

TSUEAA NEWS

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Summit Provides Welcomed Forum for Alumni to Identify Support Areas and Reconnect with Students, Faculty, and Administrators

Nashville, Tenn. – The TSU Engineering Alumni Association convened the 1st Annual Engineering Alumni Summit at the new Agricultural Technology Information Center on the main campus of Tennessee State University, from March 30th – April 1st, 2006. Engineering alumni from across the nation took part in this opportunity to develop the organization's support platform by openly communicating with students, faculty, and University Administrators and Executive Officials to identify the challenges facing the University and the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer-Science. The first-full day of the summit featured roundtable discussions and Information sessions with students from the Engineering Student Leadership Council; the Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr. Decatur Rogers; the Director of Sponsored Research Dr. Maria Thompson; the Associate Dean of Engineering, Dr. Mohan Malkani; Engineering Department Heads Dr. Farouk Mishu, Dr. Hamid Hamidzadeh, Dr. Satinderpaul Devgan; and Engineering faculty Dr. Landon Onyebueke, Dr. Roger Painter, and Loretta Green. These sessions culminated with a fireside chat and dinner with the University President, Dr. Melvin N. Johnson, who highlighted many recent University accomplishments and gave credence to concerns expressed throughout the day. Day two of the summit featured strategic planning workshops to prioritize the critical issues raised. Funding, communication and customer service, and processes and procedures were among the top concerns cited.

Activities held on both days were very productive and provided valuable information for the initial phase of the organization's strategic planning process. The organization is currently entering Phase II of this process, which will focus on developing resolutions to priority issues. All Engineering alumni are welcomed and encouraged to support the TSUEAA in this and other efforts. If interested in becoming a member of the TSUEAA or in receiving information on organization initiatives, please contact Pamela Franklin @ 615-512-7924.

"The TSU College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science was founded in 1951 to develop outstanding minority students to lead in the fields of engineering, technology, aeronautics, computer science, and research. The TSU Engineering Alumni Association welcomes all TSU students who attended or graduated from the TSU College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science to become active participants of the association, to support and further the mission of the college, regardless of degree field, age, sex, race, or nationality. For membership information go to www.tsuengralumni.org."