



*Celebrating 35 Years of*

*Excellence*

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Center for Excellence in Education

*2017-2018 Alumni Campaign*

**Wishing you a joyful, bright, healthy, prosperous and HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Donald B. Keck, born 2 Jan 1941, was an American research physicist, who with his colleagues at Corning Glass, Dr. Robert Maurer and Dr. Peter Schultz, invented fused silica optical waveguide - optical fiber. This was a breakthrough creating a revolution in telecommunications, capable of carrying 65,000 times more information than conventional copper wire.

Keck grew up in Lansing, Michigan and attended Michigan State University. During his undergraduate years, he was persuaded by his father to switch disciplines and study physics. After receiving his Ph.D., Keck accepted an offer from Corning, moved to New York, and began work as a senior research scientist on the project in January 1968.

Keck acquired 36 U.S. patents and authored more than 150 papers in the areas of optical fibers and fiber components. Keck spent his professional career at Corning, where he eventually held the position of Vice President and Technology Director of Optical Physics, during which time he guided the company into the field of photonics. For his work with optical fiber, he was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1993 and received the prestigious National Medal of Technology in 2000.

#### **Alumni Campaign Update**

The goals of the CEE 2017-2018 Alumni Campaign are \$350,000 and a 20% increase in participation by March 31, 2018. The Alumni Campaign raises money strictly for the CEE Endowment to ensure the

longevity of the Center. A gift of ANY amount makes a difference and has an immediate impact on our collective participation which sets the standard for CEE wide giving. An Alumni gift, when joined with many other gifts, gives students life-changing opportunities.

For the sake of future STEM leaders, let's reach our [Alumni Campaign](#) goals of \$350,000 and a 20% increase in participation!

## **2017 in Review**

It's been quite a year for us at CEE! As a nonprofit organization, CEE continues to offers high-impact STEM programs at no cost to students, teachers and parents. These links share the Excellence in our name, our programs and our history:

- Admiral H.G. Rickover, father of the nuclear Navy and civilian uses of nuclear power, and background on [the founding of CEE](#) in 1983.
- The Center's [Annual Luncheon](#) on Capitol Hill, sponsored this year by Google.
- CEE's USA Biology Olympiad (USABO) [National Finals closing ceremony](#), field [labs](#), and [Team USA](#), who earned four gold medals at the International Biology Olympiad and is the reigning #1 high school biology team in the world.
- The Center's world-renown Research Science Institute (RSI), which this year hosted [80 top scholars](#) from 35 states and 15 countries.
- The Distinguished [Guest Lecture](#) series, including [Nobel Laureates](#), at CEE's [Research Science Institute \(RSI\)](#).
- The top five RSI Final Research Presentations in 2017 by rising high school seniors from [VA](#), [CO](#), [WA](#), [Spain](#) and [Singapore](#), and RSI's 2017 [award winners](#).
- Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP) 'Bite of Science' events for rural and urban middle and high-school STEM teachers featuring speakers from [industry](#) and [academia](#).
- TEP STEM Teacher [Roundtables](#) that connect industry, government, academic, and non-profit representatives with teachers to create awareness of STEM career fields and required job skills.
- Free [lesson plans](#), [presentations](#) and [classroom resources](#) for STEM teachers.
- Webinars for parents and educators of [high school](#) and [high ability](#) students.
- The [life-changing impact](#) of the Center's STEM student programs, whose [alumni](#) represent all 50 states and 55 [international countries](#).

## **Alumni Events**

- **Spring, 2018:** CEE Annual Congressional Luncheon, date TBD
- **October 12 – 14, 2018:** CEE 35th Anniversary Gala and Weekend Events in Cambridge, MA

## **Important Dates**

- USABO Registration opened October 2, and closes January 16, 2018.
- RSI Registration opened November 8, and closes January 12, 2018.

## **Opinion**

- Support Top Academic Talent by Joann DiGennaro can be found [here](#)
- Dropping the Ball on Geek Power by Joann DiGennaro can be found [here](#)

## CEE News

- CEE wishes you Happiness and Peace this Holiday Season is located [here](#)
- The Fall/Winter edition of CEE's newsletter, Centerline, is located [here](#)
- Donor profile featuring Andrew Hennes, USABO '17 is located [here](#)
- [Maria Telkes, Hungarian-American Chemist is located here](#)
- Donor profile featuring Dan (RSI '98) and Josie (Weeks) Haspel (RSI '01) is located [here](#)
- CEE Director William T. Stuart profile is located [here](#)
- Health in High Ability Students webinar video is located [here](#)
- New CEE Video, "You Make Friends for Life" located [here](#)
- The University of California, San Diego (UCSD) will host CEE's USA Biology Olympiad (USABO) beginning 2018. Pam R. Taub, MD, FACC, (RSI '93), Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), helped secure the new home of USABO National Finals at UCSD. [More...](#)
- Flashback Friday Videos: [Where It Began...RSI 1984](#)
- Three RSI '16 alums were recently named 2017 Davidson Fellows and awarded scholarships, and a USABO alum is a Fulbright Scholar. [More...](#)
- 2017 Alumni & Program Event Highlights [\(Photos\)](#)
- CEE will kick off its 35th Anniversary weekend celebration in Cambridge, MA on October 12, 2018. [More...](#)
- Throwback Thursday [\(Photos\)](#)
- Campaign Kickoff FAQs [More...](#)