

The 4th Annual Engineering Roundtable at Northeast Texas Community College was held on Friday, February 17, 2017 in the Whatley Center Foyer on campus. Since 2014, this event has become an annual opportunity for both students who are currently enrolled in the NTCC engineering program and students from area high schools who are interested in the field of engineering. AEP/SWEPCO generously sponsored part of this year's roundtable with a \$1,000 donation. In addition, Luminant made a charitable donation of \$500 to the funding of the event.

Stan Minter, a mechanical engineer who is the Maintenance Superintendent for AEP/SWEPCO Welch Power Plant gave the keynote address. He spoke about the rigorous requirements to earn a B.S. in engineering. In addition, he challenged the students to develop appropriate lifestyle choices that is necessary for success in the advanced science, engineering, mathematics courses.

The following recipients for the 2017 Wilhite scholarships were announced: Hilda Hernandez, a sophomore mechanical engineering major, and Chesney Davis, a freshman mechanical engineering major. Roger Farr, adjunct engineering faculty member and president of Principled Living LLC, led the opening session "Let's Get Started" introductory warm-up activity engaged students to identify their reaction to a variety of situational leadership scenarios.

Following lunch, Dr. Bouwen, NTCC Professor of Physics, introduced Thorondor, the new supercomputer of the NTCC Physics and Engineering Department. He explained the details of the design and the extraordinary capabilities of the supercomputer that will be used to 1) calculate high precision numerical analysis, 2) simulate many body systems via Monte Carlo and molecular dynamics, 3) generate 3D electron orbital and molecule models, and 4) conduct research.

The following guest engineers had small group discussions by discussing their college experience and careers as professional engineers:

- x Chance Ballard, Industrial Engineer, Lowe's Distribution in Mt. Vernon, TX
- x Tim Berry, Civil Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation
- x Les Brown, P.E, Principal & Sr. Mechanical Engineer, BamptonBrown
- x Glen Calvert, P.E., General Manager, Priefert's Complex Designs, Priefert's Manufacturing
- x Kenneth Calvert, P.E., Petroleum Engineer, Retired
- x Kevin Chumbley, P.E., Project Manager of Public Works for the City of Longview
- x Tod Corbin, P.E., Electric Power Engineer, Manager of Engineering and Operations for BowieCass Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- x Dr. Brent Donham, Electrical Engineer, Dean of the College of Science and Engineering at Texas A&M University-Commerce
- x Roger Farr, M.S. ChE, Chemical Engineer, NTCC Adjunct Faculty Member Engineering, President of Principled Living, LLC.

