

FALL 2007

Capitol Chronicle



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80
years

Capitol Celebrates 80 Years!

Capitol Chronicle

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CAPITOL COLLEGE

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Alumni Update, Class Note

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Career Assistance

Alumni are welcome to use the services of the Career Center. Call Tony Miller, director of career services, at 301-369-2555 to make an appointment for career counseling or for information about hiring a co-op student. See our website for career services available to students and alumni.

The **Capitol Chronicle** is published quarterly by Capitol College for alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents and friends.

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on the cover

Celebrating Capitol's 80th Anniversary (left to right) are Robert Powels, Joel Carter, Nayi Castro, Tom Kipp, Rochelle Colvin, Mark Gray, Ashley Heitt, Corey Fletcher and Nina Acree.



This issue of the Chronicle ushers in another year of excellence and contributions by the faculty and staff of our college. In the recently ended fiscal year, we solidified our financial position, extended our reach and visibility and enhanced our reputation for quality higher education.

The Space Operations Institute won the William T. Pecora Award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for helping manage the Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer mission, which provided “some of the most critical and influential environmental data ever produced.” SOI Director Dave Wagner traveled to the Pacific to set up a pre-engineering program with the University of Guam.

In the Information Assurance area, we were re-designated by the National Security Agency as a Center of Academic Excellence, and we are one of only two universities in the country to have achieved such recognition at the most advanced level. Our Critical Infrastructures and Cyber Protection Center introduced two additional certification exam preparation courses.

In computer science, student Daniel Millington won a national IBM programming competition by writing a validation program that checks documents for accessibility. In the business area, we launched the Innovation and Leadership Institute. Keynote speakers were Maryland Secretary of Business and Economic Development, David Edgerley, and Capitol College alumnus Richard Zuschlag, whom you may remember from the O'Reilly show during the aftermath of Katrina. Zuschlag's communications systems allowed thousands of people to be rescued from New Orleans hospitals by his Acadian Ambulance Service, the largest in the country.

Capitol faculty, students and staff continue to reach out and serve our community. Faculty contributed time and expertise to Project Lead the Way, FIRST Robotics, and First Generation College Bound. Our students supported the Prince George's County Junior Chamber of Commerce, Maryland Independent Higher Education Day, and IEEE. Staff members served on evaluation teams for regional and professional accreditation organizations and on science and technology committees for the county's public schools.

We lost some long-serving and beloved friends of the college, including co-founder Lillie Lou Rietzke, esteemed professor John Tridico, and gracious donor Martha Gudelsky. We welcomed many new friends and supporters, including Maurice Pettiford (MS02), who traveled from the American Embassy in Beirut to announce a scholarship named for his father at our annual Scholarship Appreciation Breakfast.

Thank you all for your continuing support of Capitol College. Please let us know of developments in your lives and accept our invitation to visit when you're in the neighborhood.

Regards,

Michael T. Wood, PhD
President

80th Anniversary Activities

Capitol College is in the midst of celebrating its 80th anniversary year with activities ranging from a speaker series to a golf tournament.

“We’ve tried to involve everyone in the anniversary celebration by designing events that appeal to different audiences—students, alumni, donors, faculty and staff, the community—and that bring people together,” said Joy Johnson, director of advancement and alumni relations.

Johnson, who chairs the college’s 80th Anniversary Committee, admits it has been a lot of work to plan so many activities, but says the enthusiasm of the college community makes the anniversary year worth the extra effort. “We’ve heard from some of our alumni for the first time in many years,” she said.

Alumni and other members of the Capitol community have been sharing

memories on a special section of the college’s website, which also offers a calendar of events, a photo gallery and a brief history at www.capitol-college.edu/newsevents/80years.

Activities for All

The first Capitol College Scholarship Golf Tournament was played on a cool misty October morning at Patuxent Greens Country Club in Laurel. The tournament, which was added to the 80th Anniversary calendar after being suggested by several avid golfers, was a huge success. The event was sponsored by John G. Puente, chairman of the board of trustees, and approximately \$7,000 was raised for the scholarship fund through golfer participation, sponsorships and donations.

Alumni and friends of the college joined students, staff and faculty to celebrate the college’s anniversary at a Community Day on Saturday, October 20. In addition to tours and exhibits showcasing Capitol’s facilities and programs to its neighbors, the event featured carnival-style vendors, games and concerts.



Above: Golfers (from left) Mike Cuthrell, Fred Harley, Woody Davis and Ron Novak played in the first annual Capitol College Scholarship Tournament, which raised \$7,000 for the scholarship fund.

Above right: Capitol College student Christian Allen (left) jousts with Jeremy Putt at the Community Day in October.

Below: In the 1950s, the latest technology taught at CREI included television broadcasting.

Below right: During World War II, 1940 graduate Warren Chase (center) taught radio technology to Army Signal Corps personnel enrolled in special classes at CREI.

Below far right: Can you identify two current Capitol professors in their June 1968 Capitol Tech class picture? (See answer online at www.capitol-college.edu/newsevents/chronicle.shtml)



Enliven Fall Semester



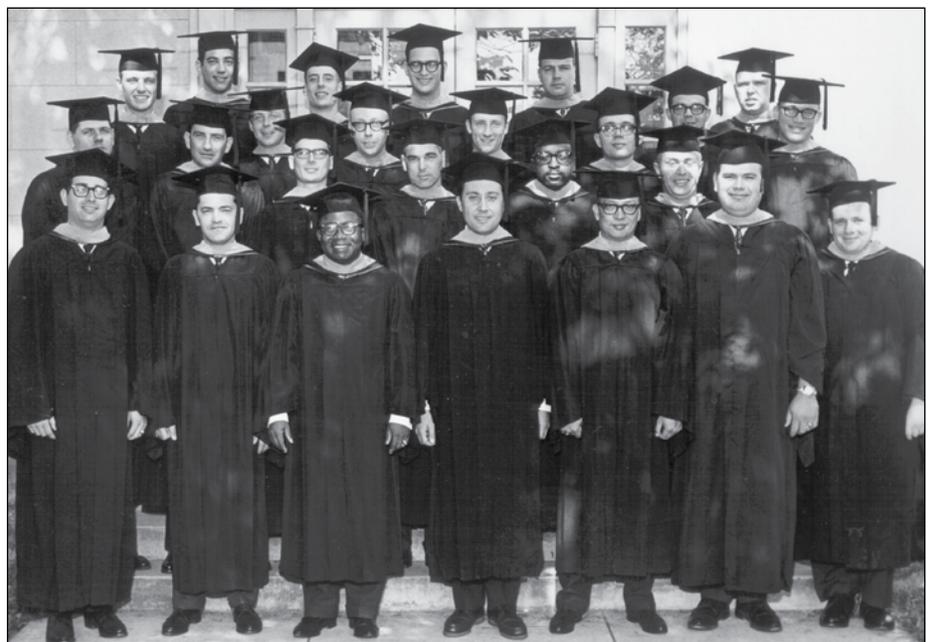
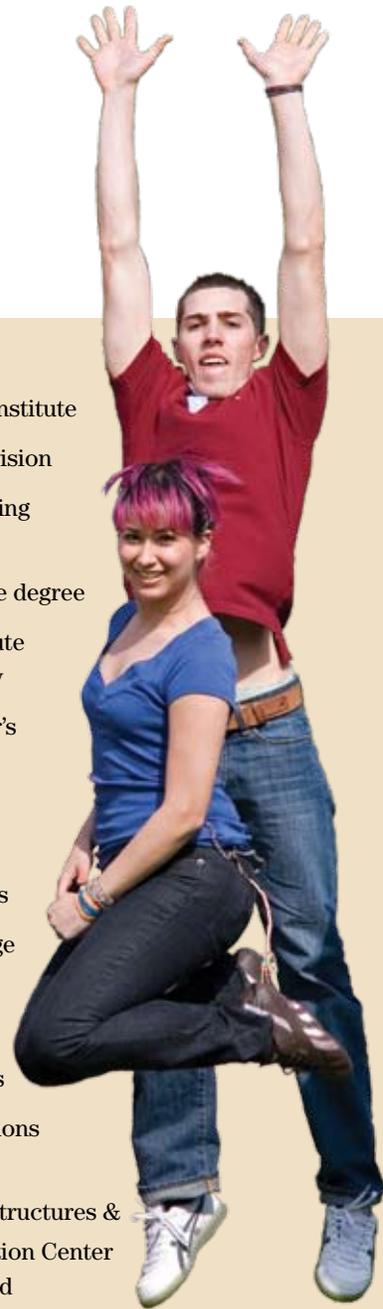
Launched last spring, the 80th Anniversary Speaker Series brings community leaders and alumni to campus to talk about career and professional issues. Topics have included building business relationships, regulating the Internet, and following a successful career path.

The college has designated Wednesday, November 14 as Faculty/Staff Apprecia-

tion Day. An extended luncheon will give faculty and staff an opportunity to share stories and reflect on the changes they have witnessed at Capitol College over the years. Long-time employees will be recognized for their years of service.

After the last final exam on Friday, December 14, Capitol College will wrap up its 80th anniversary year with a holi-

- 1927 Capitol Radio Engineering Institute
- 1932 Residence division
- 1942 Wartime training program
- 1954 First associate degree
- 1964 Capitol Institute of Technology
- 1966 First bachelor's degree
- 1970 Kensington campus
- 1983 Laurel campus
- 1987 Capitol College
- 1990 First master's degree
- 1997 Online classes
- 2002 Space Operations Institute
- 2006 Critical Infrastructures & Cyber Protection Center
- 2007 Innovation and Leadership Institute



day party in the evening. The invitation-only event is intended for faculty, staff and supporters, and will include dancing, food and a cash bar.

From Sea to Space

A lot has changed at Capitol College in 80 years, starting with the technology. The first students operated radios that would appear very primitive next to the sophisticated NASA spacecraft and computer networks that today's students control.

The Capitol Radio Engineering Institute (CREI) was founded in 1927 in Washington, DC by Eugene Rietzke and quickly earned a reputation for excellence in technology education. Rietzke, a former Naval officer, first created correspondence lessons for sailors serving aboard ships who needed to learn the new technology of radio communications. Next, he developed lessons to teach radio broadcasting to students around the country and at a residence school that he opened in 1932. Many early CREI graduates operated the first commercial radio stations in their communities.

During World War II, thousands of military personnel learned to maintain and operate radio equipment at a temporary CREI facility in Silver Spring, MD. After the war, CREI expanded its curriculum to include electronics engineering, television broadcasting and early computer technology, and began offering a three-year associate in applied science (AAS) degree.

From Capitol Tech to Capitol College

In 1964, CREI's correspondence division was sold to McGraw-Hill and its residence school was incorporated as a non-profit college, the Capitol Institute of Technology, or "Capitol Tech." The first four students to earn BS degrees graduated in 1966.



Many prominent people have visited Capitol over the years.

Top left: Trustee Constance Morella and keynote speaker William G. McGowan, chairman and CEO of MCI Communications Corp., were among the dignitaries at the November 1983 dedication of the Laurel campus. A Capitol trustee from 1978-95, Morella served in the Maryland House of Delegates from 1979-87 and in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1987-2003. After McGowan's death in 1992, the William G. McGowan Charitable Fund gave Capitol College \$3 million for construction of a new academic building.

Top right: David Edgerley, Maryland's secretary of business and economic development, delivered the keynote address at this year's launch of the Innovation and Leadership Institute.

Right: During her Commencement address in 1987, computer science pioneer Admiral Grace Hopper showed the audience a length of wire measuring 11.78 inches, the distance that light travels in one nanosecond.

Capitol Tech moved to Kensington, MD in 1970, then to a brand-new campus in Laurel in 1983. The name Capitol College was adopted in 1987 to signify a broadening of the curriculum. During the past 20 years, three engineering technology majors at the bachelor's level expanded to today's choice of 12 undergraduate degrees and six graduate degrees.

Looking Ahead to the Next 80 Years

Concurrently with the 80th anniversary celebration, the college has launched a major new initiative, the Innovation



and Leadership Institute, which marries Capitol's 80-year legacy of success in technology and engineering education to its recent introduction of business and management programs.

"Capitol has been very good at educating technologists and engineers, and now it's time to expand our focus and prepare our students to compete in the global economy," said Michael Wood, president. "The institute will meld Capitol's technology and business education to develop leaders with technical savvy. We will become a college that provides an extraordinary education [and] a place that prepares students to become future innovation leaders, especially in the technical fields," he said. ■

We would like to thank you for your support of Capitol College during the 2007 Annual Fund.

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In memory of Homer Gudelsky
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In memory of Leonard Jarrell
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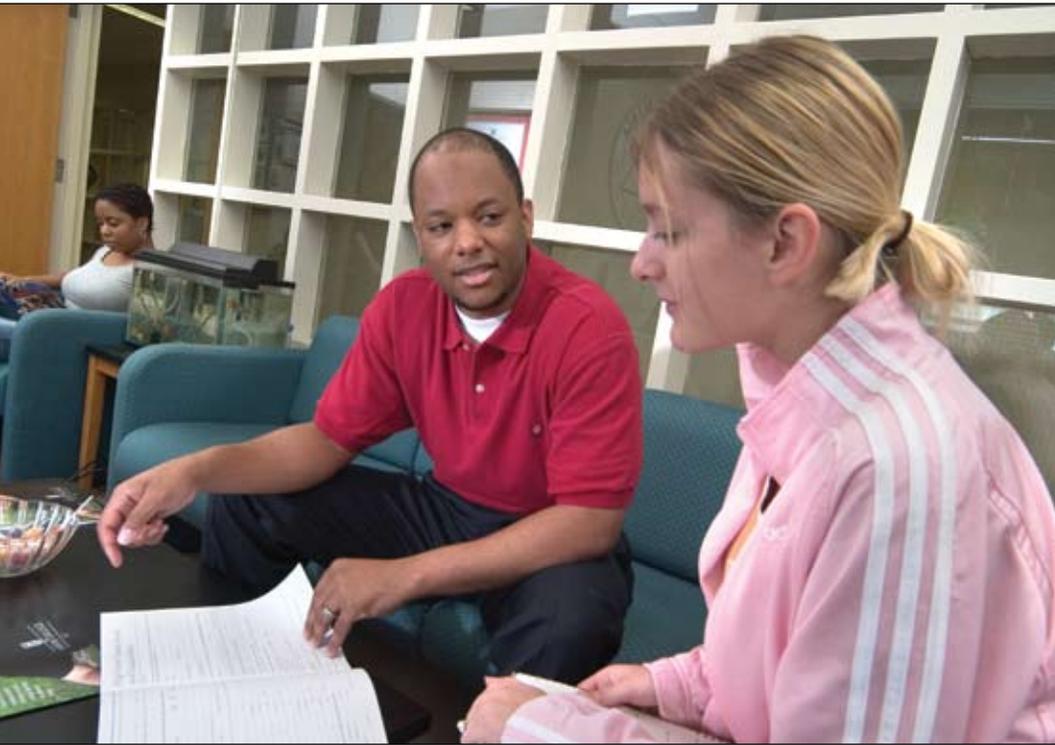
In memory of David & Sarah Jenkins
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In memory of Marilyn and Seymour Levenson
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In memory of Barbara B. Mason
Jonathan L. Mason

In memory of Lester A. Morcerf
Ann Morcerf

In memory of Virginia Tech Students
Robert Rutledge



College Admissions Officer of the Year Darnell Edwards (center) talks with a student in Capitol's office of admissions.

CollegeBound Foundation recognizes admissions director

Darnell D. Edwards, Capitol's director of admissions since 2003, has been named the College Admissions Officer of the Year by the CollegeBound Foundation, which helps Baltimore high school students apply to college.

The CollegeBound program places college access program specialists in public high schools in Baltimore City. It was these specialists who selected Edwards as the 2007 recipient of the award, which was announced on August 7 at the foundation's 19th Annual Scholars' Luncheon.

An average of 15 students from Baltimore enroll at Capitol each year as a result of the CollegeBound program. "We make an extra effort to reach out to the students of Baltimore," Edwards said. "With the

help of the CollegeBound Foundation, each applicant is guided through the admissions process from A to Z."

"We are not surprised by this recognition as we all know that Darnell is committed to spreading the word about Capitol College and providing high school students with the information needed to ensure college access," said Dianne Veenstra, vice president for planning and assessment.

Orientation and CCISS programs help freshmen adjust to college

To help students adjust to the demands of college, Capitol offered two programs for incoming freshmen last summer.

The Capitol College Institute for Student Success (CCISS, pronounced "kiss") held two sessions in June and July for newly admitted freshmen. CCISS is a summer "bridge to college" and includes both remedial and jump-start classes. Based on placement testing, students were invited to attend one or both CCISS sessions and earn up to 10 credits during the summer. Students who took remedial math or English classes attended free, while other students paid a reduced tuition fee and earned college credit.

New student orientation was held in mid-August, just before the start of the fall semester. The three-day orientation featured activities ranging from a library tour to a pajama party. Staff assisted students with everything from navigating the online textbook ordering system to mastering the Centra and Blackboard software used for online classes.

Leadership Advisory Council brainstorms at first meeting

Sixteen industry and government leaders met with Capitol College administrators and faculty in August to discuss the critical issues they want to see addressed by the college's new Innovation and Leadership Institute. The brainstorming session was the first meeting of the Leadership Advisory Council, which President Michael Wood formed to advise the new institute.

Creating an energy technology center was one of the most popular suggestions, as well as promoting workforce development, encouraging student volunteerism, and mentoring students in strategic versus tactical thinking.

Council members were also briefed on the state's fiscal situation by Kumar Barve, Majority Leader of the Maryland House of Delegates. He offered advice about how to approach legislators with special funding requests.

The Leadership Advisory Council is co-chaired by Dr. Dan Krieger of the office of the director, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center; and alumnus Kelly Brown, president and CEO of EMSolutions. Brown also serves on Capitol's board of trustees. The other 18 members of the council include leaders representing major organizations from both the public and private sectors.

President Wood welcomes members of the newly formed Leadership Advisory Council.



'61 David L. Durgin, AAS, has been mentoring entrepreneurs and investing in emerging technology companies in New Mexico since 1990. He is a founding general partner of the Verge Fund, which provides seed funding to New Mexico start-ups; a founder of Quatro Ventures, a New Mexico angel investment company; and a partner in Valley Ventures III, a Phoenix-based venture capital fund. Earlier in his career, he was a technical staff member and project manager at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, a senior partner at Booz Allen Hamilton, and a vice president at BDM International (now part of Northrop Grumman). Durgin received a BS in electrical engineering from New Mexico State University in 1967.

'75 Donald A. Smith, BS, is a retired radio engineer and announcer. He worked at WJEJ radio in Hagerstown, MD, where he and his wife, Milli, make their home.

'79 Michael A. Mokhtarian, BS, is an international telecommunications consultant and contractor based in Baltimore.

'86 Donald F. Hall, BS, is a senior supervising engineer with Pepco Holdings Inc., the parent company of Potomac Electric Power Company, Delmarva Power, and Atlantic City Electric. He is a senior member of IEEE, a licensed professional engineer in DC, MD and DE, and is pursuing an MSEE in power engineering from Kansas State University. He lives with his wife, Lisa, and three children in Middletown, DE. His hobbies include his kid's extracurricular activities and the never-ending home improvement projects.

'95 Douglas E. Renwick, BS, is a software engineer at Northrop Grumman in Gaithersburg, MD. He and his wife, Sethiya, live in Rockville.

'02 Steven M. Smith, BS, former director of information services and technology at Capitol College, is a system architect at Lockheed Martin in Baltimore. He and his wife, Ann, live in Columbia, MD, where they are hosting an exchange student from Germany this year. This is the sixth year they have participated in the international high school student exchange sponsored by AFS Intercultural Programs (formerly American Field Service).

'03 Laura Dugan, BS, moved to Austin, TX to accept a position as a communications specialist at TMF Health Quality Institute.

Chuck Georgo, MS, recently launched his own company, NowhereToHide.org LLC, specializing in helping government agencies and private sector organizations effectively utilize technology and business processes to achieve meaningful law enforcement and national security results. The company is based in Linthicum, MD.

'04 Andrew M. Curtis, BS, is a JAVA developer for Constellation Energy Group in Baltimore.

'05 Ronald L. Mendell, MS, lives in Austin, TX, where he teaches network security as an adjunct instructor in the computer science department of Austin Community College. His latest book, *Document Security: Protecting Physical and Electronic Content*, was published in August by Charles C. Thomas Publishers, Springfield, IL.

Michael A. Sainz, MS, lives in Cranston, RI and is a security analyst at VeriSign in Providence.



'06 Sheila A. Sauls-White, MS, former director of financial aid at Capitol College, is an internal auditor for etrials Worldwide, a Raleigh, NC company that provides software and services for clinical trials.

'07 Wade L. Portee III, MS, is chief information security officer at the Department of the Treasury in Hyattsville, MD. He and his wife, Jennifer, live in White Plains, MD.

Let your classmates know what you've been doing.
New job? Spouse? Baby? Degree? Award?

Submit your class note on our website at www.capitol-college.edu under the Alumni & Friends section or mail it to Capitol College, Office of Advancement and Alumni Relations, 11301 Springfield Road, Laurel, MD 20708.

Each issue of Capitol Chronicle, including class notes, is posted on Capitol College's website.



Maconachy Named Chief Academic Officer

On October 1, Capitol College welcomed a new vice president for academic affairs, **Dr. W. Victor (Vic) Maconachy**. He is responsible for the college's undergraduate and graduate academic programs, as well as the Innovation and Leadership Institute, the Space Operations Institute and the Critical Infrastructures and Cyber Protection Center.

Before accepting the position as Capitol's chief academic officer, Maconachy served as the deputy senior computer science authority for the National Security Agency's Central Security Service, where he led research in several areas of cryptology and established a development program for the next generation of cryptologic computer scientists.

Prior to his position at NSA, Maconachy served as the program manager of the National Information Assurance Education and Training Program, where he was responsible for implementing a multidimensional, inter-agency program that provides support and guidance to the Department of Defense (DoD), other federal agencies and the nation's information infrastructure community.

In announcing Maconachy's appointment, President Michael Wood cited Maconachy's extensive experience and vision when assisting numerous universities in developing undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs in information technology. "Vic Maconachy will bring vision, leadership, and academic acumen to a growing institution that provides exceptional technology education as we continue into the 21st century," Wood said.

Maconachy received his BS and MEd degrees from Frostburg State University in 1970 and 1976, and his PhD degree in vocational and special education from the University of Maryland in 1983. His doctoral dissertation, *A Study of the Relationships Between Cognitive Style and Performance in Telecommunications Programs*, was one of the first formal studies of human-to-information security technology. His research interests include risk prediction models for distributed information systems, statistical approaches to network intrusion detection, and management issues associated with intrusion detection devices.

Professor John J. Tridico, who for more than 30 years taught electronics to nearly every student who attended Capitol, passed away on August 11.

During World War II, Tridico served as an Air Corps instructor and a B-29 flight engineer, and received two Bronze Stars. While returning from a bombing mission over Japan, he saw the explosion of the first atomic bomb over Hiroshima, although he did not learn what the strange cloud was until he landed.

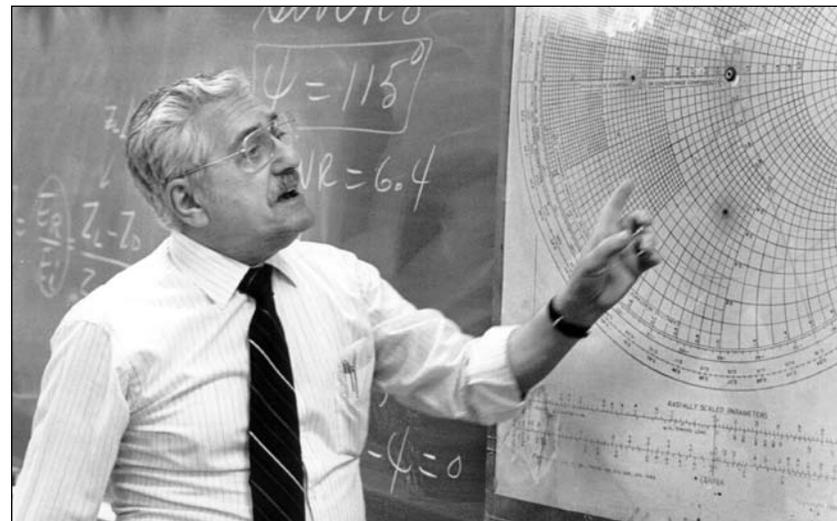
A few years after the war, he enrolled in the residential division of the Capitol Radio Engineering Institute (CREI) in Washington, DC to study electronics, and then joined the faculty after receiving his diploma in 1953. He taught electronics engineering technology at CREI and the Capitol Institute of Technology until he retired in 1985. He participated in many transitions and firsts, from introducing AAS and BSET degrees to moving Capitol Tech to Kensington, MD during the two-week 1969-70 holiday break.

In an oral history interview, he recalled that in the late 1950s CREI offered the first course about transistors in the country. "We advertised that we were teaching a course in transistors, and 300 people enrolled in the course. Instead of teaching the one class we thought we would teach at night, we had to teach four nights a week," he said.

Professor Tridico served as faculty advisor to the IEEE Student Branch, Tau Alpha Pi, the Ham Radio Club and the Student Council. He helped establish the Alumni Advisory Board in 1980 and served as its chairperson for the first five years. He received an honorary doctor of science degree from Capitol in 1981 and the Heritage Award in 1985.

Tridico is survived by his wife, Anne; their daughters, Anne Martin (BS82) and Jane McDowell (BS82); and six grandchildren.

Professor Tridico taught several generations of Capitol students.





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