All Roads Lead "from" DACC

Alumnus Update for Ben Dugas

Last December, Ben Dugas graduated from SIU Carbondale with his engineering degree. He remains in Carbondale with his fiancée. Ben will marry this January.

After graduation, Ben was hired as a civil engineer for the Illinois Department of Transportation. He has worked on several large projects, but his current project is the resurfacing of Interstate 57.

Ben working on the I57 project .

Ben with his fiancée.

Alumni Quick Updates

Ryan Blackford continues to work for Littlefuse as a product engineer. Littlefuse produces products that are vital components to every market that uses electrical energy. The company has even developed sub-miniature fuses for NASA.

Young Cho reports that all is going well at Georgia Tech. He found himself to be well prepared. He is currently looking for an internship.

Brandon Munsterman has been working as a design engineer for ThyssenKrupp Presta in Terre Haute. For two years, he has been designing tooling, processes and mechanical systems to assemble steering columns for OEMS such as Ford, Chrysler, BMW, and Tesla.

Travis Fissel has been working as a patent examiner and recently received a promotion to a GS11 level and is expecting another promotion soon.

Clinton Weir and his wife, Shanda are the proud parents of a little girl, Ada Lu.

Cereal For Two

Alumnus Update for Bob Myers

Bob Myers recently returned from Jamaica where he celebrated his honeymoon with his new wife, Libby. Libby Myers, formally Libby Tamalunis, works for Mervis Industries within the Human Resource Department.

Bob continues to work as a lead engineer for Quaker. After returning to work, Bob began installation of a new "ready to eat" cereal line.

In his "not so spare" time he is pursuing his MBA through Eastern while managing rental properties locally.

The Alumni NEWS

New Adventures

Alumni Update for Travis Wilson

Travis Wilson still works for CNH Industrial. However, instead of working within manufacturing, Travis now works as a Strategic Inventory Deployment Specialist for parts and services.

CNH Industrial is a global leader in capital goods that implements design, manufacturing, distribution, commercial and financial activities in international markets. They own 64 manufacturing plants and 50 research and development centers in 180 countries. They work with companies such as Case, Iveco, HeuliezBus, New Hollanda and FPT.

Picture: Travis on his Bike Across The Nation adventure in 2013.

Luncheon Program

November 23, 2016

- Intake: Name Tags, Questionnaires
- Welcome (Mark Hardwidge)
- Keynote Speaker (Ryan White - Lockheed Martin)
- Lunch & Questions Forum for FAQs
- Scholarships/Alumni Association (Tracy Wahlfeldt)

Not Just Drones Are On The Rise

Alumnus Update for Jacob Huffman

After graduating with his Masters in Mechanical Engineering from the University of San Diego with a specialization in Control Systems Engineering in 2013, Jacob Huffman, DACC engineering alumnus, worked as a contractor for 8-9 months for Alphabet (formerly Google X). He was offered and accepted a full time position with the company working with flying drones known as Project Wing, an autonomous delivery system. Project Wing is the design team building the next generation of automated aircraft. They are working toward the day when these vehicles deliver everything from consumer goods to emergency medicine. Jacob Huffman recently announced that he was promoted on this team. Jacob now leads the aerodynamics team for the Alphabet's Drone project.

Uniquely designed as a tail sitter, Project Wing boasts of a hybrid design that takes off vertically. The drones consist of four electrically-driven propellers with a five feet wingspan. An onboard computer near the rear of the craft is powered from the front of the plane. It is outfitted with GPS, cameras, and an inertial measurement sensor to determine positioning. When in position, the drone hovers and winches packages down on a tether. Weighting under 20 pounds with limited cargo capacity, it takes off and lands without a runway.

In September 2016, Project Wing began testing its aerial delivery system at an FAA test site managed by the Virginia Tech Mid-Atlantic Aviation Partnership. The aircraft can fly a preplanned route on demand using sensors and software to detect and avoid one another in real time. They fly up to 400 feet above the ground and safely deliver fragile packages to a spot the size of a doorstep. The current focus of Project Wing is to reduce aircraft weight and improve the battery design.

DACC Engineering Associates Program

The Associates in Engineering Program provides basic training in the foundational building blocks for engineering: Physics and Mathematics. Studies are conducted in general areas as a preparation for a number of fields of advanced specialized study. This program is designed as a transfer program and completion provides flexible transfer to any desired university. For more information visit www.dacc.edu or call 217.443.8805.