

**NC STATE**

Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering



*Alumni*  
**HALL**  
*of* **FAME**  
*2017*

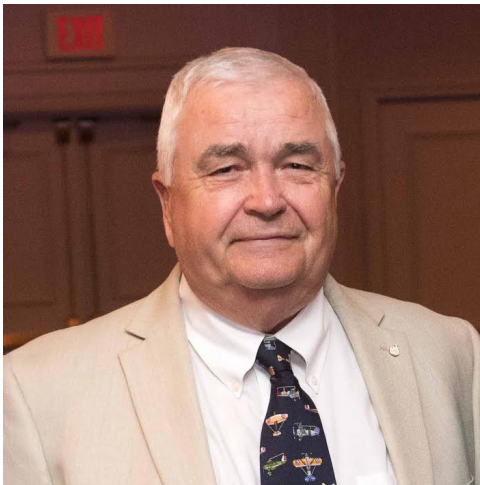
# NC STATE Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering



## **Dr. Rolin F. Barrett, Sr., P.E.**

*BSME '59, MSME '62, PhDME '65*

Working as a welder at night and attending classes by day, Dr. Rolin Barrett, Sr. earned B.S., M.S., and Ph. D. degrees in ME at NCSU. Staying at NC State he held various positions and originated the Automotive Engineering course still offered today. Dr. Barrett opened Barrett Engineering in 1977 and has consulted on nearly 4,000 accidents, including motor vehicle accidents, industrial accidents, fires, and explosions. In the community, Dr. Barrett has actively encouraged students to excel in math and science and has shared his expertise in training exercises with law enforcement and fire safety professionals.



## **Bobby Berrier**

*BSME '63, MSAE '68*

Mr. Berrier received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from NC State and started his career at NASA Langley in 1963. During a career that spanned 53 years, he made significant contributions toward advancing the state of the art in both propulsion and aeronautics and authored or co-authored over 90 technical publications. He is a nationally and internationally recognized authority in the field of propulsion airframe integration and played a major role in the development of many advanced military aircraft flying today.



## **Venable B. Burwell**

*BSME '61*

After graduating from NC State on May 27, 1961, Mr. Burwell moved to Charlotte and was employed by Duke Power Company on June 1 1961. He served in the Army at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland and Anniston Army Depot in Alabama from August 1961-August 1963. He was employed at Duke Power Company for 37 years, and served in positions as follows: FM Procurement; GM Transportation; Catawba Nuclear Construction – special assignment to improve supply chain; corporate safety committee; retail budget committee; Federal and State PACS.



## **Dr. Mehmet Caliskan**

*PhDME '83*

Upon completion of PhD studies at NCSU, Dr. Caliskan went back to Turkey to teach at the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara. He is currently a faculty member in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and adjunct faculty at the School of Architecture. He set up an acoustical consulting company, Mezzo Studyo Inc., in partnership with his former PhD student Dr. Zuhre Su Gul in 2009. Caliskan finds mental rest in times spent with his wife Resa at classical music concerts at CSO (Presidential Symphony Orchestra).

# NC STATE Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering



## **Matthew T. Carey**

*BSME '83*

Mr. Carey has over 30 years of engineering and management experience spanning design, manufacturing, project engineering and facilities engineering management, continuous improvement as well as environmental, health and safety in both manufacturing and commercial building environments. His engineering and EHS work experience spans pharmaceutical manufacturing at Bristol-Myers Squibb Inc., Eisai Inc., and Liquidia Technologies, Inc. as well as software development at Red Hat, Inc. he is currently the Director of Facilities Engineering and EHS for Liquidia Technologies, Inc.



## **John H. Croom, P.E.**

*BSME '59*

After interviews with several companies in the spring of 1954, Mr. Croom elected to join The Columbia Gas System, at that time one of North America's largest natural gas companies, a growth company with a promising future. After 30 years of an exciting engineering career with this Fortune 500 Company, he was elected Chairman, President and CEO, a position he held for 11 years. As Chief Engineer Mr. Croom worked with Columbia's Research Center on the development of fuel cells, solar devices and material specifications and codes. Concurrent with his Columbia duties, he served two years as Chairman of the Gas Research Institute in Chicago.



## **Laurence D. Leavitt**

*BSAE '75*

During his career at NASA Langley Research Center, Mr. Leavitt established himself as an international expert on nozzle design, engine/empennage installation effects on aircraft aerodynamics, and ground testing. He is best known for multi-axis thrust-vectoring exhaust nozzles, thrust reversers, propulsion simulation test techniques, and contributions to propulsion/airframe integration on the B-2 Stealth Bomber. After seven years as Chief Engineer of Aerosciences, Mr. Leavitt retired in 2015 as Chief Engineer of NASA Langley. NASA awarded him prestigious medals for outstanding leadership and exceptional service. **Awarded posthumously.**



## **Kevin McCraw**

*BSME '93*

Mr. McCraw has spent his entire professional career with BMW, joining the company in 1994 as a quality engineer. He has held a variety of roles within the company, including a 3 year assignment in Munich, Germany designing manufacturing systems. He currently manages the Facilities Services and Energy Management department for the Americas. Mr. McCraw is on the board of a local charity, the Creative Advancement Centers, which provides after-school programs for underprivileged children. He is an active supporter of the MAE department at NC State, serving on both the Advisory and Corporate boards.

# NC STATE Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering



## **Garry D. Miller**

*MSME '80*

Garry Miller graduated from NC State with a B.S. degree in Nuclear Engineering in 1978, and a M.S. degree Mechanical Engineering in 1980. Following the merger of Progress Energy and Duke Energy in 2012, Garry became Senior Vice President - Nuclear Engineering for the new Duke Energy, and was responsible for corporate and site engineering for Duke Energy's fleet of twelve nuclear reactors. Most recently, Mr. Miller has supported enterprise risk mitigation efforts in hydro, nuclear, and fossil generation.



## **Dr. Michele Miller**

*MSME '91, PhDME '94*

After graduate school, Dr. Michele Miller joined Michigan Technological University as a faculty member in mechanical engineering. Dr. Miller served as Associate Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies in 2012-14. In 2017, she joined Campbell University as the Associate Dean of Engineering. For seven years, she co-directed the nation's first Peace Corps Masters International (PCMI) program in mechanical engineering. Dr. Miller served as an ABET evaluator for mechanical engineering programs and is currently an Engineering Accreditation Commissioner.



### **Dr. Padmakar Niskode**

*BSME '64, MSME '68, PhDME '72*

Dr. Niskode has 45 years of experience in technology development, engineering and project management, product design and certification in power generation and aviation turbomachinery. He retired from GE Aircraft Engines in 2012. He is presently an Adjunct Professor teaching sustainable designs, environmental engineering, and renewable energy systems. Dr. Niskode currently works with the Cincinnati Community College and University of Cincinnati Continuing Education on climate change abatement programs.



### **Dr. John S. Stewart**

*BSME '69, PhDME '72*

After graduate school, Dr. Stewart focused on the design and patenting of a noise reducing cutterhead for wood planers, which won several awards and is still in widespread use in the US and abroad. In the early 1980's, Dr. Stewart taught courses at NCSU in sound and vibration. In 1990, Dr. Stewart joined the NCSU faculty as a research professor, where his program was the subject of a US News and World Report article. Dr. Stewart has published over 100 technical articles, authored a chapter in a prominent Handbook of Noise and Vibration Control, and holds over a dozen patents relating to noise and vibration reduction for woodworking machinery.

# NC STATE Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering



## **Lisa J. Teague**

*BSME '81, MSME '82*

Lisa Teague is the Head of Research and Technology for Rolls-Royce Corporation in Indianapolis. She is responsible for leading US-based gas turbine and aerospace propulsion research activities as well as providing intellectual property and patent support for Rolls-Royce facilities in North America. She also oversees engineering employee development, coordinating university research activities with employee development and STEM activities. Lisa is a member of ASME and AIAA, and works with the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) on industry issues related to future workforce needs.



## **Carol S. Vercaemert**

*BSME '76*

Carol Starnes Vercaemert graduated from NC State in 1976 as the only female and top of the class in the ME Department. After graduate school, she went from engineering in the nuclear industry at Westinghouse, to product planning in the telecommunications world at Western Electric, AT&T, Bell Laboratories, and eventually Lucent Technologies. Carol is a Life Member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Fraternity, a Sustainer in the Junior League of Greensboro, and leads a biweekly women's Bible Study. She supports the NCSU College of Engineering, Alumni Association and Wolfpack Club, and for the past four years, has been the Vice-Chair and then Chair of the MAE Advisory Board.



## **Philippe H. Vercaemert**

*BSME '76*

In Mr. Vercaemert's Design/Build Mechanical Contracting career, he has provided state of the art solutions such as non-traditional control strategies to maintain industrial environmental conditions more efficiently; design and installation of ice-storage HVAC systems for commercial buildings; cooling buildings with colder air than traditional designs, making them more comfortable while saving both first and operating cost. Leadership positions in technical societies early in his career gave way to his significant roles in church and civic organizations. Vercaemert's proudest accomplishment of all is family.

# NC STATE Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering



## **Dr. Richard A. Wahls**

*B.SAE '84, M.SAE '86, Ph.DAE '89*

During his career at NASA Langley Research Center, Dr. Wahls established himself as an internationally recognized leader and technical authority in aerodynamics, ground testing, and the development of advanced aircraft concepts and technologies. He has authored/co-authored 73 technical publications and given invited presentations around the world. Dr. Wahls has served in increasingly broad, influential leadership positions in national aeronautics programs, and 14 years as Assistant Head of Langley's Configuration Aerodynamics Branch. He currently serves as senior Strategic Technical Advisor to the Director of NASA's Advanced Air Vehicles Program.



## **W.F. (Buzz) Wilson Jr.**

*B.SAE '66*

Mr. Wilson was a flight test engineer responsible for airspeed and refused takeoff certification testing on Boeing 737-100 and 737-200 aircrafts, as well as longitudinal stability certification testing on Boeing 747. Wilson was project manager for over 200 design and implementation projects for manufacturing, distribution, and repair facilities. These ranged from commercial and military aviation electronics manufacturing to repair and maintenance facilities of aircraft and ships. He has been an instructor at community college, and is a board member for a specialty chemical manufacturer.



## **Douglas L. Wolford**

*BSME '83*

Mr. Wolford is Principal of Niagara Bison, LLC – a private equity and venture capital firm. In addition, Doug is Managing Partner of JCRC, LLC, a cannabis-industry venture capital firm. Previously, he was Chief Executive Officer of Convergent Wealth Advisors, an \$11B national multi-family office and wealth advisor. He is active in numerous charitable endeavors and is a frequently sought commentator on high-net-worth topics by television, radio, and print media. His many interests include conservation and the outdoors, fine wine, collecting art and antiques, and anything mechanical.



## **David Ronald Yelton**

*BSAE '66*

After earning his aerospace engineering degree, Mr. Yelton began his career as a rocket propulsion engineer with Boeing Aerospace at Cape Kennedy. He participated directly in the successful launches of Apollo 4 through Apollo 16 including the first lunar landing with Apollo 11. He was instrumental in establishing a 600 person engineering office for Day Engineering in Charlotte, responsible for 140 engineers and designers. He also helped start a division of Day and Zimmerman in Charlotte, NC.

# **NC STATE**



**THINK AND DO  
THE EXTRAORDINARY**