



Update

BY WILLIAM PRESTON

Energy Systems Engineering Program Gets \$2 Million Boost

That temperate breeze blowing across the foreheads of students and faculty is all thanks to Fritz Traugott

In decades past, Fritz Traugott's company designed and installed several of the heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems still in place on campus. Beginning this fall, a \$2 million commitment from Traugott and his wife, Frances, will support the Energy Systems Engineering Program in the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science.

"It's a dream fulfilled," says Traugott. An Austrian native, he came to Syracuse 46 years ago through a Marshall Plan work-study initiative for young engineers. He studied and worked for a year in Syracuse, returned to Austria, and then came back to the United States with Frances' assistance. He retired in 1990 after a long career with Robson & Woese Inc., a Syracuse-based consulting engineering firm.

Engineering and computer science Dean Edward Bogucz says the Traugotts' gift will rapidly strengthen the energy systems program. Initial monies will equip new labs, aid in hiring a new faculty member, and support student scholarships. Additionally, the Traugotts and the dean are interested in supporting transfer students arriving from community colleges and encouraging the entry of women into the field.

"The Traugotts' generosity demonstrates the family's commitment to the College of Engineering and Computer Science and its vision for the future," says Chancellor Kenneth A. Shaw. "This gift is both a recognition of the career skills and knowledge Fritz Traugott received during his time here and an acknowledgment that tomorrow's engineers and scientists need continuing support to lead us in the next century."

"This is an extraordinary gift at an ideal time," says Bogucz, "and one of the largest gifts the college has ever received from individuals."

"In Dean Bogucz, I found a person who wanted what I wanted for the college," Traugott says. "We share a vision for engineering and for the education of young engineers. We have a challenge to attract the right students—students who won't be handbook specialists,



A \$2 million commitment to the University from Fritz and Frances Traugott will allow the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science to strengthen its Energy Systems Engineering Program.

but designers; engineers willing to think deeply and create new designs that will use the energy that surrounds us, rather than waste it."

This past June, in honor of his career and his support of the University, Traugott received an honorary doctorate from the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

WHERE WE STAND

As of mid-1998, more than \$232 million was given or pledged to the University's \$300 million Commitment to Learning campaign. "Gifts of all sizes are needed to meet our goal," says Sid Micek, director of the campaign and vice president for development. "It's encouraging to watch support from our annual donors grow, and see how large, high-profile gifts stimulate even more major support for our students and programs." The campaign is slated to end in June 2000—the "millennium bug" notwithstanding.

MACY'S SEWS UP SUPPORT

What did they need?

Money for new computers and new software for the Retail and Fashion Institute (RFI) in the College for Human Development.

What did they get?

Support to the tune of \$150,000 from Macy's East and its parent company, Federated Department Stores Inc.

"Most of retail merchandising is computer-based," says Professor Amanda Nicholson, programs director for the Department of Environmental Arts, Consumer Studies, and Retailing. "And fashion design students need software for pattern-making and sizing. Employers want to hire people familiar with the most current programs, so providing the best hardware and software is important for our students' success in the field."

Macy's East knows about Syracuse University students. In addition to recruiting College for Human Development students, Macy's has twice given an annual \$2,500 "Outstanding Student Award." Key to the Macy's connection is Hal Kahn, CEO of Macy's East and a member of the college's National Retail Industry Advisory Board. "The reason we're making this gift is because of the wonderful work of Syracuse alumni for Macy's," says Kahn, whose company has hired SU graduates. "This is our way of saying thanks."

Building support for the Retail and Fashion Institute is a campaign priority for the college. An umbrella for such initiatives as the annual fashion show, the Sue Ann Genet Lecture Series, and educa-

tional trips for students and faculty, RFI aims to "become an internationally recognized leader in providing the marketplace with well-educated, highly effective retail executives and successful entrepreneurs," Nicholson says.

And Syracuse is well situated for such high aims, geographically and historically. "We're very fortunate to be this close to New York City, the heart of the U.S. fashion industry," Nicholson says. "Our connections with industry, built up over years through informal channels and internships, give us a unique advantage."



Jennifer Spaulding, left, winner of Macy's Outstanding Student Award, poses with College for Human Development Dean Susan J. Crockett and Hal Kahn, CEO of Macy's East and a member of the college's National Retail Industry Advisory Board.



DONOR HONORED—Joan Brodsky '67, G'68 accepts a Chancellor's Council plaque for herself and husband William Brodsky '65, G'68 from Chancellor Kenneth A. Shaw. The plaque is awarded to donors who give more than \$100,000 to Syracuse. During the Commitment to Learning campaign, the Brodskys have supported the Helen and Irwin Brodsky Scholarship (named for Bill's parents), the Digital Learning Center at the School of Information Studies, and the Goldstein Alumni and Faculty Center. Bill Brodsky has served as an SU trustee since 1987.

MORE FROM FLEMING

Two issues ago, we told you about the William Fleming Educational Unitrust: More than \$1 million from the trust, established by Fleming, an emeritus professor of fine arts, funds a tenure-track position in his former department in The College of Arts and Sciences. Now, a second gift from the Unitrust, again more than \$1 million, funds another music history position in the department. Plans call for the new position to be filled as early as this fall.

"This remarkable support is all the more important in the current climate of budget constraints," says Dean Robert Jensen of The College of Arts and Sciences. "The college's long tradition of excellence in the fine arts faces a strong future thanks to this gift."

GIANT STEPS

Recent graduates don't make big campaign gifts. At least, that's the usual story. But even if these new alumni are too young to be making much money or to have thought much about considerable charitable giving, the University appreciates it when they make modest contributions to the Annual Fund. These gifts are vital to the University's financial health, and the annual gifts let the University know that people care about their alma mater's future and want to stay connected to SU.

Sherri Eubanks Hughey, a 1984 graduate of The College of Arts and Sciences, supported the Annual Fund in the past. This year, her gift to the Dean's Educational Enrichment Fund in The College of Arts and Sciences earns her recognition as an Arts and Sciences Fellow. "This fund targets projects that enhance individual student learning," says Eric Holzwarth, executive assistant to Arts and Sciences Dean Robert Jensen. "Some projects we've funded are out-of-classroom learning experiences like student trips to

professional conferences, or, just recently, an undergraduate research project in biology.

"Another emphasis of this fund is career counseling, helping students determine productive courses of study or look ahead to careers that build on their academic interests," Holzwarth says. "Like the other schools at SU, our college has invested much to ensure our students are prepared to carve out bright futures."

A good year for Hughey's business helped make her increased giving to SU possible. She is vice president of a Houston-based family oil-and-gas production and exploration company and chair of the oil-and-gas company she co-owns with her husband. "Education is a big deal to my husband and me," says Hughey, who has two young children. "It's important to give when one is able, particularly to organizations like SU that do the important work of educating the next generation. I had a great experience at SU and would like other students to have the same experience."