

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### G. P. "BUD" PETERSON

G. P. "Bud" Peterson is currently the Provost at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy New York. He received his B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1975, a B.S. degree in Mathematics in 1977 and an M.S. degree in Engineering in 1980, all from Kansas State University and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Texas A&M University in 1985. In 1981 and 1982, Professor Peterson was a visiting Research Scientist at the NASA Johnson Space Center and in 1985, moved to a faculty position in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Texas A&M, where he conducted research and taught courses in thermodynamics and heat transfer. In 1990 he was named the Halliburton Professor of Mechanical Engineering and in 1991 was named the College of Engineering's Tenneco Professor. In 1993, Professor Peterson was invited to serve as the Program Director for the Thermal Transport and Thermal Processing Division of the National Science Foundation (NSF) where he received the *NSF Award for Outstanding Management*. From June of 1993 through July of 1996, he served as Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M University and in 1996 was appointed to the position of Executive Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, where he also served as the Associate Vice Chancellor for the Texas A&M University System. Prior to joining Texas A&M University, Professor Peterson was Head of the General Engineering Technology Department at Kansas Technical Institute (now Kansas State University - Salina).

Throughout his career, Professor Peterson has played an active role in helping to establish the national education and research agendas, serving on numerous industry, government and academic task forces and/or committees. In this capacity, he has served as a member of a number of congressional task forces, research councils and advisory boards, most recently serving as a member of the Board of Directors and Vice President for Education for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). In addition, he has served in a variety of different roles for federal agencies, such as the Office of Naval Research (ONR), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Department of Energy (DOE) and for national task forces and committees appointed by the National Research Council (NRC) and the National Academy of Engineering (NAE). He is currently serving on a number of national groups whose focus is on post secondary education, such as the American Association of Colleges & Universities, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges where he is currently serving as Accreditation Team Chair.

In his role as Provost at Rensselaer, he has been instrumental in the institutional transformation currently underway, and has played a key role in the dramatic improvement in the quality, size and diversity of the faculty – overseeing the hiring of nearly 40% of the current faculty, increasing the total number of tenured and tenure-track faculty by 20%, and improving the diversity of the tenured/tenure-track faculty by more than doubling the number of under-represented minorities and increasing the number of women by 40%. In addition during his tenure as Provost, the quality, size and diversity of the student body have all increased, with the number of full-time Ph.D. students increasing by 25%. This same time period has seen significant increases in the breadth of the programmatic offerings, thorough the introduction of new Ph.D., M.S. and undergraduate degree programs.

A Fellow of both the ASME and AIAA, Professor Peterson is the author or co-author of 12 books or book chapters, 150 refereed journal articles, more than 150 conference publications and holds eight patents. He has been an Editor or Associate Editor for eight different journals and is currently serving on the Editorial Advisory Board for two others. He is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Texas, and a member of Pi Tau Sigma, Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Xi, and Phi Kappa Phi. Professional society awards include the Ralph James and the O. L. "Andy" Lewis awards from ASME; the Dow Outstanding Young Faculty Award from ASEE; the Pi Tau Sigma Gustus L. Larson Memorial Award from ASME; the AIAA Thermophysics Award; the ASME Memorial Award; the AIAA Sustained Service Award; and the Frank J. Malina Award from the International Astronautical Society. While at Texas A&M, Professor Peterson was selected to receive the Pi Tau Sigma J. George H. Thompson award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and the Texas A&M University Association of Former Students Outstanding Teaching Award at both the college and university levels.