

IEEE News

April 2014

Volume 1, Issue 1

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, University of Florida

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Mission Statement:

This monthly newsletter will inform, entertain, and connect the students of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Florida. This newsletter links students to our university and future workplace by presenting articles on our department, industry, and events hosted by the different campus organizations.

The IEEE News needs your help in making this a better newsletter. Please e-mail your comments, events, and

ideas at IEEE.UF.Newsletter@gmail.com

A Message from Nicole Young

The EE Department has a new Undergraduate Advisor. Here is an interview with her regarding changes in the EE and EC curriculum, as well as a message to all students.

There are some changes to the EE curriculum. In the new curriculum, EEL 3105 - Analytical Methods will not be offered after Spring 2014. Instead it will be replaced by MAS 3114 - Computational Linear Algebra. In addition, EGN 1002 – Introduction to Engineering – will no longer be required for this major. Lastly, for programing credit requirement, students will have 3 choices EEL3834; COP2271/COP2271L and COP3275.



The CE software and hardware degrees will merge into one. It now allows you to take 18 electives credits instead of 15. Also, under the new curriculum, Circuits-2 and Electronic Circuits-1 will not be required, but will count as an elective if already taken. Another major change for CE is that either EEL 3105 or MAS 3114 will be required, but not both. If you want to switch to this new curriculum, keep in mind that you can switch anytime from the old one to the new one. But you cannot switch from the new one to the old one. These changes are effective Fall 2014.

Registration period is approaching fast. If you have not visited your advisor, do so promptly. Their doors are open to any of your questions or concerns.

A message from Ms. Young to all undergraduate students states, "My academic philosophy is basic and to the point: help all, no matter what their GPA may be, because everyone wants to feel like they belong and are worthwhile. When I decided to change my career path to Academic Advising, my main concern was to help the students that resembled me the most as an undergraduate student. When I say this, I am not talking about my culture or my

ethnicity. I am talking about students that want to learn and have a desire to learn, but whose hard work just doesn't translate when it comes to their grades. And we all know that grades are how all college students are measured and defined. I use a three premise theory when it comes to advising my student population. The first premise is to make all students feel comfortable in their new college environment. The second premise is recognizing that each student is intelligent in their own way. I never let a student feel inferior because of their GPA, because all students can eventually find a major that fits their strengths and provides them a real niche in the campus community. The third premise is a common sense doctrine: when a student needs to hear the truth, I say what needs to be said with tact and compassion."

- Valentina Rendon, CE Junior

Information Session



In February, former astronaut Jim Halsell and Dynetics recruiter Rick Wilbourn, spoke to UF students about Dynetics and current student opportunities.

Jim Halsell, began his career as a U.S. Air Force officer pilot and later on was a test pilot. There, he performed test flights in the F-4, F-16, and SR-71 aircraft. Over the years, Halsell earned degrees in engineering, management, and space operations. He was selected by NASA and became an astronaut. He has logged over 1,000 hours in space! He was on five space shuttle missions, two of which he was the pilot and the others as commander. Halsell now

serves as the Technical Director of Advanced Space Launch Systems at Dynetics.

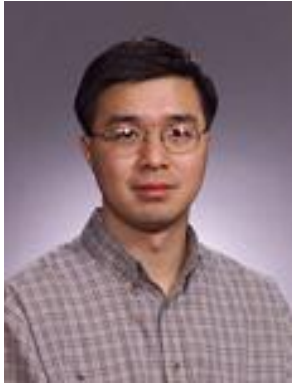
Dynetics is committed to provide engineering solutions to their customers' complex engineering challenges in intelligence, missiles, aviation, cyber, and space. Their customer list includes the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Intelligence Community, and NASA. Founded in 1974, Dynetics is an employee-owned company headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama. They currently have 1,300 employees with offices all over the United States, including Florida.

In just 40 years, Dynetics has developed and accomplished a lot. They have been a leader in ballistic missile defense and are the primary resource of specialized aerodynamic systems to the Air Force. Also, they began to supply electrical test systems to commercial automotive producers in the 1990s. Information technology and cybersecurity are a significant part of the business, as well as their entrance into the space industry by partnering in developing micro-satellites. Dynetics' presence in a variety of industries provides many opportunities for employees.

Recruiter Rick Wilbourn stated that Dynetics is now recruiting for both intern and full-time positions. In particular, they are looking for students in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, or Mechanical Engineering. The summer 2014 internship list offers interns a hands on experience with ongoing Dynetics projects in a range of fields. Dynetics is also looking for full time UF post-graduates with a variety of areas. A GPA of 3.0 is required, and they offer a competitive salary as well as coordination assistance to new hires. For more details and other job listing, go to jobs.dynetics.com

- Monique Samuels, EE Sophomore

Interview with Professor Wong



In 1998, Dr. Tan F. Wong came to UF. He grew up in Hong Kong, where he got his bachelor's degree. Professor Wong received his master's degree from Purdue University. After that, he went to Sydney, Australia, where he worked as a research

engineer on a team that did important work on the 802.11a wifi standard, the first wifi.

After three years in Australia, Dr. Wong returned to Purdue to earn his doctorate degree. His thesis dealt with CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access, a radio communication method). After completing his doctorate, he came to the University of Florida.

Dr. Wong is a family man. He is married and has two sons, aged 14 and 16 who attend high school in the area.

Currently, Professor Wong teaches EEL3135 - Signals and Systems and EEL4514 - Communication Systems and Components. He enjoys teaching graduate level courses when he can. Next semester Professor Wong hopes to modernize the Communications lab to feature software defined radio.

Dr. Wong also does research in wireless security. He has worked on determining how much information can be sent through a compromised channel. Most recently, he worked on how to detect when transmitted information has been modified by a third party.

Professor Wong is an active member in the UF community. He was part of the UF team that competed at the DARPA Spectrum Challenge. The DARPA Spectrum Challenge started two years ago and is hosted by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. The final phase ended in mid-March.

There are two different competitions in the challenge. In the combative competition, two teams compete on the same band using similar equipment to transmit data while blocking the other team from transmitting their data. In the cooperative competition, several, randomly selected teams using the same band and similar equipment attempted to transfer data without hogging the channel. The teams must share the same channel without communicating with each other. The UF team was one of eighteen teams to make it through the qualifiers last year. In the most recent challenge, UF's team made it to the semifinals in both competitions and placed fifth overall. Professor Wong says, "it was a great experience, and I hope DARPA puts the challenge on again."

Professor Wong is a great asset to UF. He shares his knowledge with students in the classroom, as well as in competitions like DARPA. If you take EEL3135 or EEL4514, there is a good chance you will meet Professor Wong and have the opportunity to learn and have fun in his class or be part of his team.

- Matthew Griessler, EE Junior



T.I. Tech Talk:

WECE cordially invites you to The "Next Generation Medical Devices Advances in Medical Applications based on DLP Technology," where Leigh Files from Texas Instrument's DLP group will give a talk on DLP (Digital Light Processing), as well as many other innovative medical instruments.

When? April 8th

Time? 5:30 PM

Where? MCCB G086

This event is open to all majors and will be offering free food.