Dear colleagues and friends, good afternoon and thank you for being here today. I would like to welcome you to the USC Viterbi School of Engineering’s annual Faculty and Staff Awards Luncheon.

Since its beginning, our awards luncheon has been a significant annual event for the School. It has given us an opportunity to reflect on the past year. But it has also become our forum for recognizing outstanding members of the faculty and staff … members who, in the last few years, have made lasting contributions to the School in all of its endeavors.

Spring is a wonderful time. For all of us, it is the culmination of a year of relentless efforts in teaching and research. Students will graduate and carry with them all the rich experiences they have accumulated from their interactions with you in teaching and in research over the years they spent here. New students will join us in the fall, and the cycle will recommence. It is this renewal process…the farewell to graduates and welcome to new students next fall…that we are celebrating today.

This luncheon is also an occasion to outline my thoughts about continuing to forge a culture of excellence at the School. It is the key to moving beyond what we have established so far. Indeed, not only must we sustain our rise but also continue to deliver excellence in all of our endeavors.

A culture of excellence will attract top undergraduates, top PhD students, and top faculty. They will come here in search of an environment that will enable them to make a difference. And this will act as a positive feedback loop. Attracting the best leads to a more demanding environment, which in turn leads to more and sustained excellence.

It is up to every member of the Viterbi community — faculty, staff and administration alike — to create this environment, one that is only possible if all stakeholders embrace this culture of excellence. This will demand staff with a deep pride of ownership of the school and its aspirations…People who put their personal stamp of professionalism and expertise on all of our products and services.

Excellence occurs when…

— It is considered a never-ending journey, not a destination.
— Perpetual innovation marks all that we do; in education, research and administration.

— Teamwork is everywhere; territorialism is not.

— Working across the disciplines is the expectation, without artificial barriers.

— Outstanding service is provided both internally and externally.

— Opportunities for creative thinking and entrepreneurship are plentiful.

— Taking risks is encouraged; performance is rewarded and there are incentives for excellence.

— Open communication is practiced, with transparency and clarity.

— Integrity, fairness and caring resonate.

These are all consistent with our expectations and our aspirations. I have said often in the past that my goals for the School are:

— To be first at USC
— A leader in the nation
— With constantly rising quality
— And excellence in all our endeavors

With your help, I am happy to report that we are on the right track. Indeed, together, we have accomplished a lot. Let me briefly review some highlights of the year:

Under the leadership of Louise Yates and her staff, the academic quality of our undergraduates continued to increase. Last fall, it jumped 30 points in the old SAT exams to 1412, putting Viterbi in the top at USC and among the top 15 in the nation. The freshman class next fall is shaping up to be even better than last year, with a record SAT score of 1420.

The freshman academies, thanks to many of you, have flourished this year and are becoming a model for the entire university. Let me share with you a striking (retention) statistic: The freshman cohort of fall 05 has a return rate to engineering five points higher than the previous cohort, standing at close to 89 percent.
New degree programs in computer science and business, a degree in CS with an emphasis in games, and a new degree in chemical engineering with an emphasis in nanotechnology are examples of the wealth of new innovative programs at the undergraduate level. The new course in engineering biology is now a reality ... and service learning is flourishing in the Engineering Writing Program.

We are making significant progress in the teaching of math to engineering students, in collaboration with the College ... and in offering a senior capstone design project to students from engineering, business and communications ... these are novel courses and becoming models of interdisciplinary education at the undergraduate UG level nationwide. Indeed, I am happy to announce a new outreach effort to the community — but also to our own undergraduate students — with the creation of a Viterbi Fabrication Lab, following the successful model at MIT. In addition to outreach, this lab will allow our undergraduates to be involved in hands-on activities of their choosing.

The GamePipe curriculum is another interdisciplinary model — with Cinema and Fine Arts — that leads the nation. The Games development program celebrated its third complete semester of degree courses with an exhibition earlier this year that drew heavy attendance from industry and the media.

The Klein Institute for Undergraduate Engineering Life is responding to a number of the goals we outlined last year. KIUEL demonstrates our commitment to providing leadership opportunities to our students, developing community and building well-rounded engineers.

The KIUEL Showcase first offered this spring is the means for more fully engaging our students in the arts and humanities initiative of the Provost, by not only encouraging participation but also by providing students with the opportunity to submit their own original works of art, music and film.

Just last week we learned that our student members of the National Society of Black Engineers finished in second place nationally for the Research Competition Chapter of the Year award.

And with the initiative and support of the Viterbi student organization, we launched earlier this year an Academic Integrity Initiative that will provide a distinct honor culture in the School. I am looking forward to its implementation and the creation of another step in our culture of excellence.

But the new engineer will require an even more innovative curriculum, one that includes, in addition to the basics, right- and- left-brain skills, and skills in leadership and entrepreneurship, service learning and global immersion. Last
month we held a curriculum retreat to brainstorm on how to restructure the undergraduate curriculum and modernize it to serve the needs of the 21st century. I proposed the formation of a new entity, the Division of Undergraduate Education, to spearhead this effort. With the upcoming abolishment of tuition revenue center management at the undergraduate level, we have a unique opportunity to devise a curriculum that is forward-looking, bold and imaginative, one that will inspire our students and faculty, and offer a unique undergraduate education at the Viterbi School. I call on all of you to participate vigorously and embrace this crucial effort.

Allow me also to take this opportunity to dispel the misconception that we operate under a revenue center management system within our own Viterbi School. This is not the case — and it has not been one for several years now. We do make sure that all instructional needs are fully satisfied, with Dave Murphy and John O’Brien carefully and methodically mapping those needs and resources — but we never use them by themselves for other calculations, including the hiring of new faculty, which is driven by strategic directions.

Our graduate program is at a crossroads: Of key importance is to decouple the MS program from the PhD program, for students seeking a professional, terminal degree. For this reason, we created the new Office of Master’s and Professional Programs. With Kelly Goulis’ leadership, it has energetically moved to improve services for MS students and help increase the quality of our master’s programs.

We have initiated a new diversity initiative for our graduate students, thus expanding the Center for Engineering Diversity Office to the graduate level. The accelerated dual degree program — four plus one — for our own students has been a tremendous success. Just recently, we received preliminary approval from the university to implement a pilot VIP program, which will extend the 4+1 program to other universities and colleges offering the BS but not MS degrees in engineering. This program will create pipelines with many partners who share a goal to increase domestic academic quality and diversity.

Our Distance Education Network (DEN) continues to be an arm of unparalleled strength. With more than 30 degrees offered online, we lead all schools of engineering in that area. DEN has also created an active Student Association — which has sponsored local and not-so-local receptions for recruiting and networking.

However, DEN cannot grow forever, and I believe that we will witness for the first time next fall a slow down in enrollment rates. For this reason, I cannot overemphasize the importance of the MAPP office for creating lifelong learning
programs. In the years to come, Kelly’s office will launch an ambitious effort in this direction.

Our doctoral program is a most important part of our mission. Along with recruiting new faculty and building the school’s endowment, attracting the best possible PhD students is the best recipe for the school to move to a higher level of excellence. Indeed, I am fully aware of the need to recruit, retain and graduate continuously better students. We are paying special attention to it, with Margie Berti’s stewardship.

At last year’s Provost retreat, I proposed a model for PhD students: fully supported PhD students in a 1+1+3 system — one year unrestricted fellowship, one year TA and three years RA — not necessarily in that order. I am happy to report that the model is finding resonance in the Provost’s Office. Thanks in large part to that support, we have increased the number of first-year supported PhD students, which, assuming full conversion, can guarantee the support of more than 100 first-year PhD students. The biggest change has resulted from the new Annenberg Fellowships, which are among the premier fellowships at USC. My goal is for the school to fully support all first-year PhD students through unrestricted fellowships and to provide one additional year of support through a TA-ship.

We are closing in on this target. I am also striving to have each tenure-track faculty member get one new PhD student every year, and graduate one every year, so that each faculty member who has an active research program has, on average five PhD students, and the school graduates about 150 PhDs a year. Last year we reported a number of PhD graduates very close to this number — and was one of the reasons our U.S. News and World Report rankings rose by a couple of points. We need to sustain this pace if we are to be counted among the elite.

Providing our students with opportunities for meaningful international experience as part of their education remains a high priority. The global initiatives during the past year, led by Raghu, resulted in successful agreements for exchange programs with many reputable partners: both NTU and NUS in Singapore; the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Tsinghua University and the University of Peking in Beijing.

In fact, we are inaugurating the Tsinghua relationship with a kickoff event, through a two-day workshop involving faculties from electrical engineering and computer science, and the School of Information Science of Tsinghua, on May 24-25.
We have also signed MOUs with a number of other universities for faculty and student exchange and research collaborations, too numerous to mention.

This summer we are hosting 14 students from IIT Kharagpur, about 17 students from Tsinghua, and we will also be hosting five PhD students with Chinese government scholarships, who will visit the Viterbi School for a year or two.

Many efforts are under way to connect with institutions and corporations in India. And as part of a senior leadership team from USC, we are working with the government of Singapore for a USC physical presence in Singapore — for a research center in interactive digital media.

DEN continued its strong contributions to our global reach and we are in the process of new global arrangements with other partners worldwide. We have added Lockheed Martin, Boeing and Intel as overseas partners. And this semester we have DEN students from Spain, Guam, Australia, and Korea.

Becoming a global school is an important strategic objective, one that we will strive hard to achieve. We have efforts under way to develop a Global Engineering Institute, and I hope to be able to report good news on this front in the near future.

Our research profile remains impressively strong, although the constantly changing funding landscape will require adjustments and re-alignments. With the leadership of Maja Mataric, we are poised to aggressively promote innovative research across all the important disciplines.

Just this week, we were busy with four serious proposals for another Engineering Research Center — in IT, in quantum and nano technology, in contour crafting, and in nano-pulse technology. This effort demonstrated the talent and energy of the Viterbi faculty!

Last year we had a barrage of successful site visits: IMSC; BMES; CENS, accomplished jointly with UCLA; the Center on Ultrasonic Transducer Resource Center, under the direction of Kirk Shung; and METRANS. I am happy to report that all the centers were renewed to their maximum next term; and this year CREATE was renewed.

We also had various important grants. One of them was awarded to Yolanda Gil of ISI, who leads the newly funded $13.8-million Windward Project, aimed at "Scaleable Knowledge Discovery through Grid Workflows."
Researchers at ISI are now building a prototype of a system to automate scientific workflows to address a huge problem of the computer age — too much data, not enough analysis.

And the School is poised to take advantage and lead initiatives in bio-nano and in energy.

Winning the next big center will be the litmus test of our sustained ability to compete in a tough research environment. I am pleased to report that we have a strong weapon on our side, the new Office for Research Advancement in Washington, DC, which is there to help. I urge all of you to make maximum use of this resource.

Another significant effort was our research activity sponsored by corporations, including CiSoft, which has done well — a collaboration with Airbus to the tune of $5-million for three years — and pending efforts with General Electric and Infosys.

By the end of this fiscal year, we will have spent close to $1.7-million in space renovations, skillfully managed by Linda Rock and her team.

What do we have to show for that? We have installed a central server room in the basement of Tutor Hall to help with IT restructuring in the School; We are in the process of renovation construction on the fourth floor of Olin Hall suites 400 and 430. This space has not been renovated since Olin Hall was built! We have renovated the first floor of Biegler Hall, which was long overdue; We have also renovated the lobby of Denney Research Building. We upgraded various laboratories in the Petroleum and Chemical Engineering Building, Biegler Hall, Tutor Hall and Kaprielian. In addition, we implemented the School’s Emergency Response Plan, which included organizing and developing building response teams and providing training for them, as well as for our faculty and staff.

I will briefly touch upon the U.S. News and World Report rankings. It is important that in its latest edition, we solidified our position in the top 10 of a particular category. Although I cannot see it as more than a beauty contest, some people pay attention to it and being in the top 10 is a good story to tell. More importantly, however, we should not be sidetracked by the particular USNWR metrics and lose our focus, which must be to constantly improve our scholarship and our reputation. Indeed, we have our job cut out for us: to keep elevating our overall reputation, as well as that of individual departments.

Last year was the second best year in cash and gifts in the history of the School. Our efforts were highlighted by the historic $35-million gift from Ming Hsieh,
which named our electrical engineering department in the fall — this was the second largest gift ever to the School... Our external relations effort, led by CEO Christopher Stoy, is marching ahead impressively. And that office is tirelessly working to raise the School’s endowment. As of the end of March, our fundraising initiative has raised $264-million in cash and pledges — 88 percent of our $300-million goal — with 15 months, or 82 percent, to go. We are optimistic about our chances to meet our target... and the naming of some other departments is high on our list of objectives.

We are also securing more endowed chairs and named professorships. The latest is a new, fully endowed chair in the Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, honoring Choong Hoon Cho, the founder of Korean Airlines. The Boeing Company contributed $1 million toward this chair. And I will be pleased to announce in the near future another endowment for a chair at the intersection of engineering and medicine.

In a scholarly place, a culture of excellence cannot be sustained without outstanding lecture series. This year, and for the first time in the School’s history, we initiated annual keynote lectures for all of the departments: the Viterbi lecture, the Munushian lecture, the Bekey lecture, the Laufer lecture, the Spitzer lecture, the Dorman lecture, the Rechtin lecture, the Grodins lecture and the HK Cheng lecture. The initial selection has been a resounding success. And I am pleased to announce the establishment of the Ming Hsieh Lecture in Engineering Entrepreneurship.

But our best accomplishments this year came from you. The Engineering Faculty Council has tirelessly worked under the capable leadership of Leana Golubchik to address critical issues of concern to the faculty and my office. I am very pleased that our interaction has been so productive, assisted in large part by John and Linda, and using as our main compass, the collective interest of the School. I am pleased that under this administration we instituted higher ranks for non-tenure-track faculty appointments, such as Professor of Engineering Practice. And I will work together with the Engineering Faculty Council to move forward with constructive changes in policies and practices.

I am pleased to report that so far, we have batted 1,000 in APT cases, expertly guided by the APT committee and Martin Gundersen, who chairs it. We are in the process of hiring a number of new faculty. I am pleased to announce that as of today we have acceptances from two faculty from Cornell and UT at Austin, and one from Lawrence Livermore Lab. Out of four new faculty having accepted — and we have a few other offers pending — one is female (and Latina), and another is Hispanic. We are, thus, making progress in addressing a significant
deficit we have as a top engineering school in female and minority faculty representation.

And I wanted to clarify a point: We want to hire the best — people who are better than us, regardless of gender or ethnicity. I did ask departments to reach out to identify qualified female and minority candidates, which they did. It is our duty and responsibility to do so — and the departments responded promptly and with enthusiasm. But ultimately, our guide will be to hire the best.

A remarkable number of faculty brought great distinction to the Viterbi School. I am going to mention a few. And please hold your applause until I’ve called them all.

Herb Schorr, executive director of our Information Sciences Institute and senior associate dean of the School, received USC’s highest honor, the Presidential Medallion, at the recent academic honors convocation. The award recognized Herb’s significant contributions to the rise of the School and the university and the many advances in computer science that originated at ISI under his leadership.

Sandy Sawchuk and Bart Kosko also won significant honors at the convocation. Sandy received the USC Associates Award for Excellence in Teaching, and Bart earned the Phi Kappa Phi Faculty Recognition Award for his book “Noise,” an original perspective on noise and its pervasive presence.

Sami Masri is the 2007 recipient of the prestigious Newmark Medal of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The prize recognizes Sami’s fundamental contributions to structural engineering and his seminal work leading to the emergence of structural health monitoring as a vital area of research.

Chongwu Zhou, who has developed ingenious ways to make carbon nanotubes self-assemble on sapphire bases, has won a new IEEE honor in a critical area. Professor Zhou is the first winner ever of the IEEE’s Nanotechnology Council’s Early Career Award.

While Chongwu’s contribution is quite recent, other work done by our faculty has seen years of rising stature. A prime example is the classic paper, “Using Computer Vision in Real Applications: Two Success Stories,” presented by Gerard Medioni at the Machine Vision Applications international conference in 1996. That paper outlined Gerard’s work in computer vision leading to internationally used techniques for seamlessly inserting stored images into live
broadcasts. It has now won the MVA’s Most Influential Paper of the Decade award.

Terry Langdon’s career-long contributions have earned him the Albert Sauveur Achievement Award for 2007 from ASM International, the Materials Information Society.

Mike Gruntman has received the Luigi Napolitano Award of the International Academy of Astronautics for his book on the history of rocketry.

Sanjit Mitra recently hit a double: he is now a Foreign Fellow of both the National Academy of Sciences, India, and a Foreign Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering….Sanjit will lead our new initiative to providing support and aggressive promotion of all of our faculty for outside awards.

Tomlinson Holman of the Hsieh Department, IMSC and USC Cinema, has won a high IEEE honor, the Masaru Ibuka Award for consumer electronics. At times the word “unique” gets used a little too often when it comes to awards, but I feel quite safe in saying that Tom is the only winner of both the Ibuka award and a Motion Picture Academy Oscar. He earned the Ibuka Award for 2007 for his contribution — the THX sound system — to the development of advanced audio and cinema multi-channel playback systems.

Mel Breuer, Powell Professor of Electrical Engineering and computer science, earned a rather special IEEE honor of his own. The society held a half-day conference to celebrate his work and influence.

ISI’s Craig Knoblock won a Microsoft Virtual Earth Award to develop a system that combines existing online maps with matching aerial photographs.

And a star of ISI’s past, Danny Cohen, is joining the faculty of the Computer Science Department. Danny was elected to the NAE last year for his contributions to the development of the Internet — much of which was done while he was at ISI. We’re delighted to have Danny back with us.

Ari Requicha was awarded the inaugural Prix Pierre Bezier of the Solid Modeling Association, an international society that organizes the annual Solid and Physical Modeling Symposia, sponsored by the ACM. Ari was recognized for his pioneering work on solid modeling and programmable automation.
Sheldon Ross of the Epstein Department won this year’s Institute for Operations Research and Management Science (INFORMS) Expository Writing Award. The award recognizes an author whose publications in operations research and management science have set an exemplary standard of exposition.

And Maged Dessouky, also of the Epstein Department, earned this year’s Institute of Industrial Engineers Operations Research Division Teaching Award. The award identifies Maged as a national leader with respect to communicating operations research tools and techniques to students. Maged is a former winner of the School’s teaching award.

Bill Steier has been named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for his revolutionary work in high-speed opto-electronics.

Two other faculty members from the Ming Hsieh Department, Urbashi Mitra and Antonio Ortega, have been elected Fellows of the IEEE, and Milind Tambe of the Computer Science Department has been elected a Fellow of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence.

And last, but most definitely not least, I am delighted to repeat the same announcement I’ve been fortunate to make at least once each year so far: that another of our young faculty has won an NSF Early Career Award. Our honoree this time is Eva Kanso, and we’re very proud of her, as we are of all of our award winners.

Let’s congratulate them…

And now, it is time for the staff and faculty awards.

All awards were selected by faculty and/or staff committees, except for the service awards, which were selected by the dean. All decisions were hard, as we had many superb candidates.

Dean’s Award for Staff Achievement

I will start first with the Staff Achievement Award.

Our winner, in a very strong field, epitomizes what I said about a culture of excellence at the Viterbi School… In fact, his performance during the past year went beyond excellence.
Lance Hill is the laboratory manager for the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, and so much more. In addition to the advanced technical skills needed to perform his primary tasks successfully, Lance exhibits the personal qualities — dedication, willingness, creativity and warmth — that make for truly exceptional performance.

Lance, will you come on down?

The awards committee was particularly impressed by what students think of him. To quote one: “Lance demonstrates great knowledge, but also kindness and most of all passion, to help us… He sacrifices a lot of time and effort for us, and he is a great asset to USC.”

I agree wholeheartedly.

Lance, I am pleased to present you with the 2007 Staff Achievement Award.

Junior Research Award

We had another very strong field of contenders for our Junior Faculty Research Award, and we ended up with two deserving winners.

Krishna Nayak of the Ming Hsieh Department conducts research involving multidisciplinary collaborations in cardiovascular medicine, radiology, electrical engineering and linguistics. In just three years with us, he has established a growing research and teaching program in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) engineering, a field in which the department had no previous activity. Its focus has been on developing signal processing tools to improve the performance of existing MRI systems in terms of speed and image quality. His contributions to cardiac imaging have been significant.

In his brief career, Krishna has produced 27 refereed journal papers, 114 refereed conference papers and two best poster awards. He has introduced a course that is attracting great interest from our undergraduates. And he is also attracting steady research funding from NIH and the American Heart Association.

Krishna has already established a substantial research group with nine PhD students.

The other winner of our Junior Faculty Research Award is David Kempe of computer science.

David has already made excellent research contributions to computer science.
theory, with applications to networking, robotics and economics. He is poised to make a significant impact in social networking and viral marketing.

Under Jon Kleinberg at Cornell, a MacArthur grant recipient, David’s dissertation focused on the theoretical underpinnings of gossip protocols in distributed systems. (Gossip protocols mimic epidemic propagation.)

His current research has turned toward a generalized understanding of epidemic processes. Beyond computer networking, epidemic processes play an important role in the spread of diseases, computer viruses, information, rumors and behaviors.

The potential impact of his work is astonishing in its breadth, a factor influential in securing his NSF Career Award last year.

He’s also won respect as a researcher in algorithmic game theory.

David is an exemplary team builder and player inside and outside the department, contributing to wireless networks, robotics and visualization groups.

His commitment to teaching students and service is also superb. He helped build a strong team of computer science undergraduates to represent USC at the ACM programming contest, beating traditional powerhouses in our first effort.

Khrishna and David, would you join me up here?

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on your work and to present you with these awards.

**Senior Research Award**
Our Senior Research Award for 2007 goes to a person who has had great impact on the School, the university, and learning in the short five years that he has been with us.

**Priya Vashishta** is one of the world’s leading computational scientists and a pioneer in high performance computing and multimillion-atom simulations of materials for nanoscience and technology.

He spearheads many multidisciplinary projects in chemical engineering, materials science, electrical engineering, computer science and at ISI:
— He leads a $5-million DOE project involving Purdue, Harvard, Cal State Northridge and the Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore labs, on petascale simulations of stress corrosion cracking.

— A DARPA project with Berkeley to synthesize and simulate the physical properties of quantum dots for use in biotech applications.

— A MURI initiative to achieve fundamental understanding of the relationship between the structures of nano-structured energetic materials and their behavior.

— And a research program sponsored by CiSoft to integrate high performance simulations to reduce uncertainty in oil-production forecasts.

In education, Priya has introduced a unique program for educating students at the interface of the physical sciences/engineering and computer sciences. He has also established an annual series of workshops for undergraduate students and their faculty mentors from underrepresented groups.

Professor Vashishta has made a tremendous contribution to USC’s recent rise to prominence in high-end computing … and he has a plan to elevate us to the top in this area.

Priya, will you join me up here?

Northrop Grumman Excellence in Teaching Award
Fokion Egolfopoulos’ dedication to our students is admired throughout the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department, and indeed, the entire School.

His teaching is clear and succinct and, more importantly, his passion is evident.

One grad student wrote that “he is one of the best teachers I have ever had, at USC or anywhere. He can take the most difficult subject, and present it clearly, understandably and interestingly.”

In fact, the word among AME students is that you’ll do okay in thermodynamics if you take it from Professor Egolfopoulos.

Fokion, would you join me up here?

Staff Service Award
Our next award is new this year — the Staff Service Award. It goes to someone
who is constantly busy making the Viterbi School a better place: **Barbara Myers**, the executive director of development in External Relations.

Barbara, in the time that she has served the Viterbi School, has been a fantastic development officer, by going beyond the call of duty to cultivate donors, develop strong relations and ties with them, steward the endowments, and gracefully conduct the art of fundraising. Her presence and perseverance has led to the fruition of many important fundraising initiatives. I am very pleased that she is the recipient of the first ever Viterbi Staff Service Award.

Barbara, would you join me?

**Faculty Service Award**

Finally, I would like to present the Faculty Service Award. In reviewing my records and my memory for this award, a number of worthy recipients crossed my mind. Among them was a person whom I would have thought had won this award before. And I double-checked... It gives me great pleasure to announce that this year’s Faculty Service Award goes to Professor **Sol Golomb**.

There is nothing we can say about Sol that has not been said before. As far as I am concerned, he is the soul of the School, its wisdom and its compass. With loyalty, integrity and high standards, he has steered the School, in his own way, by mentoring innumerable faculty, students and staff, deans, and provosts.

For a long and overdue honor, I am very happy to present this year’s Faculty Service Award to Sol. Please join me in a standing ovation for Sol’s outstanding and lifelong service to the School.

Sol, please come up.

This concludes this year’s event. I would like to thank Cynthia Harrison for organizing the event and Kerry Bennett from Northrop Grumman for their continuous sponsoring of the teaching award.

I also want to thank each of you for your terrific work this year, and tell you how proud I am to serve as your dean.

Thank you.