

PURDUE STUDENT ENGINEERING FOUNDATION ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024 ISSUE



LETTER TO OUR ALUMS

Written by Kayla Manley

In this edition of the newsletter, we are happy to introduce to you our nine new members! These inspirational students have stepped up to the plate this busy tour season to participate in several co-tours and even solo tours already! We are so proud of their enthusiasm and cannot wait to see what they accomplish during their time at Purdue!

In between tours and classes, PSEF members have also found time to meet with alumni visiting campus! Read on to learn more about Kendrick Lau's visit- which was super helpful for us to connect with an alum and get an idea of life after college!

Speaking of alumni, PSEF has a few new initiatives to help alumni stay involved! In this newsletter, we are happy to introduce a program called PACER that connects prospective students to alumni (that's you!) in their area! We are also going to be more active with the PSEF LinkedIn Group with the goal of creating a bridge between current students and alumni!

We are very grateful for all of our members, seasoned and new, and would love it if you took the time to read more about how you can get involved and give back to PSEF! Thank you for all of the work you've already put in, and the impact you continue to have!

Boiler Up!

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INTRODUCING THE SPRING 2024 NEW MEMS

Written by Alexis Lee



Summer Green

Year: 2026

Major: BME

Hometown: Olney, MD

Involvements: NSBE, Biomedical Engineering Society



Frederick Lang

Year: 2027

Major: AAE

Hometown: Eagan, MN

Involvements: Boiler Bakers, Fermentation Club, Purdue Space Launch, EWB



Alexis Lee

Year: 2027

Major: AAE

Hometown: Seattle, WA

Involvements: Purdue Space Program, Women in Engineering



Sarah Brown

Year: 2027

Major: BioE

Hometown: Cranberry Township, PA

Involvements: Pi Beta Phi Sorority, Undergraduate Research Club, Pre-Dental Club



Nicholas Pantazopoulos

Year: 2026

Major: ME

Hometown: London, England

Involvements: Formula SAE, Boiler Quant Finance Group, Hellenic Student Association



Michael Bertaux

Year: 2026

Major: ME

Hometown: Noblesville, IN

Involvements: Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity



Dipali Abraham

Year: 2027

Major: ChE

Hometown: Beaverton, OR

Involvements: SWE, Liaison for Purdue's Nasha Dance Competition, EPICS



Lexi Slywka

Year: 2027

Major: BME

Hometown: Grand Rapids, MI

Involvements: Club Lacrosse, SWE, Women in Engineering Program



Andrew Kuntz

Year: 2027

Major: ChE

Hometown: The Woodlands, TX

Involvements: Honors College, Theta Tau Fraternity, AICHE

SPRING 2024 RETREAT RECAP

Written by Samhita Shantharam

This semester's New Member retreat was chock full of exciting events, most of which were featuring our extremely enthusiastic New Member class. Retreat opened with the classic skits that the various committees have taken to announcing their newest recruits which resulted in cacophonous laughter. This led to the coveted Chipotle meal that was characterized by DJ's machete that was gracefully used to split burritos into more manageable halves. PSEF members also got to test out the upcoming APEX challenge which highlighted various ways to make cars out of recyclable materials. New Members were treated to an intense game of Sardines that was followed by a game of If...Then to cap off the long night. Without the hard work and organization of PSEF Exec, the night would have been nowhere near as memorable!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: KATHRYN HAGERTY

Written by Max Cervantes



This month we had the opportunity to speak with PSEF alumni, Kathryn Hagerty (Civil Engineering '14). Kathryn has been quite busy since her time at Purdue. Recently, she completed her MBA at INSEAD, an international program offering classes across two campuses in France and Singapore! Kathryn commented on how much “less rigorous” the course load was compared to her workload at Purdue. Kathryn spoke on how amazing it was to live in both Europe and Asia, “I’d never realized the growth or speed of development of Asian markets, and experiencing it felt like looking into the future.” When asked about her time with PSEF, Kathryn reminisced about her time with the IM Volleyball team, noting that while they may not have been very competitive, they all had a blast playing. Another great memory she had was going with a group of PSEF members to a Breakfast Club in which they all dressed up as Sims characters! We had a great time speaking with Kathryn and she made sure to mention, “...for anyone who’s ever in London, please reach out to grab a coffee and say hi!”. Thank you, Kathryn!

ALUMNI VISIT

Written by Alex Cheng

On February 22nd, we had our PSEF alum Kendrick Lau (BS Computer Engineering '18) visit our office! Kendrick is currently working at Tesla, and he came back to Purdue to share his journey and experiences with us along with the Tesla hiring event. Moreover, Kendrick answered all our questions and gave us a sneak peek into life at Tesla, helping us understand what it's like working there and how we can prepare for our future careers. Most importantly, the PSEF story was something that he will never forget to share. It was an awesome time to have Kendrick in our office. A huge shout out to Kendrick for sharing his time and wisdom with us!



PSEF PARENT SPOTLIGHT

Written by Mikalah Wiles and Samhita Shantharam

EMILYNN (IE '26) & RAMZI (AAE '24)

How do you think the parent/child system plays a role in PSEF?

- Emilynn had a lot to share about the PSEF tradition of the parent/child system. She explained that “they were major sources of comfort for me, especially when it came to some of the bigger PSEF events like retreat or elections” and that parents were her first resource when she was unsure of what she was doing.

What have you learned throughout your time as a parent?

- Emilynn stated that she “learned that it’s okay to not have all of the answers, and that most of [her] concern about not being experienced enough was really just a lot of doubt in [herself]”.



DJ (IE '26) & JESSICA (EE '25)

How do your individual experiences compare with being a new parent vs. a more seasoned parent?

- DJ believes that more seasoned parents do have the advantage of experience and “wisdom”, but that’s only gained through starting early. He has more advice to give now compared to his freshman year. On the other hand, being able to relate more with your kids is a huge positive early on, so that's where he did well freshman year. Bottom line is there are positives to both sides.

What advice would you give to other parents in PSEF?

- DJ’s best advice is to go in with a positive and open mindset. Even if you aren’t so sure at first, you will learn a lot about your kid and more importantly, yourself! Don’t be discouraged if there isn't a natural “connection” at first, as it takes time for people to warm up to each other.

PACER: PSEF Alumni Coordinated

Engineering Recruitment



Written by Luke Uhlenbrock

As an organization that is in constant pursuit of new initiatives, goals, and ideas, PSEF regularly produces game changing opportunities for new and prospective Purdue engineers. Current President Jessica Mu's PACER (PSEF Alumni Coordinated Engineering Recruitment) program perfectly exemplifies our passion for outreach by connecting prospective students to accomplished PSEF alumni in their area. This program will not only provide an exceptional connection to future Boilermakers across the nation, but it also provides passionate former PSEF members the chance to stay involved with our organization. The goal of PACER is to allow admitted students to connect with these alumni for the chance to ask more specific and personalized questions from campus traditions to insider advice on what it takes to be successful when getting to campus. It also gives individuals who may not have the ability to attend a tour or see campus in person the firsthand opportunity to learn all about what Purdue has to offer and a resource for any questions that may arise.

PSEF would love to thank Jessica Mu, Jacob Everidge, and Dennis Chu for organizing this program as well as our fantastic alumni who are choosing to be involved! If you are interested in helping recruit Purdue engineering students from your home base, please fill out the link below!



LINKEDIN GROUP

We would greatly appreciate you joining our PSEF LinkedIn Group if you are interested! This will be a great way to connect with other alumni and current students! The goal with the LinkedIn Group is to provide professional and personal relations in our PSEF community- so feel free to share anything that you think would benefit members! Also, please fill out this survey below to share any personal life updates! We would love to celebrate any of your accomplishments such as new additions to the family, travels, etc. with the private LinkedIn Group! Thank you all for making the PSEF community so strong and welcoming!

Join the LinkedIn Group!

A QR code located within a rounded rectangular gold-colored box, intended for scanning to join the PSEF LinkedIn group.

Share Your Life Updates!

A QR code located within a rounded rectangular gold-colored box, intended for scanning to access a survey for sharing life updates.

Letter from the Treasurer: PDOG

Hi PSEF Alumni!

My name is Victoria Knott and I am the 2024 Vice President of Finance for PSEF. The 11th annual Purdue Day of Giving (PDOG) is coming up in just under a month, on Wednesday, April 24th, and we need your help!

As you may know, PDOG is one of the largest single-day philanthropic events in higher education. PSEF will be participating by collecting donations and competing in hourly and full-day challenges to win bonus funds. This event is one of PSEF's biggest income streams, providing funding for Pancakes with PSEF, member development events, APEX, networking events with campus and our sponsors, and much more. This year, the funds will be going into the PSEF Endowment. This endowment funds about 40% of our annual budget right now, and by giving back to it, your contributions will multiply over many years and benefit PSEF for as long as it exists.

Joining PSEF has been one of the best decisions I've made at Purdue, and I know it has given countless other PSEFers (like yourselves!) memories and experiences that will last a lifetime. This organization truly makes Purdue feel like a home to me, which was the one wish I had when entering college. I hope that every visit back to campus and every ring from the bell tower echoes a warm "Welcome Home" to you all, partially because of PSEF, and I hope you'll consider contributing this year.

On the day of, and in the next month leading up to the 24th, we'll be communicating through email and through our socials (primarily LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook) with direct ways you can help and how to donate.

Thank you for reading, and thank you for your support - you truly mean the world to us!
Sincerely,

Victoria Knott
Mechanical Engineering, Class of 2025
PSEF Vice President of Finance



Stay in touch!



Website

<https://engineering.purdue.edu/PSEF/>



Instagram

@psef_purdue



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