

Electrical engineering alumni to honor Jim Lancaster

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Dr. James Lancaster, professor of electrical engineering and chairman of the division of electrical engineering, will retire at the end of the current academic year after 13 years at Alfred University. Graduates of the electrical engineering program will honor Lancaster at a dinner at 5 p.m. May 16 in Howell Hall on the AU campus. Lancaster is credited with assuring that the electrical engineering program received national accreditation three times during his tenure at AU. "Dr. Lancaster has been the electrical engineering program's champion of diversity, encouraging women and minorities to study electrical engineering," noted the three alumni organizers. "Dr. Lancaster has continuously devoted much of his personal time and energy to his students and takes personal satisfaction in seeing his graduates doing well." The graduates are seeking donations to the electrical engineering laboratory they would like to dedicate in Lancaster's name. For more information on the dinner, or to make a contribution in Lancaster's honor, alumni and friends are asked to contact Sean Seanhouse, 607-974-1278; Alice Zebrack, 716-375-7193 or Jamie Wolff, 607-257-1080, ext. 144. Lancaster came to Alfred University in 1990 after serving for 11 years as the director of research and development for the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association. Lancaster had previously been associate professor of electrical engineering at Tennessee Technological University for 19 years. A licensed Professional Engineering, Lancaster received his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Tennessee Polytechnic Institute, and his master's and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute. A resident of Andover, Lancaster served as mayor of the Village of Andover for a short time in 1991 before additional responsibilities at the University prompted him to resign.