barbeauld, and after graduating this May, he will return to Chattanooga and begin working with EMJ.

“Joey is an outstanding student and employee. We are very proud of his accomplishments inside and outside the classroom and consider it an honor to have him on our team,” said Doug Martin, Vice President of Construction Operations at EMJ Corporation. “We’ve had some outstanding UT students co-op, and several have come to work with us after they have graduated. We have been very impressed by the students at UT and look forward to interacting with them in the future.”

When Barbeauld first came to the University of Tennessee from Chattanooga, he wanted to be an architect or a musician.

“When I applied to the architecture school, I realized it was more ‘artsy’ and not for me,” said Barbeauld. “That’s when I looked into civil engineering, and I’ve liked it ever since.”

Organizational skills helped Barbeauld throughout his undergraduate career.

“Time management is about getting involved in the things you really like to do and not so much getting involved in so many things you can’t make time for all them,” said Barbeauld, who managed his time well by balancing his engineering studies with band practice, membership in Phi Mu Alpha and representing the co-op office as an Ambassador.

“As an Ambassador, the commitment you must exude is one of helping other students in engineering make the transition,” said Odom. “Our focus is retention. The quest is not just to get them here, the quest is to see them through, and it takes people like Joey to help them get through.”

—Story by Amanda Womac

## Engineers Building Corporate Career Paths with UT’s Executive MBA Program

During the past two decades, the field of engineering has become increasingly business-oriented, and individuals who develop strong financial acumen and business capabilities to go along with their technical skills are the high achievers in today’s corporate world.

The UT College of Business Administration (CBA) now offers three executive Master of Business Administration programs specifically designed for engineering graduates working full-time.

The Executive MBA (EMBA) program is an internationally ranked, fully accredited MBA degree program where students can graduate in only 12 months. The program includes a 14-day international residency focused on global business in developing economies.



Dan Cochran

Dan Cochran, who received his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering and a master’s in applied behavioral science from UT, returned to campus for the EMBA program after working for the Alcoa Company for 24 years. In addition to enhancing Cochran’s knowledge of economics, business planning and manufacturing concepts, his group also traveled to Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia to study finance and manufacturing methods in other countries.

“The program has really met my expectations and then some,” said Cochran, who graduated in December 2005.

The CBA also offers the Professional MBA (ProMBA) program, a 16-month weekend program for managers in the Knoxville region. A concentrated, integrated and thorough program for business professionals, with

classes meeting three Saturdays each month and additional interactive, live distance-learning sessions on Tuesday evenings, the program provides solid concepts in economics and manufacturing. An optional international experience is also available.

ProMBA offered Bill Fulghum, a UT graduate with a master’s degree in civil engineering, an opportunity to gain a new perspective on managing his engineering firm.

Fulghum was not only able to study companies such as Toyota, but also was able to learn from fellow students. “The sharing of knowledge was invaluable to me,” Fulghum said.

The Aerospace MBA (AMBA), a residence-based, 12-month program, is an aerospace-focused program that teaches the business of aerospace and is the first program of its type in the United States. Students participate in five, nine-day, on-campus residence periods and a sixth residence period in Europe.

The AMBA fosters an exceptional learning environment, said Shane Green, a former engineer at Teledyne Technologies. “The faculty was very top-notch. All had experience in the aerospace industry, so they understood the student’s perspective,” Green added.

The UT executive MBA programs have been recognized as a “best buy” by *Business Week* magazine and currently rank number 23 in the United States by the *Financial Times*.

For more information on the programs, visit <http://EMBA.utk.edu>.



Bill Fulghum