

The Dodecahedron



A note from our President

Dear AAIE Members,

I hope this issue of the DODEC finds you and your families safe and healthy as we head into the holiday season. It is hard for me to comprehend that the end of 2021 is upon us and that we are going on two full years of changes to life due to COVID.

We made the decision this fall to not put off induction of our new members any longer, and when the opportunity of an in person ceremony fell apart, we pivoted quickly to a virtual induction ceremony. We were able to officially induct all of our 2020 and 2021 new members, with a number of our AAIE membership in attendance on the call. While I hope we don't ever have to have a virtual induction ceremony again, I'm very pleased that we have such a good template setup and have a model that could be used if required in the future.



Martha Wolf
AAIE President

The year has seen our AAIE activities moving forward, we had both virtual and in person mentor circles this year, and I can see the need to keep both formats for a while going forward. It gives both our students and our possible mentors more options for connecting, and that's what it's all about. Our support of the global studies efforts is already ramping up for 2022, we are supporting several students with opportunities in the Spring, then the floodgates open wide in the Summer of 2022 with a lot of students hoping to travel overseas. I'm so very excited that AAIE will be able to support a lot of the students get this very valuable experience before they graduate.

Looking forward to next year, we are going to try to have our Winter Board meeting in person in Hot Springs. We are still trying to nail down the details for location but the target date right now is Saturday, February 5, 2022. It will be awesome to see folks in person, no matter how rusty we've gotten about going out and about over the last two years. After that, the plans are moving forward for an in person banquet and induction ceremony in April of 2022 in Fayetteville.

I hope everyone has a very happy holiday season and I'm looking forward to 2022.

Martha Wolf

AAIE President

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Fall 2021

AAIE
Officers

Martha Wolf
President

Stu Garrett
President-Elect

Mandy Robinson
Secretary

Jim Burgin
Treasurer

Karen Jewell
Past President

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*“AAIE
Endowments
are generating
funds capable of
providing more
than \$110,000
in new
scholarships
annually”*

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contribution:**

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



Scholarship News

It is difficult for me to believe it has been over two years since we have been able to all meet together. I want to make certain you all know that the AAIE Scholarship Program has not been sitting idle during this Covid pandemic. Academy Endowments have grown \$1,000,000 since our last public meeting in 2019 thru today, and now exceed \$3,900,000. Investment gains due to a strong market account for a large portion of the growth; however, AAIE members continue to show their support for all four Scholarship Programs. Donations are down a little during the period but are still exceeding \$100,000 annually (\$122,000 in 2020-21).

More importantly AAIE Endowments are generating funds capable of providing more than \$110,000 in new scholarships annually, and that number continues to grow. I believe our current Endowments will be funding \$150,000 in new scholarships annually by 2023.

However, with virtual Annual Meetings in both 2020 and 2021, we have been unable to properly recognize our Scholarship Donors. It is my pleasure to inform you that since the April 2019 Annual Meeting the Academy has '8' new John Imhoff Fellows, '4' new One Time Named Scholarships and '9' new Permanent Named Scholarships. (Please see charts below for the full list.)

How do we keep on growing? Well, let's keep doing what we've been doing. Pick your favorite Scholarship Program (Academic, Financial Need, John Imhoff Global Studies or Graduate Studies) and make a donation. History shows that very few Academy members reached John Imhoff Fellow or Named Scholarship level with their first donation. The vast majority started with smaller donations and continued from there. It has worked for 35 years, and it can continue to work.



Bob Etien
Scholarship Chair

STAY COMMITTED!

Thank You!

Your Arkansas Academy of Industrial Engineering is Making A Difference!

SAVE THE DATE!!!

AAIE is working to adjust to the COVID 19 situation with regards to our board meetings going forward, though we are planning for in-person meetings at this time.

Winter Board meeting February 5, 2022 Hot Springs AR

AAIE Banquet/ Meeting April 8, 9 2022 Fayetteville AR

In 2010 the AAIE celebrated it's 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. 2020 will mark 35 years of the Academy. You can view the actual timeline in the Craven's Conference Room in the Department next time you are in town!

From the Department...

Dear Academy Members,

It is mid-term here on the hill, and campus is in full swing! It is so great to see students in person again. Masks are required in the buildings, but the energy and excitement that comes with the hustle and bustle of students is a wonderful sight to see. It was a pleasure to attend the virtual AAIE induction ceremony on October 29th. There were two classes of distinguished alumni inducted and I am eager to see the contributions they make to the academy in years to come.

Our department has some great news to share! Recently, the Industrial Engineering Honor Society, Alpha Pi Mu, was selected as the second-place winner of the Outstanding Chapter Award from the National Headquarters. The student organization is led by faculty advisor, Kelly Sullivan, and staff advisor, Carrie Pennington. We are so proud of this group of great students and their advisors!

In your last DODEC, I gave the exciting news that Tamara Ellenbecker, Media Specialist and Website Developer, was

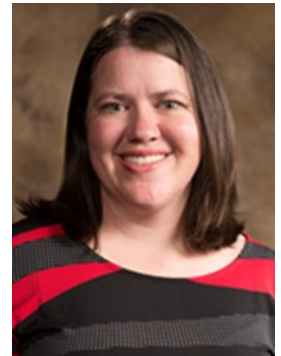


chosen as the College of Engineering Staff Employee of the 1st Quarter for the 2020-2021 academic year. This honor put her in the running for the University's Staff

Employee awards and I am pleased to announce that she was also chosen as the Employee of the 4th Quarter for the entire university! We are lucky to have had Tamara's creative work and dedication for the last 15 years. She was recognized at a virtual awards ceremony recently with the Chancellor, Staff Senate, and over 50 colleagues from across campus in attendance. Additionally, the college just wrapped up the first quarter, and we have another Staff Employee of the Quarter in the department – Sandy Sehon! Sandy is the department's fiscal manager and we are so proud of her.



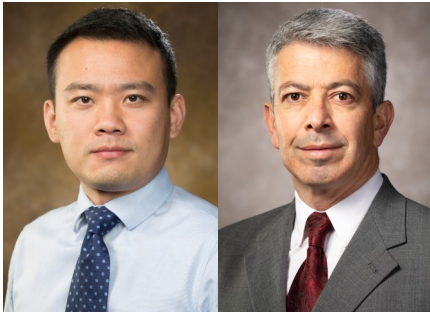
Dr. Ed Pohl
Department Head



Many of our faculty members have been selected into leadership roles within various organizations. Burak Eksioglu will Co-Chair the 2023 Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers (IISE)

(Continued on page 5)

"It was a pleasure to attend the virtual AAIE induction ceremony on October 29th."



Conference. This is our profession's premier conference, so we are very excited for Burak. This is a huge honor! Xiao Liu and Sandra Eksioglu will also hold leadership positions in IISE this year. Xiao was elected president-elect of the Data Analytics and Information Systems division, which is IISE's largest division, and Sandra was elected president of the Energy Systems Division. Heather Nachtmann will serve as editor-in-chief of IISE's The Engineering Economist journal, as well. Additionally, Heather has been



re-named Associate Dean for Research in the College of Engineering. She previously held this role and did it well, so the college is lucky to have her back in the Dean's office!

The College of Engineering recently hosted two STEM career fairs; one was virtual and the other

was in person. To help prepare our students, many academy members and alumni dedicated their time to virtual mock interviews over the course of three days. We had 15 students participate, and although these were mock interviews, one student was asked back for follow-up interviews for a post-graduation job and was eventually offered the job! We are so grateful to those who volunteer for this event. It is so beneficial for our students! Senior Taylor Knabe said, *"Mock Interviews gave me the confidence I needed to talk to recruiters and employers at the career fair and in subsequent interviews. Thank you to the academy members who helped prepare me!"*

Autumn in Arkansas is such a special time. The leaves are starting to change colors and Razorback football is fun to watch! If you're in the area, please stop by and say hello! I remain hopeful that we will be able to gather as normal next April. Take care of yourselves in the meantime.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elrod H. Bell".



"Autumn in Arkansas is such a special time."



"Mock Interviews gave me the confidence I needed to talk to recruiters and employers at the career fair and in subsequent interviews. Thank you to the academy members who helped prepare me!" - Taylor Knabe

A4U Update—by Ross Tompkins and John True

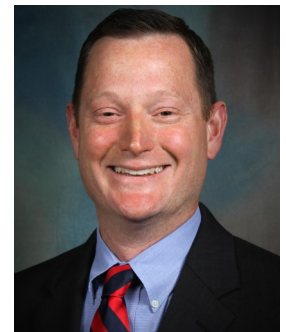
Mentor circles stayed strong in the fall of 2021. There were 21 total mentors across 10 circles, with 4 students per circle. This year had two dedicated circles for Graduate Students since their needs are different than those of the undergrads. Circles had the option to be in person or virtual, and all elected to virtual this fall.

Mock interviews were also held this fall, with 15 students participating and 6 companies represented: CapSpire, JB Hunt, FedEx, ArcBest, CenterPoint, and Harrison.

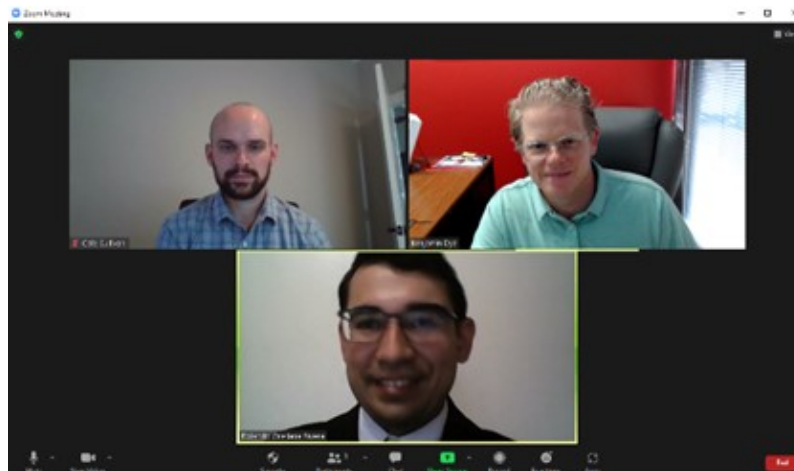
One student was asked back for a follow up interview which resulted in a job offer post graduation. The student feedback was good that the experience really helped them prepare for actual job interviews.



Ross Tompkins
A4U Chair
BSIE '90, MSIE '94



John True
Mock Interviews
BSIE 2003



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