

**WELCOME Alumni!**

It's hard to believe that it's been two years since we produced our last "Alumni Updater". We skipped last year and just sent out invitations to the building dedication. What a whirlwind these last two years have been. We are settled in the new building and loving it. The Dean's Office and the Computer Science and Systems Analysis Department have moved into the renovated Benton—which is connected to the Engineering Building so the entire school is now under one roof. The parking garage extension is really progressing and the university hopes it is open by some time during the summer.

**2000—2006** alumni we have a special request of you.

**Manufacturing Engineering** alumni, would you please log onto our website (<http://www.eas.muohio.edu/departments/mme/mfg-alumni-survey/>) and complete the alumni survey? The results of this survey will be a part of our re-accreditation package that we submit to ABET in the summer 2010. If you have already completed the survey, please accept our deepest thanks!

**Mechanical Engineering** alumni, we will be adding a survey to the website in the next few weeks for you. Would you please take time to complete the survey as well? Please note that the survey for each program is different so be sure to fill out the appropriate survey. We really do appreciate the time you take out of your busy schedule to complete these surveys.

Thank you all so much for continuing to send us your updates. We love to hear from you. Your successes, no matter if you are still in the engineering field or not, we celebrate with you. So on whatever milestone, success, job change, promotion, marriage, or birth of a child has been a part of your life these last two years we wish you **CONGRATULATIONS** and **BEST WISHES!**

Enjoy!

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**Keep in touch and let us know what you're doing! E-mail us at [mmedept@muohio.edu](mailto:mmedept@muohio.edu)!**

April 2006—update from Chad Thibodeau—1995—MFG

Quick update considering the changes that I have been through the past 11 years since graduation. Out of school, I first joined Martin Marietta Technical Services as a Training Analyst—which meant I got to go to various military depots throughout the US and help determine SW training requirements and train users on new material management applications. From there I left the good ole state of Ohio to work for Lockheed Martin in New Hampshire as a procurement agent and then Component Engineer. There I met my wife and we had our first daughter, Jordan. Started my MBA at Boston University, but soon realized that I was being called to warmer climates, so we left NH and I took a job with Adaptive Broadband in Tempe, Arizona. What a change of climate and pace. While there we decided to have our second child—Brooke—while at the same time I completed my MBA from Arizona State University's High Tech program (basically an MBA filled with Engineers). After completing my MBA I once again got the itch and this time looked for milder temps—landing us in San Diego. A nice change of scenery from the dry, arid landscape of Arizona—but ooh those housing prices. I went to work for Maxwell Technologies as a Product Manager to drive their semiconductor business (they make semiconductors that are packaged to protect from radiation and nuclear events for use in Satellites). Was there for about 3 years before my wife and now "3" children (Megan was born in 2003) decided that a 1200 sq. ft house in San Diego was not quite big enough for a family of 5 so I looked outside of California to make my next move. We landed in Austin, Texas at Dell Inc.—the computer behemoth. I started at Dell as a Senior Quality Engineer in their Enterprise Products division, but quickly realized my passion was for marketing, and so after 2 grueling years in Quality, made the switch to Product Line Management for all of Dell's Enterprise software & Peripherals. Couldn't be happier and more challenged and that is where I leave you today....

April 2006—update from Larry Stapleton—1981—MFG

I just received your Alumni Updater Newsletter yesterday. I have not written to you since I graduated 25 years ago. It does not seem that long ago. So I thought writing what I have been up to since leaving Oxford might be of interest to, I am not sure who, but I thought why not. I spent the first twenty years with McDonnell-Douglas which later merged with Boeing. I had an eclectic set of work assignments beginning with repairing radar systems for military aircraft. Then I moved into the design function for a variety of military radar systems, displays and space launch vehicles. I became interested in supplier management and international co-production, followed by a stint in strategic planning. While at McDonnell-Douglas, I pursued an MBA degree and later a Ph.D. in Decision Science. A desire to explore new adventures resulted in my leaving Boeing and taking a management position in Strategic Sourcing with Ingersoll-Rand. This held my interest for a time but the desire to teach found its way into my plans. So here I am teaching Operations Management and other management courses in the Tabor School of Business at Millikin University in Decatur, IL. My area of research and consulting efforts are in quality management systems as applied to small and medium sized enterprises. I am also interested in heuristic scheduling methods used for flexible manufacturing systems. If one is having trouble sleeping at night and wish a drug-free alternative, they could read my dissertation which discusses this scheduling conundrum. When not in the class room you will find me on a Habitat for Humanity worksite or riding my Harley Road King. Well I have condensed the last twenty-five years into this paragraph. I hope to be able to add more in my next letter covering the next twenty-five years.

November 2006—update from Joe Turco—1993—MFG

I have worked for the last 13 years for Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc. in Hamilton, OH. My primary responsibilities are Project Management dealing with our facility and production line expansions and new product and production equipment development. I have been married 7 years to Shelli. We have two children; Annie 3 and Joey 1.

Updates to Alumni Positions in the Last Two Years

1985—Gerald Colonna  
Avery Dennison Corporation, Risk Management  
MBA—University of Virginia

2004—Jessica Irons  
Tegant Corporation,

1995—Chad Thibodeau  
Dell Software & Peripherals, Enterprise S&P Product Line Manager  
MBA Arizona State University

1981—Larry Stapleton  
Tabor School of Business, Millikin University, Professor  
MBA, PhD. In Decision Science

2004—Jeni Blacklock  
Wayne State University, PhD candidate in Biomedical Engineering  
MS

1993—Dane Campbell  
ATS, Senior Applications Engineer

1995—Matt Hammes  
MCPC, A/V Design Engineer

1993—Joe Turco  
Project Management, Advanced Drainage Systems

1999—Andee Beymer Fetzer  
Trading Technologies International, Inc, Director, Program Management and  
Quality Assurance

2005—Brett McNally  
Ryan Homes, Production Supervisor

2004—Kent Gebicke  
United States Navy, LTJG

1994—William Ernest  
Credit Suisse, VP Investment Banking, Financial Sponsors Group

2001—Kelle (Scroggs) Nuzillat  
Bureau Veritas, Product Test Supervisor, Hardlines Department  
MBA

2006—Nicholas McCauley  
Salvagnini America, Inc., Sales Engineer

1996—Doug Hammond  
Motorola Early Stage Accelerator, Business Development Manager  
EMBA—Kellogg

1999—Steven Faile  
Ohmart-Vega, Quality Engineer

2006—Mike Bojanowski  
Swagelok

2000—Nick Egli  
Hella Lighting Corporation, Mercedes Launch Manager (TtM)

2007—Eric Gordy  
CIANBRO Corporation, Field Engineer

2006—Mike Van Hout  
Boston University, MS student

2000 - Justina Mikals  
Raytheon Company, Supply Chain LDP

2004 - Jamie (Devlin) Schreck  
Toyota, Purchasing-Chassis

2003 - Kevin Schreck  
Toyota, Supplier Commodity Engineering

2007—Matthew Samborsky  
Emerson, Product Engineer

2005 - Thomas Walters  
Ohio State University, MS student

November 2006—update from Jeni Blacklock—2004—MFG & EGM

I am still here at Wayne State University studying Biomedical Engineering. I just finished my MS in August, passed my qualifier and am now a PhD candidate. I am doing research in gene therapy and tissue engineering and work at both Pharmaceutical Sciences and Chemical Engineering (very different from my undergrad work, but there are always similar concepts that apply). I just published my first paper in *Biomaterials* and spoke at my first conference (AIChE) in San Francisco last week. I won an award for best speaker at our graduate school symposium two weeks ago ... my nerves have finally settled down a little!!! I also just received funding through NSF to travel to Max Planck Institute (Berlin) for 5 months over the summer to study... I have been traveling whenever I get the opportunity ever since our trip to AGH Poland... I can't seem to get enough :)  
As for my personal life, I just bought a house in Royal Oak which is 15 minutes from school and I found two cats (Goonie and Chunk) who are my daily companions!

December 2006—update from Brett McNally—2005—MFG & EGM

I am still working with Ryan Homes as a Production Supervisor. If you're looking for a new home in Cleveland, I would love to build you one. I am enjoying my job, loving life, excited about my new home, and most importantly looking forward to marrying my fiancée, Stephanie in August 2007.

## Our congratulations Brett & Stephanie!

December 2006—update from Matt Hammes—1995—MFG

Just wanted to say hello from my new job! I am now an Audio-Visual Design Engineer with a national IT company, in their A/V group. We are headquartered in Cleveland, OH, but have sales offices all over the US. I work with people that have all kinds of automation experience, from manufacturing, to A/V control systems. My job ranges from client needs assessments to CAD line drawings for component connections, to building Bills of Materials for the installation crew, product research, network technologies... there's SO much to learn and do! I wanted to thank you again for making learning so much fun—I am truly having fun and learning something new! I still remember when you told me that you see me *applying* the “black box,” not *designing* the “black

December 2006—update from Dane Campbell –1993-MFG

I am still with ATS and they had transferred me to the Corvallis OR facility. The Bay Area was great but after 2 years we found it too expensive to raise a family. I was able to get very involved with the medical/pharma business there (which is HUGE) and bring it to this division. Again this is custom assembly and test equipment for all industries but mostly focusing on the medical world lately. My latest projects involved: marking, handling and inspecting glass with the latest sizes 2x3 meters at .6mm thick! Manufacturing a new high tech/performance catalytic converters. Manufacturing heart deliberator leads. Wire bonding and bending for pacemakers and header assemblies. Vial filling, handling, inspection and packaging for a full scale plant. These are all on going projects with our customers and it is so cool dealing with that cutting edge technology every day in so many fields. I am on a new opportunity about every 2-3 weeks breaking new ground and starting off at the conceptual phase. Any company can come up with a product. It is ATS though who creates the automation plan, URS/FRS generations, third party vendor bidding, custom design & build, final testing, installation and validation of the equipment. All of which I get to plan at the very start. However with all this high tech and cutting edge stuff, it is a VERY volatile industry. Obviously I have moved 5 times around the USA in 13 years to just be with the best in the game! I am still competitive as ever Osama! One of these days I hope to come back and talk “turkey” about my engineering adventures with you. On a personal note, I am now married to a wonderful wife (Alexi) and adopted her son who is now 7. Also, I just had my first baby boy 5 weeks ago!!! What a bunch of joy. Of course I still deal with wrestling as I help multiple schools in OR already and already have trips scheduled this winter back to Ohio for weekend clinics. We have a new house, family and the career is aggressive but fun. My wife is great and supports all my long hours...obviously I am at work right now on a Saturday afternoon...haha.. But it is about beer time and time get out of here. Of course I wanted to touch base since I received your newsletter! The new building looks cool!

## Congratulations Dane and Family!

January 2007—update from Kent Gebicke—2004—EGM  
I'm not sure if you remember me, but I wanted to write to you and say hello. It has been over two years since I graduated, and I wanted to fill you in on my life. I am training to be a helicopter pilot in the Navy. I am stationed down in Pensacola, FL and will be done with the flight program towards the end of February. At that point, I will be transferred to another location in the United States, Japan, or Guam. Over new year's vacation, I ran into a lot of old students at Miami, to include: Kyle Riddle, Craig Barhorst, Todd Van Dyke, and Erin Gatta (now Mrs. Todd Van Dyke). We were all talking about our times in Kreger and decided that they were very good memories for us. I hope all is well with you and the other faculty members. I hope to come back soon so I can see the new Engineering building. You meant very much to me as an advisor and a teacher, and I just wanted you to know that I really enjoyed my time in the Engineering program at Miami.

January 2007—update from Steve Faile—1999—MFG & EGM  
Currently I'm working on continuous improvement projects...multiple. The past year, I've been the lead on putting a Quality Software system in and training the entire company on the modules we've started using so far. This reduces multiple access databases. I'm also using lean mfg. techniques—attempting to make things simple. This includes designing fixturing, and updating workbenches for ergonomic and safety items. I'm even detailing what garbage compacter we should buy to reduce costs with CSA and Rumpke!!!  
Plus still doing a lot of data tracking figuring where to focus our efforts on parts, since I'm the leader of our nonconformance team. Soon we are ready to start working with our suppliers more also, so I'll be taking a trip or two finally—we think we've cleaned up in house enough with our drawings and standards to ask our suppliers to up their quality. So you can say my projects are all across the board, back and forth between quality and process/manufacturing improvements.  
As for the building, I cannot wait to see it, but don't know when I'll be able to. But the website views make it look spectacular!

March 2007—update from Nick Egli—2001—EGM  
How is the engineering program coming along at Miami? Everything is going well with me. I actually switched companies at the beginning of last year and so I now work for Hella Lighting Corporation. My role is Launch Manager for Mercedes headlights. We are in the process of launching new technology on the M class SUV headlight. The plant is located in South Carolina, but it is just South of Charlotte (North Carolina). Charlotte is a very cool city and is also a very clean city based on how big it is. The weather is also very nice down here. I am not sure if I told you last time I wrote or not, but I am now married as well and we are coming up on our 2 year anniversary this summer. I have no kids yet, but maybe soon (in the next year or so).

March 2007—update from William Ernest—1994—MFG  
I was excited to receive the invitation to the dedication of the new engineering building—you sure have come a long way! I am sorry that I won't be able to make it but it was great to hear about how well the program is doing. I often think back to everything you and your colleagues taught me and am always appreciative of your time and effort. Enjoy the ceremony.

March 2007—update from Mike Bojanowski—2006—MCH & MFG  
How is everything going? I hope all is going well with you. From what I've heard, the transition into the new building is going pretty smoothly. I'm looking forward to getting down there to check it out sometime this spring. Everything is going pretty well with me. I'm pretty deep into my work at Swagelok now. It's been quite a transition, working in a strict manufacturing environment. It seems there's only so much you can learn in books and in the classroom; I think I've learned more, both academically and personally, in the past few months than I'd expected. But it's been a wonderful growing experience, and has definitely challenged me, which is a good thing. Hope all is well, and I look forward to hearing from you.

April 2007—update from Kelle (Scroggs) Nuzillat—2001—MFG & EGM  
I just wanted to pass along my congratulations on the new School of Engineering and Applied Science building! It seemed to move along very fast from my vantage point. I'm sure it will bring some more deserved recognition to the school. You've come a long way since I graduated in 2001. I'll have to stop in for a visit next time I'm down in the area. Things are going well for me. I'm still in a supervisory role for Bureau Veritas doing consumer products testing. I'm about to finish my MBA in May. My daughter, Chloe, just turned one on March 7th. She keeps us very busy! Hope you and your families are all well.

April 2007—update from Doug Hammond—1996—MFG & EGM  
Greetings from Chicago. I hope this message finds you well and that Spring has found Oxford. I think we have finally turned the corner here in Chicago. Just in time for baseball season! More excitingly, I finish my EMBA program at Kellogg in June. It will be nice to get some more of my life back. I'll shoot you an email the next time I am in the area and hopefully we can meet up. It would be great to see what the new building looks like.

May 2007—update from Jessica Irons—2004—MFG & EGM  
I've been busy at work and actually my part of the company (the North American packaging division) was sold and we have changed names from SCA to Tegrant Corporation. The industrial/protective packaging group that I'm in is called Protexic brands. I've been with this company for just over a year now. I get to work with great customers like Cisco and Sun Microsystems, and really making things happen around here! It's very rewarding, for sure! I had the opportunity to attend a unit load design seminar at Virginia Tech a couple weeks ago and it was great! They talked a lot about ASRS systems and I thought of you and your small one in the basement of Kreger hall! I hope that the new engineering building is treating you well!

October 2007—update from Mike VanHout—2006—MCH & MFG  
I just received the latest MME newsletter in the mail and I just wanted to take a minute to update you on what I've been up to since graduation. I am now starting my second year of graduate school at Boston University. I am studying in a program called "Global Manufacturing." It is a manufacturing Engineering program with the addition of doing a six month research project in Aachen, Germany at the Fraunhofer IPT. This is the same institute that I worked at with the help of Prof. Sweeney after my junior year at Miami. I am planning on starting my project over there at the beginning of the year. I'm not sure yet what my project will entail, but I am in contact with several of the researchers over there. Here in Boston, I am working with a professor on a very exciting project. We are working on the real time control of plasma spray processing. It is a method of coating metals with a ceramic powder for the purpose of a thermal barrier coating. It is widely used in the aerospace industry for coating turbine blades. My specific areas of work have been in modeling the heating of the gas mixtures within the torch along with doing characterization experiments that give us a better idea of the relationship between the torch input and the resulting coatings. I have also been working on the development of a new sensor to sense the molten particles that are coming out of the torch. It has been really exciting work and we are hoping to publish several papers in the next year that will detail the progress we have made on the project. I'll keep you updated with when they are published. I am also hoping to graduate this summer after finishing my thesis, so I will also send you a copy of that once it is finished. This year I am now a full time research assistant, so I have my school paid for as well as a stipend for living. Last year I was a TA for a junior level manufacturing class that I really enjoyed teaching. I was able to teach a pre-lab each week as well as assist the students in lab each week. The class was very similar to MME 436. We did some things with CAD/CAM, NC code programming, robotics, optical systems, automated mill and lathe work, along with some other aspects of manufacturing like systems analysis and production control. It was very interesting and I learned a lot from the experience. After having seen manufacturing engineering taught at another university, I came to appreciate the focus at Miami on design projects and teamwork as well as having to write reports and papers in almost all of my engineering classes. I was really shocked at the number of students who had never worked in a design team and had very little experience writing lab reports and giving oral presentations. I think that was one of the most valuable aspects of my Miami education. The new building looks absolutely gorgeous. Unfortunately I have not had the opportunity to make it back to Oxford since graduation, but whenever I do, I'll be sure to stop by and see the beautiful new facilities. I hope that everyone is enjoying the benefits of the new home. Good luck in the upcoming year. Again, it was nice to receive the newsletter and get updated about everything that is going on in the MME department.

**Our congratulations to all of you on the myriad of successes you have achieved. We are proud of each and every one of you**

November 2007—update from Eric Gordy—2007—MCH

I hope your holiday went well! I know I ended up eating too much than I should have. I haven't updated you as to what I am doing now and I thought I owe it to you to do so. I landed a job with a company called CIANBRO as a Field Engineer. They specialize in industrial construction. You can check it out on their website [www.cianbro.com](http://www.cianbro.com). I really enjoy it. Construction is a side of engineering that I was never exposed to before and find it all really fascinating. I've been working here about a month and a half. Before that I was working for Whiting-Turner and unfortunately, they didn't offer me a position. But I kept my head up and after about a month of unemployment, I was lucky enough to find this position online. They immediately swept me up and after a very short time, I was working here. And now, here I am. I am currently on a jobsite down in Southern Maryland about four days out of the week. The last day I am in the office in Baltimore. The job is a small(er) job, and a very good "intro" project to the industry. CIANBRO is performing the structural steel and piping install for a liquid natural gas plant for two new liquid natural gas tanks a company called Dominion just recently built. These tanks are about 275 feet in diameter, so they are pretty massive. I spend most of my time out in the field keeping track of everything that happens, consulting problems the crew encounters, and getting some good hands on experience with construction. I love it so much because I would rather be outside doing something hands on as opposed to sitting behind a desk 8 hours in the day. The company is employee owned and has some great benefits, including profit sharing. Also at one point in time, I feel I would like to obtain an MBA and CIANBRO has full tuition reimbursement. It's not nearly as big of a company as Whiting-Turner is, which I am happy about. I feel like the company is a bit more intimate and everyone knows everybody. I am excited to progress through this company and constantly be learning new things. I feel there is so much to learn in construction and it's great knowledge to have. I will send you a business card if you want one (once I get them myself!). I want to thank you again for all your help and patience with me. It's always such a pleasure to have someone who shows constant interest and gives continued guidance to you, and for that I thank you. I hope all is well in Oxford. I will admit, I miss it. The real world is definitely something very different. I realize that time goes by much quicker when out of college. But it's a new chapter of my life I'm excited to get rolling along. I'll keep in touch!

December 2007—update from Kevin & Jamie (Devlin) Schreck—2003 / 2004—MFG & EGM / MFG & EGM

Hope all is well in the new engineering building!! Kevin and I have enjoyed seeing the progress in your newsletters and online. Are you all settled in now. :) I've been meaning to send you our business cards for your "What Our Grads Are Doing Now" binders—so here they are. We are both working at Toyota now, in the headquarters in Erlanger, KY. Kevin is in the plastic engineering group working on tool design optimization. Jamie's in Purchasing, responsible for buying steering systems for all Toyota vehicles built in North America. We've been at Toyota for about a year now. Joel Hahn also just got hired on a few months ago, not sure if you've heard from him lately. Kevin and I both had incredible experiences at Miami. We learned a lot, we met some amazing people, we did things to be proud of. So now we want to help contribute to the growth of the engineering department so that future students can have great experiences as well. Hope this will help somehow. Thanks for everything. WE MISS YOU GUYS!

December 2007—Justina Mikals—2000 — MFG & EGM

Dr. Ettouney—thanks for being a wonderful teacher and encouraging your students to love learning :) I am enjoying my first rotation at Raytheon after graduating from Purdue last spring with an MBA. My first rotation is in Denver and my next one will start in February at a location TBD. Hope things are going well. Happy holidays!

March 2008—Thomas Walters—2005—MCH & MFG

I wanted to let everyone know that I finally accepted a job with Moog, Inc. in Buffalo, NY. I will be working for their aircraft controls division where they design and build all the hardware that moves the flaps and other flight control surfaces on commercial and military aircraft. I plan on graduating at the beginning of June.