



# MECHANICAL ENGINEERING NEWS

September 17, 2003

A newsletter for the UML Mechanical Engineering community (also available online at <http://m-5.eng.uml.edu>)

Any items you would like to see included in the newsletter or any suggestions/comments?

Please email them to: [peter\\_avitabile@uml.edu](mailto:peter_avitabile@uml.edu) or leave them with Jackie Paradise in the Mech Eng office.

## Mechanical Engineering Seminar Series - Speakers for Fall 2003

Oct 1 (open)

Oct 8 (open)

Oct 15 Tim Kostar, UMASS Lowell

Oct 22 David Desault, Aerodyne

Oct 29 Ken Woodard, Kollsman Industries

Nov 5 Joe Whitney, Sycamore Net

Nov 12 (open)

Nov 19 Ray Champagne, Venture Technologies

Dec 3 (open)

## Practice Interview Sessions - October 23rd - Afternoon

Once you have a resume available for job applications, the next step is to prepare yourself for the interview process. This can be a very difficult experience – especially when you have no idea what to expect when you arrive at your first interview. You certainly don't want to botch that first interview since it may turn out to be your perfect job. A poor presentation of yourself to the interviewer may cost you a job for which you may be well-qualified. You certainly don't want that to happen

In order to help you with the interview process, a practice interview session will be held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> (time/place to be determined). This mock interview will be conducted by some of the members of the Mechanical Engineering Advisory Board while they are here for their Fall Semester visit.

Depending on the number of people who sign up, the interview will last anywhere from 10 to 20 minutes and the interview may be conducted by either one or two separate Board Members. You should come prepared for a "full dress rehearsal" – that means that you should be dressed suitable for an actual interview and have a copy of your resume (in whatever form it may be) available for the interviewer.

You should seriously attempt to take advantage of this event. You want to take this opportunity to make all your mistakes where the consequences are minimal and not during your actual interview with a potential company. A sign up sheet will be available outside Prof. Pete Avitabile's office (you can contact him with any additional questions).

## RESUMES - ticket to your first job

Many students put together a generic resume that really doesn't look any different than any other resume of any other Mechanical Engineering student at any other university. So why should a company hire you ??? Why should a company ask you to come in for an interview ???

Your resume is one of the most important documents that you have. The resume MUST be a well-written document that is easily read and conveys your overall capabilities and your educational background.

Last year, a resume writing workshop was held and many of the graduating seniors took advantage of this opportunity. This year there will be two separate sessions scheduled – Tuesday Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 AM and Thursday Sept 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM.

Take the time to write your resume NOW. This is a perfect time to get it ready. Don't wait until the day before you need to send it to a company.

In addition to the resume writing workshop, there will also be a mock interview that will be scheduled for October. Get your resume ready for this event.



DEPARTMENT OF  
MECHANICAL  
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University of Massachusetts at Lowell



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## Career Services

The Department of Career Services has other significant resources that are available to students. Visit their website at <http://career.uml.edu/> to find additional information.

Topics related to resume review, job postings, interview techniques and many more are listed on the web page. It is always wise to review as much information as possible to be prepared.

The Career Fair is scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## Some Web Tags of Interest

John McKelliget has done a lot of work to keep the Mechanical Engineering Department Web Page up to date. He has been constantly adding new material all the time. Why not take a second a review some of the material that is available online for your use.

Main Page - <http://m-5.eng.uml.edu/>

Trying to hunt down courses for the fall – Courses - <http://m-5.eng.uml.edu/crsebook%20A41v2.pdf>

Student Resources - Resume Writing Tips – [http://m-5.eng.uml.edu/Resume\\_tips\\_030303.pdf](http://m-5.eng.uml.edu/Resume_tips_030303.pdf)

Prerequisites to classes – text and graphical version  
<http://m-5.eng.uml.edu/prereqs.htm>  
[http://m-5.eng.uml.edu/course\\_reqts\\_032901.PDF](http://m-5.eng.uml.edu/course_reqts_032901.PDF)



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## Board of Registration of Professional Engineers

Engineers often seek the status of Registered Professional Engineer. In order to be certified as a Professional Engineer, there is a set of qualification tests that must be passed. The first of these tests is the Fundamentals of Engineering commonly referred to as the FE Test. The second of these tests is the Professional Engineering or the PE Test.

In Massachusetts, you are required to pass an eight-hour Fundamentals of Engineering Written Exam (the E.I. Exam) and an eight-hour Principles and Practices Exam (the P.E. Exam) in your discipline.

Your Engineer Intern (E.I.) certification is the first step in the registration process. You may take it in your junior or senior year. Your registration as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) must be preceded by four years of responsible engineering experience, if you graduated from an accredited four-year engineering program; or eight years of experience, if you graduated from an accredited four-year program in engineering technology.

The best time to take the engineering fundamentals test is during your senior year – either fall or spring semester. There is no better time to take this test while all the fundamental material is fresh in your head. The longer you wait, the harder it becomes to take this test. So don't hesitate – take the test as soon as practical. October 24<sup>th</sup> is the next test.

Study guides & other material can be obtained from:  
<http://www.ncees.org>  
<http://www.mspe.com>  
<http://www.asme.org>

<http://www.state.ma.us/reg/boards/en/>