

February 14, 2003

Three College of Engineering Faculty Elected to Membership in Prestigious National Academy

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Santa Barbara, Calif. --Three members of the College of Engineering faculty of the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) have been elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), among the highest professional distinctions accorded an engineer. They are Chemical Engineering Professor Glenn Fredrickson, Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor Sanjit Mitra, and Materials Professor, Shuji Nakamura, who was elected as a Foreign Associate.

The three new members bring the total number of UCSB Engineering faculty in the National Academy to 22. UCSB ranks in the top five schools in the country with the highest proportion of the engineering faculty belonging to the National Academy of Engineering.

Dean Matthew Tirrell, the Richard A. Auhll Professor, himself an NAE member said, "The faculty here in Engineering at Santa Barbara is extraordinary, and we have the numbers in the National Academy to prove it. I am pleased to congratulate our newest members. Their professional achievements are indeed of the highest order."

Fredrickson, director of the Mitsubishi Chemical Center for Advanced Materials at UCSB, was cited, "For advancing our understanding of the behavior of block copolymers and other polymeric and complex fluids."

The citation for Mitra commended him "For contributions to signal and image processing, for research supervision, and for writing pioneering textbooks."

Nakamura was recognized "For contributions to optoelectronic engineering of gallium-nitride materials, culminating in the development of violet/blue lasers and light-emitting diodes."

The NAE announced the election of the 77 new members and nine foreign associates on Feb. 14., thereby bringing the number of total members to 2,138 and foreign associates to 165. Nakamura is the only newly elected foreign associate to hold a faculty position at a U.S. university.

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