# The ME Connection

## **UE Mechanical Engineering Newsletter**

August 2023

"Networking is not about just connecting people. It's about connecting people with people, people with ideas, and people with opportunities." - Michele Jennae

## **Are You Hiring?**



Last summer we invited you to become a "Pocket Ace" by sharing your experiences with current ME students. Another way to support aspiring mechanical engineers at UE is to share related openings for internships, co-ops, and entry-level positions. In addition to your connections with UE's Career Center (career@evansville.edu), we can share opportunities on our internal ME student webpage.

#### **ME Faculty Receives National ASEE Recognition**

Dr. Lofton received the Best Overall Paper Award at the 2023 American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Annual Conference in Baltimore, where she presented her work at a plenary session. ASEE is divided into four geographic Zones; the Best Overall Paper is selected from the four Best Zone Paper winners and presented at the next annual conference. Dr. Lofton received the award for her 2022 paper, "Flipping the Heat Transfer Classroom," which was selected as Best Zone II



Paper after winning best paper at the ASEE IL-IN Section Conference.



UE was recently named as one of the "Best Colleges for 2023" by Money magazine. Schools were ranked in quality of education, affordability, and outcomes, including graduate earnings.



### Student Internship Spotlight: Jakob Barlow (Class of 2024)

"My experience with BMWC Constructors in Arizona as a Project Engineering Intern this summer has been truly exceptional. I was able to spend time on one of the largest projects in the country involving the construction of two new fab buildings for our customer who specializes in semiconductor manufacturing, with the site having around 5,000 individuals working on any given day. Our scope involved the implementation of wastewater treatment piping systems, and I was heavily involved in the aspects of material procurement, communication with both our general contractor and client, and many other things.

Having previous experience in industrial construction with another internship, I had a good idea of what my day-to-day work would entail and made it a point to learn every other

aspect of the project. This ranged from tagging along with QA for weld inspections, walks with our safety personnel, and spending time on weekends helping our shop manager receive material into our system. This time spent outside of my own work allowed me to understand what my team goes through on a daily basis as well as streamlined communication and handing over tasks, as I knew exactly what they needed from me when a problem arose.

Overall, I had a great summer experience and am happy to say I will be returning to work fulltime as a Project Engineer with BMWC postgraduation alongside the team here in Phoenix."





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## Alumni Spotlight: Carson Fuehne (Class of 2014)



As a student, Carson studied abroad at Harlaxton and participated in student organizations like ASME and SAE. After graduating from UE, Carson has continued his career in the automotive industry at Honda. He recently took on a new role as Technical Lead for the NA Shoken team within Honda's North American Quality Group in the Product Verification & Compliance department.

#### **ME Alumni Survey**

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, a survey link was shared with alumni up to the Class of 2022. The survey will remain open until October 1<sup>st</sup> for responses. We thank you for providing feedback to help us assess graduate outcomes from the ME Program.

#### Congratulations Corner

"For the first 5 years of my tenure, I was on the Mode Development team and my job was to gather useful customer and car data, planning out durability tests for prototypes, conduct statistical analysis and constantly

monitor and adjust these tests as we see fit through strict FMEA. I also worked as a test driver trainer to implement our test modes properly, present information to help them in failure identification and tech usage. I also helped out the Mode Application group by driving testing patterns, working with drivers aid software, and making these patterns safe for the test drivers.

I work at one of Honda's facilities at the Transportation Research Center of Ohio automotive proving ground. I currently work in the Failure Analysis group where I review concerns that occur on test vehicles, perform technical and mechanical analysis, summarize and report the concerns, and work with supplier/design/ manufacturing side(s) to resolve these issues and promote countermeasure activity. I am also in charge of our Predictive Analysis project where past problems and new technology items are put to the test using maintenance data and ECU data monitoring via DAQ systems."

**Class of 2009** Congratulations to Josh Dickman Engineer at SRG Global! Josh's experience as a Project Manager and Engineer will be a perfect fit.





#### **Class of 2018**

Congratulations to Matt Harpenau on his new role as Gas Distribution Engineer for CenterPoint Energy! Matt is

#### Q: Did you hear the joke about two helium atoms?

A: He he!