# The ME Connection

**UE Mechanical Engineering Newsletter** 

March 2023

"You've got to learn a pace that's fast enough to win, but slow enough to finish."

- Rick Mears

### **Spring Break**

To say the Spring semester is a whirlwind is especially true this year, as campus weathered tornado warnings the Friday before Spring Break officially began. Luckily, everyone was safe. The weeks leading up to Spring Break were action-packed, too! In addition to the National Engineer's Week activities including alumnus Paul Jones as a guest speaker (pictured), a special Purple Visit Day for prospective students, and an online scavenger hunt, the School of Engineering and Computer Science welcomed students to campus for multiple events. SECS hosted the Southwestern Indiana MATHCOUNTS Competition, a national program for



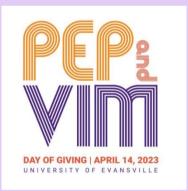
students in grade 6-8. UE's Road Trip weekend brought admitted students to campus for a full weekend to experience campus life on campus, including mock classes. As Spring Break comes to an end, we look forward to returning to campus refreshed and ready to hit the ground running as projects and classes wrap up.

#### Reunion Weekend, Pep & Vim

Mark your calendars for UE's Reunion Weekend and Pep & Vim events next month. A full schedule of events and link to register are available online.

Events include a UE Theatre production, Alumni Awards, Bike Race, various tours, and more! Will you be attending?





#### **Fluid Mechanics in Action**

You have heard about our mechanical engineering students breaking records in the pool before – they are at it again! Riccardo Di Domenico (Class of 2023), Daniel Santos Lopez (Class of 2025), and Jakob Grundbacher (Class of 2025) are part of UE's Men's Swimming and Diving team that



celebrating a new school record

competed in the MAC Championships held in Ohio last weekend, where no less than 10 school records were tied or broken. These three student-athletes have also qualified and will compete in the post-season CSCAA National Invitational Championships in Elkhart, Indiana this weekend. Good luck, guys!



At the conclusion of the MAC Championships, Riccardo was named MAC Co-Outstanding Senior as voted on by the league's head coaches. The honor recognizes excellence in competition, the classroom, and the community. He also received All-MAC team honors. Congratulations, Riccardo!

#### **Call for Submissions**

Have you started your own business, invented a new product or service, or taken on a major leadership role in your career? Tell us about it! We want to highlight examples of our alumni leading and innovating in upcoming editions of The ME Connection.



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

mechanicalengineering@evansville.edu



## **Alumni Spotlight: Molly McLaughlin**

After graduating from the University of Evansville, Molly began her career at Boeing, the world's largest aerospace company. She has held various leadership roles and is now the Senior Director of Product Development for Future Production System Engineering. As part of her path for professional growth, Molly joined the



Aviation

Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a *Leaders for Global Operations Fellow*. During that time, she earned dual graduate degrees from the MIT Sloan School of Management (MBA) and the MIT School of Mechanical Engineering (MS) with a focus in Operations.



Molly McLaughlin, Class of 2008

Molly recently participated in the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Women in Aviation International Conference (WAI), held in Long Beach, California. As part of the conference, she co-led a LEAN 101 workshop sharing lean principles and guidance for implementation in the aviation and aerospace industries. We are excited to see what Molly does next!

#### **Congratulations Corner**

Class of 2016 Congratulations to Austin Knapp on his recent promotion to Vice President of Engineering at Salas O'Brien, a facility planning and engineering firm with locations across North America. Austin had previously demonstrated his leadership and technical skills as a Project



Manager and Mechanical Engineer for the firm, which acquired PCI Skanksa in 2021. Best wishes in the new role!



Congratulations to the Southwestern Indiana Chapter MATHCOUNTS Competition winners, and good luck at the state competition! We hope to see you on campus again as engineering students.