

Reflections of Ronald C. Cambre

It is indeed an honor to be selected to the LSU College of Engineering Hall of Distinction. When I review the list of past inductees, it is very humbling to be considered as part of this select group.

In retrospect, my four years at LSU were the most formative of any period of my life. In that relatively short period of time, I was fortunate to develop the foundation for what has turned out to be a challenging and rewarding career. They were also memorable years as Gail and I got married, our first child was born and we made many life-long friends. Also, the football team won the national championship; it has been a long time.

My engineering education provided the training from which one could build, but also provided a flexible educational background that allowed for considerable diversity in outlook and opportunities. This foundation opened windows to the world from both a professional and a personal basis that my entire family could experience. We are all the better for, it and

it is hard to imagine our lives without the educational foundation provided my LSU.

My advice to today's students is to take a broad view of the advantages provided by their educational choice. These advantages are not limited to the achievement of a career objective but, more importantly, can lead to a much fuller life and a much greater level of gratification for yourself and your entire family.

With personal bias towards a technical education, I would suggest that young university students seriously consider training in that area. Without question, the demand for technically trained professionals is expanding. In many ways, the future prosperity of our great country is dependent upon an adequate source of professionally trained talent to maintain our position of excellence in the field of technology. With science as a sound base, one can then expand into other areas of management and corporate leadership.

I have been affiliated with many universities and currently serve on several university advisory boards, including the LSU College of Engineering Advisory Council. We are fortunate within the state of Louisiana to have a flagship university that offers the opportunity to all deserving students to obtain an education that can propel them into great careers. From personal observations, the LSU engineering faculty, headed by the Dean McLaughlin, is outstanding in its dedication and ability. This has been a common thread in the many years that I have been associated with LSU, going back to my days when we struggled to survive under such excellent professors as Drs. Coates, Pressburg and Grove.

Most business people gage investments by their rate of return. Without question, my four years at LSU represent my best investment—an investment that continues to pay day-to-day dividends of new and exciting challenges and tremendous gratification from those experiences.

Selection to the LSU College of Engineering Hall of Distinction is a great honor, but it is only one of the many benefits that I have enjoyed during my career as a result of the four years at LSU. I expect the benefits from this educational experience to pay dividends for the remainder of my life, and I am deeply appreciative of the opportunity to have attended LSU and the recognition of the University at this time.