

The Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Academy of Distinguished Alumni

The Academy of Distinguished Alumni recognizes alumni of the Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering for their accomplishments and commitment to the profession of engineering and other careers; and to the communities, the states, and the nation in which we live. Distinguished Alumni serve as examples to undergraduates, graduates, and recent alumni as to the role they are expected to play in providing continuing support to the university, to the civil engineering profession, and to society as a whole.

Distinguished Alumni will be recognized for sustained and meritorious achievement and accomplishments in one or more of the following areas:

- 1) *Service to their Profession* – These alumni will have made advances to the technology or the fundamental principles of their chosen career, whether as an engineer, scientist, educator, or other professional. They will be evaluated by criteria such as registrations in their discipline, participation in professional and technical organizations, contributions to the base of knowledge in their area of practice, and acknowledgment by their peers through citations and other recognition.
- 2) *Service to the Community* – These alumni will be seen as the catalysts for improving their communities, bringing solutions to issues of local and regional interest, and working with their neighbors for positive change through activities such as participation in government, civic associations, and citizen involvement boards.
- 3) *Service to the University* – These alumni will have been active participants and enthusiastic supporters of the programs of the department, the college, and the university through activities such as serving in advisory groups and ex-officio boards, providing special guidance and mentoring to students, and other efforts that significantly enhance the visibility, reputation, and overall mission of Virginia Tech. We will take into consideration that sometimes professional commitments and geographic location can interfere with the opportunity to be highly involved with Virginia Tech.

General criteria for candidacy and election to the Academy include the following:

- 1) A diploma from an undergraduate or graduate degree program of the Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering;
- 2) A record of distinguished service in one or more of the above categories over a period of time and through a variety of accomplishments to demonstrate long-term commitment to society and professionalism;
- 3) A definite record of leadership and recognition among peers as a role model to faculty in the department, students, other alumni, and the community at large.

Inductees to the Academy will be made each year. Nominations will be made in the fall of each year and considered by the Award Committee of the CEE Alumni Board. Elections will be announced in the spring with induction to the Academy at a special banquet held in conjunction with the spring meeting of the CEE Alumni Board.

The Award Committee will normally consider only living alumni to heighten awareness of the individual's ongoing and current accomplishments and contributions. There may be occasions, however, where a nominee's qualifications call for special recognition and posthumous election to the Academy is warranted.

A plaque will be presented to the new inductee and a display will be maintained in the lobby of the department. Announcements and biographical information on new members of the Academy will be displayed on the department's web page.