

## BRIEFS

■ **On Site Volunteer Services gears up for National Volunteer Week:** On Site Volunteer Services (OSVS), a student-run, nonprofit agency dedicated to creating community service opportunities in the Ithaca area, will run several service projects for community members in celebration of National Volunteer Week, April 18 to 23. National Volunteer Week, an endeavor started by the Thousand Points of Light service foundation, highlights the values of community service by engaging both frequent and non-frequent volunteers to work in their local areas in mass numbers during the third week of April every year. This year, OSVS has organized more than 20 projects for volunteers in the community to celebrate this national week of service, including projects that will be held in conjunction with National Collegiate Philanthropy Day on April 21. In partnership with Tompkins County United Way, OSVS will run 15 large-scale projects on Saturday, April 23, following a celebration at Cass Park. Projects range from demolition to painting to visitation with the elderly. Projects on April 23 will run from 1 to 3 p.m. To learn more about OSVS, please visit <<http://www.osvs.org>> or call 256-0071. For more information on volunteering for one of many available service projects on April 23, contact Kate Vengraitis at <[kav24@cornell.edu](mailto:kav24@cornell.edu)>.

■ **Mycologists promote 'morel values' contest:** The sixth annual First Morel Contest has begun, sending fans of the edible fungi into Ithaca-area woods in search of fame and lunch. "We're expecting the first ones to be found around mid-April or early May," said Kathie Hodge, assistant professor of mycology, whose Cornell Plant Pathology Herbarium has run the contest every spring since 2000. A modest prize is awarded for the first yellow morel and the first black morel collected within 15 miles of Ithaca and brought to Hodge in Room 401 of the Plant Science Building. For more information, including contest rules and pointers on distinguishing false morels from the real ones, can be found at <<http://ppathw3.cals.cornell.edu/CUPpages/morel.html>>.

### Call for awards for May 26 publication

The *Cornell Chronicle* will publish, in the May 26 edition, the names of students and faculty members who have won Cornell college or department awards for the 2004-05 academic year. Send notices – listing the names of the awards, the award winners and prizes (if applicable) – to Robin Zifchock, Cornell News Service, 312 College Ave., or send e-mail to <[chronicle@cornell.edu](mailto:chronicle@cornell.edu)>. The deadline is May 9.

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## Durland speaker talks leadership



Robert Barker/University Photography  
**Ann Fudge, CEO of Young & Rubicam Brands, discusses "Leaders as Catalysts in a Turbulent World," April 6 at Barnes Hall. Fudge was named one of the 50 most powerful women in American business by Fortune magazine. The annual Durland Memorial Lecture, which brings business leaders to campus, is considered the most prestigious speaking event sponsored by the Johnson Graduate School of Management.**

## Ecologist Barbara Bedford wins 2005 National Wetlands Award

Barbara Bedford, senior research associate in the Department of Natural Resources, is the recipient of the 2005 National Wetlands Award in the science research category. The awards, which are co-sponsored by the Environmental Law Institute, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Federal Highway Administration and NOAA Fisheries, are given "for exemplary contributions in conserving or restoring the nation's wetlands." The seven categories in which the awards are given celebrate "individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication, innovation or excellence in wetlands conservation."



Bedford

Bedford's scientific research and ideas were cited as being "cutting-edge for over 30 years." Bedford leads a research program on wetland conservation that examines plant diversity and the factors that control it at both local and regional scales. Her landscape-level approaches to wetlands science, which focus on the importance of regional geology and hydrology in determining biodiversity within wetland systems, have been incorporated into management programs of both the EPA and The Nature Conservancy. Her research contributions have earned Bedford the National Merit Award of the Society of Wetland Scientists, the National Award for Excellence in Wetland Science Applications and Public Policy from the National Association of

State Wetland Managers, and appointment in recent years to four committees of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences.

Bedford, who teaches courses on landscape impact analysis and wetland ecology and management, also was cited for her outstanding communication and teaching skills. In this area, she was described as an "astounding resource" for students and praised for her ability to communicate highly technical information to diverse audiences. Bedford's nominating letters recognized her "big-picture thinking" and her "masterful" synthesis and integration of scientific knowledge relevant to policy decisions. In June of this year she will assume the presidency of the Society of Wetland Scientists.

Bedford, who has been a member of the Cornell faculty since 1980, will be honored at a Capitol Hill ceremony May 18 in Washington, D.C.

"This year's awardees, who are at the forefront of efforts to protect America's valuable aquatic resources, provide a sense of confidence that we have the leadership, talent and commitment to realize the challenging goal that we have established of moving beyond 'no net loss' to achieving an overall increase in the nation's wetlands," said Benjamin H. Grumble, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's assistant administrator for water. The award's co-sponsors believe that recognizing award recipients for their efforts will help ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy high quality wetlands, biological diversity and clean water.

The 2005 award recipients were chosen by a diverse selection committee composed of national leaders in wetlands conservation.

## CEAA holds its annual conference April 21-23

By Bill Steele

We know that Cornell engineering graduates often rise through the ranks to executive positions, or found and manage new companies of their own. Is there something special about an engineering education that prepares a person for leadership?

The Cornell Engineering Alumni Association (formerly Cornell Society of Engineers) will explore that question in this year's annual conference April 21-23 on campus. The conference is titled "Engineering as a Foundation for Business Leadership: Tales from the Frontlines."

Speakers and panel discussions will feature a number of alumni reporting on their own experiences in the business world.

Daniel Simpkins '80, M.Eng. '81,

founder of Hillcrest Communications, will open the conference Thursday afternoon, delivering the William Ohaus Memorial Lecture on the "Ten Laws of Entrepreneurship." W. Kent Fuchs, the Joseph Silbert Dean of the College of Engineering, will welcome the participants on Friday morning and deliver an address titled "Leadership in Academia."

Other speakers and panelists include:

- Charles F. Knight '58, MBA '59, chairman emeritus, Emerson Electric;
- Raj Gupta, M.S. '69 chairman and CEO, Rohm and Haas (specialty materials);
- Jim Seay '84, president, Premier Rides (roller coasters);
- Alan Harbitter '78, Chief Operating Officer, PEC Solutions (computer systems and security);

## Davis shares physics award

J. C. Séamus Davis, Cornell professor of physics, will share in the 2005 Fritz London Memorial Prize, considered the highest award in the field of low-temperature physics. Since the prize was inaugurated in 1957, nine winners have gone on to win the Nobel Prize.



Davis

Davis, who joined the Cornell faculty in 2002, conducts research into the behavior of superconductors and superfluids at temperatures close to absolute zero in order to learn more about the fundamental physics of matter.

The London prize will be awarded at the International conference on Low Temperature Physics in Orlando, Florida in August. The prize cites Davis for "studies of superfluid helium-3 weak-link arrays revealing a rich variety of phenomena including quantum interference and for the invention and development of spectroscopic imaging STM techniques and their application in studies of individual impurity/dopant atom effects, vortex-core electronic structure, quasiparticle interference effects and alternative ordered states in the cuprate superconductors."

The first part of the citation refers to the study of superfluids like liquid helium-3 flowing in channels only a few nanometers across at temperatures near absolute zero, where Davis has discovered unusual quantum effects. These include the formation of Josephson junctions that are extremely sensitive detectors of rotational movement, forming a "quantum gyroscope" so sensitive that it can detect the rotation of the Earth.

The second part refers to work he has done using an improved scanning tunneling microscope (STM) of his own design that can show the location of clouds of electrons around atoms. Most recently this has allowed him to discover that electrons in a high-temperature superconductor arrange themselves in a structure resembling a crystal lattice. (See the August 26, 2004, issue of the *Cornell Chronicle*.)

Davis shares the prize with Richard E. Packard at the University of California-Berkeley, with whom he collaborated on the superfluid research, and Sebastien Balibar at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, France.

The London prize, given once every three years, is named for Fritz London, a professor at Duke University who was the first to recognize the deep connection between superconductivity, superfluidity and the phenomenon of Bose-Einstein condensation. It was initially endowed by John Bardeen, who shared the Nobel Prize in 1972 for what is known as the BCS theory explaining superconductivity.

Previous winners of the London prize include John D. Reppy, the John L. Wetherill Professor of Physics at Cornell, who shared the prize in 1981.

• David Lederman '66, Ph.D. '73, founder, ABIOMED (inventor of the artificial heart);

• Fred Keller '66, chairman and CEO, Cascade Engineering (engineered plastics);

• Charles "Chip" McClure '75, CEO, ArvinMeritor (auto components);

• Lisa Skeete Tatum '89, Cardinal Partners;

• John Callister, the Kinzelberg Director of Enterprise Engineering

• Peter Jackson, director of the Cornell Systems Engineering Program; and

• Linda Nozick, Cornell professor of civil and environmental engineering.

Further information is available on the association's Web site at <<http://www.ceaa.cornell.edu>>.