

## STUDENT RECEIVES 2008 BLACK ENGINEER OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP



A doctoral student in Biomedical Engineering, Arielle Drummond received the Black Engineer of the Year Award for Student Leadership at the BEYA STEM Global Competitiveness Conference in Baltimore, Md. This award was presented to her for demonstrating leadership in engineering and technology through personal accomplishments.

"The College of Engineering is very proud of this recognition of Arielle's achievements and leadership. Her novel research on the next generation of pediatric heart pumps, and her leadership among her graduate student peers in Biomedical Engineering make her richly deserving of this award," says David Dzombak, Associate Dean for Graduate and Faculty Affairs.

The university nominated Drummond for the award because of her academic excellence and for the pivotal roles she has played in student organizations, such as the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). In 2007 she was the president of Carnegie Mellon's Black Graduate Student Organization, and in 2006 she was the treasurer. During that year, she planned graduate student events for the 32nd annual

NSBE Convention that was held at Pittsburgh's David L. Lawrence Convention Center. Committed to serving the university, she has been active in the university's Graduate Student Assembly and many committees – so many in fact, that Drummond says she needs "to see her CV to remember them all."

As much as Drummond deserved the BEYA award, she was surprised that she had won. "I didn't expect to get it. It is a national award. I'm sure there are lots of students that get nominated," she says. There may have been many students nominated but few can excel equally in community service and engineering to the extent that Drummond has. "I've always been good at managing my time," she says, "and volunteering and being part of organizations makes me feel like I'm giving back to my school community."

For years, she has been deeply involved in campus activities, but lately, Drummond spends most of her time working on her Ph.D. She is a member of a National Institutes of Health-funded team from the University of Pittsburgh that is constructing a new pediatric ventricular assist device. Incorporating data from CT scans, she is developing techniques for virtually fitting the mechanism into small children. Her work will help doctors determine the best location to place the device so that other organs are not impaired. Drummond intends to graduate in December 2008 and pursue a postdoc position. Ultimately, she aims for a career in academia. —S.S.

## Newsmaker

## WATER QUALITY EXPERT ELECTED INTO NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

David A. Dzombak has been elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), one of the highest professional distinctions an engineer can achieve.

"Dave has been a leader in fostering multidisciplinary research and educating tomorrow's leaders," said Pradeep K. Khosla, dean of the College of Engineering and a 2006 NAE inductee. "This outstanding recognition is a tribute to the pioneering and innovative leadership Dave brings to this college."

Dzombak, the Walter J. Blenko Sr. Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, received the prestigious recognition for novel development of models used in evaluating chemical behavior in water quality engineering and environmental remediation.

"I am truly honored and deeply humbled to be included with such an accomplished group of engineers," said Dzombak, who is faculty director of the university's Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental Education and Research. "I will do my best to use my participation in the NAE to serve the nation and to advance engineering."

For more than two decades, Dzombak has conducted leading research in the areas of aquatic chemistry, water and wastewater treatment, abandoned mine drainage remediation, river and watershed restoration and hazardous waste site remediation.

He also has contributed to the expertise and professional service at the local, state and national levels. He currently serves as chair of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science Advisory Board's Environmental Engineering Committee and as a member of the EPA National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology's Environmental Technology Subcommittee. He chairs the National Research Council's Committee on the Mississippi River and Clean Water Act. Dzombak is also an associate editor of the journal *Environmental Science and Technology*.

By Chriss Swaney



# Staff Awards

A GREAT STAFF MAKES A SCHOOL GREAT

Annually the College of Engineering presents three major awards to staff members who provide exemplary service to CIT. Picking these people is never easy because the competition is incredible. Throughout the departments are many intelligent, dedicated people who work hard each day. It is their combined effort that makes CIT great.

The college acknowledges and appreciates the efforts of its staff. And when we become aware of those few individuals whose deeds and commitment soar above the rest, we are compelled to honor them.



**Christina Cowan, of ICES**  
*The Staff Recognition Award*

This award acknowledges Cowan's performance and dedication to the college.



**Matthew Sanfilippo, of ICES**  
*Rookie Award*

This award is given to a relatively new CIT staff member who has demonstrated remarkable qualities and work ethic.



**Alicia Brown, of ICES**  
*Burritt Education Award*

Brown received this honor because of her ability to maintain a level of excellence in her job as she continues her education.

## Length of Service Awards

The College also presents Length of Service Awards to those who have continuously provided CIT with excellent performance throughout the years.

- 45 years: Jean Stiles
- 40 years: Hilda Diamond, Dolores Dlugokecki, Noel Nuhfer
- 30 years: Patricia Steranchak, F. Rogan
- 20 years: Lydia Corrado
- 15 years: Laura Shaheen, Carolyn Patterson
- 10 years: Deborah Lange, Christine Capp, Richard Burgett, Tanya Ross, Shawn Zugai
- 5 years: Diane Robinson, David Decker, Timothy Fisher, Meighan Lloyd, Angela Mercurio, Christa Jones, Terri Weinberg



Front row (l. to r.) H. Diamond, D. Dlugokecki, L. Shaheen, P. Steranchak, J. Stiles, L. Corrado, M. Sanfilippo. 2nd row: D. Decker, T. Weinberg, C. Capp, D. Lange, C. Cowan, A. Brown. Back row: N. Nuhfer, D. Robinson.