Greetings IME Alumni and Friends,

We are finishing off another academic year at NDSU IME. There have been many new developments over the past several months, I am eager to share the following updates with you, our alumni and friends.

This year NDSU Alpha Pi Mu chapter reinitiated the Teacher of the Year Award. This award is given to an IME faculty member. All junior and senior IME students were asked to cast their ballot for the teacher who has been the most effective throughout their IME experience. Dr. David Wells was voted Teacher of the Year for the 2014-15 academic year by the students. Congratulations, Dr. Wells!

This spring, following Department and College recommendations, the Provost and the President approved the promotions of Dr. Shi and Dr. Yadav to full professor. The Department is proud of their hard work and accomplishments.

Another piece of exciting news is that our faculty search has been successful. I am pleased to announce the addition of Dr. Chrysafis Vogiatzis to the IME Department’s faculty. Dr. Vogiatzis received his Ph.D. in industrial and systems engineering from University of Florida, Gainesville. Dr. Vogiatzis will teach our production & inventory control and operations research courses.

The IME Department had 44 graduates during the 2014-15 academic year. We continue to attract great students who become great professionals. Our alumni and students continue to be the best recruiters for our programs. In this newsletter we feature students, alumni, and our capstone course students & projects.

Thanks to NDSU Facilities Management, our Automation Lab has been completely renovated. The new equipment and furniture for the lab will be arriving shortly and the space should be fully functioning before the start of the Fall Semester. Further, Facilities Management will be updating the furniture in our computer and capstone labs. Through donations from our alumni, we have been able to fully update the computers in both labs.

Another exciting renovation project that NDSU Facilities has recently begun is the remodeling of the IME front office space, this is the first major ‘facelift’ within the IME Department since we moved into the CIE 202 space many decades ago. NDSU students from the Interior Design Program tackled the challenge of developing a better work layout within the IME front office while adding two new offices within our space. Their proposals were used by NDSU Facilities to develop the blueprints for this renovation project. Please stop by the Department this fall to see our new look!

Another change that will be coming within the IME Department is that we have initiated a search for a permanent chair position. As I transition into my new position as Vice Provost in the Office of the Provost, the Department will start looking for my replacement. Although the IME Department will remain my tenure home and my heart will always remain with the IME students, I am looking forward to serving NDSU in this new capacity.

I hope you have a wonderful summer,

Canan Bilen-Green

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“NDSU feels like home” is a statement often heard when talking with the Meester family members of Andover, Minnesota. The legacy started in 1991 when Todd Meester, the family patriarch, transferred to NDSU from MSUM. He chose Industrial Engineering as his major after examining the various areas of engineering. Little did he know that two of his four girls would follow in his footsteps. First, Kiersten (sophomore) and Kalleigh (freshman) have gone on to, not only attend NDSU for their undergraduate degrees but through a series of steps they have both found their home in the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department, as well.

The business side of engineering is what attracted Todd to the IME department, and this same interest has lead him down a different career path than most of his college friends. Rather than starting out in the typical way Todd started his career by representing manufacturing companies and selling control solutions to power plants, manufacturing companies, food processing companies, etc. He has since stayed on the business side and has been in Telecommunications and IT industry for the last 15 years. Currently, he is the RVP & General Manager for ViaWest an IT infrastructure solutions company providing colocation, managed services, cloud computing and security & compliance in North America.

When asked how he feels about Kiersten and now Kalleigh going into the field of engineering Todd says: “I couldn’t be more proud to have both Kiersten and Kalleigh going into engineering, especially Industrial! Both of them have always been very advanced in math and science so I knew that engineering would be a great field for them to explore. As a parent you try and provide suggestions and ideas for your children from a career perspective, however, at the end of the day you really want them to choose which career they feel is best for them. The fact that they have now both chosen Industrial Engineering makes me very happy (and proud) as we need more female Industrial Engineers in the workforce!”

Kiersten’s NDSU journey started in 2012 with a series of university and college tours her senior year of high school. During this time she visited the NDSU campus, and after her first visit she knew she would return to campus to pursue her undergraduate degree. Through meeting with Joel Hanson, College of Engineering Director of Student Services, she felt that the College of Engineering was the academic learning environment for her. Once Kiersten learned about the healthcare opportunities in Industrial Engineering she knew this was to become her field of study. Kiersten says, “the medical side of IE drew her.” She values interaction with people and knew that Industrial Engineering can provide that for her. Kiersten is currently the Public Relations Officer for the NDSU IIE Student Chapter and is looking forward to their Spring trip this semester.

Kalleigh Meester was determined not to follow in her sister’s footsteps, but a series of weekend visits during Kiersten’s freshman year convinced Kalleigh that NDSU was the place for her as well. Recently Kalleigh said, “there was no adjustment period, as a freshman, there was just an instant connection with NDSU.” Although she was a Pre-Pharmacy major, she soon heard about Kiersten’s internship opportunities and her interest in engineering peaked rapidly. Within the first several weeks of her second semester Kalleigh changed her major to Industrial Engineering as well. She is looking forward to starting the introductory engineering courses in the fall.

The Meester family legacy is bound to continue here at NDSU, both Kourtney (14) and Kenzie (12) are planning on coming to NDSU once they graduate high school. They love to visit their older sisters on campus and really seem to embrace the college lifestyle while here for a weekend each semester. Kelly Meester is a very proud NDSU mom, you can often find NDSU sports, especially football, being watched at the Meester family home.
IME Featured Students:

NDSU Alpha Pi Mu President Jacob Frieler

Jacob Frieler is a NDSU senior in the IME Department and is scheduled to graduate in May. He is originally from Upsala, MN, a small country town in central Minnesota, and came to NDSU because of its engineering programs. Industrial Engineering was of interest because of the wide variety of paths available to those with an IE degree. Through his classes he has learned about the different areas of IE and has closely identified with the field of manufacturing.

Jacob started an internship with CNH in Fargo his sophomore year. Two years later he is still with CNH and his time there has helped him become more passionate about manufacturing. He has been able to apply the knowledge and skills he learned through his NDSU coursework. He plans to continue working as a manufacturing engineer after graduation.

Jacob has been very involved with the IME Department while on campus. He is currently the Vice President of Management of the NDSU IIE chapter. He has been an integral part of restarting the previously inactive NDSU Alpha Pi Mu chapter. Alpha Pi Mu is a national honor society that is exclusively for Industrial Engineers. Jacob says: “I believe that this could be a great organization which can improve the connection between students and professors by bringing back the IME Department Teacher of the Year Award, helping the department plan the capstone banquet, and meet with professors and discuss about classes. I plan to stay connected with the NDSU IME Department after I graduate and I hope someday I can come back and influence students like IME alumni have influenced me.”

NDSU IIE President Eric Schauer

Eric Schauer is a senior in the Industrial and Management Engineering department at NDSU. He’s originally from Wilton, a small community in central North Dakota. Eric always thought it was kind of ironic that he chose Industrial Engineering as a major because he was initially misled as to what it really is. When he was choosing colleges one person told him that he should be an Industrial Engineer because he liked tractors.

As he soon found out that, while it is certainly possible to work for John Deere or CNH in the area, there is certainly much more to Industrial Engineering than just tractors. For a variety of reasons he chose to stick with the IE program and soon learned that although, chosen by chance, he had definitely selected the right program.

Eric is very much a people person and no one works closer to the people, in terms of engineering, than IE’s.

This May he will complete the IE&M bachelors degree at NDSU and enter the world of engineering.

Eric says: “I’m excited to take the ideas and principles that I’ve learned here and apply them to real life situations. Something that I’ve learned over the last few years is that everyone has a little Industrial Engineering in them. After four years here I can easily spot people using IE methods all over the place, even if they don’t know they are. I will always be grateful for the lessons I’ve learned here, the friends I’ve made, and the education I’ve received in my time at NDSU.”

Eric is very involved with the IME program and the NDSU IIE chapter. He will be missed.
Featured IME Alumni: 1989 Alpha Pi Mu Charter Members

In 1989 the NDSU Alpha Pi Mu chapter began and although there have been times of hiatus the chapter continues on today.

Alpha Pi Mu is a national honor society that celebrates Industrial Engineers. In 1949, James T. French began the very first Alpha Pi Mu chapter at Georgia Tech. Since then most accredited universities that have an Industrial Engineering & Manufacturing Programs have their own local chapter.

The society has firm guidelines for acceptance and being asked to join this society is considered quite an honor. This Spring semester the NDSU chapter was reactivated, and the chapter initiated seven new members.

As the new members are settling into their roles within the local chapter, the department thought it would be interesting to look back at the charter members of our local Alpha Pi Mu chapter.

In 1989 there were 20 Industrial Engineering students inducted into the NDSU Alpha Pi Mu chapter. Recently the IME Department asked those students to share their favorite memory of the NDSU IE program as well as some advice for the 2015 Alpha Pi Mu inductees.

David Paluck, Class of 1990, is currently a Lead Manufacturing Engineer for Killdeer Mountain Manufacturing in Killdeer, ND. David recalls Professor Isgrig’s Capstone course as being one of his favorite memories. He encourages all manufacturing students to “get as much hands-on experience with equipment and tooling as possible.”

Jill (Kurtz) Scofield, Class of 1989, encourages students to “pick first the lifestyle you want. Then find a job that sparks your curiosity.” After working 12 years of working for Hewlett Packard in Northern Colorado Jill started her own business, Workwear Incorporated in 2001.

Matt Vettel, Class of 1990, remembers the Capstone Project as being a “tremendous experience” in which he was able to “work with so many driven and talented students on a complex project.” Matt encourages current IME students to “push yourself to find a career that energizes you; evaluate the career decision frequently.” Matt is currently a Private Equity Investor based in Boston, Massachusetts.

Paul Gruen, formerly Gruenhagen, Class of 1990, is an independent healthcare contractor and consultant in Seattle, Washington. He encourages students to: “get involved in extra curriculars like Alpha Pi Mu and others. My year working as a co-op student intern showed me what I did not want to do, which was a valuable lesson prior to graduating. Get out there, try something, learn, and adjust.”

Spring 2015 Alpha Pi Mu Induction Ceremony: Front Row: Dr. Gokhan Egilmez, Abigail Johnson, Justin Paulson, Lauren Frohlich, Jaron Hughes, Clint Rossland (2003), Elvin Isgrig (Senior Lecturer Emeritus), Back Row: Jacob Larson, Cooper Bierscheid, Jacob Frieler, Jim Misialek (1999).
Spring 2015 Capstone Projects

The IME senior students culminate their education in a senior capstone project. Each semester students work with companies, within the region, to complete a project specifically for their company. If your company is interested in sponsoring a Capstone Project, please contact us for more information.

Students presented the results of their projects on April 30 in the Memorial Union.

This semester there are ten projects, all students appear left to right in the adjacent pictures:

Project 1: Illuminate System Market Analysis: JDP Automation, Moorhead, MN.
Students: Charles Shorma, Jaron Hughes, David Mills, Terrence Murphy

Project 2: Massman Automation Facility Expansion Study: Massman Automation Designs, Villard, MN.
Students: Eric Schauer, Tanner Wolbersen, Tyler Kline, Devin Arnzen, Zheng Fang

Project 3: Layout and Process Improvement for Assembly Area PortaCo, Moorhead, MN.
Students: Miguel Rodríguez Domínguez, Jacob Frieler, Samuel Menezes Farias, Joseph Fritzjunker

Project 4: Swanson Health Weight Checking: Swanson Health Products, Fargo, ND.
Students: Pedro Baldrigue Manzini, Siyu Hou, Nikushi Yatigala, Derek Arnold, Philip Cooksey

Project 5: Process Improvement for Packaging and Molding Operations: Ultra Green Packing Inc, Devils Lake, ND.
Students: Chao Pei, Lauren Frohlich, Laura Chavez, Tingjun Chen

(Continued on page 6)
Project 6: Mechanical Test Lab Reconfigure: United Technologies Aerospace Systems, Jamestown, ND. Students: Marta Cuenca, Cong Liu, Hao Fu, Tyler Theisen, Andrew Gertner.

Project 7: Efficient Inventory Management and Line Communication: Weave Got Maille. Students: Jeremy Omdahl, Jacob Mason, Can Cui, Ruinan Xie

Project 8: Micro Air Turbine: Generator System. (Not Pictured) Students: Joshua Braun, Justin Paulson


Project 10: Pediatric Prosthetics. Students: Tyler Skeate, Michael Walmsley, Cooper Bierscheid, Andrew Dalman (not pictured).

Please Detach and Mail

☐ I am interested in purchasing an IME polo shirt to help support the IIE chapter. Size needed: ______________

Phone Number or Email Address: ________________________________

Please send a $45 check (The IIE chapter cannot accept credit card payments at this time) and your shipping address to: NDSU, IME Dept 2485 PO Box 6050 Fargo, ND 58108

This fall our Department had a fundraiser for our local IIE chapter. If you are interested in purchasing an IME polo shirt please contact us. We have a variety of both men (M, L, 2XL) and women’s sizes (S, M, L, XL) available.
Donation Form:

If you would like to make a tax-deductible gift to the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department please fill out, detach and return to the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department at NDSU.

Mailing Address: NDSU Development Foundation 1241 N. University Dr. PO Box 5144, Fargo ND, 58105-5144

Name(s): ___________________________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

My/our gift of $________________ is pledged and presented to the NDSU Development Foundation.
This gift is designated for:

___ IME General Fund (EA30081) ___ IME Scholarships Fund (EA30216) ___ IME Labs Fund (EA30144)

Cash: Enclosed is a check to the “NDSU Development Foundation” for $________________.
Credit Card: Please charge my gift of $__________________ to my:  □ Visa  □ Discover
Account # ____________________________  □ Master Card
Expiration date: ______________________  □ American Express
Card security code: _________________
Your signature: __________________________

Or you can donate directly online at http://www.ndsufoundation.com Click on Give Now, choose College of Engineering in the drop down menu and designate the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department in the Additional Information Comments.

Matching gift: Does your employer or spouse’s employer have a matching gift program? If so, ask your employer for the form and send to:

NDSU Development Foundation
PO Box 5144
Fargo, ND 58105-5144.

A signature is required for credit cards. The NDSU Development Foundation is qualified to receive gifts, donations, and bequests that are deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Thank you, from all of us at NDSU IME!
The IME Department is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2015 Scholarships. These students have worked hard to earn these scholarships and we, in the department, are very proud of them.

Lisa Meyer, Faribault, MN - Frank Biltonen Scholarship.
Michael Zweber, Hopkins, MN - Frank Biltonen Scholarship.
Xiaoxia (Lisa) Li, Jie Xiu, China - Frank Biltonen Scholarship.
Abigail Johnson, Duluth, MN - Gordon Heller Scholarship.
Spencer Moir, Rochester, MN - Gordon Heller Scholarship.
Cooper Biersheid, Watertown, SD - Gordon Heller Scholarship.
Hannah Quade, Bagley, MN - Phillip W. Ruud Scholarship.
Mohamed Nur, Fargo, ND - Bruce Kasson Scholarship.

If you would like to donate towards an IME Scholarship please contact the IME Department or use the form on page 7.