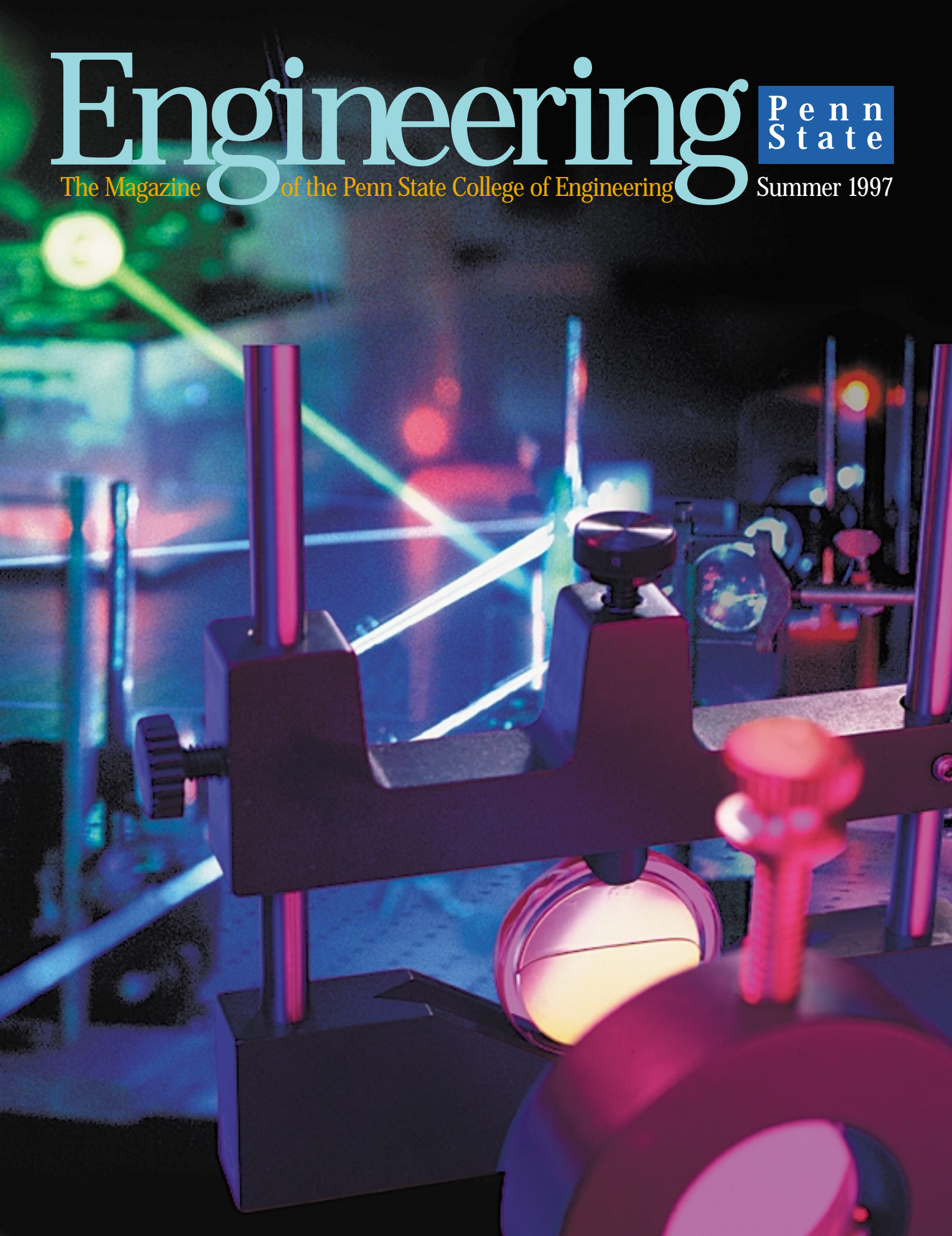


Engineering

Penn
State

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Engineering and physics faculty will create modules integrating engineering mechanics into one physics course, and electrical engineering and electronics into the second physics course. Subsequent years will see the pilot courses and web techniques expanded to include additional engineering and science courses and faculty, and evaluations and refinements will be ongoing.

Principal Investigators for the project are **Dhushy Sathianathan**, assistant professor of engineering design & graphics, and **Robert Pangborn**, professor of engineering mechanics and associate dean for undergraduate studies; and **Howard Grotch**, professor of physics and interim dean of the Eberly College of Science.

The College of Engineering will also contribute approximately \$454,000 to the project over the three year period. ■

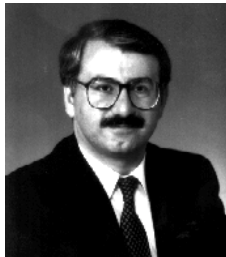
Dr. Sathianathan can be reached at (814) 865-2952; Dr. Pangborn can be reached at (814) 863-3750; and Dr. Grotch can be reached at (814) 863-1089.

First Weiss Chair appointment announced

Moshen Kavehrad has been appointed the first holder of the W. L. Weiss Chair in Information and Communications Technology in the Department of Electrical Engineering.

Kavehrad joined the Penn State faculty in January 1997, as professor of electrical engineering and director of the Center for Information and Communications Technology Research. He is a former professor of electrical engineering at the University of Ottawa.

Kavehrad's research interests are



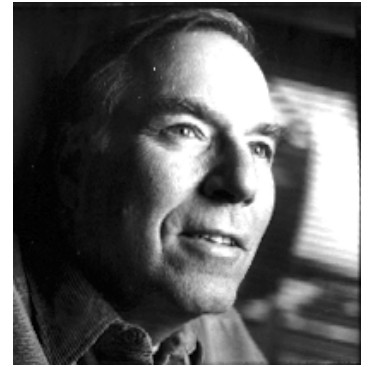
wireless communications, optical fiber communications, and networking; and he holds several patents in these areas. He is on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Wireless Information Networks*, and has published extensively in the field. In 1992, he was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) for his contributions to digital wireless communications, optical systems, and networking. For his work in communications technology, he has been cited in several international "Who's Who" publications.

Kavehrad received his Ph.D. in 1977 in electrical engineering from Polytechnic University, NY. He previously worked for Fairchild Industries (Space Communications Group), and GTE Satellite Corporation and GTE Laboratories in Massachusetts. Before teaching at the University of Ottawa, Kavehrad worked with Bell Telephone Laboratories of New Jersey in research, development, and systems engineering. He has also been a visiting research professor at NTT Laboratories in Japan, and served as visiting researcher at Ottawa's Bell Northern research center in 1996.

This chair was endowed by the Ameritech Foundation to honor **William L. Weiss** (EE '51), chairman emeritus of Ameritech. Weiss was named chairman and CEO of Ameritech in 1984, following a career with Bell companies in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Illinois.

Weiss was named an Outstanding Engineering Alumnus in 1985, and a Distinguished Alumnus in 1986. He has served as a Penn State Trustee, vice chairman of the National Development Council, and as a member of the executive committee for The Campaign for Penn State. ■

Dr. Kavehrad may be reached at (814) 865-7179, or at kavehrad@engr.psu.edu.



Commencement address by Philadelphia engineer

Bennett Levin, P. E., engineering consultant, and retired businessman, spoke at the engineering commencement in May. His address, *Possibilities*, focused on traits of successful engineers, particularly "the art of the possible ... that ability to evaluate the possibilities and undertake a plan to bring concepts to reality."

Levin is a two-time graduate of Penn State, having earned degrees from both the College of the Liberal Arts ('61) and the College of Engineering (IE '65). By the age of twenty-seven, he was a Professional Engineer registered to practice in twenty-four states and he had established his own firm, Consulting Mechanical and Electrical Engineers in Philadelphia, which soon became a national practice.

His firm pioneered the application of advanced technology and methods for designing mechanical and electrical systems for building structures. Mr. Levin holds two patents relating to the application of heat pump technology. Projects designed by his firm have often been the subject of national attention, and noted for their economy in design as well as their practicality in operation. Hotels, office buildings, high-rise apartments and shopping malls are among the structures containing systems he designed.

Levin also served for many years as a public administrator in Philadelphia and was named by *Governing* maga-