

Welcome to the James and Maureen Gorman Emeriti Luncheon Honoring Wayne Hamilton

Wayne Hamilton arrived in Orono in 1960 only planning to stay a few years. As his son Robert put it, "as you might note he's still there." Dr. Hamilton's career at UMaine spanned 37 years from 1960 to 1997 where he taught and mentored a new generation of engineers as an exceptional teacher, as chair of civil engineering and as the College of Engineering's first associate dean.

We are delighted to be celebrating the career of Wayne Hamilton as the honoree of this year's James and Maureen Gorman Emeriti Luncheon. The College of Engineering has always viewed our emeritus luncheons as fun events that celebrate the numerous faculty members that have given so much to the College. With this in mind, every year we send out invitations requesting humorous stories about our honoree.

Responses to Dr. Hamilton's invitations came fast and furious from former colleagues, staff, and alumni. A few people noted how Wayne has been known to often wear more chalk on him than may have gotten on the board. The major theme of the contributions, however, spoke of Wayne's commitment to his students and how he has changed so many lives over the course of his work as a professor, chair, and as associate dean. You will read stories and memories from many of his students who credit Dr. Hamilton for turning their lives around through his calm mentoring and counsel. Others remember Dr. Hamilton for his ability to produce prodigious amounts of quality work, both administrative and technical, in short periods of time. The letters reveal the appreciation, love and respect that each of the writers have for Wayne as a teacher, advisor, and a friend.

Wayne Hamilton has brought - and continues to bring - distinction to the education of engineering students. His students have gone on to become leaders in their fields who credit Wayne Hamilton and UMaine as a major force in their success. We thank you for helping us honor Wayne and hope you enjoy the celebration!

Dana J. Auphnz

Dana N. Humphrey, Ph.D, P.E. Dean of Engineering

MEMORIES

Wayne Hamilton was the youngest of three children and a high school athlete in two sports for the small northeastern Ohio town where he grew up. Think of the movie "Hoosiers" for the time period, the size of the school and the general geography, although he swears the school he attended was larger than the school in the movie and he was in school about three years earlier than the movie took place. He was in the last class before consolidation to graduate from the same school his father had graduated from in the first class. After high school he drove produce during the summer between Florida and Ohio while he decided what to do, and then after deciding to see the world with the Navy he later waited for his paperwork to be processed. While waiting for the Navy the Marines decided they needed him more as they told him in a letter which began "Greetings . . ."

It was while in the Corps he was able to hitch a ride on those big Navy boats and see North Africa and Europe. He remembers watching the waves of a storm break over the deck of a carrier in the mid-Atlantic. This clearly was a memorable time in his life. There seems to have been three significant activities he participated in while across the Atlantic. He was in the only NATO exercise ever held that included both the Turkish and the Greek armies, he went skiing in the Alps and he made his first visit to London which was still covered with bomb craters.

It was the GI Bill that got him into college and on the path of becoming a professional educator. He was the first member of his family to graduate from college, although his mother had attended a Teachers College before him. It was in 1960 with a relatively fresh Masters degree in his pocket that he accepted a teaching position at the University of Maine.

He said he would go there and work for three or four years at which point he would move on to something else. *As you might note he's still there.*

Robert Hamilton - son

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Department of Civil Engineering Boise State University

COLLEAGUES

This is a voice from fairly long ago. I left the University of Maine in 1967 to take a position at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., where I remained until I retired in 1978. We had a cottage in Surry, Maine for many years. My principal contact as far as the University is concerned has been Dick Hill, whom I am sure you know.

In spite of the fact that I just turned 87 years of age, I am still in good health, free of old age pains, etc. I do, however, confine my traveling primarily to the local area, although I would leave here if told to evacuate because of a hurricane.

I remember you with great pleasure and am glad that I had something to do with your career as an administrator, at least in the early stages.

Congratulations on your successful career, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement, which I gather you have already enjoyed for some years.

Sincerely, Tom Curry Dean of Engineering'62-'68

Well, I don't have any humorous stories to relate, however, this is somewhat surprising because Wayne is one of the most pleasant people I have ever known so there must have been many such stories. I am guessing that my inability to recall them says a lot about my memory!

What I do recall is that Wayne is a great resource. When an advisee came to me with a problem I wasn't sure about, having to do with financial aid, taking the PE exam, or transferring credit, I could always count on Wayne for advice that would be unbiased and in their best interest. He always put students first.

When I first became Chairperson of EEC it was great to have him just down the hall in Barrows. He was always available for advice on a variety of issues. One key thing was explaining the old B & E's - a confusing array of numbers to a new Chair. He was also the one to explain, for example, why the number for this year's equipment line was less than last year's! This seemed to happen almost every year so it was nice to have faith in Wayne's fairness and integrity even though it was still frustrating!

I feel so lucky to have had Wayne as a colleague. The College of Engineering and the University was fortunate to have his service. However, the students to whom he was dedicated, were the luckiest of all to have had him as a teacher, advisor, and administrator.

Wayne, thanks for your guidance, advice, and especially for being a great role model.

John Field Electrical & Computer Engineering Emeritus Interim Dean of Engineering '97-'98

I have probably known Wayne Hamilton longer than anybody still associated at the University of Maine.

In September of 1960, I returned to my alma mater to begin work on a masters program I was hired by George Wadlin as a full time instructor teaching highway courses and surveying while George Greenwood was away working on his Doctorate.

That year Wayne was hired to teach basic civil structures. But, there were five divisions of surveying and Wayne had to teach two of them and I had to teach other three.

As we were low on the totem pole, both of us had to watch our expenses. Pat and I played bridge with Wayne and Kate often. None of us were bridge fanatics, but we had fun.

Since we were teaching surveying, we found opportunities to work on weekends doing property surveys. One such survey was for Dean Joseph Murray on land that he owned east of Bangor. We traveled to the property with Dean Murray which save us from having finding the property.

While we were working in the morning, Dean Murray was preparing coffee and sandwiches in a camp on the property. When it was noon, he called us into the camp and he served us lunch. Wayne remarked that it was a privilege to be served lunch by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Later that afternoon, we completed our work and traveled back to Orono. Years later, Wayne served on the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers for ten years. I was hired by the Board as the Secretary to the Board.

The Board had four meetings a year which lasted for five or six hours. One of my responsibilities was reviewing candidates applying for registration and making recommendations to the Board whether they should sit for the eight hour Professional Engineers test . Some were easily qualified and some were not. Before the meeting started, Wayne, who was coming to Augusta from Orono, would arrive early the review the questionable applications. I appreciated this effort.

At times, the Board had spirited discussions over procedural issues. Many times the Board was told by the feisty Assistant Attorney General who sat in the meetings, that the Board couldn't take some administrative action. After more discussion, the Board would reluctantly see her wisdom.

Wayne touched the lives of many by being a great teacher and good guy. I am one, who had valued his friendship for many years.

Herb Doten Class of '54, G'66

I am delighted to hear that you are to be honored at this year's Emeriti Faculty Luncheon. We have been asked to contribute to the book of memories. My memories are those connected to Scouting when Robert was a Scout and Kiwanis.

You saw your son, Robert, through the completion of his Eagle in 1976, and your steady support of the troop continued for many years, though my tenure as Scout Master and a couple of Scout Masters after me. As Associate Dean you frequently invited the Troop Committee to meet in the Dean's conference room.

My Kiwanis memories are more recent and more numerous. They started when Larry Wade invited me to join Kiwanis and to come to a meeting. You were sitting behind the table at the door collecting money. Your told me that since I was a prospective member, I could eat free. I think that I got three of those free meals. You work in so many lonely and unseen ways to help Kiwanis. Each night of the auction you distribute those boxes of starter cash and at the end of the night you work into the wee hours counting the piles of money we turn in. In addition to managing the money, your manage the protective panels around the pole and toy barn, and do much to manage the books for auction and those sold at Hannaford. I remember that Sunday morning after the auction. We were all gathered at the gate where the lock would not open. You came to the rescue with a socket wrench and unbolted the gate from the post.

Congratulations on a life lived well.

Fred B. Otto Class of '56

ONE OF A KIND

Note: Because I'm the only one left who can attest to the following incident, I thought it best to put it in writing to persevere it for prosperity.

Once upon a time - well, it was a long time ago -I actually heard Wayne Hamilton use an expletive, although I must admit, it didn't quite reach the need for the "deleted" part of the commonly used "expletive deleted" phrase. However, it was an expletive and what makes it unique is that it turned out to be the only one I ever heard Wayne utter in either a social or professional setting during 30 plus years as a colleague in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department.

Now think about that for a moment. It has to be a sure winner in the Guinness Book of World Records - one expletive in 30 plus years? Wow! I'll bet it would be impossible to come up with even a near competitor, which qualifies Wayne as a one-of-a-kind type of individual I guess.

The particular oral indiscretion referred to above occurred during a round of golf at the Kenduskeag Gold Course. The then chairman of the department, George K. Wadlin, Wayne and I were teeing off on the third hole. The hole wasn't a particularly long one, but it did curve slightly between the Kenduskeag Stream on the right and a row of trees on the left.

George Wadlin, the best golfer, hit a long ball that followed the curve of the stream and settled in the middle of the fairway. I dribbled my shot a tremendously long forty yards. Wayne, a heavy hitter, blasted a mighty shot but it curved more than slightly and, hence, plopped forthwith into the water. I glanced at him and noted the white knuckles clutching his club, the whitened features and clinched jaw --- and then he said it --- loudly, we both heard it! He said ----"darn it!"

George W. Greenwood

A colleague who lied when he said, "I'll never tell." Civil & Environmental Engineering Emeritus 2002 Emeriti Luncheon Honoree

Certainly Wayne deserves my sympathy and appreciation. As a department chairman myself while Wayne was holding forth bravely in the Dean's domain, my antipathy to trying to make the budget balance and be understood caused him to re-enter the classroom for a student of one on money matters. I know he loved to work structures problems out with droves of eager engineers. What must he have thought of me backward about financial matters! He was endlessly patient and utimately completely helpful. Otherwise, the Mechanical Engineering Department might have experienced a southern rout not unlike the US of A although of less wide spread damage.

All the best to a very good person: Wayne Hamilton

John Lyman ProfessorEmeritus Mechanical Engineering 2005 Emeriti Luncheon Honoree

ALUMNI

Dr. Hamilton gives true meaning to a professional and if it were not for him and instructors like him I would not be enjoying the career I have at Kleinschmidt Associates. I have often spoke very highly of UMaine and the staff and have used Dr. Hamilton (Wayne) as the example.

I wish you the very best Wayne and I thank you for your service to UMaine and to Civil Engineering.

Sincerely, David B. Nash, P.E. Class of '83 In one of our classes, Dr Hamilton recalled a story from earlier in his career that showed how psychology can sometimes enter into engineering decisions.

There was a concrete retaining wall adjacent to a playground, and it leaned a bit toward the playground. The parents were very concerned about this, and wanted the wall to be fixed so that it leaned in the other direction.

Dr. Hamilton, or one of his associates, was asked to investigate the safety of the wall. The calculations showed that the wall met all the necessary strength and stability requirements and no modification was required. This was not considered to be a satisfactory answer -- that wall was not going to remain as it was. However, rebuilding the wall would be a waste of the client's money.

The solution? A purely cosmetic application of concrete was added to the face of the wall to make it slope away from the playground.

Everybody was happy.

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Wayne Langley Class of '78

You were my favorite professor while at the University of Maine. In the classroom, your methods taught structural design in a way that described complex concepts and mathematical processes that were readily understood and invaluable to me.

Outside the classroom, you were ready and willing to share your time to mentor me and provide an enhanced perspective of the professional practice of engineering. In my first few years after graduation while I was enrolled in a graduate engineering program at Penn State, when I would return to Orono to seek you out to discuss my personal discoveries about advanced engineering education and my future goals that grew from them, you always made time to see me, even though I had not made an appointment beforehand. You took great interest in my adventures and made me feel that much more positive about about my future. After going into professional practice in the Midwest, I no longer had the opportunity to "drop in" but always warmly remembered you and your cohort of Civil Engineering faculty: Drs. George Greenwood, Richard Nightingale, and Willem Brutsaert and your collective impact on my career at its very beginning. Now that I am an educator myself, I quite frequently draw from the model of academic excellence that, to me, you represent.

Thank you. Dr Hamilton. You are the cornerstone of my professional career.

Sincerely and with warmest regards,

Robert A. Young Class of '78

For the exam next week you can bring open notes and open book -said the teacher- following this instruction understood backwards I lost the first exam. For the second term exam I took all kind of help in order to obtain a very good note.

RESULT: second exam lost. Because it was with a pencil only, nothing was to be added. Finally, I lost this course and the following semester I won it.

I suppose you never knew it, right, Dr.Hamilton?

God bless all of you my friends! A warm and very sincere salutation to all of you Dr. Hamilton and Drs. Greenwood, Alexander, Lord, Otis, and as always to Pam.

SAUL OJEDA Class of '73

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Prof. Hamilton (Wayne), when you walked into your first classroom in Boardman Hall in September 1960, you were greeted by a 'wide-eyed (?)' class of junior-year civil engineering students. I was one of them.

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Having retired a few years back from a career in private engineering practice, I continue to appreciate the value of your teaching skills and professional values.

Thank you.

Stan Walker Class of '62 HOW ONE DECISION CAN CHANGE A LIFE! One never knows what person or event may have life changing meaning for them, especially at the exact moment that person or event intervenes in their life. Dean Wayne Hamilton is one of those special people for me who changed my life and he probably does not even know it! One decision Dean Hamilton made involved me when I was a Civil Engineering student at UMaine immensely changed the path of my life. I have been inspired and enabled to pass on that goodwill in hopes of altering, for the better, other young people's lives - because of that decision.

I grew up in trailer park in a very poor family in Maine without a father around for guidance but my mother always did her best. The interesting fact about when we arrive at the University is that we can change our lives and reinvent ourselves to eliminate past history or perceptions that may abound in our own communities regarding one's social status or abilities. However, another fact in life, and not only at the University, is that perceptions unfortunately pervade society and many times overshadow reality and one's true abilities to contribute to society.

I'm sure I was considered a "non-traditional" student when I entered Civil Engineering being older than most students, not participating in any extracurricular activities, and missing many classes. I know many of my professors made "judgments" off these "facts" which I had to live with everyday. My stark reality was that I had to support myself including food, housing, etc. which required me to work three part-time jobs in addition to school. Also, I could not afford a vehicle so I would walk or hitch hike to school or my employment. To get to an 8:00 am class at UMaine for me entailed leaving my home at 6:00 am, often in the freezing cold, and walking two miles to Main Street in Bangor and then I would hitch hike the additional seven miles to UMaine.

Truthfully, I missed many of those classes and I "paid" for it dearly in some classes. Dean Hamilton nor anyone else, knew any of these facts which just further makes the decision Dean Hamilton made speak of his remarkable character and intuition for a situation.

The decision I speak of is a situation I clearly put myself into to take full accountability for the issue. It also happened at a critical juncture in my life when my future could have easily gone several different directions. I had become engaged to a local girl and we were scheduled to be married on July 16th and had been approved to move into University Park, housing for married students. Her parents clearly were not fond of me either based upon perceptions and felt that I was obviously a "lower life form" and not suitable for their daughter. What made all this even worse is that I totally messed up that semester and ended up with a zero point something grade point average for the semester. I knew I had the ability to overcome the grade point but what I did not know was that I would be suspended from school for a semester which also would ruin our housing plans. I was called down to the Head of Civil Engineering John Alexander who informed me of my fate. I pleaded for mercy but none was forthcoming so I inquired was there anyone to whom I could appeal this decision.

Enter into my life Dean Wayne Hamilton!

I sat outside Dean Hamilton's office foreseeing my life plans clearly crumble apart and not having much hope for my future. Dean Hamilton called me in and asked what he could help me with that day. I quickly explained my suspension, planned marriage in the summer, and our housing plans at University Park. The only question Dean Hamilton asked was "Tell me a little about your girl". After my response Dean Hamilton said "You are back in but so Mr. Alexander does not think it was that easy for you, please tell me about yourself and your plans". I never saw Dean Hamilton again after that day and I also never had below a 3.0 grade point and often had much higher than that.

I graduated in December 1985 and moved to Connecticut where I was employed at the CT Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section. This piece is all about Dean Hamilton so I will keep my own accomplishments short, but I will hit some highlights so Dean Hamilton knows the caliber of person who he enabled to fulfill his potential. I currently supervise Planning for all aspects of drinking water in CT. Previous accomplishments include the creation of CT's Non-Community Program which ensured safe drinking water for schools, day cares, and restaurants. I have been honored with the Governor's Service Award, EPA Environmental Merit Award, EPA Environmental Educator of the Year. Four employees, including Cam Walden-Dean Hamilton will know that name, who I've supervised and more importantly mentored have become supervisors in our Department. I've been instrumental in hiring six UMaine graduates (when jobs were more difficult to find) for our program.

My most important accomplishment is being a father to my son Craig who currently is attending Pharmacy School at URI on a full academic scholarship after which he plans to attend medical school and become a pediatric oncologist. I may be a little biased here, but I think you done good on this one Dean Hamilton!

Often I wish I had taken the time to stop and thank you in person for your efforts before I left Maine but being young, foolish, and ready to tackle the world, I never did. I am a firm believer that things happen for a reason and good thing happen to good people.

So here it is Dean Hamilton twenty-three years late-THANK YOU! I CAN HONESTLY TELL YOU I WOULD HAVE NEVER COME BACK TO SCHOOL HAD I REMAINED SUSPENDED. You changed my life and that my friend is the greatest gift of all! Thank you and godspeed!

Steve Messer Class of '85

I was a Civil Engineering student in one of the first classes Professor Hamilton taught in reinforced concrete. We got along pretty well and much to my surprise years later, I found myself teaching reinforced concrete at Central Maine Community College.

At UMaine, I had been a student member of ASCE, then a Member, Life Member, and finally a Fellow Member. One of my greatest honors came when my teacher, Wayne Hamilton, called me to ask for a letter of recommendation for him to become a FELLOW Member of ASCE. I wrote the letter and was proud to welcome Professor Wayne Hamilton as a Fellow Member of ASCE.

Richard F. Bastow Class of '57 I graduated the University of Maine with a B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1978. I was very impressed with Dr. Hamilton's extremely orderly presentation of Reinforced Concrete Design in class. I know that he loved writing every note and detail, as sometimes he has his tongue slightly visible to the side... like an artist with his chalk. He loved instructing us as much as he loved writing and drawing on the board. By class end, he was was wearing a good deal of the chalk on his face, hands, and clothes. His notes were some of the best I have ever seen... and his courses were some of the most challenging!

Personally, I will never forget walking across campus green following an afternoon of surveying lab. We were carrying all of our equipment, the foliage was fine, it was overcast after some rain, and we were proud to be part of Dr. Hamilton's crew. Dr. Hamilton was dressed in his London Fog business raincoat and we were in our yellow and green slickers. We learned a lot about how errors are compounded and how to improve our accuracy the next time. The snow came early that fall, and finding our stakes was one of the next lessons. I was impressed at the accuracy which Dr. Hamilton could calculate versus the real-life major mistakes out in the field. Whenever I learned of a foundation placed 25' from its intended location, contractors hammering bolts to fit, and contours off by many feet... I remember Dr. Hamilton's fine training and realized that others had not had such benefit.

I remember Dr. Hamilton chuckling about how he had a contractor cut down a tree so that he could get a straight shot with his transit... another superb way to avoid an error.

I was amazed at Dr. Hamilton's story concerning the workers who just placed the untied bundle of rebars inside the concrete form instead of carefully spacing and securing them... one more example of the wide variance between the considered accuracy of the designer and the interpreter of the plans at the site.

Robert J. Sherman Class of '78 I will never forget Dean Hamilton's helpfulness, cooperation, and consideration for me when I transferred to Maine in 1983 from another university and a different major. Coming from another school, I was not used to this type of professional yet personal attention - I was truly impressed. I was actually in a plight, as at the time I was a little uncertain about my own goals and course of life. As he calmly and deliberately explained the curriculum, his friendly and confident demeanor gave me a sense of self-assurance that I had definitely arrived at a place where I could establish myself and secure my future. I definitely toiled at Maine, yet I learned to persevere; as most engineers will agree, it is not an easy curriculum to get through.

I now have 20 plus years of experience as a civil engineer. I am a Professional Engineer and the President of civil engineering firm. I owe everything I have achieved professionally to the education I received at Maine, and it all started with that first meeting I had with Dean Wayne Hamilton in his office in Boardman Hall in 1983.

David N. Romero Class of '86

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I recall going into Dr. Hamilton's office rather timidly from time to time with questions on homework assignments. Wayne was approachable and looked for the humor in these situations for the both of us. I can recall very distinctly that Wayne usually wore a white short-sleeved shirt with a tie and jumped right into solving/explaining the problems I presented. Then there may be need for number crunching to zero in on the answer. The was taken care of - before hand calculators - by his nearby adding machine, which he manipulated with awesome speed and confidence.

There is no need to get all mushy on this as it is an observation on reality: Wayne has been a beacon, an example for us all to follow within the civil engineering profession. He's one of the fellows who made a lasting and favorable impression on my career choice, a career that I am still actively and enjoyably involved in today.

Jonathan Mooers Class of '72

By the end of my sophomore year, I had accomplished a feat achieved by a select few of the many engineers to pass through UMaine - that I had not yet had a single 2.0 GPA semester. Things would get worse for me as the summer of 79 went on. Suffice it to say, that summer culminated in a challenge from my parents concerning any plan to return to Maine in the fall. While I was dead set against it, my mother's argument prevailed.God bless her soul. All along, she would contend that I return to Orono and graduate with my class.

On my first day on campus I stopped into your office and asked the assistant if I could see you. She inquired as to the purpose of the visit and I told her that I needed help developing a plan that would put a diploma in my hand in the sprint of 1981. I provided my name and she disappeared. It was a short time later when you called out to me, "Yes, Bill, what can I do for you?" The tone of you voice exuded familiarity, confidence, and a sense of inquisitiveness.

I replied that I needed some help figuring out what I needed to do to graduate with my class. You said, "well, let's take a look." You pulled my transcript from a file drawer and without batting and eye asked, "Did you receive a letter from us stating you had been put on academic probation?" I said no, not yet. You looked a bit puzzled and said, "I don't know how you slipped through the cracks."

Peering at the transcript, you were very professional and amazingly quick in your ability to identify classes that needed to be taken over, and the requisite grades that would need to be achieved in each of my classes in order to obtain a diploma. Your excellent road map and counsel provided the vision, the professors imparted the knowledge, and my weak but steadfast will saw it through. You can't imagine the number of times my mind has replayed the sequence of events resulting in my return to school for my junior year, receiving your advice, seeking help from faculty and fellow classmates, all culminating in the piece which I sought. Mr. Hamilton, you remain a champion in my life., and I thank you for it. God bless you.

Bill E. Sproul Class of '81 I would like send my congratulations to Doctor Wayne Hamilton for an outstanding career of service to the University of Maine and best wishes to him and his family for happiness and fulfillment in the years ahead. Also best wishes to everyone at the university.

Stephen Smith Class of '75

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I had been out of high school for six years and had been working in the production department of the local newspaper in my home town before coming to the University of Maine in the fall of 1988. I enrolled as an "undecided" engineering major, so Associate Dean Wayne Hamilton took me on as his advisee.

My first two years at UMaine were very tough, as I struggled to keep my focus on my class work, but Dean Hamilton always had an encouraging word to offer and I know my outlook on my performance would have been worse if it had not been for his encouragement. However, the next two years were even worse due to my year long bout with mononucleosis and the prolonged illness and eventual death of my father in 1992. (During that period I had decided upon Mechanical Engineering as a major.) I had taken two semesters off during my illness and my father's, but I foolishly stayed on during the worst of it and my grades continued to suffer. Dean Hamilton had been very supportive during the whole period, but my lack of improvement a year after my father's death resulted in my dismissal from the University. Though this was a very low time in my life, the dismissal turned out to be just what I needed to regain the focus of what I wanted to do with my life.

I knew I wanted to return to the University eventually and that if I went home to work instead of staying in the area, my chances of returning would be slim. A year later I contacted Dean Hamilton and applied for readmission to the Mechanical Engineering Program at the University. He wrote back saying that he had discussed my situation with the Mechanical Engineering Department Chairman (Don Grant) and that they had decided to give me another chance to complete my degree. I continued to work, but I eventually returned to full-time student status for my senior year and graduated in 1997...FINALLY!

After completing my undergraduate degree I stayed on to complete a Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1999, and was then hired on by the Department to fill a research staff position where I worked until the summer of 2004. During my tenure as research staff I built a reputation as someone who showed "a great attention to detail" with regard to laboratory testing. This led to an opportunity in 2004 to pursue a Ph.D. through the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center under the guidance of Dr. Roberto Lopez-Anido. I plan to complete my Doctorate in Mechanical Engineering and graduate in May 2009.

During my years as research staff, and more recently working on my Doctorate, I have had the opportunity to travel around the United States to technical conferences, collaborate with peers from both academia and industry from some of the top research labs in the United States, and even had the opportunity to be one of the main editors for a newly created ASTM test standard. While I realize that it was my hard work that led to these opportunities, it was the encouragement and opportunity afforded to me by Dean Hamilton to complete my education that I will always be thankful for.

Keith A. Berube Class of '97

In 1964, I graduated from UMO with a BS degree in Civil Engineering. At that time students were asked to follow a course of study during their junior and senior years that was oriented towards highway, structural, or sanitary engineering. I choose the structural option and in my junior year took reinforced concrete design from Dr. Hamilton. His extraordinary ability to make a rather dry subject matter understandable, interesting and practical has served me well over my 44 year career as a design engineer and construction manager. Fresh out of school, I was assigned to design and supervise construction of some very large and complex reinforced concrete structures.

Thanks to Dr. Hamilton I was able to carry out my duties easily and with confidence under the skeptical supervision of experienced colleagues. Latter in life when asked to make structural design modifications on the spot at construction sites I was able to do so using the technical knowledge and common sense approach instilled by Dr. Hamilton. Hats Off to an extraordinary teacher and administrator!! The world is a better place because of his efforts.

David W. Young Class of '64

I first met with Dr. Hamilton when I was a senior at Greely High School, Cumberland, Maine. Contemplating my choices after participating in a Civil Engineering Department Open House, I returned for a number of additional visits. On one such occasion I "dropped-in" at the Dean's Office and Dr. Hamilton graciously made time to meet with me. I was impressed by his enthusiasm and frankness regarding the emphasis of the College. He made reference to a number of graduates who, over the years, had made tremendous contributions to society – offering practical solutions in planning, design and construction management. The emphasis, he told me, would be on "practical" problem solving, not simply "theoretical" analysis. After my discussion with Dr. Hamilton, my choice was clear.

In the fall of 1985, my senior year at UMaine, I finally saw Dr. Hamilton at work in a classroom setting -CIE442: a.k.a "re-crete", or Reinforced Concrete Design. After all these years, I'm still proud of my B+ in that class. I was not destined to be a structural engineer as I fell in love with environmental engineering due in no small measure to Dr. Chet Rock's influence - but that's another story.] CIE442 was both challenging and enjoyable. Not only did we learn the fundamentals of reinforced concrete design, but we were exposed to the basis for the content of ACI Standards and Building Codes - the "why we do it this way" reinforcing the "how we do it". Later, as an alumnus, I was periodically reminded of Dr. Hamilton's work on the Maine PE Board through their Newsletter; Dr. H. served on the Board from 1988 - 2005 - a time of tremendous change in our profession.

Dr. Hamilton the professional, has earned the admiration and respect of students, alumni, faculty, UMaine administration, and the general public, as well as my enduring gratitude for his encouraging words and guidance that ultimately helped me find my way to where I am today: an environmental engineer/project manager/construction manager – working on projects large and small, and in places near (Massachusetts and Connecticut) and far (Egypt and Jordan).

I trust that Dr. Hamilton and others in the College see how their work has inspired their students to do their absolute best to go forth and build great works.

Kevin Anderson Class of '86 I met Wayne Hamilton as Dean Hamilton while in the CET program from 1981-1984. I believe he was my advisor or at least the person I chose to assist with my curriculum. He also helped me through two Major changes. At any rate, I graduated with an Associates Degree in CET in 1984 and decided to work for a few years to see what was really out there. In the summer of 1987 I was at Epcot Center in Florida and simply marveled at the exhibits including the 'shovel' of an excavator that must have been HUGE! While standing there, I decided I wanted to be more a part of it - part of the engineering force that lays the plans for such huge machinery and infrastructure projects!!! I called Dean Hamilton from Florida and told him of my thought.

Furthermore, I asked if he could enroll me in classes for the Fall semester...when I returned home to Maine he had a slate of classes and asked if I really wanted to return to school...I gave my notice at work and was back at UMaine four weeks later. I received my EIT in two years, my PE license 4 years following that and have been a civil engineer for over 20 years, and yes it has even included projects requiring a big excavator!!!

Mr. Wayne Hamilton has had a great influence on a large number of folks; I'm glad I'm one of them! He's always been energetic an a positive role model for future engineers and citizens.

Dale A. Mitchell Class of '85

Dr. Hamilton was a very insightful individual who was always eager and ready to help his prospective engineers whether it be during goods times or bad.

His perserverence and knowledge of the field of engineering helped me to reach where I am today.

Regards and Best Wishes, Craig L. Moskowitz Class of '95

Dr. Hamilton (and Dr. Alexander), were my definitions of professionalism and what a civil engineer should be. Every visit to his office defined for me how I wanted to treat every person for the rest of my personal life and for the rest of my career. Dr. Hamilton treated every visitor who crossed the threshold of his office as a person of equal stature I'm quite sure that he had precious little time to meet with students given all of his responsibilities, and yet I never felt rushed. I ran out of money my senior year, and he helped me through a scholarship process which allowed me to graduate. Throughout the process, I felt as though my financial situation and my pending graduation were the most important agenda item in his day.

When I mentor young civil engineers today, I tell them that they are entering the greatest career that I can imagine. We use the earth's natural resources to create things which improve the quality of life for all things and protect the earth. Our design codes change every three years or more often. The materials we use in our profession change every year. The methods of construction change every year. The challenges of water supply, the transportation of goods, traffic congestion, natural storm events, and so many other challenges which are brought before us each year are even more challenging than those of the year before. Every project is different, and there are so many parameters we have to be aware of in the designs we create. Every day and every project holds something new, and civil engineering truly is the most exciting career.

Dr. Hamilton played a key role in instilling this excitement for the civil engineering profession in me. For this, I am, and will always be, forever grateful. I could not be more thankful for his time spent on my behalf, his spirit, and his lessons, inside and outside of the classroom.

Calen B. Colby Class of '85, '91G

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STAFF

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It gives me great pleasure in writing this letter. No one is more deserving of this honor than you. There are so many wonder memories I could write about but I'll just mention a few. From the time you became department chair I felt like a surrogate daughter. You always looked out for my best interest. Every month you made sure I had extra money in my pay from your research projects. That made a huge difference in the way I lived. You have no idea how much I appreciated that and what a difference it made. Then there was the time when I took up oil painting. At Christmas you bought me a carrying case and a ton of paints (every color you could think of) and supplies. Boy, I thought that was pretty cool. I could go to class and be the envy of the other students. You made me feel very special. I painted a picture for you and you accepted it graciously. At the time I didn't realize how horrible a painter I was!

When Mike and I got married you were there supporting us. A few years later along came Aaron. When he was born you visited us at the hospital and I remember being so embarrassed because he wasn't very cute and he had no hair. No one told me that his misshapen head and smashed nose would actually improve with time. I remember hoping he would be facing the wall so you couldn't see him. "How awful of me"!

And then there was April Fool's Day. I don't remember why we had someone working with me temporarily but the two of us came up with the idea of leaving you a note saying "since it was April Fool's Day we decided to go home" and then we hid in the storage room. That was the wrong thing to do! I never saw you so upset with me. I guess I went over-board that day.

I'm sure your students remember that you always had time for them. You never turned anyone away. There were times I know you were extremely busy but always let the students visit your office for whatever reason and let them discuss "whatever" for as long as they needed to. It was remarkable how you always got your work done and didn't need to stay all hours of the evening like so many others. You knew how to prioritize.I'm so happy that you agreed to be honored today. You certainly deserve the recognition.

With love and gratitude,

Pam Oakes Civil & Environmental Engineering

My heart is grateful that on this day in the spirit of tradition that we pause to honor such a wonderful man with a very remarkable career. Our College has always strived for excellence and that is possible because of those like yourself with such integrity and dedication. I have and will always have a deep sense of respect for you. So many of our practicing engineers were influenced by your dedication to them. It was always clear to our students that they could approach you without being judged and that you were there to support them. You guided our students in countless ways whether they were on the nice dean's list or the not-so-nice dean's list! I am sure you remember my eyes getting big with some of the "one liners" implying that perhaps there should be an academic probation action taken at home as well as the University! I always remember you saying that it would be time to retire when someone visiting might tell you that "grandpa says hello". At some point I may find myself using your line in the future!

Our home is filled with so many lovely things from you that Michael and I so treasure. Trust me when I say that not one of your special gifts and thoughtful ways will ever leave my memory. You give profound meaning likening the effect of a pebble dropped in water. The ripples circling represent so many lasting ways for everyone like myself whose lives have been fortunate to have been touched by you. I will cherish every sweet memory always remembering you with much affection. My heart has a special place for you and you alone.

Fondly,

Laurie Fullerton College of Engineering, Dean's Office

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I cannot think of anyone more deserving of being honored than Wayne Hamilton. He is such an intelligent, dedicated, caring man, who has helped many people whether they be administrators, students, colleagues, or friends. Wayne is a very positive person and certainly is the type of person you want in your corner. He has always been a font of information as a faculty member, department chair, and our first associate dean.

The University of Maine, College of Engineering, and myself were so fortunate that he decided to stay at Maine more than the three or four years he intended when he first came to Maine. He was such a pleasure to work with.

Knowing Dr. Hamilton has certainly enriched my life. He assisted me in my career and made it fun and enjoyable. My family and I have many homemade mementos from both he and his late wife Kate. All of these mementos such as cross-stitched items, dishes, framed pictures, snowmen, Easter baskets, etc. remind me of how generous and thoughtful they have been to me. I worked with Dr. Hamilton when he was department chair and for 19 years as our first associate dean. He was always the one I went to whenever I needed assistance and I could always depend on him to have the answer or a suggestion of what was needed. Wayne was also there for my children's weddings offering his support for a nervous mother. He was always there for my family and I. When Jimmy had his heart problems, he could not have been more caring or understanding.

He always loved teaching and it showed. Wayne always came back from class with more chalk dust on him than I think he ever got on the board. The students couldn't help but be impressed by his clear and concise way of presenting class material. Many students commented on what an excellent teacher he was. He made everything look less complex. Wayne had an open door policy for anyone who wanted to see him. He was available to help students with any problems or concerns they had. He is a very good listener. There are few engineers who have contributed more to engineering education.

Wayne does everything well and is very dedicated to any organization he joins. When areplacement is needed to take his place, these organizations find it very difficult. When he was appointed to the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers, he served for 16 years nstead of one five year term. Wayne also became involved in the national committee that writes the F.E.questions for graduating engineers. I know he found working on this committee very rewarding. He is now in the Kiwanis and handles their finances. He is a whiz at anything financial and from what I hear from his fellow Kiwanians he is doing a superb job. When he was at the University he did a great job balancing the budget with his excellent financial skills-- despite severe budget cuts and difficult times. In all his endeavors, he completes the task at hand accurately and in a timely manner. His organizations skills are unparalleled.

He has touched many lives and has had a positive impact on people. I have the greatest respect and admiration for Wayne and consider him a great friend. He is so deserving of recognition.

Doreen Vaillancourt College of Engineering, Dean's Office

James and Maureen Gorman Emeriti Faculty Luncheon Honoring Dr. Wayne Hamilton

Thank you to all who have shared memories of Wayne Hamilton's career at UMaine for this booklet.



The James and Maureen Gorman Emeriti Faculty Luncheon was hosted by: Dana N. Humphrey, Dean of Engineering Chet A. Rock, (The Second) Associate Dean of Engineering

Saturday, October 25, 2008

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