RISE NEWSLETTER
Spring 2020

RISE
Resources to Inspire Successful Engineers
College of Engineering • University of Delaware

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Acknowledgments

I am pleased to invite you to share in this edition of the RISE Program Newsletter. Throughout the academic year, as well as during the summer and winter, RISE Program participants are excelling academically; supporting our campus through their leadership and service; traveling to other countries to study abroad, and making discoveries through research that can literally change our daily mode of operation. It is important that all those who have a vested interest in the students of the RISE Program understand the scope of the many accomplishments they experience during their matriculation at the University of Delaware.

We look forward to this newsletter serving as a vehicle to highlight our students and the many interests they have in addition to their primary goal of obtaining a degree in the College of Engineering. Our students have worked diligently to produce this newsletter and we hope you will enjoy the articles enclosed. We look forward to your feedback and your continued support.

Marianne Johnson ~ Academic Program Manager ~ Student Development & Support ~ RISE Program
2019-2020 Summary

Group Sessions
Group Sessions are held every month in order to allow members of RISE to talk about current events, school activities, or any subject they believe to be worth discussing. These sessions give the opportunity for the students to meet and form connections with other participants in their year and/or major.

Workshops
Workshops are held once a month and all participants of the program are given the opportunity to learn about companies first-hand from recruiters, scholarship opportunities, and university opportunities to strengthen their background in engineering. This past year, we had speakers visit from UPenn’s graduate school, the McNair program, and UD’s Career Center. During these workshops, the participants break into groups based on major where they can learn about the opportunities other students have had and be able to network to provide new opportunities for each other.

Dining Etiquette: A Seat at the Table
At this event, students are able to learn proper dining etiquette skills while networking with employers from a variety of companies. A three-course meal was served while students learned how to conduct business with professionals. Afterward, an open networking event was held where students could network with all the employers who attended. Companies included Amtrak, Mountaire Farms, and Philadelphia Water Department.

Diversity and Inclusion Fair
The Diversity and Inclusion Fair is an opportunity for the members of the UD community to learn about building an inclusive environment for everyone. Workshops are held to initiate conversations about a variety of topics such as LGBTQ awareness, microaggressions, and embracing your authentic self. This year’s keynote speaker was Dr. Joshua Fredenburg who gave an exciting and informative speech about how to accept the differences between us and using those differences to build a more inclusive world.

Study Breaks
Study Breaks are held at the end of every semester to give the students a break from studying for finals and enjoy relaxing and getting to know their fellow students. For the Fall 2019 study break, RSAC worked together to organize a painting session during the study break. Other activities students enjoy participating in are games such as Clue, Uno, Taboo, and of course, the raffles. Some of the prizes that were won by the students included University of Delaware mugs, t-shirts, and keychains.
RSAC Senior Spotlight

Name: Alainee Barkley
Major: Civil Engineering

Name: Jorge Hernandez
Major: Dual Degrees in Civil Engineering & Political Science

Name: Heidi Herrera
Major: Environmental Engineering
Minors: Chemistry, Sustainable Energy Technology

Name: Jared Pineiro
Major: Electrical Engineering

Name: Alexis Withers
Major: Civil Engineering
RSAC BOARD

Sítlalý Avalíno
Abubakarr Bah
Alaineé Barkley

Imání Carter
Giovanni Chacon
Emily Chaplin

Badiallo Diani
Jasmine Garvin
Carolina Gomez
Winter Experiences

Jasmine Pearcy
Junior
Mechanical Engineering

This past winter session, I participated in a study abroad program through the University of Delaware in New Zealand. The two courses that I took were CIEG402: Introduction to Sustainability and CIEG351: Transportation. While we were there, we visited and lodged at several locations, including Christchurch, Tekapo, Queenstown, Rotorua, and Auckland. My instructors gave us assignments that related the material we learned in class to the areas that we stayed in. In my Transportation class, we were assigned projects that involved exploring the areas that we were staying at, visiting notable sights, and tourist attractions. I really enjoyed that aspect of the course because it forced me to explore and visit parts of the country that I may not have checked out had I not been assigned to do so. In my Sustainability class, I learned how climate change is becoming a serious issue, and that eventually, we are going to reach a point where the damage caused by human activity is irreversible. New Zealand’s government recognizes this threat and is taking action to reverse it. During my time there, I was able to see how New Zealand implements sustainability techniques into its society and the daily lives of the locals. For example, in an attempt to reduce the amount of plastic in their environment, a ban on single-use plastic bags was passed in 2019. Many of the restaurants and the coffee shops that I visited also didn’t carry plastic utensils. Instead, they used wooden utensils and paper straws as an eco-friendly substitute.

Walking around New Zealand, I noticed some major differences between life there and life in America. Besides that fact that they drive on the opposite side of the road, I noticed that most businesses, like restaurants, shopping centers, gyms, etc., were not open past 6:00pm. After speaking with a local, I learned that there is a law in New Zealand where if you work over 40 hours, you must pay 33% in taxes versus the 17% that you would have to pay if you work less than that. They do this to motivate people to work less and prevent their citizens from overworking themselves. I found this so interesting because I don’t believe that America’s capitalist society could ever encourage that type of lifestyle. In this country, we are constantly competing with one another and we are so focused on success and monetary rewards that we often neglect our physical and mental health. This trip showed me that America should consider
implementing some of the laws that New Zealand has into its own society. By taking notes from them, I believe that it would help us ascend to a more sustainable and less demanding society.

Emily Jimenez
Sophomore
Civil Engineering

Over winter break I went to Dubai. I learned so many things on this trip including information about Islamic religion and their culture. I was also able to see and go up in the tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa. I learned the Burj Khalifa, unlike other tall buildings, does not have any stabilizers to keep it from swaying. The building was built to funnel the air around it to avoid movement. My most memorable experiences on the trip were going to Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Cultural Understanding and going to the desert. At the cultural center, I learned so much about Muslim and Arab culture that I didn’t know before attending and only knew was portrayed in the media. I found out that there are more exceptions for women than men. For example, women can go into the men's prayer, but men can’t go into women’s prayer. Women have the choice to cover up and are not forced. I also had a chance to try on an abaya.

In the desert, I had so much fun. I found out I love dune bashing which is where you drive off-road cars in the sand dunes fast. It was also really fun to walk out into the desert and there was nothing but sand around us. You could see mountains in the distance on one side and the city on the other side, it was amazing. The sunset in the desert was beautiful, but after the sunset, I was shocked at how cold it got. Luckily, we had a campfire that kept us all warm. When we were in the desert, we met Emiratis who were friends with my professor. All of the students were sitting around the campfire with the Emiratis who were answering questions about their culture, religion, and Dubai. It was very interesting. I learned about how they eat with their hands, and they eat on the floor. They are also very family-oriented and were very welcoming to me and this is an experience I’ll never forget.
Student Interview

Tatenda Mlambo
Sophomore
Biomedical Engineering

How was your first semester of college? Interesting. I had just moved about 9000 miles and a two-day flight from home so besides adjusting to the college itself, I had to adjust to the new culture and way of life. Despite that, I had a very good semester and managed to forge diverse friendships.

What campus activities/clubs/intramural sports/etc. are you in? / Are you involved in any extracurricular activities on campus? Under the Honors Program, I am currently serving as a Munson Fellow and I am part of the Honors Student Advisory Council. I am also part of the Delaware African Students Association (DASA), Chi Alpha – a Christian ministry, and of course, RISE!

What inspired you to have an engineering major? Biomedical Engineering attracted me because it combined the two things I was and still am very interested in – the medical field and problem-solving. A biomedical engineering background allows me to solve challenging problems in my country, not only now but many years in the future. This is because skills obtained from the field of engineering are so versatile, encouraging innovation, problem-solving and critical thinking skills that will always be needed to revolutionize the world.

What advice would you give to an incoming freshman? Know what you are coming to college for. You will come face to face with Goliaths in your academic, social, spiritual, mental, you name it, lives, but a clear vision of your goals and that almost stubborn belief in yourself will allow you to tackle your giants and come out the conqueror. Remember that “where there is no vision, there is no hope” and perseverance always outlasts your troubles.

Tell us about your experience with the RISE Program? RISE has put me into close contact with many other engineers who are similar to me in a lot of ways. We are a family. Meeting someone from RISE on my way to or in a class always lets me know that I’m not in this alone and it just makes UD feel even more like home.

How have you changed since your freshman year? I have definitely become exploratory compared to my first year. This is mainly because I am now used to the environment and feel settled enough to slowly start discovering new places.

What are your goals when you graduate? I want to go to graduate school then enter the medical device industry after.
Faculty Interview - Levi Thompson

Dr. Levi Thompson returned to his alma mater as the Dean of the College of Engineering in 2018. Returning to the University of Delaware (UD) after his time teaching at the University of Michigan, Dean Thompson has experienced a few changes here at UD. As the Dean, Dr. Thompson spends most of his time in the engineering buildings observing and learning from the multiple disciplines of engineering students and faculty. Due to this fact, UD appears to be smaller than he remembered as a student. Although Dr. Thompson is working very diligently at his job to ensure the success of the College of Engineering, he still finds time to spend time with his family and be active. During the spring and summer, Dr. Thompson enjoys playing golf and enjoys watching sports just as much. He believes students should work hard towards their degrees and value extracurriculars as well.

Dr. Thompson is striving to make the college more interdisciplinary by tasking all leadership to look for collaboration opportunities and research projects that can be conducted. This can be done through incentives or donations that will be specific to improve the collaborations between majors. Not only does Dr. Thompson plan to make the COE more interdisciplinary, he also hopes to increase diversity and inclusion in the COE. This is also a high priority of his because he worked on this topic in his previous position at the University of Michigan. He has a goal to establish a program where UD will partner with other schools that do not have engineering degrees to establish a dual degree program. This dual degree program allows a student to spend 2 years in one college, and 3 years in another to graduate with 2 degrees in 5 years. In his position, Dr. Thompson plans to have greater extensive collaboration between students and faculty, and faculty and staff. The goal will be to provide more enthusiasm about the university in general in order to create more ambassadors to encourage more students to come to UD and more people to donate.

A fact about Dr. Levi Thompson is that he was also a member of the Minority Engineering Program (MEP) when he was a student here at UD. This program is the equivalent to what is now RISE. Dr. Thompson stated that MEP helped him find people to connect, people that came from similar communities. Although he has spent more time as a faculty member than a student, UD is where his career started and so the university will always have a special meaning to him. Therefore, he provides the following advice to current students-reach out to faculty, whether through email or office hours, faculty can provide interactions to help further the learning process. He also recommends students take advantage of extracurricular activities and enjoy college life, but always keep academics important! As for those considering grad school, Dean Thompson recommends students become involved in research as an undergrad as much as possible. The Dean of the COE has many years of experience with plenty of wisdom to share with students and faculty and is excited to implement new changes to the COE to further its success.
Faculty Interview- Monique Head

Once a student now turned professor, Dr. Monique Head has observed a lot of changes here at the University of Delaware. She notes that her office in DuPont Hall has a different feel, as old lecture halls are now research lab spaces and DuPont 140 is no longer the main lecture hall for civil engineers. Perhaps due to her civil engineering background, Dr. Head notes the infrastructure at the university as one of the most significant changes since she was an undergraduate. Going back to a Dynamics course here at UD with Professor Shenton, Dr. Head discovered her interest in understanding objects in motion. Then, through an REU at UC Berkeley, she was exposed to large scale testing on bridges. A RISE Alumni herself, Dr. Head cites RISE as helping her with professional development and getting involved in research, specifically the REU opportunity at UC Berkeley. From there she focused on researching enhancing bridge performance and improving how structures respond to earthquakes. By utilizing energy diffusing devices, longer-lasting materials, and mathematical models, Dr. Head is determined to better design sustainable and safer bridges for the future. She is still currently tweaking her plans for her research here at UD, but Dr. Head aspires to have national and international impacts from her research, all while exciting and gathering others along the way. She wants to see more people of color, especially in structural engineering, to provide different and new perspectives that lead to better solutions for structural design and society. As a faculty member, Dr. Head cites that students often neglect to take advantage of using faculty as a resource. She advises students to connect with faculty and create connections, either through office hours or research. Connecting with faculty can help drive interest or determine career paths. Dr. Head acknowledged that the connections between faculty and students at UD is a unique niche.
Summer Experiences

Alex Attard
Junior
Chemical Engineering

This past summer of 2019, I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Buttrey in the Chemical Engineering department on research that involved exploring synthetic conditions for slurry preparation of complex molybdenum vanadium bronzes. This experience provided me with the opportunity to share ideas and lead a team as part of the Summer Scholars program at UD. This program allowed us to participate in undergraduate research with a professor and showcase our work at a research symposium in August. I began my research experience by doing a literature search on my topic of research in order to enhance the necessary skills for Summer Scholars. I then began to share my ideas with my research group such as constraints on our procedure which aided us in the development of a more catalytically active structure. At the conclusion of the summer, I began leading our research group through necessary calculations and procedural steps in order to keep us on task and meet our goals for the summer. The Summer Scholars program has taught me valuable engineering and leadership skills which have strengthened my ability to be successful in the workplace.
This past summer, I worked as a research intern at a start-up fermentation company in Delaware; this was my third year working there. When asked what I learned this summer in the lab, it was much different than last year, but in such a positive way. To start, by solely working under a researcher at the lab, I gained more responsibility and accountability for my work in the lab because I was the only intern working with him. With my superior being gone, I was taught the greatest lessons pertaining to independent thinking and conceptual learning. When left to complete tasks without a supervisor present, you must have a core understanding of what you are doing and the broad scope of the project, compared to just memorization of the procedure. This also reinforces the need for passion in your field so that you actually love and enjoy what you are doing, and it won't just be a tedious task. Although at times the work became very stressful, it was the best and most realistic experience I could have gained on what it would be like to work in the research industry after graduation. For that reason, I am immeasurably thankful, and looking forward to researching again.

As for the equipment I worked with, I used all the basic lab equipment such as pipets, pH probes, the bio-safety cabinet, autoclave, centrifuge, and I also worked proficiently in the anaerobic chamber with the high-performance liquid chromatographer (HPLC). Recording and analyzing data from the HPLC included taking the area of the peaks (that corresponded with each molecule's refraction time), and comparing it to the standard's slope. I also worked with serum bottles: measuring pressure and batch feeding them sugars, vitamins, pH buffer, and media. I sampled and took the optical density (OD) of the bacteria, as well as sparged it with nitrogen gas, before putting it in the shaker to grow. My main responsibility entailed plating bacteria on different agar media, picking the colonies, and letting them grow in the media. Following their growth, I would measure the pressure and sample the Hungate tubes, checking if it grew aerobically, making HPLC samples, and taking the OD. Lastly, I ran Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) on the samples, checking if each bacterium contained the FHS gene. If so, I would then run a 16S PCR and then prep the samples for sequencing (in which they would be sent to another lab to discover the strain).
NSBE & SHPE

National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)

Founded in 1975, NSBE is the largest non-profit, student-operated organization in the United States and abroad. NSBE’s mission is “to increase the number of culturally responsible Black Engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally, and positively impact the community”. The UDel NSBE chapter is a part of Region II’s Danger Zone and this year, we are proud to announce that we had 14 Executive Board members and over 40 general body members. Our chapter is dedicated to maintaining its position as the top professional resource to our members of the UD community. Our goals are to increase chapter membership, enhance academic performance, increase professional networks, and provide conference funding for our members. We also like to stimulate and encourage K-12 students to pursue a career in engineering and seek higher education.

This year, the UDel NSBE chapter sponsored eighteen members to attend the Fall Regional Conference in Pittsburgh, PA where they expanded their professional network, attended career fairs and workshops and even secured interviews, internships, and full-time jobs. We also hosted 7 general body meetings featuring JPMorgan & Chase, Merck, McNair Scholars, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Food Recovery Network, and the Society of Women Engineers. UDel NSBE also hosted a dodgeball tournament in conjunction with the College of Engineering’s Engineers Week celebration.

My name is Alexis Withers, I served as the 19/20’ President of UDel NSBE and I’m so proud of my E-board for stepping up to the plate, challenging themselves, and getting the work done. I’m excited to see what the future holds for our chapter!
Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)

Founded in 1974, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers is the single largest association in the nation for Hispanics in STEM fields. SHPE’s mission revolves around raising awareness, providing access, and preparing Hispanic students/professionals to become leaders in the STEM fields. SHPE members seek to drive innovation, the global economy, and a prosperous Hispanic community. The UD chapter is a part of SHPE Region IV. This year, we are proud to announce over 40 general body members and 7 dedicated executive board members. As one of the most underrepresented minority groups in the UD College of Engineering, SHPE at UD has dedicated itself to the advancement of Hispanic and Latino students by providing opportunities to help students realize their maximum potential. These opportunities have ranged from career workshops to professional networking events and everything in between.

This past semester, SHPE at UD was able to sponsor 8 members to attend the Region 4 SHPE Regional Leadership and Development Conference in Newark, NJ. Students were hosted with a variety of activities that helped them expand upon their leadership, communication, and overall professional networking skills in workshops that culminated in a career fair. This provided students with the opportunity to put their newly gained strategies to the test and lineup interviews for potential positions. Alongside the consistent general body meetings and career development workshops hosted, SHPE collaborated with SWE and the Food Recovery Network, as well as fellow Latinx organizations such as HOLA, La Raza, and CALR. SHPE held two very successful collaborative events with NSBE (special thanks to Alexis!), including a Friendsgiving event where both organizations came together with their similar missions in mind and made hygienic goodie bags for a local homeless shelter.

My name is Giovanni Chacon and as the president of SHPE at UD, I am incredibly proud of my E-board for working so hard to bring back the presence of SHPE on campus despite the many adversities the organization has faced since its initiation. One of the main goals our E-board sought to execute was not only the retention of previous members but the overall growth of the general body and consistent member participation in events. I am proud to say this goal was achieved with flying colors, and I cannot wait to see what the next chapter has in store for the incoming generations of Hispanic engineering students!
RISE Participants
* = indicates students with cumulative GPA 3.0 or higher

Freshman

Samuel Adames Castillo
Toni Akin Adeneken*
Julian Alberto*
Amarachi Anuma*
Alexander Bedoya
Carolina Cassel Durr*
Catherine Clark*
Alyssa Giordani*
Nick Gutierrez
Jonathan Jimenez*
Reece Jones*
Haritima Manchanda*
Taylor Mantell
Eduardo Nombera*
Chisom Ndubisi*
Jason Nolasco-Menchaca*
Victor Riso*
Christopher Robinson
Dean Vanegas*

Sophomore

Abubakarr Bah
Israel Bernal-Ortiz
Nicole Bizzano*
Justin Bouyer

Imani Carter
Shane Cahill
Rebecca Calderon
Noah Cedeno
Badiallo (Mimi) Diani*
Jeff Enemuo*
Angelina Gargiulo*
Jasmine Garvin
Carolina Gomez Casas*
Veronica Harrer*
Marcus Holly
Emily Jiménez*
Panayiotis Kalamaras*
Alex LaMattina*
Joshua Miles*
Tatenda Mlambo*
Kiera Morgan*
Oluwaseyi Osinubi*
Kristin Paragian*
Michael Ramos
Deanna Salinas*
Bryan Sevilla Garduno
Jalen Smith
Lauren Smith*
Paul Traumiller*
Brett Wagner*
RISE Participants

* indicates students with GPA>3.0

**Juniors**

Alvaro Aguirre
Alex Attard*
Sitlaly Avelino*
Sicily Bordrick*
Luke Brusse*
Gabriela Carlisle*
Giovanni Chacon*
Emily Chapman*
Peter Diaz*
Ryan Emenheiser*
Christopher Evans*
Luis Garcia-Osorio*
Joseph Gonzalez*
Warren Harmon*
Muizz Hassanali
Marcus Holly*
Jackson Iorio*
Afiq Ahmad Kamal*
Sean McNamara
Keith Morgan*
Ntseesang Ndingwan
Azwani Norhisham*
Jasmine Pearcy*
Maximilian Perez-Mas
Miles Phillips*
Matias Saavedra-Silva*
Hailey Santana
Gustavo Silveira*
Afsatu Simpson*
Harrison Smith*
Kai Starnes*

Danielle Swana
Ursula Vasquez*
Julianna Wayne*

**Seniors**

Patrick Aceves*
Alainee Barkley*
Isabel Carulli*
Michael Cerri*
Tyler DuBose*
Brandon Garcia*
Jorge Hernandez*
Heidi Herrera*
Emilia Leyes*
Sean Morris*
Kaitlin Murphy*
Aaron Parr*
Diego Pineda-Garcia
Jared Pineiro*
Sienna Pyle*
Alexis Withers*
Francisco Calderon Zavala
Graduating Seniors 2020

Alainee Makell Barkley
Civil Engineering

Plans after Graduation: I am currently seeking employment in the construction and/or project management fields. I will be applying to UD to be a part of the online MBA program with a concentration in Business Analytics for the upcoming school year.

Honors & Awards Received:
Dean's List all 8 semesters
Honors Degree in Civil Engineering
RISE Program TEHEKA Scholarship

Words of Wisdom: Yoshida Kenko said that "the most precious thing in life is its uncertainty," so don't worry if things don't go as planned -- that's what backups are for. However, always make sure to have a backup plan, and maybe even a backup plan for the original backup plan."

Isabel Carulli
Biomedical Engineering
Plans after Graduation: Studying for the MCAT and applying to Medical Schools

Honors & Awards Received:
Department of Biomedical Engineering Distinguished Junior Award
McNair Scholar
Honors Degree With Distinction - Completion of a Senior Thesis

Words of Wisdom: “Do the best you can until you know better. Then, when you know better, do better.” - Maya Angelou

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Michael H. Cerri
Chemical Engineering

Plans after Graduation: Automation Validation Engineer for Panacea Technologies

Honors & Awards Received:
Graduated with Honors
David Short Memorial Award for Senior Design
Dean's List multiple times

Words of Wisdom: “Man does not simply exist but always decides what his existence will be.”
–Victor Frankl. Work hard to do things you can be proud of.

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Tyler DuBose  
Civil Engineering

**Plans after Graduation:** I will pursue a Master’s degree in Structural Engineering at the University of Delaware.

**Honors & Awards Received:**
Recipient of ACECMD Scholarship  
Recipient of the General Honors Award  
2019 Mid-Atlantic Geowall Competition Winner

**Words of Wisdom:** “The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.” -Vince Lombardi

Brandon Michael Garcia  
Civil Engineering
**Plans after Graduation:** I am still in the process of confirming my next career move. However, I am aiming toward working as a structural engineer in New York City.

**Honors & Awards Received:**
- UD Presidential Scholarship Recipient
- Herbert Moore Scholarship Recipient
- Delta Chi Fraternity Founding Father

**Words of Wisdom:** “Aim for success, not perfection. Never give up your right to be wrong, because then you will lose the ability to learn new things and move forward with your life. Remember that fear always lurks behind perfectionism.” – David M. Burns

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**Jorge Ernan Hernandez-Limon**
Civil Engineering & Political Science

**Plans after Graduation:** Pursue a Master's in Public policy degree at UD

**Honors & Awards Received:**
- Vandemark & Lynch Sophomore Award
- Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Award for (LSAMP)
- Dean's list all 4 years of College

**Words of Wisdom:** “I think many of the world's problems can be solved if the world could develop a solid sense of humor.”
Heidi D. Herrera
Environmental Engineering

Plans after Graduation: I will pursue a Master's in Environmental Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Honors & Awards Received:
Dean's list Fall 16, Spring 19, Fall 19, Spring 20
UD Presidential Scholarship

Words of Wisdom: "There are no limits to what you can accomplish, except the limits you place on your own thinking"- Brian Tracy
Emilia Leyes
Chemical Engineering

Plans after Graduation: I will pursue a PhD in Chemical Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania.

Honors & Awards Received:
Honors Degree
Distinguished Scholar
Slocomb Scholarship in Engineering

Words of Wisdom: “Some advice: The "imposter syndrome" is a normal part of embarking on new experiences. It's easy to feel out of place as we learn and grow in our personal and professional lives. Make sure to keep some good friends and mentors in your corner and you'll be ready to face any challenges coming your way!”

Sean Morris
Mechanical Engineering
**Plans after Graduation:** I will be working as a Jr. Design Engineer for Fluid Metering, as a member of their Product Development team. I will be joining projects to help design new products and fix existing problems throughout the company's catalog of fluid pumps.

**Honors & Awards Received:** Dean's List

**Words of Wisdom:** “My four years at UD have given me some of my best moments, and also some of the most difficult moments of my life. However difficult a class or project, all you can do is keep working and put your all into it. As cliche as it sounds, try your hardest, keep pushing, and everything will be okay in the end. Good luck to everyone and never be afraid to reach out!”

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**Kaitlin Murphy**  
**Environmental Engineering**

**Plans after Graduation:** In the process of looking for an environmental engineering consulting job in New York.

**Honors & Awards Received:**  
1st place People’s Choice Senior Design award  
Dean’s List 4 semesters  
Member of National Society of Leadership and Success

**Words of Wisdom:** “Self doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will. Always believe in yourself; you can accomplish anything you set your mind to.”
Aaron L. Parr  
Chemical Engineering

**Plans after Graduation:** I will work for Covanta, as a Plant Engineer, at a Long Island Waste-to-Energy Facility, scoping/ designing/ leading engineering projects for boiler efficiency and reliability.

**Honors & Awards Received:**
- Honors Degree
- Dean's List
- RISE Program Participant

**Words of Wisdom:** “The second law of thermodynamics dictates that entropy (disorder) is always increasing. You can’t control entropy any better than you can control many pieces of your life, but hard work and great friends will certainly give entropy a run for its money.”

Jared Piñeiro  
Electrical Engineering
Plans after Graduation: In the process of confirming my next career/educational move.

Honors & Awards Received:
Honors Enrichment Award
Dean’s List every semester
Second place in Horn Entrepreneurship Pitch Party

Words of Wisdom: “Some days, you’re the mud under your shoe, some days you’re the shoe that stepped in mud. Other days, you’re the you who stepped in mud. In any case, be kind.”

Sienna Pyle
Biomedical Engineering

Plans after Graduation: I will be pursuing a Ph.D. in bioengineering at the University of Pennsylvania

Honors & Awards Received:
Honors degree with distinction
Biomedical Engineering Chairperson’s Award
McNair Fellowship

Words of Wisdom: “Learn to take failures in stride because you never know what you’ll learn from them or what opportunities they will lead to in the future!”
Alexis Withers
Civil Engineering, Sustainable Infrastructure

Plans after Graduation: After graduation I will start graduate school at the University of Delaware on a fully sponsored assistantship program. I will be earning my Master's in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Transportation and will graduate in May of 2021. Upon graduation, I plan to accept 1/3 current employment offers that I have as a Transportation Engineer in the state of Delaware.

Honors & Awards Received:
Winter 2019 Civil Engineering Study Abroad Grant to Melbourne, Australia | 2019 Suzanne Auxworthy Undergraduate Scholarship Recipient on behalf of the Philadelphia Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) Chapter | 2020 Joseph and Peggy McMahon Transportation Engineering Scholarship Recipient

Words of Wisdom: “My advice to other students of engineering would be to utilize your resources, get connected and get involved. You never know how far one connection can go and it can open many doors and opportunities.”