

The ME Connection

UE Mechanical Engineering Newsletter

October 2024

"Engineering is the art of directing the great sources of power in nature for the use and convenience of man." - Thomas Tredgold



Perpetual Motion

We are almost halfway through the semester, and students are balancing homework, design projects, applying for jobs and scholarships, participating in student organizations, sports, hobbies, and more. Most are looking forward to Fall Break as we push toward the final half of the semester. Do you have any tips or techniques for time management or maintaining a healthy work/life balance? Email us, and we'll add your suggestions to the **Pocket Aces** collection of alumni advice for current students!

2024 UE Engineering, Business, and Technology Career



UE's Center for Career Development hosts an on-campus career fair each Fall that targets to majors in the College of Business & Engineering. With more than 50 employers in attendance, students began their search for internships, co-ops, and full-time positions. There were several familiar faces as alumni returned

to campus to represent their companies. If your employer would like to recruit UE students, please contact Mrs. Dianna Cundiff and her team at careers@evansville.edu for more information. There are several ways to connect with students and alumni, including sharing job openings that can be internally posted on HandShake, and volunteering as a mentor. We can also highlight employers in this newsletter if you would like increase visibility of career paths for ME majors at your place of work. Learning about different alumni experiences helps our students explore career options.

Congratulations Corner

Congratulations to Chris Combs, PhD (*Class of 2010*) on being named a Class of 2025 Associate Fellow by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)! This is a high honor that recognizes individuals for important engineering and scientific accomplishments, including outstanding contributions to the field of aeronautics and/or astronautics.



Congratulations to Wade Dixon (*Class of 2024, Dec*) on his preseason performance in the National Esports Collegiate Conference (NECC)! Wade's defense helped lead the University of Evansville to multiple wins against North Illinois, University of Illinois, and University of Houston's Rocket League teams.

Congratulations to the ME students on the Men's Swimming and Diving team for their recent success in the pool. Dani Santos Lopez (*Class of 2025*), Jakob Grundbacher (*Class of 2025*), Mohammed Rashed (*Class of 2026*), and Brendan Ulewicz (*Class of 2027*) placed in the top 4 in multiple individual and relay events, including several 1st place finishes!



We'd love to share what our alumni are doing!
Please submit a photo and short blurb to:

mechanicalengineering@evansville.edu



Upcoming Alumni Association Events

Are you keeping your contact information updated with the UE Alumni Association? There are several upcoming events you may be missing. Evansville's local Gregory Gregory Day Celebration is tonight! There's an Evansville Alumni gathering next week at The Slice.



The College of Business & Engineering Speaker Series will continue later this month, followed by Homecoming, Winter on Walnut, and more! You can find more info and register in advance on the Alumni Association website (www.uealumnonline.com).

Alumni Spotlight: Jackson Smith (Class of 2022)



While at UE, Jackson Smith was a mechanical engineering student who was very active in Residence Life and could frequently be found conducting research for the Thermosiphon team. He was a three-year track student who started interning for BWX Technologies in the summer of 2021 and was asked to continue his internship through his senior year. After graduating, he was hired on as a mechanical engineer at BWXT where spent an additional 2.5 years designing, procuring, and implementing equipment to assist in the manufacture of nuclear reactor components for U.S. Naval submarines and aircraft carriers.

As of September 2024, Jackson has started a new role at BWXT as a Developmental Front Line Manager. In this role, Jackson is supervising a team of welders and production technicians to ensure the safe, timely, and efficient fabrication of naval nuclear reactor components. He also will attend high schools as a Nuclear Ambassador for the American Nuclear Society (ANS). Speaking with students about his job, nuclear science, and how to get involved in the world of nuclear power, medicine, and defense.

In his free time, Jackson can be found working towards his master's in mechanical engineering, playing sand volleyball, hunting the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, playing board games, and 3D printing. Fun fact: while at UE, Jackson 3D printed a MK 89 Ironman suit in his dorm room.



I had a scary joke about math, but I was 2² to put it in the newsletter!