

The ME Connection

UE Mechanical Engineering Newsletter

December 2024

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure." - Colin Powell



That's a Wrap!

Good luck to students as Final Exams begin today, marking the end of the semester. The campus community celebrated with UE's Winter on Walnut earlier this week. As we look forward to the new year and new semester, we want to wish you & your family a happy holiday season!

The ME Connection returns in February.

Congratulations Corner

Congratulations to Class of 2026 members Kole Buechler, Quinn Fossier, and Sebastian Diener on their recent induction into Pi Tau Sigma, the International Honor Society for Mechanical Engineers! To be eligible for membership, students must be in the top 25% of their class. Also pictured are the outgoing officers and the faculty advisor.



ME 101 Project Teams

Four project teams completed the ME 101 design project where students designed, optimized, built, and tested a unique design for a tennis ball launcher. The student teams practiced applying the engineering design process, project management tools, & teaming skills, while communicating their work in technical reports.

Great work this semester!



We want to celebrate our alumni!
Please submit a photo and short blurb to:

mechanicalengineering@evansville.edu



Alumni Spotlight: Ibhadre Eigbobo, P.E. Class of 2012



Originally from Nigeria, Ibhadre Eigbobo was inspired to study aerospace after his first trip to the US when he toured NASA's Johnson Space Center with his father at 11 years old. He later chose to study mechanical engineering at UE for a broader education that would provide the foundation for a career in aerospace, as well as other opportunities. As a student, Ibhadre found his calling in the thermal sciences. He credits Dr. Stamps as an incredible professor and mentor that helped him on his journey of discovery.

Having taken as many thermal science courses as possible with Dr. Stamps and Dr. Gerhart at UE, Ibhadre was hungry to learn more - so he pursued a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. His research included building laser systems to measure the spark arc in spark ignition and evaluate the impact on engine efficiency. He was part of the Engines Design Group team that performed testing on the Ford Eco Boost systems. He was also a teaching assistant for multiple thermal science courses.

After graduating and working in the gas industry, designing refineries and managing the high-pressure systems to mitigate potential safety issues, Ibhadre recognized that he would need his PE license to get promoted to a Principal Engineer role. In addition to earning his PE license, Ibhadre also completed Harvard's MBA program to further enhance his abilities to make an impact in the world. As his focus has shifted to energy and efficiency, Ibhadre has applied his engineering mindset to multiple internships, including roles within the energy sector and block chain development. He is grateful to have been part of the Electric Vehicle Charging and Infrastructure team with NextEra Energy Resources.

Currently the Director of Corporate Project Management and Analysis at Budderfly, Ibhadre is working on patents and testing a variety of energy technologies to increase efficiency, reduce costs, enhance sustainability, and accelerate innovation. He looks forward to making a bigger impact in the adoption of affordable, sustainable energy production and consumption technologies. He is constantly looking for ways to inch closer to the Carnot limit. Every temperature difference is a new opportunity for him to capture usable energy! **Ibhadre shared the following advice for current students:**

- Not everything you're learning may seem applicable to you now, but it's a foundation for things that will come in the future. Don't study for the exam; study to understand.
- Give yourself grace. Treat every job as a learning experience, and reserve time to focus on growth.
- Find time for yourself and your family. "We overestimate our importance in the world, and we underestimate our importance in our families."



Q: Why did the snowman study nuclear engineering?

A: To learn how to prevent a melt down!