

EAB Member Taub Elected to NAE

Alan Taub, EAB member and executive director of Research & Development for General Motors, was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering in 2006. He was recognized for his contributions to the development of innovative electrical materials and automotive technologies and leadership in the globalization of automotive research.

Taub earned his bachelor's degree in materials engineering in 1976 from Brown University. He went on to earn master's (1979) and doctoral degrees (1979) in applied physics from Harvard University. He spent nearly 15 years in R&D with General Electric, where he earned 26 patents and authored more than 60 papers. His research focus was on the mechanical and electrical properties of materials. He later led a superconducting materials team that led technology breakthroughs that were adopted for commercial use by the company's medical group. Taub ultimately managed the GE

materials properties and processes laboratory. Later he joined Ford Motor Company, managing the Materials Science department.

He joined GM in 2001 as executive director of Science Laboratories for GM Research & Development and was named executive director of Research & Development in 2004. He oversees GM's seven science laboratories in Warren, Michigan, and Bangalore, India. The labs focus on technologies, including advanced powertrain systems; computer-based design and analysis systems for vehicle engineering; electronics and information-based vehicle systems; new materials and fabrication processes; environmentally friendly fuels and lubricants; and emission control systems.

Taub also oversees GM's technology collaborations with government, industry and university partners through many science offices worldwide and serves as liaison



between R&D and the rest of GM on advanced technology development and implementation. He has been an active member of the Materials Research Society and serves on advisory boards of several other institutions, including Harvard, Brown and Northwestern universities, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the National Science Foundation.

Ray Wilcox Wins Alumni Society Merit Award

The Department of Mechanical Engineering has selected Raymond (Ray) I. Wilcox for the 2006 Alumni Society Merit Award in Mechanical Engineering. Wilcox earned a bachelor's degree *cum laude* from the Department in 1968. He currently serves as president and chief executive officer of Texas-based Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LLC.



Alumni Society Merit Awards are bestowed by departmental committees to recognize significant professional accomplishments.

Wilcox began his nearly-four-decade career with Chevron the year he graduated from U-M. He was hired as a design and construction

engineer. "The University attracts many good prospective employers, and that was how I found Chevron. I didn't know much about the company before interviewing, but I did so on the recommendation of a fellow student who had done an internship the previous summer," he said.

Since that time, he has held technical, operational, commercial, managerial and leadership positions with the company in the United States and abroad. He has served as vice president of Chevron Corporation and president of Chevron North America Exploration and Production Company. He has also held the positions of vice president of Chevron Shipping Company, managing director of Chevron Asiatic, Ltd., in Melbourne, Australia, and chairman and managing director of Chevron Nigeria Limited in Lagos, Nigeria. He was elected to his current position in April 2006.

Wilcox is active in many community and industry organizations. He serves on the

board of directors and the executive committee of the National Petrochemical & Refiners Association and the advisory board of Spindletop International, a not-for-profit corporation that benefits youth charities and promotes goodwill and fellowship within the oil and gas industry.

He also is a member of the U-M College of Engineering External Advisory Board. "Giving back to the University is an important way to ensure future success for the school and companies that alumni work for. I have hired quality students for my company, and my wife and I have set up a fund in the ME department to emphasize the critical importance of communication as part of a technical education. The University provides a worldwide standard for education and gives me a point of common reference with fellow alumni."

Wilcox is also an alumnus of the 1994 London Business School Senior Executive Program.