HAPPY SUMMER! It's been fairly quiet around here – read: ghost town. There are just a few classes being held on campus, and many of the staff are still working remotely. We look forward to the renewed flurry of activity with the return to face to face learning. The summer sun was slow in returning too, but when it did, it was uncharacteristically brutal for a short time. We were all flexible and adapted and got through the 90-100 degree temperatures. Now we're back to quiet gray mornings, sunny afternoons and glorious sunsets! We are, as we usually do, using the summer to recharge, renovate, and ready.

We’ve done some exciting audiovisual renovations to the Cebula Third Floor Event Space, making it an even better space for the needs of Saint Martin’s. We’ve also set up the Seminar Room on Cebula 2nd Floor with seven computers that will have the CAD load on them as an alternate space for students to study. There are also three monitors on the back row of the room for hooking up your laptops too. The former Cebula Library has been converted into a conference room that holds at least ten.

It’s been a tough year and we’re headed into a year of adapting to a new ‘normal’. Please be supportive of each other, flexible, and listen with the ear of your heart.

SCHOLARSHIP CONGRATULATIONS!
Once more Saint Martin’s and HIMSE were well-represented in scholarship awards for the PSE & SSF-sponsored scholarships this year with two awards! Francisca Anunobi won the SAME Seattle Post President Scholarship of $5,000 and Alex Garaté won the WSP Scholarship of $1,500. Congratulations, Franny and Alex!
We are thrilled to pilot a new program this fall—Washington Veterans to Technology. This new 16-week certificate program will provide face-to-face computer science, software development, and information technology education to active-duty service members transitioning out of the military, eligible veterans and military spouses. Offering these types of programs to the spouses is new and we’re proud to do so. The program will run three sessions throughout the year: Fall (August to December), Spring (January to May) and Summer (May to August). It will be offered at Saint Martin’s Lacey campus, as well as its campus at the Stone Education Center on Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). The mission of the program is to provide a critical bridge from the military to new careers in information technology.

“This program is life-changing for the military members who participate,” shares David Olwell, Ph.D., Dean of The Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering. “We will build on our experience serving 800 veterans in a similar program over the last eight years to make this the preeminent transition program in the nation for the military.”

Saint Martin’s has been a longtime advocate of post-service programs in support of technical training to service members and veterans. From 2014 through summer 2021, Saint Martin’s partnered with Microsoft to be a host of the Microsoft Software Systems Academy. Though the program was very successful, Microsoft made some major changes to the MSSA program that spurred us to develop and launch the new WaV2T Saint Martin’s program to continue our long-standing support of those who have served our country through the military. For more information on the program, go to WaV2T.

Joining Mark Wright, Director, and Kelsey Hagler, Co-Director, are two new staff hires for WaV2T:

Rich Montgomery, Career Development Manager, is a former Chief Petty Officer who served 12 years on fast attack nuclear submarines as a Reactor Operator and Engineering Watch Supervisor. When he separated from the Navy he took a job with Applied Materials working on the cluster tools used to make semiconductors. Five years later, he started his own company moving large manufacturing tools in and out of lab cleanrooms around the country. Eventually, his company began to supply technicians and engineers to various companies, both short- and long-term. Though very successful over an 18-year run, in 2018 he decided to shut things down and take a different career path. Now, he looks forward to a great new career helping other veterans find their next fulfilling adventure.

Adam Takata ’17, Career Development Manager, served in the U.S. Army for 20 years and retired from the Military Police Corps. Adam is also a 2017 graduate of the Saint Martin’s MSSA program. He joins Saint Martin’s from the Veterans Benefits Administration, where he served as a Management Analyst and Public Affairs Officer. He is married to his beautiful wife Naomi, and they have an 8-year-old son named Talon.

Welcome to you both! We are confident that this new program will be a great success!
FREE TUTORING AVAILABLE
One of our mechanical engineering alumni, Nicholas Pendowski, is offering free tutoring in the courses listed below. He is currently an EI working in the industrial automation sector. Mr. Pendowski tutored SMU students in the past and is somewhat flexible in his times and locations for tutoring. Zoom meetings work as well. Contact him at pendowski15@up.edu to schedule this!

- MTH171  Calculus I
- MTH 172 Calculus II
- MTH 271 Vector Calculus
- MTH 322 Differential Equations
- MTH 353 Linear Algebra
- ME 345  Mechatronics
- ME 370  Systems Dynamics and Control
- PHY 172  Introduction to Physics II

INTERNSHIP REPORT!
Christopher Carlisle, mechanical engineering senior, is currently participating in a three-month internship with KBA Inc., a construction management company based in Bellevue. Here’s his report: “Specifically, I am interning as a Civil Construction Inspector under the Resident Engineer and Lead Inspector. As part of my duties, I help the lead inspector write up daily inspection reports, monitor contractor activities, take measurements and quantities for any work the contractor does, and I draft pay notes, which are used to bill for labor and materials on the project.

In terms of the project itself, a new bridge is being erected over the West Sammamish river. The reason I applied for the position is that I am interested in completing the master’s degree in Engineering Management at Saint Martin’s, and participating in this internship gives me some first-hand experience of project management. Overall, it has been a great experience so far and seeing all the work that goes into projects like these has really been a wonderful learning experience.”

In the photo above, the contractor is adjusting their silt fence to contain any dirt and particulates that might get agitated while they pull out the piers from the previous bridge and pour the new ones. In the back right (with the blue railing) is part of the new bridge being constructed over the West Sammamish River.
Welcome to Dr. Cameron Devine ’16 as a visiting assistant professor to teach ME classes, covering for Dr. Rico Picone, who is on sabbatical for 2021-22. Dr. Devine just completed his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Washington. Welcome back to SMU, Dr. Devine!

Dr. Isaac Jung is in the process of retiring. We’re happy to announce that this well-liked professor will continue to teach for us as an adjunct this fall!

Great news! Dr. R. Alex Mezei is back to teach for Computer Science from his leave of absence.

Dr. Mario Guimaraes will be taking a leave of absence for the 2021-22 academic year.

Dr. J. Richard Beer has returned from his leave of absence to resume teaching for Computer Science, as well as consenting to be Interim Chair of Computer Science, during Dr. Guimaraes’ leave of absence. Welcome back!

Dr. Frank Washko and Mathew Thomas, MSME ’20, presented the paper “Knee Exoskeleton—Review of Knee Musculature and Exoskeleton Device Proposed Design at the 2021 IEEE Conference on Biomedical Engineering and Healthcare. Great work, Dr. Washko and Matt!

Dr. Tapas Das was thanked for his contributions to and support of the Indian Chemical Society’s (ICS) webinar internship course on Process Safety and Environment (Air, Water, and Solid) –Fundamentals and Management held April 10-May 30, 2021. His presentation in the webinar was titled “Advanced Wastewater Treatment.” A representative of the Society expressed their sincere appreciation for his support and contribution, noting that they hoped to receive his similar cooperation in the future. READ MORE. He was also an invited speaker at the ICS’ July 25, 2021 international webinar, where he spoke on “Advancing Environmental Sustainability through Green Chemistry and Engineering.” READ MORE. Thanks for sharing, Dr. Das!

GET TO KNOW THE ENGINEERING ADVISORY BOARD

Quinn Dolan was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington. Quinn and his family still reside in Tacoma, Washington. He received his Bachelors of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Saint Martin’s University in 2000. While attending Saint Martins he co-published a paper in the Proceeding of the ASME Heat Transfer Division -1999 Volume 4, titled Experimental Laboratory Research on Computer-Aided System for Determining Fluid Flow Liquid Film Dynamic Parameters and presented at the 1999 International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition in Nashville, Tennessee. In the summer of 1999, while in school, Quinn obtained an internship with Centennial Contractors Enterprises, Inc. located at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. Centennial is a leader in performance-based construction services with special emphasis in Job Order Contracting (JOC). Centennial is focused on preconstruction planning and construction services for the Federal Government, State Municipalities, Universities, Healthcare and K-12 Schools. In the last twenty years Quinn has quickly worked up the ranks to his current position of North West Operations Director. He manages four offices that are focused on construction services with the Army Crop of Engineers, Spokane Public School, University of Washington, Sound Transit, City of Seattle, Multnomah County and other Washington State clients.

Some of Quinn’s notable accomplishments are: Professional Engineer, registered in the State of Washington, LEAD AP BD+C, Project Manager Professional, Vice Chair for the Job Order Contract Evaluation Committee, Project Review Committee and currently sits on the Engineering Advisory Board for the Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering. Thanks, Quinn, for your continued support!
CONDOLENCES

Rodolfo “Rudy” Lopez, husband of Hopie Lopez (our former School of Engineering executive assistant and dear friend/long-time staff member at Saint Martin’s), died May 29, 2021 at their Lacey home.

Rudy's funeral mass was held at Sacred Heart Church in Lacey on the morning of June 17. The mass was well attended for this beloved man and officiated by Abbot Neal Roth, with many of Hopie’s Saint Martin’s ‘family’ there in support.

Father Bede Classick, O.S.B. peacefully passed to God on May 26, 2021. Father Bede had suffered for some time with congestive heart failure, and was under the care of his physician. At the time of his death, he was serving as an appointed member of the Abbey’s Board of Directors and Senior Council, was Treasurer of Saint Martin’s University, an ex officio member of the University’s Board of Trustees, and also a member of several Board committees. He was also the unofficial Abbey member we always asked to provide prayer and blessings for our HIMSE events.

He was a humble gentle man, a kind and positive presence in community, with a ready smile and a twinkle in his eye. One of his University colleagues observed that he really lived the “ear of the heart”, and one never felt he was not listening to you.

Father Bede was a great lover of classical music, an avid reader of the Church Fathers, history-related books, and current favorites. He took his almost daily walks religiously, and relaxed by doing the crossword puzzle from The New York Times. READ MORE

Abbot Adrian J. Parcher, O.S.B., sixth abbot (1980-1986) of St. Martin’s Abbey, passed to God May 20, 2021. He spent more than seventy years associated in some way with St. Martin’s, beginning with his enrollment as a student in St. Martin’s High School.

He served Saint Martin’s College as an English instructor, as its Registrar, as its Vice President for Academic Affairs, and as its Chancellor. Within the monastic community, he served as Refectorian, Novice Master, and finally Abbot. Abbot Adrian also was popular as a retreat master for religious communities.

Abbot Adrian was instrumental in the establishment of a library of books on theology and spirituality within the monastic cloister. During his tenure as Abbot, the Abbey’s annual concert/lecture series, Abbey Church Events, was established, and the Abbey’s Martin of Tours Collection of PNW Art was formalized. He had a prodigious memory and delighted in regaling others with stories of both the Abbey and schools and the Benedictine world in general. READ MORE

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to Miguel de la Melena, BSME ’21 and his new spouse on their July wedding! Miguel is coming back in the fall to pursue a master’s degree, and we have it on good authority that his spouse will be an SMU student too!

Congratulations to Patricia McGarrah, mechanical engineering student, and her new spouse on their July wedding!
OUR ALUMNI
WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

TREVOR ENGSTROM, BSIT ’19: Trevor is currently an Application Software Programmer at OpalSoft, a contractor at the Keyport Naval Base. He offers these insights. “I design, build, and maintain web applications while working from home. It’s a super fun job where I spend all day writing code or designing the architecture for our apps. The courses at Saint Martin’s introduced me to the basics of building a web page and object-oriented Programming. I was very upfront during the interview process about my beginner-level skills but made sure they knew about my desire to keep learning.

If I had any advice for current students/recent grads it would be:
• Focus on the basics of your preferred language. Once you have the basics down for a language such as C#. Learning additional languages will come easier. There’s a ton of languages and frameworks out there. Nobody knows them all. Get good at one and the rest will come.
• The application process can be disheartening but the only thing you can do is to keep trying. I made a folder in my Email of all my rejection letters. It has over 100 in there. I haven’t deleted it yet because it’s a good reminder of what I overcame.
• Don’t forget that interviews are a 2-way street. The employer wants to find a good fit for their position, but you should also be looking to find a good fit for yourself. I know you’ll be excited to get any job that will give you experience, but there are a ton of different avenues you can take in this career field and a lot of them may not be for you or can really burn you out.
• PLEASE NEGOTIATE YOUR OFFER LETTER!!!! I know you’re excited to get working and the offer probably pays a lot more than your current job on campus, but I’ve never heard of any company rescinding an offer due to a negotiation. Don’t be afraid to ask for a higher salary.
• Start working on your side project, keep adding to it, and have it ready for others to view. When your resume is short on experience, having a working example of your skills and what you are capable of creating can go a long way. I created a website that had my resume and reasons why someone should hire me. In the interview where I got hired, I told them I’ve been creating my own website. The interviewers pulled it up and reviewed it on their phones right in front of me.”

CHASE GOETZ, BSME ’20: Chase is now working at Firstline Systems, Inc. in Kirkland.

BNDAR AL UTAIBI, BSME ’20: Bndar is doing a master’s program at the University of Liverpool in the UK. Recently, he was part of a small team working on a 4-week “We Can Work It Out Consultancy Challenge”, organized by the University of Liverpool Management School for Santander UK Universities to come up with positive measures on the organization’s community impacts and to present solutions for improvements for the Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurial schemes provided by Grupo Santander to students of 84 universities throughout the UK.

CARTHNEY LAUKON, BSCE ’19: Cartnhe has been employed for over a year as a civil engineer at Marshalls Energy Company, a public utilities company based in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

MARQUES SANTOS, BSME ’20: Congratulations to Marques who recently started a position as a Project Engineer with University Mechanical Contractors in Mukilteo. He offers this to students and alumni: “What do I do as a Project Engineer at UMC? I am the spout of a funnel. The middle person between theoretical and actual. Working with detail engineers, design engineers, architectural engineers, finance department, vendors, foremen, subcontractors and many others. Essentially my job is to assist the project manager to enable the successful build and installation of the plumbing and mechanical piping within a structure. The mechanical piping consists of heating, cooling, natural gas, and HVAC systems.

Every day is different, and some of the duties are ordering all supplies, coordinating equipment, ensuring installation is in accordance with the design, and submitting design changes based on changes in installation. Other days, I track productivity, submit material or products for approval, obtain answers for people in the field based on situational changes. Additional duties are going through field drawings, looking at 3D models, and offering suggestions on designs based on structural integrity or optimizing space. There are many other aspects to being a Project Engineer, but, again, I am the connector between what is thought out in a project and what actually comes to be. One of the greatest things about being a Project Engineer is seeing a project come to fruition, while being involved in all aspects of the project. At Saint Martin’s University--through professors, staff, and other students--I was blessed with the skills and knowledge, which equipped me to be a successful Project Engineer. Thank you, family, friends for all the life lessons I have learned on this journey. And I thank God for all the blessings bestowed upon me now and always.”
KAZUMA LANE, BSCE ’19 and ANTHONY GUERRERO, BSCE ’19, MCE ’20: Anthony and Kazuma are both working at Skillings Connolly, Inc. here in Lacey, respectively as a Design Engineer and an entry-level Civil Engineer.

MOHAMMED ALHARBI, BSCE ’20: Mohammed is working as a Civil Engineer for the global infrastructure firm AECOM, at their office in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

MARTIN LOPEZ, BSME ’19: Martin is working as a Mechanical Designer at Nortek Air Solutions, the largest custom HVAC manufacturer in North America.

MARC FIGUROA, BSME ’19/MMME ’20: Marc reported in with this: “I am employed with the Naval Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) which serves as the civilian equivalent that designs, equips, and advises the US Navy Nuclear Fleet (Naval Reactors, NR) as part of the Department of Energy (DoE). Not to be confused with the Puget Ship yard, NNL does have a small office in that location, but serves as oversight of those DoD employees who service the ships.

I started officially in December 2019 (long wait after May 2019 graduation due to awaiting security clearance to go through) at the Naval Reactor’s Facility (NRF) in Idaho Falls, ID where I served as a Reactor Plant Contractors Office (RPCO) Field Engineer. I served in this position for one year and then chose to take another position with NNL. This transferred me to Pittsburgh, PA, where I now work under the New Design Submarine Propulsion group designing and analyzing the latest concepts for Submarine Nuclear Reactors for the US Navy.

Offering words of guidance for current engineering students, never settle for anything but what you really want to do and don’t be afraid to go outside your normal comfort zone to attain knowledge in something. Even if this results in what seems like failure, there is no such thing as failure if you learned something valuable. I say this, because Saint Martin’s is a small school and to attain a position with a large renowned company you typically are competing with students from large well-known schools, like Texas A&M, Purdue, Duke, MIT, etc. You need to set yourself apart, not only by getting involved in engineering organizations like SAME, SWE, Pi Tau Sigma, ASME, and NSBE, but also take on leadership positions and use these memberships and roles to your advantage. Come up with design ideas that will better the community and also allow you to piggy-back off of when you do your senior design project. These ideas and projects will spotlight your creativity and interest in your career field. Participating in these organizations shows potential employers that you are social, capable of working in teams, and that you have leadership potential.”

CALENDAR AND EVENTS

- Aug 2 (M)  Summer 09 mid-term grades due
- Aug 7 (Sa)  Summer 00 Main session ends
- Aug 9 (M)  Final Grades for Summer 00 due
- Aug 14 (Sa)  Summer 02 session ends
- Aug 16 (M)  Summer 02 final grades due
- Aug 20 (F)  MSSA Graduation (11 am – virtual)
- Aug 21 (Sa)  Summer 09 session ends/ Conferral date for summer graduates
- Aug 23 (M)  Summer 09 final grades due
- Aug 27 (F)  Faculty and student convocation
  Residence halls open for 1st yr students
- Aug 28-29 (Sa/Su)  Residence halls open for upper class students
- Aug 30 (M)  Lacey campus Fall semester begins (Main 00/08/10)
- Sep 3 (F)  Add deadline for courses (Fall Main 00)
- Sep 6 (M)  Labor Day Holiday (no classes/campus closed)
- Sep 7 (Tu)  Add/drop deadline and attendance for Fall 08/10 sessions
- Sep 10 (F)  Drop deadline for courses/attendance due (Fall Main 00)
- Oct 11 (M)  Indigenous Peoples’ Day (JBLM campus closed; Lacey campus open)
- Oct 23 (Sa)  Last day of classes for Fall 08/10 sessions
- Oct 25 (M)  Fall 09/11 sessions begin
- Oct 25-26 (M/Tu)  Fall break – only for Main 00 semester courses, not 09/11 session courses
- Oct 26 (Tu)  Final Grades for Fall 08/10 due

Page 7 | 8
DEAN’S CORNER

Perhaps you recall the great 1966 movie, “The Trouble with Angels,” starring Rosalind Russell and Hayley Mills. It was the story of a convent school for girls and the nuns who loved them. One of my favorite scenes is the convent getting ready for the return of the girls for the fall – the scrubbing, unpacking, stocking, and other preparations, followed by the joyous welcoming of students as they arrive. That is how this summer feels to me. Our wonderful faculty and staff are preparing for the start of the new school year, and there is much activity! We have seen a record number of new students apply to Saint Martin’s and the HIMSE programs, and the halls have been buzzing with new student orientation. It is going to be a great year!

We are planning to teach fully face-to-face this fall, returning to our strengths of small class size and individual attention, where students grow into meaningful professional relationships with each other, the faculty, and staff. That level of personal interaction and care allows us to reinforce the Benedictine values we impart to our students.

I would like to thank the donors who supported engineering and computer science students here in HIMSE during the last school year. Using your donations, we funded the graduation awards for our outstanding seniors, scholarships for students in need, upgrades to the third floor of Cebula Hall, conference attendance by students, professional society dues for students, and a host of other activities that enrich the studies and experiences of our student body. I am especially grateful to those whose organizations donate through Benevity for volunteer hours; those who donate on 3.21 Give; and those who have made payroll deduction gifts. And I truly appreciate those who support our general scholarship program “Feed a Mind” at the annual Gala, which benefits so many engineering and computer science students.

There are two major projects that will occupy us this school year. The first is the preparation for our ABET reaccreditation of the BSME and BSCE programs and the initial accreditation of the BSCS and BSIT programs. We had an outstanding accreditation visit in 2016, and we look to repeat that. The second project is our launch of the Washington Veterans to Technology program (described on page two) that will replace the MSSA here at SMU. Both are very important to the long-term health of HIMSE.

Last, I would like to give a special thanks to Dr. Richard Beer, who will be the interim chair of computer science while Dr. Guimaraes is on a leave of absence and who will assume much of the work of preparing for the ABET initial accreditations. That is an exceptionally generous act on his part!

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

Copyright © 2021 Saint Martin’s University
Created by Tam Léger, Executive Assistant
The Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering

To unsubscribe from this list or to update your contact information, please email engineering@stmartin.edu