CORONAVIRUS - COVID-19 UPDATE!

To date, Thurston County has moved to Phase 2 of Washington state's Safe Start plan and, hopefully, will move to Phase 3 by early July, and Phase 4/"The New Normal" by early August. According to Gov. Inslee, "We are making good progress as we continue to open Washington in segments. As I have repeatedly said before, these are decisions are driven by public health data and science, not the calendar."

In answer to this state-phased approach, Saint Martin’s University President, Dr. Roy F. Heynderickx, released our own phased plan for a gradual re-opening of campus and services as outlined below, understanding that there may be shifts to the timeline if changes to our state government’s phases or health regulations occur.

• Stage 1: On June 1, we re-opened some of our on campus services, starting with critical student-facing ones first: Admissions, Student Financial Services, Registrar and Public Safety. Staffing will be minimal at first and hours may be restricted. The re-opening calendar can be seen here-- [https://www.stmartin.edu/coronavirus/keep-working](https://www.stmartin.edu/coronavirus/keep-working). As each new office comes back, work areas will be assessed for safety modifications and staff will be trained on safety protocols. HIMSE’s administrative office will be open full-time on a rotating schedule starting June 15.

• Stage 2: The goal is to have all offices back to some extent and campus functions restored by early July. Hours will be extended and staffing may still be staggered, and we will continue to accommodate work from home requests for those with vulnerability. We will evaluate and update safety protocols as needed.

• Stage 3: We will be fully operational by early August, in preparation for the arrival of our first student groups later in the month. Student leaders start returning to campus and will also be trained on updated safety protocol.

• Stage 4: Students and faculty return to campus late August for the start of fall semester, unless unable to due to international travel or personal vulnerability.

Per Dr. Heynderickx, “In our planning and preparation, we will do everything we can to provide a safe learning, teaching and working environment, monitor developments and alter plans [as necessary], and send regular communications throughout the summer and into the fall to keep you informed.” [READ MORE](https://www.stmartin.edu/coronavirus/keep-working)
Congratulations to everyone on the Spring 2020 Dean’s List! Students with a GPA of at least 3.5, who took a full-time load and did not drop any classes, are placed on the Dean’s List.

Only 3% of our engineering and computer science students earned a perfect 4.0 GPA for the Fall 2018 semester and are highlighted in red below.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering, we salute your academic accomplishment, especially considering the extraordinary circumstances resulting from the Coronavirus-COVID-19 pandemic! These were challenging times and you all rose to that challenge and we are VERY proud of you!

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HIMSE ATHLETES NAMED TO GNAC ALL-ACADEMIC TEAMS

In order to be eligible for the GNAC All-Academic award, the student-athlete must be in their second year at the institution, and carry a GPA at or above 3.20. We apologize that these outstanding athletes were not recognized in our last newsletter. We are very proud of these students!

MEN’S GOLF

In April and for the second straight year, Brooks McKinney earned his spot on the GNAC’s men’s golf All-Academic team. McKinney, a junior Mechanical Engineering major from Lacey, qualified for the honor with his 3.54 GPA.

McKinney was one of only 13 golfers in the conference to receive the All-Academic award, and one of seven to be named for a second time. What an achievement, Brooks! READ MORE
BASEBALL
Eight Saints were named to the GNAC Baseball All-Academic team in April 2020. Three HIMSE athletes were named to this elite group.

Tanner Inouye, a senior Mechanical Engineering major from Honolulu, Hawaii, was selected for a second time in his SMU athletic career and finished with a 3.45 GPA. Congratulations, Tanner! READ MORE

Named for the first time in his athletic career was Benjamin Wadowski, a senior Mechanical Engineering major from Kent, Washington, who finished with a 3.32 GPA. Congratulations, Benjamin! READ MORE

Also honored for the first time was Chayson Dulatre, a sophomore Civil Engineering major from Pearl City, Hawaii. Dulatre earned a GPA of 3.31. Congratulations, Chayson! READ MORE

LACEY MAKERSPACE CONTINUES TO PROVIDE
Lacey MakerSpace, a project of Saint Martin’s University, the city of Lacey, and the Thurston Economic Development Council’s Center for Business & Innovation continues to provide essential Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that keeps our healthcare workers and first responders safe. The PPE is needed to ensure they can continue to treat and protect us.

The Lacey MakerSpace, Arbutus Folk School, and South Salish Mighty Masks continue to join forces to unite the maker community and make an impact. They are thankful for the many volunteers that are in their homes selflessly sewing, 3D printing, and assembling kits to give to those battling COVID-19.

ORGANIZATIONS HELPED: 102 / MASKS & SHIELDS MADE: 5,283 / LOCAL REQUESTS FOR PPE: 5,472

To learn how you can help, go to https://laceymakerspace.org/covid-19-updates/thurston-ppe-response/.

VIRTUAL EVENTS!
As with many institutions across the nation, we held a number of our usual semester and annual events in a virtual format. Though we hope to have live events in early September and would have preferred the face-to-face interaction and excitement, flexibility and ingenuity won out! Here are reports on some of them:
Pi Tau Sigma Induction
On May 1st, our Alpha Tau Chapter of the Pi Tau Sigma honor society for mechanical engineering inducted ten new members via a virtual format. Dean David Olwell and Dr. Daniel Einstein (faculty advisor) presented words of encouragement and accolades. Chapter Officers Miguel De La Melena (President) and Noah Larson (Vice Pres.) hosted this historic virtual event. Congratulations to Riley Crabb, Jaqueline Freeman, Jamie Johnson, Brooks McKinney, Alexandria Miller, John Rambo, Realani A. Rulona, Alice Thompson, Benjamin Wadowski, and Colton Winters!

MSSA Spring 2020 Graduation
On the morning of May 8th we held the virtual graduation ceremony for three cohorts of the MSSA program with a total of 48 graduates. Also held during the event was the induction of all graduates and several Microsoft staff and program mentors into The Pledge of the Computing Professional.

The Pledge of the Computing Professional
Following the MSSA graduation and induction, it was time for our Computer Science and Information Technology degree program graduates to be inducted into The Pledge of the Computing Professional. The Pledge of the Computing Professional is solely intended to promote and recognize the ethical and moral behavior of graduates of computing-related degree programs as they transition to careers of service to society, with each receiving a pin (pictured at right) and a certificate. The Pledge is modeled after the Order of the Engineer – a long-standing rite-of-passage for graduates from engineering programs. We congratulate these 2020 inductees: Ahmed Alharbi, Alwaleed Alqafaydi, Rachel Burk, Sanju Byanjankar, Regenal Grant, and Richard Krueger!

Order of the Engineer
Our final event in the virtual event packed day of May 8th, was the Order of the Engineer. Though we plan to have a live ceremony in early September, we felt it was best to provide this virtual event, as with the others, for a greater sense of community upon actual completion of the students’ degrees. All took the pledge of the Order and will receive their rings (visual symbols of their membership and commitment) and certificates. We congratulate the following new initiates!

Ali Alhalwachi
Mohammed Alhamdah
Mohammed Alharbi
Robert Allen
Yasir Alshehri
Abdulaziz Alsultan
Khaid Altamimi
Abdollah Alzaher
Brenda Arellanoquintana
Tyler Barnes
Robert M. Bone III
Abdulrahmaan Boudi
Kelsey Buckles
Joshua Burbach
Frances Constantino
Violet Cunningham
Keenan Forbes-Kashari
Chase Goetz
Aiden Hunter
Rocky Lightfoot
Alex Lupuylak
Jessica Martin
Yvette Martinez
Nicolas Mayfield
Justin McArthur
Victoria Polishchuk
Terry Reynolds
Garrett Rhodes
Patrick Ross
Connor Snow
Julianne Thompson
Matthew Torrey
Catherine Tran
Gabriela Virgen
Benjamin Wadowski
William Wonch
Dr. David H. Olwell
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The Puget Sound Engineering & Science Scholarship Fund (PSE&SSF) is a non-profit organization that encourages high school and college scholarship in engineering, science, and closely related fields. Out of a total of 71 applications for seven sponsored scholarships, 21 of the applications were from Saint Martin's students, and two HIMSE students were selected for awards, Francisca Anunobi and Megan Taylor.

Francisca Anunobi was selected for the $3,000 Stephen Manthey Memorial Scholarship, given to a full-time undergraduate student in a STEM discipline, with preference given to an architecture or female student. Francisca is now a Saint Martin’s sophomore, majoring in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Electrical Engineering. She rocks a two-time Dean’s List cumulative GPA of 4.00!

Megan Taylor was selected for the $1,500 Blue Trident Scholarship, given to applicants of diversity or children of military veterans. Megan is now a senior at St Martin’s University, majoring in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Electrical Engineering and a concentration in Intelligent and Dynamic Systems. She represents us well with a cumulative GPA of 3.73!

Francisca Anunobi and Megan Taylor join Saint Martin’s students, Miguel De La Melena and German Chavez, who also were awarded PSE&SSF Scholarships in 2019. Miguel won the $1,500 WSP Scholarship and German won the $1,500 Reid Middleton Scholarship. 

FACULTY NOTES – NOTED FACULTY

Congratulations to both Dr. Rico Picone and Dr. Frank Washko on becoming tenured and promoted to Associate Professor effective AY 2020-21!

Congratulations to Dr. Daniel Einstein on the May 23rd publication of “Fluid-Structure Interaction Analysis of Subject-Specific Mitral Valve Regurgitation Treatment with an Intra-Valvular Spacer” in MDPI’s prosthesis journal. Dr. Einstein was one of seven credited authors of the article from institutions across the nation. Well done! 

Two of our Computer Science faculty will be spending the 2020-21 academic year away from campus and teaching. We will miss Dr. J. Richard Beer and Dr. Razvan “Alex” Mezei and eagerly anticipate their return next year! If you have any questions or need information that would have come from either of these professors, please contact Dr. Mario Guimaraes, Chair of Computer Science.

OUR ALUMNI

RECENT GRADUATES/NEW ALUMNI

Joshua Burbach: I am working for Skillings Connolly, Inc. as a Design Engineer. Currently, I am working on a roadway connection to SR3 for future industrial and residential zones. Advice to HIMSE students: Join a group and participate in events (Steel bridge, Concrete canoe, etc.). For the seniors, take senior design seriously. The skills you gain in senior design will give you a good foundation to build on for your first position after graduation.

Frances Geraldine Constantino: Since my first day at KPFF as a Civil Design Engineer, I’ve worked mainly on residential development projects, including a few commercial projects. Currently, I am designing a complex underground detention system while identifying design conflicts based on site constraints and specific design requirements. Though challenging, it gives me the chance to relearn and enhance my knowledge of concepts obtained from my water resources and hydraulics courses. Advice to HIMSE students: Try and get your foot in every door. Once you see an opportunity that can help you succeed academically and/or professionally, GRAB IT. It doesn’t matter if it’s an internship, a scholarship, or even a leadership role. If you don’t go after what you want, you’ll never have it; and if
you don’t step forward, you’ll always find yourself in the same place. So, grab that opportunity, determine how you can learn and grow from it, then pass it on.

Justin McArthur: I am currently working for AKS Engineering & Forestry as a Civil Engineer. I just started on June 1st and am part of a team working on a very large site development in Hillsboro, Oregon. Advice to HIMSE students: Learn how to figure things out on your own (part of being an engineer), and learn how to find resources and use them. Ask lots of questions and have good rapport with all of your coworkers (because you will need their help).

Brenda Arellanoquintana: I started working for the US Army Corps of Engineers on JBLM on May 11, 2020 as a Student Engineering Intern. I will work in that position until I finish my Master’s degree. I am working on a construction project for the Army Reserve Center. The building will have sustainability features (LEED), which is pretty cool. I am enjoying and learning a lot with this opportunity. Advice to HIMSE students: Put yourselves out there. I actually obtained this position through the career fair in school. Finally, I would encourage you to try different internships with different companies to see where they fit the best.

Matthew Torrey: I am working for the City of Tacoma Environmental Services Department (sewer utility) as an Associate Facilities Engineer. Recently, I have been working on an asset tagging project, which identities and tags assets at Tacoma’s wastewater plants and pump stations to document asset information. I have also been working with Maintenance personnel and consultants to mechanically and structurally inspect wastewater facilities for future rehabilitation. Advice to HIMSE students: Find an internship anywhere and take it, even if it’s not something interesting. They can lead to great career opportunities and can be ‘career insurance’ for graduates in uncertain times.

Jessica Martin: I’m working at KPFF as a Design Engineer. I interned for them for a year before starting full time. I do site development design work and projects I’ve designed for include levees, road repair, and site development. I do a lot of CADD work, as well as report writing. Advice to HIMSE students: Look for an internship and don’t be afraid to put yourself out there. Internships provide valuable skills you won’t acquire in school and they really help to prepare you for working after college.

ALUMNI- PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH!
Please email us about your latest news – new positions, promotions, speaking engagements, personal milestones, etc. We want to let your fellow alumni know all about it and share your achievements with our students, faculty, and staff! Please email us at: SMUHIMSEAlumni@stmartin.edu

CALENDAR AND EVENTS

- Jun 27 (Sa) Summer 01 term ends
- Jun 29 (M) Summer 00 midterm grades due
- Jul 3 (F) Independence Day observed (school holiday)
- Jul 4 (Sa) Summer 08 term ends
- Aug 8 (Sa) Summer 00 session ends
- Aug 15 (Sa) Summer 02 term ends
- Aug 22 (Sa) Summer 09 terms ends
- Conferral date for summer graduates
- Aug 28 (F) Faculty & Student Convocation
- Aug 28-30 Residence Halls Open
- Aug 31 (M) Fall semester classes begin-Lacey campus
- Sep 4-5 Proposed postponed live Commencement events (details and confirmation later)
- Sep 7 (M) Labor Day (holiday- no classes/campus closed)
DEAN’S CORNER

It was a challenging spring, and now it is a whirlwind summer as we do contingency planning for a host of unknowns this fall. We want to open for face-to-face (F2F) instruction this fall and are planning on it, but prudence demands that we also make other plans. A number of our HIMSE faculty are working on strategies and requirements in case we cannot deliver lab instruction F2F, including Shelbie Davis and Corrie Walton-Macaulay. Safety is our first concern, and our second is to preserve the excellent learning environment that characterizes our program. We are also mindful that this is a financially difficult time for the university.

We were able to hone our skills this summer delivering 17 courses online to our partner schools in China. (We had originally planned to travel to China and deliver them F2F.) We tested some technologies that are now possible candidates for university-wide adoption. But we also learned again that it is hard to build personal connections, monitor class feedback, and promote our values in an online environment. We look forward to traveling to China next summer.

We plan to celebrate our students this Labor Day weekend with the delayed commencement and awards ceremonies from the spring. Those activities will include the Order of the Ring and Pledge of the Computing Professional ceremonies, as well as the presentation of our outstanding student and design team awards. I’m very grateful to the many friends of the engineering and computer science programs who offer scholarships and awards to our students.

In addition to our struggles with COVID-19, we are also deeply challenged this spring to reexamine and improve how we treat community members, especially those who are black, indigenous, and people of color. We like to think we are doing fine as a community, but then we learn yet once again we have a long way to go to meet the ideal of “welcoming each person as Christ.” The university is quickly moving to reinforce its efforts to support diversity and equity on campus. These efforts, based on our Benedictine and Gospel values, have my full support.

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy.

Best wishes,

David H. Olwell, Ph.D., Dean
Hal & Inge Marcus School of Engineering

We See You.  
We Hear You. 
We Support You.

Arise, for this matter belongeth unto thee; we also will be with thee. Be of good courage, and do it.” ~Ezra 10:4

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