

# IMPACT

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Featured article:  
**GORDON E. EUBANKS JR.**

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## Hall of Fame Inducts Entrepreneurial Icons

THE CEAT HALL OF FAME RECOGNIZES OSU GRADUATES AS WELL AS INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ENHANCED THE REPUTATION OF THE COLLEGE THROUGH THEIR CAREERS IN EDUCATION, INDUSTRY AND THE PUBLIC SECTOR. "ALL ARE LEGENDS IN THEIR FIELDS AND SHARE A COMMON SET OF QUALITIES INCLUDING MODESTY AND INTEGRITY, DIGNITY AND QUIET LEADERSHIP, ASPIRATION AND PERSEVERANCE AND SOUND JUDGMENT AND VISION," SAYS KARL REID, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE.



JAMES CUMMINS



GORDON E. EUBANKS JR.

The College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology Hall of Fame welcomes a pair of entrepreneurial icons, Oklahoma construction magnate James Cummins and Silicon Valley pioneer and software industry guru Gordon E. Eubanks Jr.

Cummins and Eubanks, inducted in October 2005, bring to 76 the number of distinguished professionals CEAT has recognized since establishing its Hall of Fame in 1954.

The CEAT Hall of Fame recognizes distinguished OSU graduates and individuals who have enhanced the reputation of the college through association. Inductees are legends in engineering, architecture and technology education, industry and policy formation. According to Karl Reid, dean of the college, they share a common set of qualities, including modesty, integrity, dignity, leadership, aspiration, perseverance, sound judgment and vision.

### JAMES CUMMINS

H.E. Cummins and Sons Construction Co., originally a commercial, industrial and public building firm in Enid, became a reputable heavy contractor during the post-war era. Their monumental projects include Tulsa's Keystone expressway, the Robert S. Kerr Lock and Dam on the Arkansas River, the overhead I-40 expressway and the Arrowhead Dam southeast of Wichita Falls, Texas, the largest, earth-filled dam in the Southwest when built in 1965-66.

With James Cummins, the oldest of the brothers, as its president, H.E. Cummins and Sons developed subsidiary concrete and asphalt plant operations throughout Oklahoma and a steel fabrication facility on the Arkansas River near Muskogee to support its projects.

The Muskogee terminal became the site for a family investment in the storage and marketing of residual oil, an involvement that led to Cummins' ongoing interests in the manufacture and marketing of residual oil-based products.

Cummins has been owner, president and founding or controlling shareholder in 15 different companies. At 83, he currently heads Northern Equipment Co., Keystone Equipment Co., Cummins Investment Corporation and CIC Frontier Corporation.

Cummins completed a bachelor's degree in arts and sciences at OSU in 1943 before joining the U.S. Marine Corps. He returned to Stillwater and completed his bachelor's degree in architectural engineering in 1947.

### GORDON E. EUBANKS JR.

Eubanks authored C-Basic, one of the first successful languages for personal computers, after completing his master's degree in computer science at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. His graduate adviser was Gary Kildall, a founding father of desktop computing and author of the first mainstream desktop operating system.

Eubanks founded his first company, Compiler Systems, in 1976 to market C-Basic while still an officer in the U.S. Navy. His mother ran the company out of her home in Sierra Madre, Calif.

Later, as president and CEO of Symantec Corporation, Eubanks oversaw the development of the popular productivity packages Timeline and Q & A Write. He also initiated an aggressive policy of mergers and acquisitions as a strategic engine for growth, making Symantec the first software company to do so.

The company acquired Norton in 1990 to gain a foothold in security and utility software and is now recognized as a leader in the business. During Eubanks' tenure from 1984 to 1999, the company grew from fewer than 20 employees to more than 5,000 with net revenues in excess of \$500 million. Today, it employs 14,000 people in 40 countries.

He joined Oblix Inc. as president and CEO in 1999. *Upside* named the electronic identity management and secure web access software provider among the "Hot 100 Companies of 2000" and *PC Week* included it among the "21st Century Infrastructure Companies for 2000." Oracle acquired Oblix in 2005.

Eubanks completed a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at OSU in 1968, completed one year of graduate school at OSU and spent six months working for IBM's branch office in Tulsa before his draft induction into the Navy. ▲

ADAM HUFFER

