

# The ME Connection

## UE Mechanical Engineering Newsletter

August 2022

*"My experiences at UE underscored the benefits of patience, courage, perseverance and a focus on community in navigating through life."*  
- Obinna Uyanna, PhD

### Recognition & Partnerships

UE was recently recognized as a 2022 College of Distinction, which provides national recognition for institutions and programs that embody the "Four Distinctions" – engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities, and successful outcomes. UE was also named among the 2022-2023 **Top Engineering Colleges of Distinction**.

UE has updated a partnership with Vincennes University, which guarantees transfer students admission to the UE engineering programs, along with an academic scholarship award. We look forward to adding more VU students to our list of UE ME alumni!



#### It is not too late to become a Pocket Ace!

Are you interested in sharing some of your knowledge, experiences, advice, or favorite resources? Pocket Aces is a chance to pair informal guidance for both personal and professional success provided by alumni with the educational experiences provided by the ME program.

Think of it as **bite-sized mentorship**.

Together, we can ensure our graduates have the best starting hand!

Send us an email or use the survey link: <https://forms.gle/GhK5QoH6uqHs9BzZ9>

### ME Faculty Invited Panelist for ACEC of Indiana

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Indiana hosted a Panel with Collegiate Engineering Diversity Affinity Groups earlier this month. Dr. Lofton was an invited panelist to share tips with employers for recruiting and retaining diverse engineering talent.



### Congratulations Corner

#### Class of 2016

Congratulations to Richard Canning on his new role as Mechanical Design Engineer at Vacuum Technology, Inc.

"I worked in the automotive industry as a Production Engineer for the last 6 years and had some incredible opportunities while there. My passion has always been in designing machinery though, and I was fortunate enough to find a position doing exactly that. My short time at VTI so far has been amazing, and I am excited to see what comes next!"



#### Class of 2019

Congratulations to Craig Beeson on his new role as a Mechanical Project Engineer for RTM Engineering Consultants! Craig is excited to leverage his prior experience in designing system layouts and creating AutoCAD drawings to contribute to RTM team in downtown Evansville!



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

[mechanicalengineering@evansville.edu](mailto:mechanicalengineering@evansville.edu)



### Alumni Spotlight: Obinna Uyanna, PhD

Originally from Nigeria, Obinna Uyanna graduated from UE in 2014 with a BSc in Mechanical Engineering and a minor in Mathematics. Obinna credits the small campus and diverse student body as key contributors in overcoming struggles to adjust to life in the US to finish his degree on a high note. After graduating from UE, Obinna earned his MSc (2016) and PhD (2021) from the Florida Institute of Technology, specializing in Thermal and Fluid Sciences. He has recently accepted a position at Dell Technologies.



*"I am thankful for my time at UE as it prepared me for the real world by exposing me to situations that highlighted the significance of hope, hard work and familial support in achieving desired outcomes."*

Dr. Obinna Uyanna, Class of 2014

At UE, I formed solid bonds with my peers and developed a sense of community participating in extracurricular activities. The outstanding faculty in the Engineering and Humanities departments were instrumental to my growth and development. The liberal arts foundation provided me with critical thinking and effective communication skills that balanced the rigorous engineering curriculum, which fostered a sound technical background and encouraged both independent thinking and collaborative efforts on team projects.

As a Research and Teaching Assistant at FIT, I primarily conducted research on Inverse Heat Conduction Problems and Energy Efficiency in Buildings while teaching Heat Transfer Lab. Upon graduation, I moved to California for work as a Mechanical Engineer with Frontier Energy Inc., an Energy Consulting Firm. There, I performed technical and feasibility studies of statewide programs and projects that resulted in reduced energy consumption and increased cost savings for residential and commercial buildings.

I recently started at Dell Technologies as a Senior Hardware Engineer focused on Thermal Design and Management of servers and storage devices. In this role, through analyses of heat transfer mechanisms, my task involves the minimization of energy consumption while ensuring optimum performance of products that meet and exceed desired results for the customer. In this historic period for the planet, I believe it is essential that we all partake in the preservation of the environment even as we advance technologically and perform our various economic activities.

Q: Did you hear about the person who invented the escalator?

A: They were mechanically inclined!