



The Dodecahedron



A note from our President

Greetings Fellow AAIE Members,

We had a fantastic banquet back in April, and I don't want this group of Razorback Industrial Engineers to lose the momentum and energy we had at that event. The AAIE Board met over the summer in Fayetteville. I left the meeting very thankful for the great group of people now leading our organization. If we get half of what we talked about during the board meeting accomplished, it will be a very successful and rewarding year.

I want to bring a couple of important dates to everyone's attention:

Mentor Circles Kick-Off is on Saturday, September 15, 2018. Go to: uaineg.wufoo.com/forms/zjh5hdk0s5cnq9/ to sign up.

Mock Interviews are on Thursday, September 20, 2018 from 8 AM - 2:30 PM. Email Karen Jewell - karen.jewell@jbhunt.com to sign up.

Please consider participating in either or both of these activities if you are able.

Lastly, we have an interesting issue with membership and our bylaws that the Board of Directors wants to address. Our bylaws state: "The number of new Academic Members added during any year shall not exceed one (1)" and also, "Graduates employed by the University of Arkansas system shall not be eligible for induction during such employment."

We have some Academic Members that were inducted into the AAIE when they were at other schools, such as our past University Chancellor and current Distinguished

Professor, Dr. John White, and our current Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr. John English. Both of them are currently employed by the University of Arkansas system. There are current members of our faculty that have IE



Vance Clement
BSIE 1992
AAIE President

degrees from the University of Arkansas and are eligible for AAIE membership but the bylaws do not allow it. When AAIE only had 25 or 50 members, it was important that Academic Members did not overwhelm or become the majority of members in the organization, and we believe that is why these rules were placed in the bylaws originally. As our ranks have swelled past 200 members, this is much less of an issue. The Arkansas Academy of Civil Engineering allows faculty members in their organization. The Board of Directors would like to move forward with a change to our bylaws that allow Academic Members that are currently on faculty to join AAIE. It doesn't make sense that our faculty has to leave our school before we allow them to join. We believe we are doing them and our organization a disservice with our current bylaws. I'm interested in your opinion so please email me any thoughts you have.

Sincerely, Vance

vance.clement@gmail.com

Fall 2018

AAIE
Officers

Vance Clement
President

Jonathan Fite
President-Elect

Karen Jewell
Secretary

Vacant
Treasurer

Ami Spivey
Past President

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Student Profile: Alicia McComb



The student spotlight for the fall DODEC is on Alicia McComb, who is headed into her final year working on her BSIE, with a target graduation in May 2019. Her path getting to this point has not been direct or easy, but she has persevered, and has her target in sight. Born in Chicago, Alicia grew up in Marianna, AR, and headed to the U of A right out of high school. The events of 9/11 had a major impact on Alicia; she kept thinking there was more that could be done

to help people in this kind of situation, so she started her university journey in Mechanical Engineering with her eyes on the goal of working for the Department of Homeland Security. Alicia is the first member of her family to get a degree in the Engineering discipline. She has always had a strong role model in her mother, who is certified as a welder and worked in that trade for years. Her mother showed her that her goals need only be defined by what she wanted to do, not what was easy or expected.

As happens with many of us, life got in the way and Alicia did not finish her degree in ME. Over the years, she kept a college degree as one of her goals, but being a single parent, working and the increasing cost of an education seemed to always stand in the way. In 2010 Alicia decided to tackle that goal through online education and started working on a degree in Criminal Justice. Online degrees in Engineering disciplines were not available at that time, so she figured that getting a BS degree in Criminal Justice could get her started at the DHS, and she could then pursue a master's Degree in engineering.

In 2016, the opportunity presented itself to return to school at the U of A and work on an engineering degree. Still looking back to the events of 9/11, Alicia concluded that this

was not necessarily a mechanical problem, but a systems problem - process and systems could have helped with rescue and coordination of services. A conversation with Dr. Tish Pohl about Industrial Engineering sealed that opinion and she moved her major from ME, to IE; IE connected better with what she wanted to do with her life. She most enjoys the aspects of Industrial Engineering that guide the understanding of process in feasible terms, and then documenting and implementing those processes.

Switching to IE answered one big question but there was still the financial burden of paying for her education. Being a single mom of 3 (Kamrin 10, Kamara 9, Jeremiah 6), means juggling not just expenses for school, but also for her children's needs along with child care when needed. For Alicia and her kids, student loans and grants can help but only go so far. For Alicia and her kids, AAIE scholarships have made the difference to allow her to stay in school and complete her degree. The existence of AAIE and the scholarships available was not something she was aware of prior to joining the IE department and it came as a welcome surprise. Attending the AAIE banquet this past April, allowed Alicia to meet and talk to her scholarship donors in person. She noted especially the sincere effort of the AAIE membership to help getting students where they want to go in life. While it was a little overwhelming as a student to talk to so many people successful out in the workforce, she found it enlightening as to the impact the AAIE has on the department and student body.

The upcoming year 2019 will hold a lot of exciting changes for Alicia – graduation with her BSIE degree, a new job, and most likely, plans to work on a master's degree. Whatever she chooses, she will tackle it with the same fire and determination that has gotten her to this point.

"I am so grateful for the support of the IE Academy members, and I want to be able to pay it forward when I am able."

Scholarship News

2017-18 was truly a year to remember for the Arkansas Academy of Industrial Engineering Scholarship Program, and you, the Academy Members and Friends, are the very ones who made it happen. I want to share just a few of the highlights of this banner year.

Scholarship donations exceeded \$250,000, nearly \$100,000 more than the previous record which was set only a year earlier.

\$80,000 in new scholarships were awarded to 51 Industrial Engineering students at the 2018 student banquet.

The new AAIE Graduate Studies Endowment was initiated in September 2017 and now has in excess of \$210,000 of permanently endowed funding.

Seventy-three members and AAIE friends made contributions to one or more of the four Academy Endowments—another record.

More members than ever took advantage of the monthly or quarterly on-line options to make gifts (aaie.uark.edu).

I never know for certain where donation totals will end for a new year. However I am confident that with your continued energetic support the Academy they will exceed \$100,000 of new gifts once again, a trend

that started in 2015 and has continued to grow every year since. After averaging approximately \$40,000 annually from 2009 thru 2014, Academy donations totaled \$650,000 the last four years.

The primary objective of the AAIE Scholarship Program is to provide financial assistance to deserving students, and with your support, scholarships will continue to grow again this year. AAIE is positioned to provide a minimum of \$90,000 in new scholarships next spring. In addition, I honestly believe annual AAIE Scholarship Awards will exceed \$100,000 in the near future!

THANK YOU ALL FOR MAKING IT HAPPEN—LET’S KEEP IT GOING with 100% MEMBER PARTICIPATION!!



**Bob Etien
Scholarship Chair**

“All four AAIE Scholarship Endowments grew in value and are at record levels. Academy Endowments now exceed \$2,400,000. (see attached chart)”

AAIE Scholarships

	Academic	Financial Needs	JI Global Studies	Graduate Studies	Endowed Totals	Scholarship Awards
7-1-14	\$881,000	\$337,000	\$406,000	NA	\$1,624,000	\$53,000
7-1-15	\$976,000	\$342,000	\$396,000	NA	\$1,714,000	\$67,500
7-1-16	\$996,000	\$399,000	\$388,000	NA	\$1,783,000	\$70,000
7-1-17	\$1,126,000	\$542,000	\$432,000	NA	\$2,100,000	\$75,000
7-1-18	\$1,195,000	\$581,000	\$462,000	\$217,000	\$2,455,000	\$80,000

To make a contribution:

**Please make check payable to:
University of
Arkansas Foundation
and mail to:**

AAIE
Dept of
Industrial Engineering
4207 Bell
Engineering Center
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701

OR

Online at:
<https://aaie.uark.edu/giving/>

And don't forget to ask if your company offers matching donations!



“The 2017-2018 academic year was filled with many achievements and new initiatives in the department.”

From the Department...

Dear AAIE Members,

This is my favorite time of year on campus! The students have arrived and there is new energy and excitement around the entire campus. We begin the fall 2018 semester with great momentum following a highly successful academic year.

The 2017-2018 academic year was filled with many achievements and new initiatives. We had an outstanding class of seniors graduate. This past year we had two IE students, Rachel Holmer and Grace McGee selected as Seniors of Significance by the Arkansas Alumni Association. Seventy-one graduating seniors from across the University are recognized for their academic achievements, leadership skills, extracurricular activities and community service through this program. Rachel Holmer also received the College of Engineering Outstanding Senior award, and is starting her Master’s degree at MIT this fall.

Our students continue to win nationally competitive scholarships and awards. Our spring graduate placement rate was 92% with an average starting salary of \$63,858. Companies from all around the US recruit our students. We feel that their success is credited to their own hard work, our quality faculty members, and the support provided by AAIE. Our students benefit greatly from A4U Mock Interviews, Mentor Circles, and AAIE Scholarships.

Our two-semester Capstone course involved 19 student teams and 7 industry partners. We received great feedback from our partnering organizations about the professionalism of our students and the quality and applicability of the final work products that they delivered.

Dean of Engineering, Dr. John English was selected as the Outstanding Capstone Advisor this year.

As many of you learned at the annual



business meeting in April, our students and faculty are excelling in the national spotlight and bringing positive visibility to our program.

One of the most noteworthy events we celebrated since the April meeting was when Kelly Sullivan received the National Science Foundation Early Career Development (CAREER) Award. The CAREER Award is the most prestigious grant for young faculty members and will amount to \$500k over five years!



Dr. Ed Pohl
Department Head



Heather Nachtmann received the 2018 Wellington Award from the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers (IISE). This award recognizes outstanding long-term contributions and service in

the field of engineering economy.

Also recognized by IISE, Art Chaovalitwongse received the 2018 Award for Technical Innovation in Industrial Engineering.

During the past academic year, we were pleased to receive the Daniel E. Ferritor Award for Departmental Excellence in Teaching. This was a rewarding end to an involved nomination process that gave us the opportunity to review our best practices, and set future goals. We appreciate Dr. John White for taking the lead on the nomination. These are just a few of the highlights among our faculty successes.



(Continued on page 5)

As we begin the fall semester, we have six new graduate students who were awarded some of the highest university level fellowships. Among those, we have two Distinguished Academic Fellows and four Distinguished Doctoral Fellows. Having these new students with fellowships is a big step forward in continuing to improve the quality of our graduate program and our program ranking.

We feel that we are on an upward trajectory and look forward to the 2018-2019 year!

Thank you for all you do for our department!



Provost Jim Coleman and Jeannie Whyne, chair of the Ferritor Award Review Committee, present a \$10,000 department award to Ed Pohl, head of the Department of Industrial Engineering.

Timeline of the Arkansas Academy of Industrial Engineering

In 2010 the AAIE celebrated its 25th anniversary. As a memento of the celebration a timeline was constructed that demonstrated the highlights of the first 25 years. In 2015 the timeline was updated for the 30th anniversary. You can view the actual timeline in the Craven's Conference Room in the Department next time you are in town!



“At the end of the day, it is up to us to open the door to new members by asking people to join.”

To nominate new AAIE members, fill out the PDF nomination form available on the AAIE website:

<http://aaie.ineg.uark.edu/AAIE/Membership.html>

then email to:

Alvin Rhodes

alvinrh55@yahoo.com

or mail to:

AAIE:
Nominations
Department of
Industrial Engineering
4207 Bell
Engineering Center
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Membership Committee

YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE!

Fall is membership and development time, a time to focus on and appreciate your members, celebrate their devotion to the organization and the impact they have made. It’s also a time to think about developing strategies and growing your membership. The reason why AAIE is such a successful organization is because it is full of members that have one trait in common - the passion to make a difference.

All of us share this passion and it is what drives us to work together. Each of us knows at least one person that might be a good fit for AAIE! All we have to do is ask. At the end of the day, it is up to us to open the door to new members by asking people to join. What’s your membership goal this year?

The basic membership requirements are: University of Arkansas Industrial Engineering graduate for at least 15 years and professional activities that show a distinguished track record in their career field. Each candidate nominated will be reviewed by the Membership Committee and then be sent to the Academy Board. After the Academy Board reviews and recommends the nominees, a ballot will be sent to all active members for final acceptance.

To nominate a candidate, please fill out the nomination form which can be downloaded from the AAIE website at aaie.uark.edu/membership



**Alvin Rhodes
BSIE 1996
Membership Chair**

Complete the nomination form with as much information as possible and send to Karen Standley at standle@uark.edu or mail to the department address. Nominations should be submitted no later than December 31, 2018.

If you have any questions, you can email me at alvinrh55@yahoo.com or call 469-682-3251.

*Alvin Rhodes (BSIE '96)
AAIE Membership Chair*

Board of Directors	Officers	Year Ending	Name
Board Member	President	2021	Vance Clement
Board Member	Secretary	2019	Karen Jewell
Board Member	Past President	2019	Ami Spivey
Board Member	Pres-Elect	2019	Jonathon Fite
Board Member		2020	Angela Kuli
Board Member		2020	Alvin Rhodes
Board Member		2020	Rita Willcoxon
Board Member		2020	Derek Malstrom
Board Member	Treasurer	2021	Vacant
Board Member		2021	Martha Wolf

Introducing the new A4U Chair:

Hello, my name is Marc Alley and I am currently Senior Director of Engineering for JB Hunt's Dedicated Contract Services division and I'm excited for the opportunity to be working with A4U this upcoming year. I'm a native of Northwest Arkansas and enjoy seeing all the growth of the area. When not working I can be found on the local back roads or mountain bike trails on two wheels, hanging out with my wife and 3 kids, or simply enjoying outdoors of NWA.

I hold a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from The University of Arkansas (2000) and a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering from Georgia Tech (2004) with over 20 years of experience in transportation, logistics management, and supply chain optimization. I specialize in Logistics Engineering which includes fleet design, optimization and continuous improvement. I've worked with and hired many IE's in my career and enjoy developing and mentoring them as they discover the many paths they can take in their careers. I was very fortunate to have upper classmen in my undergraduate years support and guide me and understand how impactful that was in guiding one's future. I can even recall from early in my career gaining advice from other senior peers, that today I can't imagine where I would be without. Having the opportunity to be able to give back in this way is very rewarding for me

and I look forward the opportunity.

September is a busy month for A4U. We have already had communication for Mentor Circles and Mock Interviews have been sent out by Karen and Ross. The face to face mock interviews

will be on Thursday, September 20th from 8:00 to 2:30 with a breakout session at the end on LinkedIn Best Practices. We also have mock phone interviews starting the week of 9/10. Interested folks can contact Karen for more information of to sign up.

The mentor program has 4 keys dates in the program. Monday August 20 is the deadline to complete forms for mentors. This is also the date that students will be emailed the mentee applications. Friday August 31 is the deadline for students to apply and circles will be formed and communicated out by Friday September 7.

Lastly the kickoff meeting will be the morning of Saturday September 15. Questions can be sent to Ross Tompkins via email at:

rosstompkins85@yahoo.com



Marc Alley
BSIE 2000
A4U Committee Chair

Committees

Membership: Alvin Rhodes, Chair
Scholarship: Bob Etien, Co-Chair Tim McKenzie
A4U: Marc Alley, Chair
Karen Jewell, Co-Chair - Mock Interviews
Ross Tompkins, Co-Chair - Mentor Circles
Global Experience: Chair (Vacant)
Publications: Martha Wolf, Chair
Publicity: Kevin Shelhamer, Chair

SAVE THE DATE!

**Fall Board Meeting
in Dallas - Friday,
September 28, 2018**

**Winter Board Meeting
in Hot Springs - Saturday,
February 2, 2019**

**Spring Banquet and Meeting
in Fayetteville
Friday and Saturday,
April 12-13, 2019**



We're on the web : aaie.uark.edu



**Arkansas Academy of Industrial Engineering
c/o Department of Industrial Engineering
4207 Bell Engineering Center
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701**

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The Arkansas Academy of Industrial Engineering (AAIE) was established in 1986 to recognize the achievements of University of Arkansas Industrial Engineering graduates and to provide continuing guidance and support to the Department of Industrial Engineering.

The Academy also provides its members with the opportunity to nurture and support the organization that played an important role in their professional growth and development.

THE DODECAHEDRON is a publication of the Arkansas Academy of Industrial Engineering, and the views expressed are those of the AAIE only and do not reflect the official view of the University of Arkansas, the College of Engineering, or the Department of Industrial Engineering. THE DODECAHEDRON is published semiannually and is intended for the membership of the Arkansas Academy of Industrial Engineering.

**You may contact
the Editor at
martha4aaie@hotmail.com**

The Editor would like to thank Tamara Ellenbecker for her final review to make this a quality newsletter that you all will value and for making sure it gets into your hands through every media method possible.