

TRANSITIONS



ENGINEERING A LIFE OF IMPACT

Terry Adams forged her own path with grace and determination

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Lyles School of Civil and
Construction Engineering



MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL HEAD

As we approach the end of another year, I am both astonished at how swiftly the past 12 months have gone by and incredibly proud of all that we have accomplished.

From educating and preparing the next generation of leaders to our globally impactful research endeavors, we are persistently pursuing the next giant leap in civil and construction engineering. One event in particular that I am looking forward is the 50th anniversary celebration of the Construction Engineering and Management program. For the past five decades, this program has seen thousands of construction students graduate from Purdue University and become leaders in their fields.

Now, as part of our school, we share and celebrate this incredible program and invite you to do the same. In the coming months, expect to receive news and information of upcoming 50th anniversary celebrations. We hope you will join us and share in this momentous occasion.

When the Construction Engineering and Management program joined our school in 2024, the Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering began a new era. With 763 undergrads, 381 graduate students and 147 online graduate students, our program is one of the largest in the country. Thanks to everyone's efforts, we were able this year to look beyond the merger and integration and once again set our sights fully on greater efforts and achievements. Together, as one, unified school.

In addition to the work on the merger and the excellent education of our students, our school has been the site of groundbreaking research. Our research efforts have global significance, encompassing the development of wireless charging technology for electric vehicles, deeper insights into indoor air quality and its effects on human health, and the creation of concrete embedded with strength-sensing capabilities. We have also seen a significant rise in AI applications, particularly in data collection, professional training and advancements in autonomous vehicle technology.

We have also seen wonderful stories of achievements and growth from our alumni — some of which will be shared in this edition of Transitions. Of course, there are many other stories of success that happen every day, and I encourage you to share them with us.

Rao S. Govindaraju,
*Bowen Engineering Head of Civil Engineering
and the Christopher B. and Susan S. Burke
Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering*

TRANSITIONS



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ON THE COVER

When she enrolled at Purdue in 1970, Theresa Lynne (Smith) Adams (BSCE'74) was one of only a handful of women studying engineering. Her tenacity and perseverance led to a nearly three-decade career with P&G where her technical acumen and strong interpersonal skills propelled her toward leadership at a global scale.

LYLES SCHOOL OF CIVIL AND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT TEAM



ERIC PUTMAN

Executive Director of Development
College of Engineering
765-479-1924
eaputman@purdueforlife.org



SCOTT HINKEL

Senior Director of Development
765-427-5283
lshinkel@purdueforlife.org

LYLES SCHOOL OF CIVIL AND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING

Rao S. Govindaraju, Head

Ayhan Irfanoglu, Associate Head

Hubo Cai, Associate Head

Brandon Fulk, The Walsh Group Director of Internships

Drew A. Stone, Director of Marketing and Communications

Jaimee Barr, Program Administration Manager

Renee Gibert, Student Experience Director

MOVING?

Send change of address to:

Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering
Delon and Elizabeth Hampton Hall of Civil Engineering
550 Stadium Mall Drive

West Lafayette, IN 47907-2051

Email: jimaddox@purdue.edu

Phone: 765-496-0158

Contributing writers: Kat Braz, Drew Stone

Graphic Designers: Paul Sadler, Kat Braz

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Lyles School of Civil and
Construction Engineering



FORGING CAREERS, TOGETHER

A COUPLE'S SHARED PASSION FOR ENGINEERING SHAPES FAMILY AND BUSINESS SUCCESS

John (BSCNE'06) and Meredith (Sears) Kinkle (BSCE'05) have built their careers and lives on resilience, adaptability and a shared passion for civil and construction engineering. Meredith, a third-generation Boilermaker from Wilmington, North Carolina, once wondered if engineering suited her outgoing nature and had even considered a career in law before her parents encouraged her to attend Purdue, as her relatives had done.

Through hands-on experience, she found her place in civil engineering, particularly in construction, and became known for taking calculated risks, such as moving far from home for college and starting her own business. Support from her family and husband bolstered her confidence and determination throughout her journey.

"Looking back, I realize that my journey has been defined by a willingness to take risks without knowing the outcome, something not typically associated with engineering," Meredith said. "I pursued an engineering degree without certainty that I would enjoy it, and later, I started a business without knowing where my first client would come from."

John grew up in Princeton, Indiana, as the youngest of five in a close-knit family. His interest in building and solving problems led him to pursue a degree in engineering at

Purdue. That experience not only enhanced his technical skills but also ignited a drive to solve real-world challenges. Over time, he explored several engineering fields before finding his fit in Construction Engineering and Management. He then added a second degree in land surveying and geomatics engineering.

“From an early age, I was fascinated by building and problem-solving,” John said. “Whether it was working with Legos and model trains, constructing dams in the woods behind my house or completing hands-on projects in 4-H and as an Eagle Scout, I was always drawn to creating and improving things.”

Their marriage has paralleled a shared journey through the civil and construction industries, with careers that are closely intertwined. Meredith began her career with Archer Western Construction in North Carolina, then relocated to Florida to join John, where she managed major bridge projects and further developed her scheduling expertise. As her passion for planning grew, she became project scheduler for the first extradosed bridge in the U.S. in Connecticut.

Meredith shares that the I-275 in Tampa remains one of her favorite career experiences. “I loved being outdoors, collaborating with superintendents, foremen and inspectors, and absorbing the wealth of knowledge they had gained over their careers.”

John also began his career in Florida with Lane Construction. There, he served as a field engineer and sharpened his skills in traditional and emerging surveying techniques. He advanced through roles in bridge construction and project management, eventually collaborating with Meredith on the Connecticut bridge project.

John and Meredith managed the challenges of the construction industry while balancing their careers and family life. As their jobs required them to relocate frequently, Meredith founded Kinkle Consulting LLC offering advanced scheduling and modeling services for large infrastructure projects.

John joined Meredith’s consulting firm in 2017 and together they introduced innovative 4D modeling and advanced scheduling techniques, enhancing collaboration on large-scale civil projects.

Today, John and Meredith run Kinkle Consulting working with clients all along the East Coast. They spend their days creating construction schedules, building 3D and 4D models and supporting a diverse team. They focus on building strong client relationships and a supportive, team-oriented culture. Balancing work and family remain important for the Kinkles, who have three daughters.

Both Meredith and John credit their undergraduate experience with providing them with a strong technical foundation, hands-on internships and valuable industry connections. Meredith appreciated the wide range of opportunities and credits the civil engineering program for building her confidence. John found the construction engineering and management internship program to be crucial in securing jobs and acquiring valuable skills. The construction scheduling curriculum they learned as students is central to their consulting work today.

The Kinkles advise aspiring engineers to embrace Purdue’s strong network and resources, seek mentorship from experienced professionals and value both technical and people skills. They emphasize learning from others, staying open to new experiences — including early career geographic mobility — and building strong relationships. Their combined advice highlights that engineers achieve success by striking a balance between technical expertise, adaptability and collaboration with diverse teams and mentors.



FROM SIDELINES TO SKYLINES

CHEERLEADER-TURNED-ENGINEER CHRIS GALE LEADS HNTB'S GREAT LAKES DIVISION

From designing the infrastructure that shapes communities to leading teams across nine states, Chris Gale (BSCE'95) boasts a career journey that is a testament to vision, service and perseverance. Based in Indianapolis, Gale serves as president of HNTB's Great Lakes Division. He's also a devoted husband of 26 years and proud father of two sons.

Gale describes himself as being dedicated to helping others grow, encouraging teamwork and fostering an environment that enables people to do their best work.

"I'm proud not only of the milestones I've achieved but also of the relationships I've built and the collective impact we've made together," he said. "For me, true success is measured in the growth of those around me and the lasting value we create as a team."

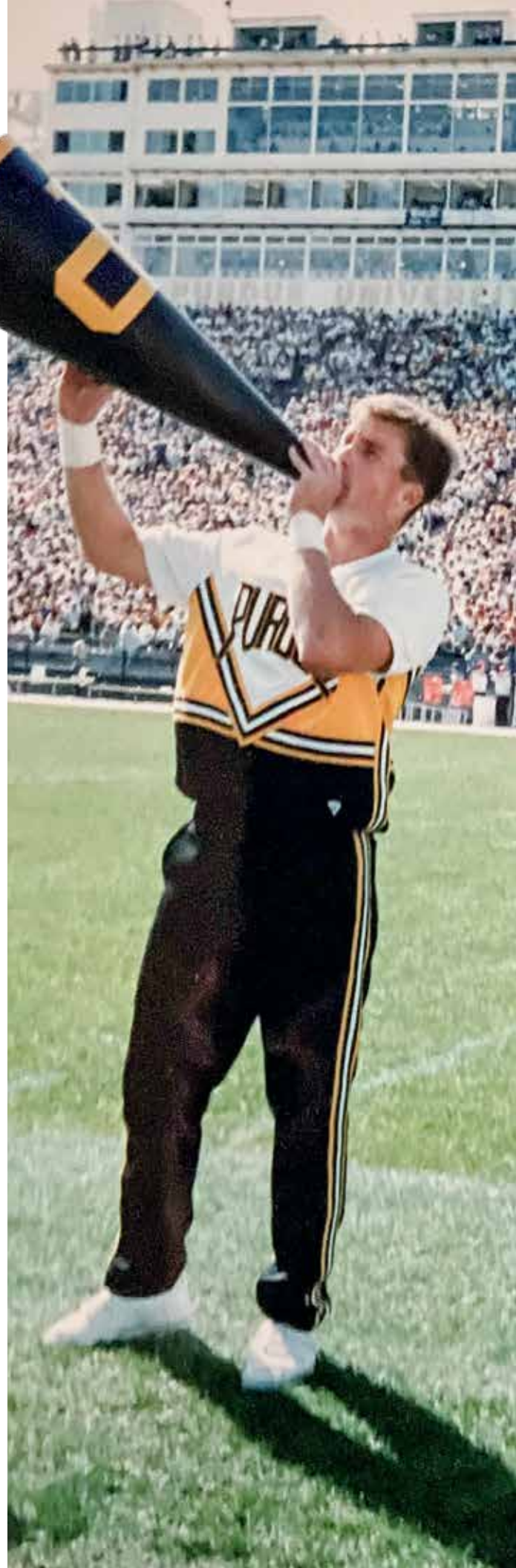
Gale planned to study aeronautical engineering, but after an encounter with Robert Jacko, professor of civil and construction engineering, and noticing changes in the aerospace field, he switched to civil engineering. He was drawn to the real-world impact of infrastructure and recognized that civil engineering presented both technical challenges and opportunities to help communities. Purdue showed him the many paths the field could offer.

While at Purdue, Chris balanced the demands of cheerleading with a rigorous engineering curriculum. These experiences helped shape his leadership style and continue to fuel his growth.

"The opportunities I gained through the civil engineering program and cheerleading taught me to lead with confidence, push my limits and think beyond what's right in front of me. Purdue gave me a foundation that I continue to build on today."

As a cheerleader, Gale performed on the same football field his grandfather played on as a Purdue quarterback in the 1940s. His grandfather's old, leather and wooden helmet, along with a football from one of the games, are two of Gale's most cherished possessions. Although Gale did not initially seek out cheerleading, when a friend from home learned about the chance to try out, they decided to do it together.

Following graduation, Gale worked his way up from technical design jobs to senior leadership. He went from leading HNTB's Indiana office and working in sales to becoming president of the Great Lakes Division. In his current role, Gale oversees growth, client relation-





Chris Gale (BSCE'95) with his wife, Kim, and with their two sons, Kyle and Cole.

ships and operations in nine states, showing his dedication to learning and strategic thinking.

Gale's workdays are always different. He spends his time planning, meeting with clients, helping staff develop and checking on projects. He looks at performance data, finds ways to help the division grow and supports leaders in different states. Gale enjoys mentoring and keeps in touch with teams across the region. He especially likes working with interns and co-ops in the summer, helping students gain real experience and learn about careers in infrastructure.

Throughout his career, Gale has faced numerous challenges, particularly during periods of change, including market shifts, company restructuring and evolving client needs. He believes that clear communication, flexibility and empathy are important during these times. To navigate career challenges, Gale says he keeps the company's goals in mind, listens to diverse viewpoints and fosters trust and accountability. He views challenges as opportunities for growth and consistently seeks ways to transform problems into advantages.

Gale encourages civil engineering students to remain curious and continue learning, both inside and outside the classroom. He suggests making strong connections, finding what excites you, taking on leadership roles early and seeing every day as a chance to grow. Gale sees engineering as a blend of relationship-building, listening, communicating and enjoying the process.



From cheerleader to leader, these are Chris Gale's winning skills from Purdue Cheer.

TEAMWORK AND COLLABORATION:

Gale learned to communicate, support others and lead by example. The team became like family in college.

RESILIENCE AND DISCIPLINE:

Balancing academics, practice, training and performances required strong time management and perseverance. This prepared him for high-pressure environments and tight schedules.

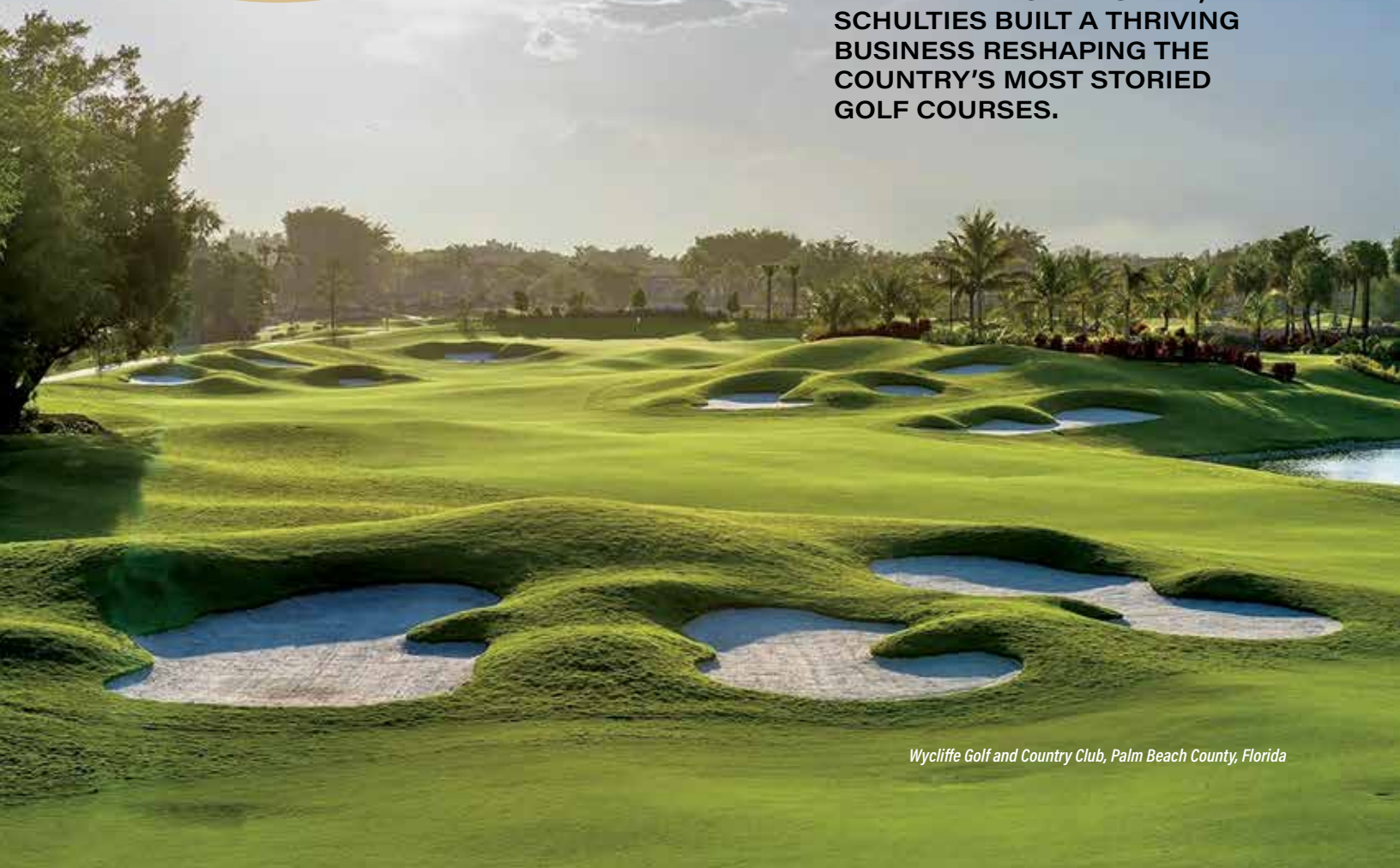
PUBLIC PRESENCE AND CONFIDENCE:

Performing for large crowds built his poise and confidence, directly benefiting his public speaking, presentations and leadership.



CAPITALIZING ON A *STROKE* *OF LUCK*

WITH BOILERMAKER GRIT AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT, KIPP SCHULTIES BUILT A THRIVING BUSINESS RESHAPING THE COUNTRY'S MOST STORIED GOLF COURSES.



Wycliffe Golf and Country Club, Palm Beach County, Florida

When planning a spring break trip to West Palm Beach, Florida, most college students pack swimsuits and sunscreen. Kipp Schulties (BSCE'92) packed a pair of jeans, a T-shirt and a stack of nerve.

"I opened up the Yellow Pages and there were 10 golf course architects listed in Palm Beach County," he recalled. "I thought, at least I ought to go figure this out."

So while his friends slept off the night before, Schulties walked into the golf course design offices of Jack Nicklaus — one of the most famous names in the sport — asking simply if someone would tell him about the business. "The secretary looked at me and basically said, 'We don't have time. Go down the street to Gary Player's office.'" So he did. Tom Walker, vice president of Gary Player Design, happened to have an open schedule and invited Schulties in for a discussion that would last two hours.

That chance conversation launched a career Schulties never imagined for himself while growing up on a wooded lot in southern Indiana. As a boy, he cleared bike trails, constructed trails with sloping and banking and built ponds using plastic liners to hold water within drainage channels — all before he'd heard the words "civil engineering."

Golf, too, had always been part of his life. A record-breaking high school player, Schulties tried balancing competitive golf with engineering at the University of Evansville. "Two months in, I knew something had to give," he said. Golf shifted from center stage to lifelong passion, and he transferred to Purdue, determined to find a career that kept him outside, "shaping the land, not sitting in a cube."

Still, his mother nudged him to think differently. "She said, 'you enjoy playing the game — why don't you design golf courses?'" Schulties said. That spark, combined with his spring break initiative, led him to a senior year internship at Couples Bates Golf Design, the firm newly formed by PGA star Fred Couples and architect Gene Bates.

"Most people start in maintenance, work their way to construction and hope to get lucky enough to join a design firm later in life," Schulties said. "Instead, I walked into the right office at the right time. Two months later I was flying around the country with Fred Couples — the No. 1 ranked player on the PGA Tour."

By age 25, Schulties was senior designer, leading multi-million-dollar projects. Still, the engineer in him wanted more stability and control. He earned an MBA in finance from the University of Miami, then took a leap. "I turned in my resignation. I was responsible for millions in design fees, but I was only making \$30,000 a year. I saw the opportunity and went for it," he said.

That bold step marked the start of Kipp Schulties Golf Design, his own firm headquartered in Florida. Initial projects proved his talent, and by the early 2000s he had found his niche — not in building brand-new courses, but in renovations and redesigns.

"Everyone was chasing new developments," Schulties said. "For two decades, the industry had been building golf courses at an unsustainable rate. There was a golf course on every corner in Florida and they were all going to need rehabs. Nobody was focusing on that."



Vineyards Country Club, Naples, Florida

EVAN SCHILLER



Kipp Schulties (BSCE'92), left, and his wife, Ashley (Fritz) Schulties (CFS'03), center, have four children, Ava, Kane, Elliana and Kolton.

Today, Schulties is known as one of the leading renovation architects in the country. His firm has rebuilt or reimagined more than 50 courses in South Florida alone. "We don't just tweak a green," he said. "We take it all down to dirt and rebuild the whole golf course. It's a brand-new course on an old footprint."

The work allows him to blend technical expertise with creative vision — and to live the life he values most. Unlike many in the industry who spend weeks away on airplanes, Schulties committed to being hands-on and local. "That's what got me market share," he said. "While others course designers may be chasing work in the Middle East or Asia, I'll be onsite the next day. And I go home every night to my family."

Now three decades into his career, the name Kipp Schulties is attached to some of the most respected golf courses in the Sunshine State. And it's his turn to mentor the youngsters dreaming of a career on the fairway.

"Course design fits me to a tee," Schulties said. "It's the perfect combination of civil engineering and golf. I tell people all the time — if you love your job, you're naturally going to work hard at it. And when you care that much, you're going to be successful."



BUILDING BEYOND BLUEPRINTS

TERRY ADAMS COMBINED
TECHNICAL SKILL, LEADERSHIP AND
MENTORSHIP TO SHAPE PROJECTS
— AND PEOPLE — DURING HER
DECADES AT PROCTER & GAMBLE

As a high school senior, Theresa Lynne (Smith) Adams (BSCE'74) told her guidance counselor she wanted to pursue engineering. The reply was blunt: We don't recommend that for girls.

"That was the mindset back then," Adams said. "I faced discouragement right from the start."

But Adams wasn't deterred. She was enrolled in a drafting class for boys in high school — likely because of the traditionally masculine spelling of her nickname, Terry — that revealed both a talent and a passion for technical problem-solving. "I realized I was good at drafting, and I really liked it," Adams said. "That class changed the trajectory of my life."

It was the support of her parents, who often told her "You can do anything you set your mind to do," and her own determination that led her to Purdue — one of the few institutions that welcomed women into its engineering program in 1970. "At other universities, they flat-out told me they weren't interested in admitting women," Adams said. "Purdue said yes. And that yes made all the difference."

Adams entered the College of Engineering in 1970, part of a small but growing number of women. "It could be intimidating being one of only two women in a class," she said. "But the professors treated me like I belonged. I didn't feel like I had to constantly prove I deserved to be there. That support mattered, especially the mentorship of my counselor and teacher, Professor John M. Hayes."

That environment set the foundation for a career defined by perseverance, adaptability and impact. The first firm she joined post-graduation closed within a year. At that point, Adams took a position with Procter & Gamble — just as the company was expanding internationally and embracing new approaches to manufacturing and operations.

"I thought I'd stay a few years," Adams said. "I ended up staying for nearly three decades."

At P&G, Adams found herself at the forefront of change. She worked as a technical engineer, rising to roles in project management and program management working with product development and advertising, overseeing new products, facilities and process improvements. "I was involved in everything from plant design to quality systems," she said. "I applied my civil engi-

neering background, but I also had to learn finance, leadership and organizational development along the way."

Her role eventually grew into leading the company's global cost engineering processes — work that required both technical precision and cultural fluency. "I traveled the world — Europe, Asia, South America — training teams, standardizing systems and helping people think differently about how they managed operations," she said. "It was fascinating. Every culture approaches problems in its own way, and I got to learn from all of them."

Adams built a reputation not just as a skilled engineer, but also as a trusted leader and mentor. She credits Purdue with instilling in her the confidence to step into those roles. "Purdue gave me the technical foundation, but more than that, it gave me the sense that I belonged in engineering," she said. "That confidence carried me through every new challenge at P&G."

She also understood the significance of her presence in spaces where few women had come before. "Early in my career, I walked into plenty of rooms where I was the only woman," Adams said. "But over time, that started to change. I was proud to help open doors for the women who came after me."

Looking back, she sees her path not as meticulously planned, but as a series of opportunities she was willing to embrace. "I didn't set out with a master plan," she said. "I took the chances that came, I worked hard and I stayed curious. That's what led me forward."

Now retired, Adams reflects on what she values most: not just the projects she led, but the people she influenced along the way. "The real legacy is the people," she said. "When someone tells me, 'You made a difference in my career, you helped me see what was possible,' that's the greatest reward."

Her success circles back to Purdue — the place that first said yes. "Purdue opened the door when others wouldn't," she said. "That gave me a chance to prove myself. And once I had that chance, I didn't waste it."

For today's generation of students, Adams offers advice rooted in her own experience of persistence and possibility. "You may not know exactly where you're going, and that's okay," she said. "What matters is saying yes to opportunities, believing you belong and being willing to do the work. If you do that, the path will open up for you."



"Purdue opened the door when others wouldn't. That gave me a chance to prove myself. And once I had that chance, I didn't waste it."



A LEGACY BUILT ON INNOVATION

From corporate training to tech ventures,
Jim Mitnick drives change forward

After more than 50 years as a civil engineer, Jim Mitnick (BSCE '71) said the work he is most proud of is the development and mentoring of younger engineers.

"Ensuring the next generation of civil engineers is able to lead and take the next step forward has been a great passion of mine," Mitnick said. "I wanted to make sure they had the best training and resources available to them — because they are the future of our industry."

Born and raised in Michigan City, Indiana, along with his younger brother Pete Mitnick (BSCE '77), Mitnick graduated high school at age 17 after skipping ahead in eighth grade. For the next three years at Purdue University, he hitchhiked to and from campus until he was finally able to afford a car.

"It was a struggle, but I loved learning about concrete and steel and how things worked," Mitnick said. "I didn't receive the best education in high school, so I had to work extra hard not to fall behind in college. Thankfully, I had some incredible professors who would take the time to help when I needed it. I'll always remember and appreciate that."

After earning his degree, Mitnick began his 37-year-long career with Turner Construction. Originally assigned to the company's Cleveland office, Mitnick would eventually be designated to start new offices in Detroit, Buffalo and Toronto, Canada, and managed other offices including Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New Jersey.

"I oversaw a lot of health care projects, convention centers, offices, theaters, university stadiums and demolition projects," Mitnick said. "I was happy with what we had been able to accomplish, but what I would say where I left my mark in the industry came after that."

In 2000, Mitnick was presented with a new opportunity at Turner Construction: to create and oversee a program that could help develop and train 1,000 new hires each year to support the growth of the company. The endeavor would ultimately become a \$25 million project that eventually revolutionized how all staff would learn and develop.

"We wanted this to be a program where engineers from all around the world could benefit from the Turner

Knowledge Network," Mitnick said. "Over a six-year period we codified the intellectual knowledge of the company and built over 100 hours of online content to support the recruitment, retention and development of all staff."

Mitnick would spend the remainder of his career with Turner further developing and expanding its Knowledge Network. Then, in 2007, Mitnick said it was time to move to the next phase of his career.

After retiring as senior vice president at Turner Construction, Mitnick went on to develop unique software that became the AEC Online Store. Founded in 2008, the goal was to create branded online stores for the architectural, engineering and construction community to provide both safety and corporate apparel.

"I've always been an early adopter of technology and new ways to improve what's being done," Mitnick said. "It's been an incredible opportunity to have led a learning transformation at Turner and create a new business at AEC as I get to continue to see companies develop and thrive — and I am excited to see where this opportunity takes me."



DRIVEN BY PURPOSE GROUNDED BY VALUES

Michael Rowe balances infrastructure progress
with a people-first workplace

A childhood shaped by frequent moves fueled curiosity and a sense of purpose in Michael Rowe (BSCE'95). Growing up in a military family, Rowe experienced an active and dynamic upbringing. His close-knit family instilled resilience, adaptability and the value of strong relationships. Today, as president of United Consulting in Indianapolis — a company recognized as Indiana's No. 1 Best Place to Work (Medium Company) — Rowe continues to exemplify excellence in his field.



Michael Rowe (BSCE'95) with his wife and children in Paris, 2020.

As a child, Rowe became interested in the world during long car rides and family camping trips. He visited places like the Parthenon, the Leaning Tower of Pisa and Roman aqueducts. Seeing these impressive structures inspired him to pursue civil engineering.

At Purdue, Rowe joined the soccer club, which brought together students from many backgrounds. They won championships by combining their different skills and perspectives. Through this experience, Rowe learned the value of teamwork and shared success.

"I met many of my closest friends today playing soccer," Rowe said. "The team was amazing and extremely competitive. Players on the team were from all over the United States and several from around the world. We won two club national championships and attended the Varsity World Championship."

Rowe started his career by drawing plans for roads and bridges. He later worked on construction sites where he learned and practiced geotechnical engineering. Each project helped him build his skills and deepened his interest in creating infrastructure that brings people together.

A major milestone in his career was managing the recon-



Rowe with his siblings in Spain, 1978 (left) and with his siblings and parents in Germany, 1979.



Rowe was a member of the Purdue soccer club that won the national championship in 1995.

struction of one of the busiest interchanges in the United States, I-80/94. The project was challenging due to the tough soil, heavy traffic and the diverse needs of multiple groups. When the design was completed, it had the most truck traffic in the United States and third most in the world. Rowe learned that successful engineering depends on teamwork and finding practical, creative solutions.

As president of United Consulting, Rowe leads with the values he learned growing up — integrity, gratitude and a focus on supporting others. He works to create a company culture where people can succeed both at work and in their personal lives.

"I collaborate with our leaders at United Consulting to develop our vision and achieve our goals," Rowe said. "One of the areas I am most proud of is that we work every day to build a company that supports our people living healthy lives, both mentally and physically."

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

Congratulations to our outstanding Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering alumni who were recognized with the Civil Engineering Alumni Achievement Award (CEAAA), the Construction Engineering Outstanding and Emerging Leader Alumni Awards, and the Distinguished Engineering Alumni (DEA) Award. Our alumni have a long, proud history of excellence and this year's awardees could not be more deserving of these recognitions.

2025 CEAAA RECIPIENTS

Civil Engineering at Purdue has a long history of educating outstanding engineers — and the Civil Engineering Alumni Achievement Award gives the school the opportunity to recognize the career accomplishments of some of our most influential graduates.

Pictured from left: John A. Davis (BSCE'82, MSCE'87), Lance D. Hansen (MSCE'95, PhD'02), J. David Frost (MSCE'86, PhD'89), Mike Wongkaew (BSCE'96, MSCE'97, PhD'00), Amy Schumacher (BSCE'97), Nicole Speece Laiho (BSCE'97, MSCE'99), and Mark S. Slaughter (BSCE'82).



2025 HONORARY DOCTORATE



Ron Klemencic (BSCE '85)

Chair and CEO of Magnusson Klemencic Associates, Klemencic is a globally recognized innovator and leading expert in high-rise structural engineering, sought after for his creativity, big-picture approach and ability to consistently produce cost-effective and inventive designs. He was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Engineering during commencement ceremonies in May.



2025 DEA RECIPIENT



Douglas Owen (BSCE '80)

In his role as senior principal at Stantec, Owen is the consultant program manager for Pure Water San Diego, the largest infrastructure program in the city's history. When complete, the multi-billion-dollar project will provide up to half of the water supply for the City of San Diego.

His expertise has been utilized on several boards, including the Water Research Foundation, Zofnass Program for Sustainable Infrastructure at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering.

2025 CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Construction Engineering Outstanding Alumni Award was established to recognize the professional contributions and outstanding achievements of graduates from the Division of Construction Engineering and Management and to thank them for the recognition that their success brings to Purdue and the division.

This year's awardees are Allison McCue (BSCNE'06) and Kenneth Thieneman (BSCNE'87). Elizabeth Fox (BSCNE'14) and Nick Ulliman (BSCNE'10) were recognized with the Emerging Leader Award. Above pictured from left are Fox, McCue, Thieneman and Ulliman.

GREETINGS FROM SCOTT HINKEL

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT FOR THE LYLES SCHOOL

The Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering produces some of the world's best civil and construction engineers and will continue to do so into 2026. Thank you to each and everyone of you who contribute your time, advice, mentorship and financial support to help keep our school as one of the top civil and construction engineering schools on the planet. On behalf of the entire Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering family, I am deeply grateful to all of our donors and alumni for your valuable support. THANK YOU!

A year into the merger of our civil and construction engineering programs and I have nothing to share but good news and there is positive momentum going forward. I have had the pleasure to meet many of our construction engineering alumni and continue to learn about the strong tradition and reputation that our CNE program has carried over the years. Thank you as well to Brandon Fulk, The Walsh Group Director of Experiential Learning, for his valuable guidance and support in this learning process.

Our undergraduate numbers continue to be strong going into the new year with almost 765 undergraduate students, making us one of the largest producers of civil and construction engineering students in the country. Enrollment of women continues to stay steady, making up almost 35% of the total. Thank you for your generosity as over 40% of our undergraduates are receiving some sort of specific civil and construction engineering scholarship aid. With room to grow to almost 900 students in the undergraduate program, we again appreciate and rely on the private scholarship support that so many of you have contributed to already.

We are equally excited about current highlights of the program as well as future initiatives on the horizon. The "Little Hammers" podcast continues to bring in outstanding alumni to share their stories with the world. CE 299, the one-credit high school class that focuses on civil and construction engineering, has grown from 18 high school students five years ago to over 70 this past summer. Thank you as well to our individual and corporate sponsors who have supported this industry workforce development initiative. The S-BRITE Center continues to add bridge specimens from all over the country and there are 23 DOTs that conduct training at this unique and specialized center. We are also looking to add a bridge specialty area to the curriculum and create a new safety center.

We are all excited about the 50th anniversary of the CNE program that will kick off in Fall 2026. Look for updates and information on the CCE breakfast during Homecoming weekend, the donor scholarship dinner, Purdue Day of Giving and our CCE golf outing next summer.

The Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering is very lucky to have some of the best facilities, faculty, staff and alumni in the country. I have experienced this first-hand over the last twelve years with our school. I am truly blessed to be working for such a strong school and wonderful people each and every day.

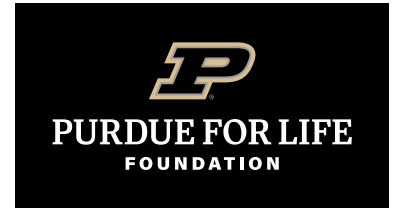
As always, please let me know if there is anything I can ever do and I will work with the grit, determination and fortitude that so many of you have shown me over the years, to make it happen.

Boiler Up and Hammer Down,



Scott Hinkel

Senior Director of Development



“ Thank you to each and everyone of you who contribute your time, advice, mentorship and financial support to help keep our school as one of the top civil and construction engineering schools on the planet. ”



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