

7 March, 2010

To: AEESP membership and broader environmental engineering and science community
From: Steering Committee for the establishment of a Paul Roberts AEESP Award Fund
Re: **Paul V. Roberts - AEESP Outstanding Dissertation Award**

Dear Colleague:

We are very pleased to announce that the AEESP is prepared to officially establish “**The Paul V. Roberts - AEESP Outstanding Dissertation Award** to reward a rigorous and innovative doctoral thesis that advances the science and practice of water quality engineering for either engineered or natural systems. Special consideration will be given to physical-chemical process research and/or research that especially supports under-served communities, environmental awareness, or sustainable solutions.”

A Steering Committee has worked with Paul’s family and the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP) Foundation to establish the *Paul V. Roberts - AEESP Outstanding Dissertation Endowment Fund*. This fund is currently at more than 2/3 of its final required amount of \$75,000 and, importantly, the AEESP has agreed to match the final third of contributions to help reach the \$75,000 goal. We are thus less than \$12,500 away from finalizing the award, assuming \$12,500 of eventual AEESP match. The final fund will support an annual prize that can honor and reward a doctoral student at a consistent level with all other AEESP Outstanding Dissertation Awards, while also providing similar levels of support to promote the travel of both the student and advisor to the AEESP conference where the award will be given. **At this time, the AEESP is joining with our steering committee to solicit general contributions to this endowment fund.**

Background of the Award: Prof Roberts (1938 - 2006) was among the very best and most admired environmental engineers of his generation. He brought together interdisciplinary teams of hydrogeologists, chemists, microbiologists, and engineers, and showed the value of interactions between laboratory studies, field studies, and theory for the solution of complex environmental problems. Paul was an inspiration to his students and faculty colleagues. Those who had the good fortune to spend time in Stanford’s Environmental Engineering and Science Program (SEEP) with Paul know that he was a major catalyst behind the program’s exceptional teaching and research atmosphere and esprit de corps. For his students, Paul provided not only the tools, motivation and inspiration for making rigorous and innovative contributions to environmental engineering and science, but also a poignant example of how one can balance professional excellence with a full and rich personal life. He was an advocate of environmental awareness and green engineering long before it was commonly popular, and he was a strong supporter of environmental justice and engineers’ role in helping to meet the needs of underdeveloped communities. Paul was a role model for many, and was often heard reminding his students and others to "do good while doing well."

How to Contribute: Tax-deductible contributions of any size are solicited for this award in Paul's name. If you feel moved to contribute, please complete the attached form and mail it to AEESP at the address indicated. A total endowment of at least \$75,000 is required for the magnitude of annual award being considered.

We thank you in advance for your support of this effort to advance the state of environmental engineering and science while honoring Paul Roberts, one of the field’s outstanding leaders.

Sincerely,

The Steering Committee:

Prof William Ball, Johns Hopkins University
Prof Jeff Cunningham, University of South Florida
Prof Mark Goltz, Air Force Institute of Technology
Prof Tom Harmon, University of California, Merced
Prof Arturo Keller, University of California, Santa Barbara
Prof R. Scott Summers, University of Colorado
Prof. Charlie Werth, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

Donation Form

Paul V. Roberts - AEESP Outstanding Dissertation Endowment Fund

Donor Information (please print or type)

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Billing address	
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Pledge Information

I (we) pledge a total of \$_____

I (we) plan to make this contribution in the form of:
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Credit card type (VISA or MC only please):	
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Acknowledgement Information

Please use the following name(s) in all acknowledgements:**

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____ I (we) wish to have our gift remain anonymous.

Signature(s)
Date

* Please make checks, corporate matches, or other gifts payable to:

"AEESP Foundation" with "Paul V. Roberts Doctoral Research Prize" in the memo line.

Mail to:

Joanne Fetzner, AEESP Business Office
2303 Naples Court
Champaign IL 61822
Phone: (217)398-6969
Fax: (217) 355-9232
e-mail: jfetzner@illinois.edu

** **Note:** Unless requested otherwise, the AEESP Foundation periodically acknowledges Foundation donors in the AEESP Newsletter within the following designated categories of annual donation:

<\$100: "Sea Green"	\$1000 to \$5,000: "Jade Green"
\$100 to \$999: "Forest Green"	>\$5,000: "Emerald Green"