



OCEAN ENGINEERING

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Aggies for Excellence in Ocean Engineering

Re: Ocean Engineering News and Dr. Randall

Howdy! For over 40 years, ocean engineering has been offered at Texas A&M University. Some of you may be aware the program is now a standalone department rather than a program within civil engineering. With this change also came the consolidation of the College Station and Galveston campus degrees to be under the one department with two campuses. This brings both programs to the same curricula and standards. This is a very unique opportunity for the department that continues to evolve. Dr. Sharath Girimaji has been selected to head the new Department of Ocean Engineering. He brings a very strong background in Aerospace Engineering and a great deal of energy to his new role.

It is a very exciting time for the department as the program has grown in enrollment and reputation considerably over the years and reflects the quality of the professionals it has produced. This past year had approximately 200 students in Ocean Engineering at both the College Station and Galveston campuses. The target is to increase the enrollment to 400 over the next few years.

In other significant news for the department, Dr. Robert E. Randall elected to retire this past May after 42 years of service. He was a significant leader of the program and newly formed department and we are fortunate that in his retirement, he will continue to teach one course per year. Bob is the last of the original group of professors that started the Ocean Engineering Program.

The Ocean Engineering Advisory Board would like to recognize Bob's dedication and service to Ocean Engineering by asking all the former Ocean Engineering students to make contributions to increase the endowment basis of the Barbara and Bob Randall Student Support Endowment for Ocean Engineering. This endowment was originally created in 2007 and has provided funds for both scholarships and to support Ocean Engineering student activities. With the increased number of students there is greater need for both scholarships and student activity funds and by increasing the endowment; we will ensure that the legacy of Barbara and Bob Randall will continue to impact future Ocean Engineering students.

This would ensure that Bob's name will continue to be associated with the department he has worked to grow and foster. The student activities fund provides for ongoing support of one of Bob's most championed causes, Ocean Engineering student activities (SNAME/MTS, Human powered submarine, etc.).



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We invite each and every former Ocean Engineering student to join us in increasing the Barbara and Bob Randall Student Support Endowment for Ocean Engineering so that they may understand the broad support and thanks from a large cross section of the former Ocean Engineering students. Our target would create the largest single endowment in Ocean Engineering as a reflection of our appreciation of the contribution of Barbara and Bob to our education and lives.

The goal is to raise an additional \$200,000 for the endowment. This campaign has five years to reach that goal. This goal was based on each graduating class contributing at least \$5,000 to the endowment. We encourage each graduating class to reach out to each other to support this cause. The \$5,000 can be divided over five years and should be achievable by combining the efforts of several classmates.

To make your donation, please follow this link to the Texas A&M Foundation website for giving online: <https://www.txamfoundation.com/give.aspx>

- Under 'I would like to give to' – select **College of Engineering**
- The option pops up to 'Select Department' – select **Ocean Engineering**
- Next option is to 'Select Account' – select '**Barbara and Bob Randall Student Support Endowment for Ocean Engineering**'
- Please take advantage of any matching gift programs of your employers.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely yours on behalf of the Texas A&M University,
Ocean Engineering Advisory Board

Scott McClure '82
Chair

Bill Kinney '76
Chair, Emeritus