

The DSES department is pleased to announce that our esteemed colleague, Professor Al Wallace, is the new Yamada Corporation Professor of Decision Sciences and Engineering Systems. Please join us in congratulating Al on this well deserved honor.

The Yamada Professorship honors Al's truly distinguished career at Rensselaer. He received the Ph.D. and Master of Science degrees in Management Science from Rensselaer in 1965 and 1961, respectively and the Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1956. He has been a faculty member in the School of Engineering since 1995 and prior to that served as a faculty member in the School of Management from 1965-95. Al has previously served as Director of the Urban-Environmental Studies Program from 1968-71, Chair of the Statistical, Management, and Information Sciences Department within the School of Management from 1983-87, Acting Chair of DSES from 1987-88, and Acting Director and Director of Research for the Center for Infrastructure and Transportation Studies from 1998- to date. In addition to serving as Consultant to the National Research Council Board on Infrastructure and the Constructed Environment (2000) and the Civil and Mechanical Systems Division of the NSF (2000), Al has held visiting professorships at Delft University of Technology (1999), the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (1991-92), Dalian Institute of Technology (1982 and 1983), Carnegie-Mellon University (1974-75), and the State University of New York at Albany (1973-74). He has served as a Research Fellow at the AFOSR Rome Air Development Center (1989), the Rockefeller Institute of Government (1989), and the German International Institute of Environment and Society (1979) and as a Research Engineer at IIT (1956-57).

Al's research interests are in the development of decision technologies focused on the application of artificial intelligence to problems in incident management and emergency response, issues in trust and ethical decision making, emergent and improvisational organizational behavior in disaster management and dynamic social systems. Most of Al's work lies at the intersection of operations research, systems engineering, management and cognitive science.. Al's 40 doctoral graduates over four decades have gone on to distinguished careers of their own within these disciplines. Among Al's doctoral graduates are NSF Career Award winners, provosts, deans, department heads and distinguished faculty members at the University of Delaware, Indiana University, the University of Southern California, the New Jersey Institute of Technology, LeMoyne College, West Point, and leading national laboratories.

Al's enthusiasm and creativity has always been transformational for his students and colleagues. Today, his work is helping policymakers grapple with complex issues of immediate relevance to our society including terrorism, disaster relief and the physical and social logistics of humanitarian aid. Contemporary world events have always been the focus of Al's research. In the past several years, his work has contributed to our nation's response to the World Trade Center Attacks, Hurricane Katrina, the Indian Ocean Tsunami and other catastrophic events. Al has also emerged as a leader in defining national research agendas at the National Science Foundation, the National Research Council, the Department of Homeland Security, and other important national institutions. He is an unselfish public servant and distinguished academic leader with seminal

contributions to our understanding of urban service systems, disaster management, ethics in modeling, operational risk management, and information and organizational systems for the safe and efficient management of activities ranging from maritime commerce to critical infrastructure. During the past year, Al and colleagues from the University of North Carolina were selected as a university center of excellence by the Department of Homeland Security. The center will conduct innovative research on coastal hazard resilience and translate the knowledge developed through this work into practice. This latest award typifies how Al's work is making a positive difference for society while providing critical support for the Institute and its doctoral students.

Al has been a highly visible leader of his profession for many years. In addition to founding the International Emergency Management and Engineering Society (IEMES), he has held major division-level leadership roles within the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science (INFORMS). He is a former Associate Editor of the INFORMS flagship journal, *Management Science*. Within the Engineering Management Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Al has served as annual conference chair and member of the Board of Governors. Al's research and service contributions have also been recognized widely by his peers. In 2004, he received the prestigious President's Award from INFORMS which is specifically given for work that advances the welfare of society. Al has also been recognized as a Fellow of the IEEE and recipient of the IEEE Third Millennium Medal. Other awards that reflect the impact of Al's contributions to social problems of high relevance include the IEMES Conference Award for outstanding long-term dedication to the field of emergency management, and the Horwood Critique Prize from the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) and Project of the Year Awards from ITS America and ITS New York for his work on the Advanced Traveler's Information and Solar Electronic Tag and Traffic Management Systems. His research was recognized by his Rensselaer colleagues through the School of Engineering Research Excellence Award in 2004.

The lifetime achievements of Al Wallace have done much to foster the high reputation of Rensselaer as a leading research university with global reach and global impact. He epitomizes the research-mentor model that the School of Engineering aspires to for its most distinguished senior faculty members. The Yamada Chair is an entirely appropriate recognition for a lifetime of scholarship devoted to the greater good of our society and, significantly, a lifetime of high achievement devoted to Rensselaer.