

The ME Connection

UE Mechanical Engineering Newsletter

May 2026

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." - Henry Ford

Teamwork Makes the Deam Work

As the academic year comes to an end, we look back at all the student accomplishments and reflect on the growth that has occurred over the past two semesters. We know the path is not always easy, and may not always be fun, but each challenge brings a new reward. By supporting each other and working together, we can accomplish great things and have fun along the way.



ASME brought members of SECS together for some fun with food and trivia to celebrate the end of the semester. Thank you, ASME!

In the May and June newsletters, we'll be sharing highlights from this year's project teams & celebrating our graduating senior class.

Each spring, the senior class is invited to accept the *Obligation of an Engineer* and formally join the Order of the Engineer. In the US, the Order of the Engineer fosters a spirit of pride and responsibility in the engineering profession and presents a visible symbol identifying the engineer to the public. That symbol is a stainless-steel ring worn on the fifth finger of the working hand. The Class of 2026 pledged to accept the Obligation and were welcomed to the Order in a ceremony last month.



Alumnus Meets with ME Students



Special thanks to Brent Maynard (*Class of 1995*) for meeting with students last month and sharing some of his projects, experiences, and advice. His passion for engineering was evident, and he encouraged students to find a career path that would be both enjoyable and fulfilling.

"I have used mechanical engineering to design automated machines for 30+ years. I love going to work every day. I spend most of my time developing automation designs in SolidWorks. Every project is unique and comes with many problem-solving opportunities."



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

mechanicalengineering@evansville.edu



We asked our senior-led integrated design teams what their biggest accomplishments were this year:

The NASA Rover Team's accomplishments include a sense of pride knowing the frame was welded by the team, the suspension and rims were machined in-house, and the non-pneumatic tires were designed and fabricated from scratch. The biggest moment for us was the impulse drive—something the team designed from the ground up and then turned into a working system through CNC machining, custom linkages, and careful assembly. Overcoming fabrication challenges like alignment issues, fitment problems, and getting every subsystem to work together required multiple iterations and hands-on problem solving. Seeing our designs go from a concept to something that actually functions was incredibly rewarding.



Spotlight: Senior Design Teams

The Aces Racing Team's biggest accomplishments this season were expanding its aerodynamics program by integrating computational fluid dynamics (CFD) into the design process, developing a non-linear least squares optimization script in MATLAB for the steering, and building a CNC plasma table. These advancements allowed the team to make data-driven design decisions and manufacture parts in-house, significantly improving both performance potential and overall engineering capability.



Q: What was the most remarkable invention of the past century?

A: a dry erase board!