

**A New College for New Engineers**  
**Charles W. Davidson College of Engineering Naming Ceremony**

Good afternoon!

Joining President Kassing, I am honored to have this opportunity to celebrate the naming of the College of Engineering after Mr. Charles W. Davidson, Chuck Davidson.

This is a historical moment in the College's 61-year history, as we bring forth a new college. It is a new College that has a strong tradition of a rigorous, yet nurturing, education, and it is a new college that is dedicated to educating new engineers to rise to the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

What are these new engineers?

These are engineers who are not only technically excellent, but also broadly educated and socially responsible. That is, the kind of engineers that Chuck Davidson exemplifies.

Thanks to Chuck's generous gifts, we are now in a better position to educate such engineers. Let me focus on two areas.

First, we will strengthen our commitment to student success and excellence. We will provide a supportive learning environment to all of our students. Now, we are finally able to establish a center for engineering students.

Second, we will provide our students cutting-edge multidisciplinary programs that include a range of disciplines such as business, biology, public policy, and various engineering specialties.

Let me use green engineering as an example. Green engineering is the college's response to the global warming crisis, and it is a comprehensive theme for the entire college.

In our students' first year in college, they will study solar cells, fuel cells, and wind turbine design as part of their freshmen engineering course.

Later on they may study biofuel and biodiesel with Prof. Greg Young of Chemical and Materials Engineering.

Or green construction with Prof. Ndon Udeme of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Or designing a zero-carbon-emission car by joining a team of mechanical and electrical engineering students led by Professors Tai-Ran Hsu, Raymond Yee, and Thuy Le.

In addition to these technologies, our students will also study how business and public policies impact our responses to the global warming crisis.

As we develop more green engineering projects, the learning opportunities will multiply.

As a first step, we will start off with a new freshmen engineering course led by Professors Ping Hsu and Buff Furman. In this new course, our freshmen students, nearly 500 of them this year, will study innovative hands-on energy projects, as well as ethical reasoning, so that they will build a strong foundation in their first year in college.

With a strong foundation, our students are on track to success, not only in their college careers, but also beyond.

In this era of global competitiveness and challenges, our students' success is a first step – and the only step – to ensure a bright future for all of us in this world.

We are proud of the fact that Chuck is an alumnus of ours, and we are an integral part of his life. We deeply appreciate his gift. We know we need to have gifts in order to receive a gift well, and we have much work ahead of us.

But we also know we are not alone as we are blessed with the dedication and hard work of the SJSU family of faculty, staff, parents, students, alumni, and industry leaders, as we all share a vision to inspire the young and to guide generations of new engineers to innovate, and to become global leaders for this world and the world to come.

With commitment to this vision, we, the faculty, staff and students, are honored to be part of the new college at San Jose State University.

Now I would like to ask President Kassing and Mr. Davidson to join me at the podium.

Our new college is the Charles W. Davidson College of Engineering!!!

Now, let me present to you, Mr. Charles W. Davidson, of civil engineering, class of 1957.