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| **Derek Nichols** | | | | | | | | |
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| (814) 207-3639 | | | | | | | | |
| dnichols32@gatech.edu  http://www.derek-nichols.com | | | | | | | | |
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| **EDUCATION** | | | | | | | | |
| GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, ATLANTA, GA  *George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering* | | | | *Expected Graduation*: TBD | | | | |
| * Pursuing a PhD in Mechanical Engineering | | | | | | | | |
| UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, PITTSBURGH, PA  *Swanson School of Engineering* | | | | *Graduation Date*: April 30, 2017 | | | | |
| * Bachelor’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering - *Summa Cum Laude* * Minors in Bioengineering and Mathematics | | | | | | | | |
| **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE** | | | | | | | | |
| CROSSWIND NACELLE SEPARATION FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS | | | | | | August 2017-Present | | |
| * Researching under Professor Ari Glezer * Funded by The Boeing Company * Awarded NSF GRFP fellowship to fund tuition and stipend for three years * Awarded Orville and Wilbur Wright Graduate Award by AIAA to support research * Perform experiments to better understand nacelle separation produced by crosswinds * Responsible for developing new and innovative ways to negate the effects of inlet separation  during takeoff and landing | | | | | | | | |
| OSTEOCHONDRAL BIOREACTOR RESEARCH PROJECT | | | | | | December 2014-February 2018 | | |
| * Researched with university professors Dr. Paolo Zunino and Dr. Riccardo Gottardi * Awarded SSOE Summer 2016 Research Internship to conduct full time research over the summer * Developed bioreactor prototypes used to test drugs for osteoarthritis with the goal of  maximizing drug exposure using microfluidics * Created models in SolidWorks for testing in ANSYS to assess drug exposure * 3D printed models tested in a laboratory to compare theoretical and actual results | | | | | | | | |
| JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS | | | | | |  | | |
| * **D. Nichols**, I. Sondh, S. Little, P. Zunino, R. Gottardi. Design and validation of an osteochondral bioreactor for the screening of treatments for osteoarthritis. *Biomedical Microdevices.* February 14, 2018. * **D. Nichols**, I. Sondh, P. Zunino, R. Gottardi. Creating an Osteochondral Bioreactor for the Screening of Treatments for Osteoarthritis. *Ingenium 2017.* February 2017. | | | | | | | | |
| CONFERENCE PAPERS | | | | | | | | |
| * **D. Nichols**, B. Vukasinovic, A. Glezer, M. DeFore, B. Rafferty, F. Palacios. Characterization and Control of a Nacelle Inlet Flow in Crosswind. *AIAA Aviation.* June 21, 2019. | | | | | | | | |
| CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS | | | | | |  | | |
| * **D. Nichols**, B. Vukasinovic, A. Glezer, M. DeFore, B. Rafferty. Fluidic Control of Round Inlet Flow in a Crosswind. *72nd Annual Meeting of the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics*. November 25, 2019. * **D. Nichols**, B. Vukasinovic, A. Glezer, M. DeFore, B. Rafferty, F. Palacios. Characterization and Control of a Nacelle Inlet Flow in Crosswind. *AIAA Aviation.* June 21, 2019. * R. Gottardi, G. Riccardis, M. Avolio, **D. Nichols**, et al. A 3D Printed Microfluidic Bioreactor to Engineer Biphasic Construct. *2018 AlChE.* November 1, 2018. | | | | | | | | |
| POSTERS | | | | | |  | | |
| * **D. Nichols**, I. Sondh, P. Zunino, R. Gottardi. Optimizing an Osteochondral Bioreactor for the Screening of Treatments for Osteoarthritis. Science 2016, Pittsburgh, PA, October 2016. * I. Sondh, **D. Nichols**, E. Bayer, R. Gottardi, S.R. Little. Development of a bioreactor aimed at designing spatial and temporal drug delivery profiles for bone regeneration protocols. Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, October 2016. | | | | | | | | |
| **TEACHING EXPERIENCE** | | | | | | | | |
| FLUID MECHANICS TEACHING ASSISTANT | | | | | | Fall 2019 | | |
| * Head TA for Ari Glezer’s Fluid Mechanics class * Average CIOS grade of 4.97/5 measuring overall teaching effectiveness * Wrote homework and exam problems and solutions, study guides, and lesson plans * Held weekly office hours and review sessions for the exams | | | | | | | | |
| TECH TO TEACHING CERTIFICATE | | | | | | | Fall 2019-Present | |
| * To fulfill the foundations of teaching and learning, took Fundamentals in Teaching  and Learning (Fall 2019) and Course Design (Spring 2020) to give theoretical basis for teaching * Will aim to take the Teaching Capstone in Fall 2020 to assess my teaching abilities | | | | | | | | |
| MEMS SENIOR DESIGN UNDERGRADUTE TEACHING ASSISTANT | | | | | | | Spring 2017 | |
| * Asked by Dr. Schmidt to help assist senior design because of our team’s drive and work ethic * First time UTAs were ever employed for Pitt’s MEMS senior design class * Created lectures and lesson plans for both senior design and its prequel class * Ushered groups along and assessed their progress throughout the course * Acted as project sponsors for team continuing the Foldie project | | | | | | | | |
| **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE** | | | | | | | | |
| MEMS SENIOR DESIGN: FOLDIE – THE LAUNDRY FOLDING ROBOT | | | | | | | Fall 2016 | |
| * Laundry folding robot project self-led by an interdisciplinary team of engineering students * $650 operating budget to design, prototype, build, and test the design of the system * Won best presentation, 2nd overall in electrical engineering, and 2nd overall in mechanical engineering | | | | | | | | |
| FRESHMEN ENGINEERING PROJECT | | | | | | January 2014-April 2014 | | |
| * The *da Vinci* Surgical System and Its Benefits to Radical Prostatectomies * Observed gallbladder removals with the d*a Vinci* Surgical System * Swanson School of Engineering 2014 freshmen engineering conference award winner for best poster in session | | | | | | | | |
| PITT MAKERSPACE VOLUNTEER | | | | | | April 2016-May 2017 | | |
| * Swanson School's Makerspace is a place for engineering students to create, innovate and collaborate * Volunteered three days a week overseeing and assisting in the fabrication and design of student projects | | | | | | | | |
| PI TAU SIGMA | | | | | October 2015-Present | | | |
| * National mechanical engineering honor society * Held the office of treasurer | | | | | | | | |
| COMPUTER SKILLS | | | | | |  | | |
| * Experienced with: | SolidWorks | Siemens NX | Autodesk | | MATLAB | | DaVis | Tecplot |
| * Exposure to: | EES | UNIX | C++ | | Assembly | | Python | ANSYS |