The location of Clemson University on the rapidly developing corridor along I-85 places it in a unique position to support research in supply chain and logistics for South Carolina’s industries. And the Industrial Engineering Department has been instrumental in meeting this important challenge, primarily through three recent initiatives.

The Clemson Institute of Supply Chain Optimization and Logistics (CISCOL), a catalyst fostering interdisciplinary research, focuses on addressing inventory issues and finding solutions for its government, business and industry partners. According to William G. Ferrell, Ph.D., the director of CISCOL and a professor in the IE Department, “We wanted to be the go to organization in South Carolina for supply chain and logistics.” He believes that collaboration is essential for finding solutions to the complex issues facing providers as they move goods and services from the warehouse to the manufacturer and finally to the consumer. He sees the Center as the place where researchers in business, mathematics, and computer science can find this collaboration.

The CISCOL initiative has led to Clemson’s participation in the National Science Foundation Center for Excellence in Logistics and Distribution (CELDi). Its primary focus is to provide integrated solutions to logistics problems through modeling, analysis and intelligent system technologies. Currently, this initiative includes nine universities and 30 plus industry partners.

Additional efforts in supply chain engineering at Clemson include the creation of the South Carolina Center of Economic Excellence (CoEE), an initiative funded jointly by the state and the Fluor Corp. This past year, the Center welcomed Scott Mason, Ph.D., to the IE Department as the Fluor Endowed Chair of Supply Chain Optimization and Logistics. Dr. Mason, whose research focuses on modeling large-scale systems, brings extensive industrial and administrative experience. He has served as the technical vice president of networking and general co-chairman of the Industrial Engineering Research Conference. As Jim Scotti, senior vice president and chief procurement officer at Fluor, stated “The Fluor Endowed Chair highlights a truly unique partnership that brings together Fluor, Clemson University and the state of South Carolina to solve complex supply chain education and research issues facing the construction of capital projects.” His views are supported by Clemson’s President James Barker, who characterizes the Fluor Chair as “a model partnership in establishing state-of-the-art research and instruction in technical fields, and Scott Mason is an excellent choice to fill it.” He added

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These three initiatives have contributed to the establishment of a much-needed Master of Engineering Program, an online program targeting working professionals. In addition, they enhance the internationally recognized research success of the Clemson IE faculty in the supply chain and logistics areas ranging from capital projects and manufacturing to the military, healthcare and information technology fields. According to Dr. Anand Gramopadhye, Professor and Chair of the Department, these initiatives elevate “the profile of the supply chain and logistics effort at Clemson,” providing the state with the infrastructure needed in the 21st century service and manufacturing environment. (Adapted from “Clemson Delivers” by Charreau Bell, IDEaS 2011)

Freeman Hall Expansion

Freeman Hall, which houses the Clemson IE Department, is scheduled for expansion in Fall 2012. This renovation, which will be integrated with the existing building, will connect outdoor and indoor areas to provide increased space for the IE Program. Specifically, it will improve access to Freeman Hall and, as a result, greater public exposure of the Program. Once the expansion is complete, Freeman will house a 100-seat auditorium, upgraded classrooms with modern technology, and new office space and a state-of-the-art laboratory for graduate students, faculty and staff. This new addition will provide advanced infrastructure for all academic pursuits. The primary goal of this expansion is to enhance the synergy of the academic community by improving faculty-faculty and faculty-student collaborating areas and research clusters. Future renovations plan to continue this vision by creating flexible teaching spaces which can be scaled up.

Dr. Scott Shappell has received the Franklin V. Taylor Award for Outstanding Contributions in the field of Aerospace Human Factors and the Raymond F. Langnese Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in the psychological and psychologic aspects of aerospace medicine from the Aerospace Medical Association.

Dr. Sandra Garrett was honored as an Extravagant Educator by the Delta Alpha Pi Honor Society for inspiring her students and for her commitment to being an open and inclusive educator.

Rachael A. Bedosky

Paul L. Goethals received the Researcher Award from Dr. Esin Gulari, Dean, CoES

Paul L. Goethals graduated from Clemson University with a Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering this past May. While pursuing his degree, he published 12 papers in Conference.

Rachael A. Bedosky

Dr. Scott J. Mason (center, pictured with Fluor Corp. CEO David Seaton, left and Jim Scotti, senior vice president and chief procurement officer at Fluor, right) at the Fluor Endowed Chair investiture ceremony at Clemson University.

Paul L. Goethals

Jeffrey M. Baker (left) and Dr. William G. Ferrell, an Industrial Engineering Professor and Associate Dean of the Graduate School at Clemson University, has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE). Ferrell established the Clemson Institute for Supply Chain Optimization and Logistics and founded and is the Director of the Clemson Center for Engineering Logistics and Distribution, a National Science Foundation Industry/University Cooperative Research Center. Ferrell’s research focuses on supply chain management. “Through his leadership in the capital projects and supply chain area, Dr. Ferrell has brought national prominence to the Clemson Industrial Engineering program. This is a well-earned honor,” said Esin Gulari, Dean of the College of Engineering and Science.

Rachael A. Bedosky

Enroll now!

For more details, visit www.clemson.edu/ces/ie/graduate_programs/M.Eng or contact Dr. W. G. Ferrell at fwillia@clemson.edu or at 864-656-2724
journal papers and 6 papers in refereed conference proceedings; in addition, 7 journal papers are currently under revision or review. Paul also gave 11 presentations at 8 national or international conferences. The paper he wrote with his advisor, Dr. Byung Rae Cho, was recognized as both the Best Paper in Track and the Best Paper in Conference at the Southeastern INFORMS Conference held in October 2010.

For his research efforts in applications associated with nanotechnology and military protective armor systems, he was awarded the Fiscal Year 2010 and 2011 General Omar Bradley Fellowship in Mathematics. In addition, he was named the 2010 and 2011 Outstanding Graduate Research Assistant at the department level, and he was one of two graduate students to earn the research award in the College of Engineering and Science and to be awarded the Clemson University Outstanding Graduate Researcher Award.

While at Clemson Paul was inducted into a number of student and faculty organizations, among them the Alpha Pi Mu Industrial Engineering Honor Society, the Phi Kappa Phi Academic Honor Society, the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Honor Society, and the Alpha Epsilon Lambda Graduate Student Honor Society. Upon graduation, Paul began his assignment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Anand Hudda, who graduated with a BS in Industrial Engineering in May 2010, is currently working with the R&D User Interface Group at Bloomberg developing trading applications and market order management systems for sell-side brokers and dealers. He finds his job challenging, but believes the IE Department, in particular the creative inquiry courses and junior/senior design projects, prepared him well for this fast-paced, non-traditional professional environment. “It’s cool to see how the IE principles of designing efficient works flows are taken into account in the product development process.”