Four Russ College alumni were inducted into the Russ College’s Academy of Distinguished Graduates in April. Membership in the academy, which honors and celebrates the achievements and contributions of alumni to the field of engineering and technology, is the highest honor the College can bestow on its graduates.

Emmett Boyle, M.S.I.S.E. ’70, St. Clairsville, OH
Emmett Boyle began his career on the Gemini spacecraft project at McDonnell Aircraft Corp. He then joined Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Company before becoming president of Ormet Corporation in 1983. Boyle bought the company in 1986 and, over the next 18 years as chair and CEO, more than doubled the size of the company. Today, Boyle leads The Elmwood Group, a management advisory firm he formed. He has served as chair of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and also chaired the U.S. Chamber’s Labor Relations Committee.

Joseph K. Jachinowski, B.S.E.E. ’79, San Francisco, CA
Early in his career, Joe Jachinowski co-founded—with former Ohio University professor Dr. Edmund O. Schweitzer III—the company SEL, which is now a leading provider of protective relays. Later, he created Varian Medical Systems’ most successful medical linear accelerator while at that company. In 1990, he became chair, CEO, and president of IMPAC Medical Systems, which he co-founded. It is now the world’s leading supplier of clinical and administrative information management systems for the field of cancer care. Jachinowski became executive vice president for product development after IMPAC was sold to Elekta AB, a Swedish medical device manufacturer.

E. Louis Overstreet, B.S.C.E. ’67, Las Vegas, NV
Louie Overstreet has been a licensed professional engineer in seven states and the District of Columbia. Currently CEO of Las Vegas’ Urban Chamber of Commerce, his career has taken him from the Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline to a multimillion-dollar energy company in Chicago. He has served on more than 50 boards and authored three books and more than 500 editorial columns for three different newspapers.

Connie J. Tobias, A.A.S. ’77, B.G.S. ’78, Huntersville, NC
Connie Tobias, the first woman to be inducted into the Russ College Academy of Distinguished Graduates, completed studies toward a master’s degree in industrial and systems engineering at the Russ College in 1982. She has flown more than 60 different aircraft in her career, from a 1902 Wright Glider to heavy jets. Her varied positions have included flight instructor; aviation examiner; pilot for charter, corporate, freight, fire patrol, commuter, regional, and major airlines; and adjunct professor of aviation at Salem College. The first woman to successfully fly a 1903 Wright Flyer replica, she also ferried troops to and from the Middle East during the Iraq war. Tobias is currently a captain at U.S. Airways with more than 20,000 hours and more than 900 trans-Atlantic crossings.