

SEPTEMBER 2021

# THE SMD-E SCOOP

*Southern Maryland Engineering Program Monthly Updates*



# welcome!

We hope all of you have had a smooth start to the new semester and are looking forward to learning and growing over the next school year. Please be on the lookout for monthly SMD-E newsletters in your email to stay up to date on upcoming events and important announcements. If you need anything at all throughout the semester, please do not hesitate to reach out.

## Contact Information

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# Mark YOUR Calendar



## **SMD-E Fall Meet & Greet Lunch**

Friday, September 10 at 11:30 AM  
Mod Pizza, 44940 St. Andrews Church Road  
Please RSVP at  
<http://evite.me/mR3JxKQVck>

## **Tech Bridge Lecture Series**

Wednesday, August 25 at 1:00 PM

## **How Engineering Teams are using Data to Accelerate Product Development**

Thursday, August 19 at 2:00 PM

## **The ASME 2021 Conference on Smart Materials, Adaptive Structures and Intelligent Systems**

September 14-15

## **ASME/BATH Symposium on Fluid Power and Motion Control**

October 19-20

## **UMD FPE Faculty Lecture Series:**

### **Remembering**

### **September 11, 2001**

Friday, September 10 at 11:00 AM

### **UMD Speaker Series:**

### **Transformation to the Grid of the Future**

Tuesday, September 14 at 10:30 AM

### **UMD Speaker Series: Advanced**

### **Energy & Carbon Emissions Reduction**

Thursday, September 16 at 10:30 AM

### **UMD Speaker Series: Climate-Centric Solutions, Strategies & Policies**

Tuesday, September 21 at 10:30 AM

### **The Potential of Agrivoltaics: Research to Real Life (UMD)**

Wednesday, September 22 at 12:00 PM

### **UMD Speaker Series: Driving Change - The Future of Transportation**

Tuesday, September 28 at 10:30 AM

### **IREAP's 6th Annual Paint Branch Distinguished Lecture in Applied Physics**

Tuesday, October 12 at 3:30 PM

# Ask An Engineer



**Kyle Robinson-Jordan**  
Electrical Engineer

## **Why did you first become interested in engineering?**

I first became interested in engineering while attending Thomas Stone High School's Project Lead the Way engineering program. The topics covered in that program spanned from electrical engineering to civil engineering. I also attended the University of Maryland during the summers while in high school and it took me a while to decide on engineering as my major. I originally went to UMD for architecture, but I quickly learned that I could not draw very well, so I switched to computer science which made me realize that I could not write a program from scratch. This left me with engineering which, surprisingly, came easily to me and kept my interest because of all the engaging professors I had and the cool projects we worked on.

## **What do you find most interesting about your work?**

The most interesting part of my work as a Navy Civilian Engineer is the broad aspect of work that is available. During my internship alone, I was able to set up and see how intrusion detection systems worked and were installed, how to set up a satellite communications network for emergency personal to use in times of a crisis, and even how to create a test plan.

## **What advice would you give to future engineers?**

My advice would be to apply to all internships, ask questions, and always volunteer if you have free time. Also, try new things whether it is an interesting class or life experience, and to never get too comfortable in any position or area as there's always room for growth and new and exciting opportunities.

## **Contact Information**

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# Semester Updates

## Important Reminders

- **General USMSM Information**
  - Classes are being held in person. Masks are required.
- **Tuition Assistance**
  - As part of SMD-E, if 50% of your courses are in SMD-E, then UMD will waive a portion of your Mandatory Fees. It is normally \$997.50, but will be reduced to \$153.00. This will not occur until after the drop/add date.
  - Please reach out to Dr. Shafer, Juana Hurtado, or Michael Robinson if this isn't fixed by the end of September.
- **Weekly Support**
  - Beginning on 9/2, Dr. Shafer will be available throughout the semester for Open Office hours on Thursday's in Room 103 in Building 1.
  - Click [here](#) to access the SMD-E Survival Manual.



## A little boost...

