

# Largest Corporate Cash Gift to University of Illinois to Benefit M&IE

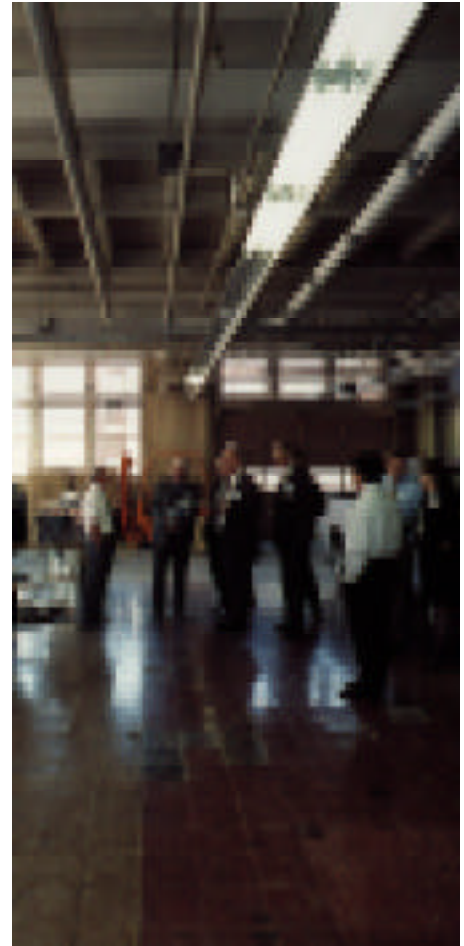
A \$4.5 million award from Ford Motor Co. will benefit many disciplines at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, including the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. The announcement of the award was made September 15, 1999, at the U of I campus by Bill Powers, vice president-research of Ford, and Michael Aiken, chancellor of the Urbana campus.

A major portion of the award, nearly \$2.3 million, will create the Ford Automotive Science and Technology Laboratory—FAST Lab—at M&IE. It will provide for the remodeling and modernization of the Automotive Systems Laboratories, which will better prepare students for careers in automotive and related industries. With this Ford grant, approximately 5,000 sq ft of laboratory space, dating from the 1950s, will be enhanced to provide state-of-the-art, 21st century facilities featuring engine test cells, emissions and diagnostic equipment, and a vehicle component build and test lab. In addition to M&IE's FAST Lab, other major portions of the gift will benefit students by funding undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, and diversity/minority engineering scholarships across campus. ■■



Bill Powers (center), vice president-research of Ford, presented a check for \$4.5 million to Chancellor Michael Aiken. The gift supports a new Illinois-Ford partnership.

With the addition of FAST Lab, automotive systems can be evaluated and redesigned. It will enhance undergraduate, graduate, and faculty involvement in automotive-related classes, design projects, and research projects, and it will give students the opportunity to experience the entire spectrum of automotive systems.



Ford representatives toured the Automotive Lab, which will be remodeled, in the Mechanical Engineering Building. The 5,000 sq ft area will become the Ford Automotive Science and Technology Laboratory.



Chancellor Michael Aiken (left), Gregory Reynolds, Powertrain Engineering Supervisor at Ford (center), and Dean of the College of Engineering William Schowalter (right).



Professor Jim Peters (left), graduate student Jeremy Cellarius (right) and Ford representatives discuss a diesel engine used by M&IE students for research.



Bill Powers, vice president-research, Ford (left) with representatives from University of Illinois groups that will benefit from the Ford gift: (left to right) Paul Parker, assistant dean, director of Minority Engineering Program; Roscoe Pershing, COE associate dean for academic programs; David Powell, director, Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE); Preston Ranson, assistant dean, director, Support for Under Represented Groups in Engineering (SURGE); Steve Pearce, supervisor, Powertrain Sub-System Design, Ford; Susan Linnemeyer, assistant dean, director of Women in Engineering; Richard Buckius, professor and head, Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering; Timothy Trick, director of the Harlan & Lois Anderson Laboratory for Global Engineering Education.



Engineering students attended a reception at the Lily Pavilion in the Grainger Library.



Students Robert Dieterle and Brian Dressel, members of the Society of Automotive Engineers, Jim Anderson, chair, Ford University Research Programs (right), and Gregory Reynolds, Powertrain Engineering Supervisor at Ford (far right).



Nathan Gupta, Carrie Pleune, Brent Schwoerer, and Rajan Kapadia (left to right) were interns at Ford during summer 1999 and attended the luncheon at the Beckman Institute.

The FAST Lab will provide the students and faculty members of M&IE with modern space and facilities to:

- prepare students for automotive careers by providing firsthand knowledge and experience with state-of-the-art experimental, analytical, and computational techniques
- bring automotive projects initiated in the previously funded Ford Concurrent Design and Manufacturing Laboratory to vehicle or engine test beds
- build upon strong research ties between Ford and M&IE faculty members.