

Industrial Blueprint

The IOE Student Newsletter



February 2017

From the Editor

Hi IOE,

Hope your semester is going well! If you are feeling overwhelmed about what extracurricular activities to take up or which student groups to get involved with, this issue is just for you! This Blueprint contains articles written by IOE students describing the clubs, student groups and organizations they are involved with and what they love about them.

Happy reading!

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Walk-in Hours:

Tuesdays: 8:30–10:30am, 1:30-3:30 pm
Wednesdays: 10:30 am – 1:30 pm
Thursdays: 10:30 am – 3:30 pm

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Engineering Honor Council

By Alex Copp

I am currently the Treasurer of the Engineering Honor Council. Our job is to help engineering students better understand the Honor Code, and to investigate potential Honor Code violations when they are reported to us. For each case, a member of the Honor Council is assigned to meet with all students involved, get their summary of the events leading to the potential violation, and compile those summaries into a case brief. The Honor Council as a whole then brings each student into one of our weekly meetings, and votes on the recommendation we will make to the Faculty Committee on Discipline, who make the final decision.

My experience with the Engineering Honor Council has been incredibly positive. Some people have the impression that the council is actively seeking to get students in trouble for their actions, but after spending significant time in the organization I can say that everybody involved simply wants every student who goes through the process to develop a better understanding of the Honor Code and how it applies to life after college.

I think this is a great opportunity for IOE students, because it is a great opportunity for any engineering student. You gain valuable experience dealing with a wide range of conflicts in an academic environment, and increase your understanding of the Honor Code. Ethics is not something that goes away once you get out of college! It only becomes more important as you transition to the workplace, where implications of a breach of ethics are much more severe than a class grade.

Peer Mentor Program

By Allison Redfern

A student organization that has had a very significant impact on my experience at Michigan is the College of Engineering Peer Mentor Program. I joined the Peer Mentor Program as a mentor my sophomore year, and the experience has been amazing. I was matched with six freshman mentees from all over the world. I thought that I would just show them around a little bit at the beginning of the year and help them with homework every once in a while, but I didn't realize how much of an impact I would have on each of my mentees and the impact they would have on me. Along with different large and small group events like ice skating and volunteering events, I held weekly office hours where I could just sit and chat with my mentees. I would look forward to my office hours every week to get a chance to catch up with each mentee and really form a strong relationship with them.

I would definitely recommend the Peer Mentor Program to everyone. It has been such a great opportunity to create an inclusive environment and make an impact on the incoming freshman engineering students. From participating in this program, I have personally benefited by learning about my mentees' different cultures and experiences. I've even discovered more of Michigan's academic and career resources for myself while helping my mentees with classwork or internship searches. Sometimes as an engineering student, I find myself only focused on my own interests, but the Peer Mentor Program has given me a chance to contribute to the success of others and to provide a more welcoming campus community for all students.

180 Degrees Consulting Club (180DC)

By Ceyda Bolukbasi

One of the organizations that I am involved in on campus is 180 Degrees Consulting Club. 180DC is the largest university based international consultancy for nonprofits and social enterprises. All projects which are pro-bono, are completed over the course of a semester. Our consultant teams which consist of 3-4 business analysts and 1 project manager, work closely with clients and deliver both a final report and a final presentation at the end of each semester. Apart from creating social impact through consulting projects, 180DC is a great resource for professional development through training days and guest speakers from the industry.

I have been involved in this club both as a business analyst and a project manager. I have been a part of 3 different project teams executing pricing model analysis, creating marketing strategies, and constructing impact quantifications analyzing client data.

180DC is related to IOE since it seeks to improve processes of organizations, increase efficiency, and maximize impact while utilizing resources to their fullest. Through this consulting club, I had a chance to gain experience in thinking analytically, working in teams, communicating with clients, and applying my skills to a real-world setting in a professional manner. 180DC has been a very rewarding experience so far and I would recommend it to other IOE students who are interested in consulting and creating an impact.

BLUElab

By Athulya Ajoykrishnan

An organization I am involved in on campus is BLUElab. BLUElab is an engineering design team that provides engineering solutions for communities in various third-world countries. Specifically, I am involved in BLUElab-Sa Nima, where we work with two communities in Guatemala. In the past, we have designed solar powered lamps and this year we will be creating water filters and storage tanks for each individual.

I would recommend every engineer to join BLUElab. It is a true representation of how we can use the skills we learn each day in the classroom and apply it to help people across the globe. Even as a freshman in college, you could help make life a little easier for a mother or child somewhere in the world. A great deal of cross-functional exposure is gained on the design team as you work alongside engineers from all disciplines (chemical, mechanical, biomedical, environmental) and even business majors. As a part of BLUElab, you can also gain some cultural insight. We take trips to our partnered communities each spring and summer, so that would be a great chance for you to explore the culture and customs of a part of the world you've never seen before.

BLUElab is very applicable to Industrial Engineers. As a part of the business team, some of my duties involve managing inventory, price forecasting the various designs created for our next product, and even corresponding with the communities to understand the demand for our upcoming product. This is all material that IOE's learn in class and could apply in their future careers. I would highly recommend any IOE that is interested to join BLUElab.

Michigan Emissary Group

By Blake Bormes

Since Fall 2016 I have been involved in Michigan Emissary Group, a consulting group on campus that consults University of Michigan programs. Through this organization, I have been able to enhance my problem-solving techniques and learn from my peers.

This past fall my team of five consultants recreated the pricing strategy for Michigan Airbus, a Michigan bussing company. Our calculations and recommendations resulted in an increase of the company's profits by 25%. This semester Michigan Emissary Group is working with Llamasoft, a supply chain software company based in Ann Arbor. We will have opportunities to network with workers from Llamasoft, and they will teach us how to use their software. Along with the great learning opportunities Michigan Emissary Group has brought me, I have also met a great group of friends with whom I connect through monthly social events.

I am very thankful that I decided to apply to Michigan Emissary Group last Fall because I have learned so much outside of the classroom, and I have met a group of friends and peers that I will have for a longtime.

Shanghai Jiao Tong University - Student & Alumni Association

By Yang Lu

Currently, I am in the Shanghai Jiao Tong University – Student & Alumni Association (SJTU-SAA). This organization is mainly formed by students and alumnus of UM-SJTU Joint Institute. The aims of SJTU-SAA include connecting students which transferred from SJTU and providing members with career related resource.

I recommend joining this organization because SJTU-SAA often holds interesting activities on holidays or traditional Chinese Festivals. For example, SJTU-SAA had a Thanksgiving Dumpling Feast last year. Participants learned how to make dumplings in this activity. Also, SJTU-SAA held a Spring Festival Celebration for traditional Chinese new year. It's a great opportunity to learn Chinese culture and make some new friends.

Although SJTU-SAA is not an organization which mainly focus on IOE, it provides useful career information and resource on different industries, such as consulting, marketing and finance. Some IOE students may be interested in these career resources. For example, Primusus, a financial (PE) company based in NY, has a partnership with SJTU-SAA. They are willing to offer both part-time and full-time positions for SJTU-SAA members.

In conclusion, SJTU-SAA is a very good organization for IOE students who wants to know Chinese culture, make new friends and get career resources.

Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers

By Carrianna Voellm

I am involved in the Institute of Industrial and System Engineers by holding a board position: Professional Development chair. This organization relates to IOE because it is the professional IOE society that is run at a national level.

There are several advantages to joining this society. The first is that your email will be put on a list serve that is sent opportunities unavailable to non-members. A list of these opportunities includes company information sessions and the resume book. Your resume will be included in a resume book that is sent out to different companies who request it. Similarly, you will have the opportunity to attend both the Regional and National conventions for IISE. These are both great networking events within the Industrial and Operations Engineering community.

As a society, we are involved in the planning of many different events. In the fall, we plan the annual IOE Career Fair and the IOE barbecue. If you have any interest in getting professional experience, planning large events for an entire community is definitely a good way to get some. In the winter, we plan the IOE Meet and Greet at Pizza House, where students and professors get to interact in an informal setting. Similarly, we plan a backpacking event and also put together apparel orders. All of that cool IOE apparel is designed by IISE, so creative minds are definitely welcome.

To top it all off, we are currently the reigning Engineering Games winners. We don't like to brag, but we definitely embrace our title with pride. Even though we are a professional society, we still get to have fun.

Engineering Global Leadership Honors Society (EGL)

By Chris Hudson

A student organization that I recommend my fellow IOE students to join is the Engineering Global Leadership Honors Society (EGL). EGL is a part of the College of Engineering's Honors Program with a focus in global business operations. EGL provides its members with the opportunity to develop personally, professionally, academically, and culturally. As a member I have had the opportunity to partake in leadership seminars, go on numerous company visits, and volunteer abroad in Cape Town, South Africa. In addition to these opportunities, I recommend joining EGL because members also take classes to achieve the international minor and stay at the University to get their master's degree in engineering in one year. EGL is perfect for IOE students because during the summer after your senior year you participate in a strictly operations focused project with a company through the Tauber Institute for Global Operations at Michigan with graduate students from Ross that is unlike any internship. EGL has brought me numerous unique opportunities and friendship that I am very thankful for. I strongly encourage my fellow IOE students to apply.

Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity

By Erin Guder

I am currently a part of Theta Tau, a professional engineering fraternity. We aim to help each other professionally while bonding through various events. Theta Tau has been an amazing experience for me, professionally and socially. My big, as well as many other brothers, is an IOE major. She has helped me prepare for career fairs, interviews, and networking sessions. Her past experiences have helped prepare me for my future experiences. Without her, I would not be able to get as far as I am so quickly. Beyond helping me with my future, she and other IOE brothers help me understand IOE topics for homework or exams.

Beyond the professional benefits, the brothers are all very interesting people. Through the interviews and frequent social events, you get to become very close with this large group. Even though the backgrounds and majors differ, all of our values align because we all joined Theta Tau. People, including myself, have found their best friends in this fraternity. Theta Tau has been a very supportive and inviting community for me. The benefits are endless, and will be for anybody that would like to join.

Building a Better Michigan (BBM)

By Jason Comstock

Sometimes, the student organizations that aren't directly related to IOE can be just as valuable to your engineering experience, if not more. This was the case for me when I joined Building a Better Michigan (BBM), a student advisory board for the upcoming Union and recreational building renovations on campus. Our main job is to meet and collaborate with the key figures in these renovations, such as the architects, designers, and University officials, in order to provide the students' input on what specifically they would like to see changed in these renovations. The most valuable skill I've gained from BBM is the ability to communicate and negotiate with senior University officials, like the Vice President and Associate Vice President of Student Life. We meet with them biweekly to express our concerns regarding the renovations and to formulate a plan going forward on how to raise awareness about the projects. In addition to meeting with University officials, I've also given speeches in front of them on behalf of our organization. Just a few months ago, I delivered a speech in front of President Schlissel and the Regents, voicing our concerns about our subpar recreational buildings and how they're in dire need of more funding and attention to their renovations. I strongly recommend BBM to any engineer because not many clubs provide students the opportunity to work with such high-ranking University faculty and to contribute to the designs of buildings that will be around for years to come. Also, the communication skills and experience that I've gained from BBM have greatly helped with my career search, as the ability to communicate is one of the most important qualities recruiters are looking for in employees.

Women's Glee Club

By Jessica Sirias

Women's Glee Club is an all-female choir that consists of mostly non-music majors. We meet twice a week for 2 hours to rehearse and sing in many events around campus as well as a concert each semester. Some of the events that we sing at include doing spirit songs at tailgates, the national anthem at basketball games or caroling at nursing homes. It is a great break from school to get together with people from so many different backgrounds and collaborate on something you all care about. Much like in IOE where you have to communicate with people from different departments, Glee Club is a great way to step out of your comfort zone and meet people that you may not have met by just going to class.

Women's Glee Club is also a great organization to get involved in leadership positions. Although it is a 1 credit class and not necessarily a student run organization, the members within choir still participate in a lot of the behind the scenes to make all our events happen. For example, we have a concert manager who is in charge of making the program for our concert and hiring instrumentalists. We also have a publicity manager who makes sure that we are well known across campus. These are just a few of the 16 positions that helps make Women's Glee Club happen. Glee Club is a great organization if you want to apply your IOE knowledge into project management and creative leadership and is also a great way to meet people who share your passion to sing.

Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity

By Jiaming Yang

I am a transfer student who started studying in the University of Michigan in Fall 2016. One of the best student organizations that I am currently involved in is Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity. The organization helped me in professional development, networking skill, and cultural immersion.

There are many friendly and helpful brothers in the organization with adequate professional experiences. I came to the United States from China and had no professional experience in an English-speaking environment before. The brothers in Theta Tau Fraternity helped me by sharing their internship experience and job seeking techniques. Some brothers also offered advice in revising my resume.

I became the corporate sponsorship chair this semester, and this opportunity brought me more chances to talk to people out of the university. I could not have gotten the opportunities to talk to recruiters from Fiat Chrysler, Yahoo, and many more companies outside career fair if I had not joined Theta Tau.

Last but not least, as an international student, Theta Tau quickened my speed of fitting into the new cultural environment. I was able to socialize with people all the time, learning about different people's life experiences and knowing more about the country.

There is an old Chinese saying, traveling for thousands of miles is better than reading thousands of books, but talking with thousands of people is even more beneficial than traveling for thousands of miles. Joining student organizations is always a good choice because it is not only something that can bring you happiness but also an opportunity from which you will benefit for your lifetime.

Engineering Student Government

By Julian Fiallo

I am currently a member of the Engineering Student Government's (ESG) Academic Affairs Committee. Through ESG I am able to expand my horizons and truly have an impact on the College of Engineering. If you are interested in being involved with an organization that directly impacts your time here at Michigan in the College of Engineering, I recommend you join ESG.

Although ESG initiatives do not solely concentrate on IOE endeavors, you can use your IOE statistics skills in many of the projects ESG is involved in. ESG regularly conducts student body surveys to determine if a project should be taken on. The data from these surveys must be analyzed, therefore, having taken courses such as IOE 265 and 366 and having experience using Minitab, an industrial and operations engineer can be of great use to ESG and its surveying team.

ResStaff

By Kenneth Vi

The most impactful experience I've been involved in on campus is not strictly a student group; I'm going to describe my experience on ResStaff, the resident staff in student housing. I've been on ResStaff since sophomore year, first as a Community Assistant, and then an RA, and then now a Diversity Peer Educator. As a Diversity Peer Educator, I focus on advising Baits' multicultural council and providing opportunities for freshmen at Baits to engage and learn more about social justice.

The skills that I've learned on the job are skills that are very important in a lot of careers that IOE funnels students into. Especially as an RA, one learns essential communication and leadership skills that translate well to jobs that require interpersonal skills, such as any consulting position. Conflict resolution and facilitation are two other learned skills that serve well in the workplace; understanding the root cause of a conflict or problem is key to understanding the problems that a client might have.

I would definitely recommend this experience to anyone interested in working with people; you become very close to the other students on ResStaff, there are terrific housing benefits, and you develop important skills that are applicable to any future job that requires working with people.

MHacks

By Kevin Duan

The student organization that I'm involved in is MHacks, one of the largest student run hackathons in America! While I know hackathons doesn't sound related to IOE, running an event that brings in thousands of students from across the world requires a lot of logistics planning, and management skills, the perfect pair for any IOE majors.

So, what is a hackathon?

A hackathon is an event where participants are given 36 hours to create/code/build anything they want! In the past we've had people create portfolio risk assessment bots, to an AI that can improvise musical pieces in real time. Our main goal for each event is to remove all the barriers someone might have in pursuing whatever crazy idea they have.

As a MHacks Core team member, you'll be one of the organizers making sure the every hacker has what they need to turn their ideas into reality. Whether that's making sure there's a constant supply of food and drinks for the entire event, to coordinating flights and bus routes, to procuring hundreds of smartwatches, Amazon Alexas, VR systems or whatever else our hackers need, you can do anything that fits your interest.

As Director of Sponsorship, my team works with over 50+ companies each year ranging from industry and size, from companies like Google and Goldman Sachs to companies like Hooklogic (Ann Arbor Startup) to Mixmax (Bay Area startup). All of our corporate sponsors provide us with the resources necessary to make sure our hackers have what they need. It's also a great opportunity to build relationships with recruiters that are coming to Michigan! Whether you're majoring in IOE because you like to work with logistics, or majoring because you want to develop technical and business skills, there's a spot on our core team for you!

Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

By Klaudia Mastela

Many students have heard or seem announcements about SWE, the Society of Women Engineers. Although some people may think the society is only for women engineers due to its name, it is not required that members are a woman or an engineer. The society is filled with students who encourage women engineers in their success and pursuit of the engineering fields. Before joining, I had heard about many events that the society hosted and about the members. After joining, I have learned about the different types activities and events. There is an event for everyone. Whether it is a seminar where guest speakers come to speak to members, or a game night with other societies for a relaxing night. There are also multiple volunteering opportunities if members want to get involved in outreach.

SWE is not directly an IOE student organization, but it is a great opportunity for IOE students to get exposure to students of other majors, especially within the engineering field. Through such acquaintances and friendships, there is an atmosphere of innovation and encouragement. There are also multiple opportunities to get involved in different subcommittees and work on bettering the club. As an IOE undergraduate student, this has exposed me to a wide variety of students and there is always room for more.

Korean Food Club (KFC)

By Kyung Ryul Kim

My name is Kyung Kim, and I am the vice president of the Korean Food Club, also known as the KFC. You probably have not heard about our club because we are still a relatively new club. A few of my friends and I founded the club last year, and we started out with about 20 guys from our Markley hall. We are currently at about 140 members and are still looking to grow.

We have meetings or events about once every two weeks, so the club is not a huge time commitment. At meetings, we talk about different Korean food and culture, ideas to improve the club (we just received our club shirts last month), and plan more events. Some of our most common events include: KFC pregame/party, dinner at Kang's (all members get a discount!), and Korean karaoke. I recommend everyone to join the Korean Food Club because I believe that Korean food is the best food in the world. Most people in the club had little to no knowledge of or experience with Korean food before joining the club, but everyone in the club loves it now. Korean food is also known to be a lot healthier than western cuisines. And, as I mentioned earlier, it is not a big commitment, so it is a perfect opportunity to learn about a very different and amazing cuisine and culture.

Anyone is welcome to join the KFC, whether you love Korean food as much as I do or have never had Korean food before!

MECC Consulting Group

By Monica Bian

MECC Consulting Group is a student organization that has helped me grow as an IOE student, because it has provided me with the opportunity to apply what I've learned in my IOE classes to solve real-world problems faced by local companies and non-profit organizations. It's really rewarding to participate in a project and see how all of the skills that I've developed in my IOE classes can manifest themselves in the impact that my project team makes on our client.

For example, the Excel data analysis and data visualization skills that I developed from IOE 373 were especially applicable in a project that I did with the University of Michigan Health System. My project team had to compile, organize, and analyze patient demographic data, and based on the trends that we identified in the data, we were able to provide a recommendation to our client to help optimize the floor space utilization of a hospital resource center. In addition, I was able to apply the linear programming techniques that I learned from IOE 202 and IOE 310 to optimize the resource center's staffing arrangements.

Outside of the IOE realm, MECC has also provided me with the opportunity to develop my leadership and communication skills, and the student organization has connected me with a myriad of fellow students across all engineering disciplines. In particular, the IOE upperclassmen that I've been fortunate enough to meet through MECC have become invaluable mentors that can help guide me through Michigan's rigorous academics, as well as through job recruiting and overall professional development. Without a doubt, my time thus far in MECC Consulting Group has enriched my experience here at Michigan, and I am eager to see how much more I am able to grow through the opportunities that MECC provides.

Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

By Pande Putu Adysti Kardi

I am currently a member of SWE (Society of Women Engineers) and I highly recommend students to join this association, especially women who are pursuing a major in a STEM field. Every other Thursday, we meet in one of the lecture rooms in North Campus. We have speakers, usually engineering professors, who often share their experiences in their fields and provide students with tips to succeed in their engineering careers. I enjoy joining their meetings because I get to meet new friends and learn valuable knowledge and tips from the speakers. Another thing that I love is the fact that dinner is served during the meetings and they usually bring in different type of delicious dishes from different parts of the world. The last time I went to the meeting, they served us Indian curry which tasted really good. Furthermore, by joining SWE, students also get access to specialized scholarships and company information sessions exclusive to members.

M-Fly

By Sara Cahn

This year my friend, who is another IOE student, and I joined the business team of M-Fly, an engineering design team here on campus. Since the majority of the team are aerospace or mechanical engineers, they often times want very little to do with the budget planning or logistics involved in planning for competition and purchasing materials. I have been able to use some of the strategies I have learned in IOE courses to optimize the budget and ensure the team is able to afford all of the materials necessary to build the model plane and then be able to afford to go to the yearly competition as well. Through this experience on M-Fly, I have been able to learn a lot about the behind the scenes work that is required for production. I know many manufacturing plants hire Industrial Engineers so they can ensure their plant or company will be successful and these Industrial Engineers are an integral part of the company's success. I am grateful that I have had the opportunity to learn about this aspect of IOE as well as find an intelligent and caring group of people.

Woven Wind

By Petra Lieber

I started looking into clubs to join the minute I got to campus as a freshman. Per recommendation of a friend that had been in Michigan for a year, I joined BlueLab, and immediately fell in love with Woven Wind and their projects. That sub-team was a good combination of every club that I wanted to join in college. First of all, it was an engineering design team, in which I could apply my technical knowledge in a more hands-on environment. It was also a volunteering club, since a big part of our projects consists of going to middle schools in Ann Arbor to teach students about wind energy.

When I first joined the club, I believed it was going to be a more CEE and ME focused club. After all, most of the projects the club was involved in consisted of designing and building small scale and true to size wind turbines. With time, however, I realized that Woven Wind is in fact a great opportunity for me to apply my IOE knowledge in a real world setting that I wouldn't have had access to otherwise. When designing a mechanically powered fan last year, for example, having an Ergonomics background would have made the task a lot easier. That is just one of the many ways of how one can use the skills gained in IOE classes to different fields.

Joining Woven Wind was one of the best decisions I made freshman year. I highly recommend joining this, or any of the other BlueLab teams, if you're looking for a way to apply problem-solving skills and to use what you learned in class in an environment that's different than what you're used to.

Woven Wind

By Shivani Joshi

Woven Wind is one of several project teams within BLUElab, a sustainability organization. Our team focuses on building wind turbines and educating the community about wind energy. Specifically, we focus on doing outreach with local elementary schools. Our most recent projects include building turbines for A2STEAM and the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. We are currently working with Ann Arbor Open Elementary School. Our outreach focuses on teaching students about the components of a wind turbine and the importance of renewable energy. Woven Wind is comprised of several subteams - Application, Blades, Electrical, Outreach, and Transmission. I am on the Blades subteam. In preparation for our upcoming project with Ann Arbor Open, we are determining a new blade design through CAD software and are planning on making a carbon fiber prototype.

At first glance, it may seem that Woven Wind does not incorporate a lot of IOE concepts. However, I have learned that building wind turbines takes systems approach thinking, as well as optimization techniques. We are planning to use data from our previously installed turbine to determine system requirements for our new project, and I believe the Statistics aspect of IOE will be very useful here. On the Blades subteam, we need to determine the optimal angle that the blades of the turbine should be positioned, taking a variety of factors, such as wind speed and wind angle, into account. As with any student organization, we also need to handle finances, which is another place where I have found IOE skills to be beneficial.

Woven Wind is a great organization and has members from all different majors. We also have social events and lots of opportunities for leadership roles. I recommend anyone who is enthusiastic about sustainability, outreach, and learning new skills to join.

Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

By Stephanie Brereton

I have been an active member of the Society of Women Engineers since Fall 2014 when I came to the University of Michigan. SWE is one of the largest organizations in the College of Engineering, and it has provided me with many opportunities, including academic, professional, technical, and social development. I originally joined SWE to meet other girls in engineering and get involved on campus. Immediately, the members welcomed me into the organization and I began to create a network on campus. I was able to ask SWE members about classes, other organizations, and majors. When deciding to major in Industrial and Operations Engineering, I reached out to my SWE network for advice and information about classes. When I ultimately declared, it was my friends in SWE who convinced me to go for it!

I am currently the Community Relations Co-Chair for SWE. One of my responsibilities is to organize the Fun Run, a 5k to fundraise for C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. Participation in subcommittees in SWE has helped me learn about organizing events, managing budgets, reaching out to corporate sponsors, and connecting to other organizations in the College of Engineering. I also planned the Engineering Games in January 2016, which is a fundraiser for a STEM-focused organization. Participants are from a variety of organizations on campus, and it brings students from different majors and backgrounds together. Through fun social events, I have been able to interact with more SWE members, as well as explore the campus and Ann Arbor. From touring the Big House to a yearly cider mill trip, SWE has expanded my network and helped me appreciate this campus and its people. Overall, my experiences through SWE have given me opportunities for professional development and network with my peers, in IOE and throughout the University of Michigan.

MPowered

By Taylor Martell

Second semester sophomore year I was roaming the relatively overwhelming Winterfest tables when a huge sign caught my eye: “Try. Fail. Risk. Do”. I was intrigued, and the person at the booth told me that MPowered Entrepreneurship is all about being passionate about an idea and courageous enough to shape that idea into a reality. I decided to attend the first mass meeting and quickly realized that I was surrounded by a group of people who were ambitious, innovative, and driven. Immediately, I was hooked.

Mpowered is the umbrella organization that is split up into separate projects that are all treated like their own startups. Sophomore year I joined the MTank project, which is essentially the Michigan version of the show Shark Tank where Michigan students compete in a live action startup competition. As a team, we were responsible for everything from identifying our project vision, pitching our event in University classrooms, seeking sponsorship, contacting venture capitalists to be our judges, evaluating the event applicants, etc. This year, I am a project director and have the valuable experience of leading a team of four students and hosting our project, Startup High School.

MPowered Entrepreneurship is the perfect organization for anyone looking to push themselves out of their comfort zone, make an impact on the University, and grow immensely both professionally and as a leader. I have learned countless skills, a few of which are how to work proactively on a project despite setbacks, how to handle myself professionally through countless meetings with the University and potential sponsors and how to confidently convey my ideas to others in an impactful way. All of these skills are very applicable to the business world and are extremely valuable for IOE majors. Joining MPowered was the best decision that I have made since coming to the University of Michigan.

Student Actuaries of Michigan (SAM)

By Tianke Wang

A student group I am a part of is the Student Actuaries of Michigan, or SAM. I am interested in working in the actuarial field after graduation, so I chose to join SAM. Things that SAM is involved in are networking activities that are important for obtaining internships and/or jobs. We also are particularly involved in exam preparation and support in the exam process. There are also exam reimbursement for students who are actively involved in SAM, which reduced the financial burden of exam fees.

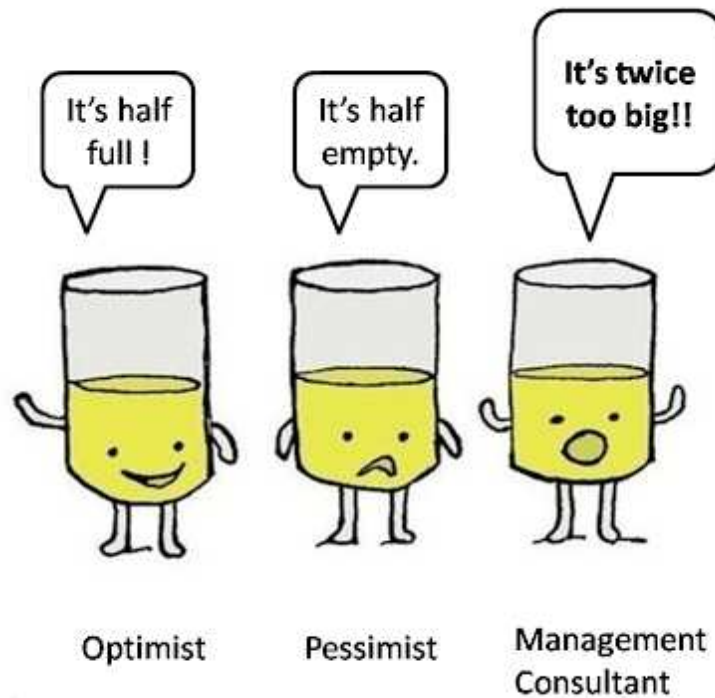
Although the actuarial field is not directly related to IOE, there is substantial overlap between some math classes and IOE classes, particularly IOE 201 and 265. If there are any engineering majors interested in the actuarial field, they should consider joining SAM.

Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

By Victoria Glunt

SWE is a large student organization within the College of Engineering. They offer many different ways to get involved and you can put in as much as you would like. While it is mainly women in the organization, they allow anyone to join! Within SWE, I am on the committee for the Region H Conference which is held every year at a different school in the Heartland region. This year we will be hosting it and it is the last time that it will be completely student run. In this committee, I am a Hotel and Venues Co-Chair. Our job is to plan all of the hotels where the attendees of the event will stay, where the events will be held, and the food that we will be providing. To do all of this, we must find the best ways to save both time and money during the event. We are trying to minimize the overall cost while still making it the best it could possibly be. Being a part of this committee helps with learning how to work on a bigger scale and learning how it will affect the people that are coming to the conference. It is a great opportunity to work with others to plan an event, especially if you would like some real-world problem solving experience.

By joining SWE, it is possible to get involved in many different committees to plan and organize different events. There is also SWE Seminar every week. Within each of the different ways to get involved, it is very easy to find something that relates to IOE. It is really great to be able to be a part of something that is so big and that allows us to use our skills in real life situations while still being in school. I would highly recommend that everyone look in to joining SWE! I am so happy I did!



Thanks for Reading!