HISTORIC ENGINEERING SOUTH IS UNDERGOING RENOVATION
Engineering South (ES) is a building of historical significance that, along with Life Sciences East, is predominately placed on the OSU campus next to Edmond Low Library. This 1939 legacy structure has been the only home to ECE. We cannot imagine being in any other building. It holds a special place in the minds of our alumni and friends as they retell their favorite ECE stories and ponder upon countless memories while studying in ES.

ES, however, has outlived its expected lifecycle. The HVAC systems struggle to keep the building comfortable and the air quality acceptable; the floors and walls have seen their fair-share of wear and tear; the roof leaks; the elevator is under-sized; and most of all, the layout of the interior offices and laboratories make inefficient use of available gross space. Furthermore, ECE has spaces throughout all floors of the building, thus making it difficult to create a sense of community and comradery.

Hence, it is time for ES to be renovated. The exterior façade will remain more or less as-is to preserve its historical legacy and iconic place on the campus. All four floors of the interior will be gutted and modernized to offer more office space and to provide modern laboratory facilities, seminar rooms and breakout spaces. ECE will occupy all of the second floor and some spaces in the basement and fourth floor. Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering will occupy the third floor. (Civil and Environmental Engineering, previous occupant with ECE in ES, is now located in its newly renovated home on the second floor of Engineering North. They moved to that space in August, 2019. It is a great space. Please tour it next time you are on campus.)

Much of the basic ES renovation, but not all, will be financed by OSU. Upgrades, amenities and fourth floor spaces will be financed by ECE. Our goal is to have spaces that create a broad sense of ECE community, encourage and support our teaching and research mission, brand ECE as a leader in high-tech innovation, and attract the brightest students and faculty across the country and globe.

OSU has hired the award winning architect, Rand Elliot Associates, to redesign Engineering South. Truly inspiring preliminary floor plans and renderings have been created that draw people to a welcoming reception area at the landing of the grand staircase, an ECE student services office, and a signature conference room. To facilitate open, well lighted spaces, ample, full-length glass panels are planned. Communications and branding will be accomplished using strategically located LCD panels in front of side access stairs.

In addition to the actual renovation, we will need to replace our office furniture, most of which is quite old. We will also be upgrading our computers, lab benches, machine shop, and instruments.

As you might be inferring, the implementation of our plans will require substantial funds provided as gifts from alumni, friends, and industrial partners. Our goal is to secure $1,500,000 for the second floor project. We request your support.
Here are few things to note:

- To kick-off our mini-campaign for the ES renovation, we have already secured $125k towards our $1.5M goal.

- $750k in earnings from our Foundation endowments that have been retained and reinvested for the past several years will be applied to the campaign.

- That leaves us with $625k to be raised during the next 36 months.

In addition to our administrative spaces on the second floor, we have the opportunity to expand our footprint to the fourth floor, provided donations for fourth floor renovations can be secured. ECE sees three key opportunities on the fourth floor: a) Design and Innovation Laboratory and Seminar Room for our laboratory intensive courses, b) Office space for our teaching and research assistants, and c) Gathering and study spaces for ECE students and the IEEE/HKN student chapters. The cost is estimated to be around $2.5M. Contributions to these visionary spaces are certainly needed.

With your gift or pledge, there will be opportunity to name a room, space, or floor in ES. We also plan to have two donor walls—The ECE Maxwellians (for those who contribute $10,000 or more) and the ECE Alumni & Friends (those who contribute $1,000 to $9,999).
We invite you to contact our Foundation Associate, Bryce Killingsworth, or the ECE Head, Jeffrey Young, for more information:

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Should you feel inspired to partner with us on this important project, please direct your gift to the OSU Foundation ECE Next Generation Fund (26-00980), or https://secure.osugiving.com/give and search 26-00980. The Foundation is also able to receive non-cash items and gifts pledged over a five-year period. Many employers also have a matching program that can be leveraged against your gift to create a bigger impact. Please contact Mr. Killingsworth to learn more about giving options, pledges and plans.

Thank you in advance for your partnership and support of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The future for ECE is very bright and the opportunities for our students are excellent.

**GO POKES!**