

OFHS



WALL OF FAME
Inducted October 4, 2008



KRAIG JOSEPH OLEJNICZAK

Born on February 6, 1965, in Green Bay, Kraig Joseph Olejniczak, left quite a mark at OFHS. He was involved in four years of football and baseball, three years of basketball and wrestled one year. He was also active with FBLA and National Honor Society. He excelled in math and science, which inspired him to further his education and career choice in that direction.

He earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Valparaiso University in 1987, and master's and doctor of philosophy degrees from Purdue University in 1988 and 1991, respectively. In 1991, he joined the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Arkansas as an assistant professor. In 1995 Dr. Olejniczak was named associate professor, and in 2000, professor of electrical engineering. He led the university's High Density Electronics Center's effort in the power electronic miniaturization and packaging thrust area. He assumed leadership of Valparaiso University's College of Engineering in August 2002 after serving on the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville, AR) faculty for the previous 11 years. He has been recognized for a number of accomplishments over the years.

Dr. Olejniczak has been awarded the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Industry Applications Society's Power Electronics Devices and Components Committee Prize Paper Award in 1998 for his work on the use of diamond in multichip power module based induction motor drives, and the IEEE Power Engineering Society's Power Engineering Education Committee's Prize Paper Award in 2001 for his work in collaborative distance learning in power engineering. In addition, Dr. Olejniczak has been the recipient of: the National Science Foundation's Research Initiation Award (1994), the Department of Electrical Engineering's Halliburton Outstanding Researcher Award (1994), the Arkansas Academy of Electrical Engineering Outstanding Faculty Award (1995 and 1999), the College of Engineering's Phillips Petroleum Outstanding Faculty Award (1996), and the Department of Electrical Engineering's Texas Instruments Outstanding Researcher Award (1997). In 1998, he received the IEEE Power Engineering Society's Walter Fee Award for the outstanding young power engineer in the society under the age of 35. Dr. Olejniczak is a member of Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu and Theta Chi.

Over the years he has made significant contributions to the professional literature in his field. Dr. Olejniczak is founder and Chairman of the Board for Arkansas Power Electronics International, Inc. (www.apei.net). He is a licensed professional engineer in the state of Arkansas.