NOTES FOR NEW THAYER Ph.D. STUDENTS

1. Welcome to Thayer School of Engineering and Dartmouth College!

2. Please spend some time reading the section of Thayer's Guide to Programs and Courses entitled "Doctor of Philosophy." You will find a complete description of the Ph.D. degree requirements there, as well as a description of various program options that you may wish to pursue in advancing your professional and career objectives.

3. In consultation with your adviser you will form a Special Advisory Committee. This committee should include your prospective research adviser, who will serve as your principal adviser for now and perhaps throughout your residence at Thayer. For balance, the committee also includes at least one member of the faculty whose research interests are likely to be significantly different from your own. The aim of this committee is to assist you in identifying an individual program of study and training that fulfills the Ph.D. program requirements described in the Program Guide, consistent with your research and professional interests and prior training. The committee will also encourage you to pursue opportunities for professional and career development that may lie outside the traditional doctoral research experience. *Consider your Special Advisory Committee as a resource.* Each member of the committee is genuinely interested in seeing you flourish at Thayer School.

4. You will have met each professor on your Special Advisory Committee by the end of your first term in residence at Thayer School because *you must secure the approval and signature of each committee member on your PhD program plan which is due before the second term in residence*. Of course, your initial course selection may be changed at any time throughout the year with the endorsement of your special committee.

5. If you have taken any graduate courses before entering Thayer's Ph.D. program, and you wish to have those courses considered in designing a graduate curriculum that will meet your professional objectives while at Thayer School and beyond, it is important that you list such courses on the "Graduate Course Equivalence and Credit" form that will be provided during orientation. You must also secure appropriate faculty endorsements for graduate course equivalence and credits as indicated on the form (all Ph.D. program forms can also be obtained in the Academic and Student Affairs Office, 103 MacLean). *This list of prior course credits will be used by your Special Advisory Committee in recommending or endorsing your schedule of first year courses.*

6. *You are required to enroll in four terms of ENGG 195, Science, Technology and Society (the "Jones Seminar").* This one-hour seminar is a weekly, school-wide meeting of the Thayer community of scholars—faculty, researchers, and graduate students. Topics span the full range of research interests at Thayer. The seminars are intended to be intellectually accessible to all in attendance regardless of the disciplinary focus. Seminar meetings occur every Friday at 3:30 PM during the regular Fall, Winter, and Spring terms. These seminars will help you acquire a greater degree of intellectual breadth—scientific, technical, and professional. In addition, students will be required to sign up for and participate in 2-3 lunches with Jones Seminar speakers each term, and you have the choice of which speakers you would like to have lunch with. The students are expected to read the material submitted by the speaker and to have prepared questions for the speaker. Discussion will be moderated by the instructor. The grade for this seminar will be based on attendance and participation in discussions.

7. If you have any questions about the Ph.D. program in engineering or about special career development opportunities such as acquiring teaching experience, engineering management or design and development training, feel free to stop by the MS/PhD Program Director's office, Brian Pogue, 132 Cummings, anytime for more information or just to chat; you can also call or send an email message if you prefer.