

Carnegie Mellon

Department of Media Relations
Carnegie Mellon University
Alumni House
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-268-2900
Fax: 412-268-6929

Contact: Chriss Swaney
412-268-5776
swaney@andrew.cmu.edu

For immediate release:
August 14, 2009

Carnegie Mellon's Cliff Davidson To Discuss Importance of Designing Sustainable Products at Workshop in India

PITTSBURGH—Carnegie Mellon University's Cliff Davidson has been invited to speak about the importance of engineering and sustainability Aug. 18-20 at the Indo-U.S. Workshop, "Designing Sustainable Products, Services and Manufacturing Systems," in Bangalore, India.

Davidson, a professor of civil and environmental engineering and public policy at Carnegie Mellon, will discuss the importance of educating engineering designers and managers for the 21st century.

"Animals, plants and entire habitats, as well as our current lifestyles, are at risk from continued unsustainable development, and it is up to us to help educate future engineers about preserving limited resources through sustainable methods," said Davidson, the winner of Carnegie Mellon's prestigious 2009 William H. and Frances S. Ryan Award for Meritorious Teaching.

A leader in developing sustainable engineering programs across the United States, Davidson recently spearheaded two workshops in Austin, Texas, in 2007 and another two in Pittsburgh on July 13-17. In each pair of workshops, the first was intended for faculty members without prior experience in the concepts and applications of sustainability as they apply to engineering. The second workshop was designed to help engineering faculty, with prior experience in sustainability, incorporate sustainability concepts into their courses.

As founding director of the university's innovative Center for Sustainable Engineering, Davidson has galvanized programs into action. The center, supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, is designed to help future engineers better manage increased stress on the world's limited resources. The center is a collaborative effort between Carnegie Mellon, the University of Texas at Austin and Arizona State University.

The Indo-U.S. Workshop, co-sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Indian Institute of Science, aims to bring together experts from India and the United States to

discuss the social, economic, environmental and technological challenges of designing sustainable systems, according to Davidson, whose creative teaching methods span everything from dissecting toasters to monitoring dangerous airborne particles in old industrial rustbelt towns throughout western Pennsylvania.

###

About Carnegie Mellon: Carnegie Mellon (<http://www.cmu.edu>) is a private, internationally ranked research university with programs in areas ranging from science, technology and business, to public policy, the humanities and the fine arts. More than 11,000 students in the university's seven schools and colleges benefit from a small student-to-faculty ratio and an education characterized by its focus on creating and implementing solutions for real problems, interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation. A global university, Carnegie Mellon's main campus in the United States is in Pittsburgh, Pa. It has campuses in California's Silicon Valley and Qatar, and programs in Asia, Australia and Europe. The university is in the midst of a \$1 billion comprehensive campaign, titled "Inspire Innovation: The Campaign for Carnegie Mellon University," which aims to build its endowment, support faculty, students and innovative research, and enhance the physical campus with equipment and facility improvements. For more about Carnegie Mellon, visit <http://www.cmu.edu/about/>.