



**GAMEABOVE COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY**

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

WE ARE PLEASED TO RECOGNIZE THE FOLLOWING
OUTSTANDING STUDENTS FOR 2020-2021.

Computer Aided Engineering

Qiheng Zheng

Qiheng decided to come to EMU because he graduated with his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in April 2017. During his graduate studies he had the opportunity to work on multiple projects, which were challenging considering the pandemic. He was especially proud of the Autonomous Golf Cart and Battery Mount capstone projects.

Qiheng plans on working in the automotive industry upon graduation.



Computer Engineering Technology



John Crowley

John decided to come to EMU to challenge himself to realize his intellectual potential by pursuing a higher level of education. In doing so, he accomplished so very much in the Computer Engineering Technology program – learning the requisite skills of his field, coding and implementation of Programmable Logic Controllers, microcontroller, and autonomous vehicle systems. Perhaps more importantly, through the many hundreds of hours of hard work, he acquired all the dedication, persistence, critical thinking skills and term work necessary to succeed in his future endeavors as an engineer.

2021 is a big year for him – he married his wife last summer, just bought their first home in Canton and are expecting their first child in November.

After graduation, John plans to stay in the area and work for a company that will welcome and challenge his now refined Computer Engineering skillset, most likely in the automotive sector. EMU's CET program has paved the way for his future.

Electrical and Computer Engineering

David DeLisle

While touring numerous local Universities seeking to find the best place to earn his undergraduate degree, David landed on EMU and our new Electrical and Computer Engineering program. He liked the idea of contributing to a new program, the relaxed atmosphere, and resources available.

He knew he planned on attending Graduate school so he joined the Honors College and jumped at the invitation to join the McNair Scholarship Program, which inspired him to pursue research within the EECE program. That brought him to the Autonomous Golf Cart (ACG) project, which had the goal to convert an existing electric golf cart into a test platform for deep learning algorithms that would lead to an AGC that can navigate EMU's campus. They integrated many peripheral sensors such as Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR). Sensors and control systems used to automate the golf cart will be built as an extension of the existing systems on the chassis. David had the opportunity to attend conference and present his work with the AGC group and was the recipient of the Leadership in Engineering – Ford Alan Mulally \$10K Scholarship.



David plans to apply to graduate school to further his education in Electrical Engineering and Electric Vehicles. His long term goals are to achieve his Ph.D. in the field of Electrical Engineering and work with a renowned University or automotive manufacturer to create the next generation of electric and autonomous vehicles.

Electronic Engineering Technology

Scott Becker

Scott previously attended Henry Ford College and choose to continue his education at EMU due to the articulation agreement they had in the Electronic Engineering Technology program.

During his time at EMU, he worked with the team developing an autonomous golf cart, which was able to be tested April 2021 in the Sill Hall parking lot.

Scott plans on moving from his technician job to an engineering job and may continue at EMU by working on a Master's degree.



Engineering Management

Anne DeSmet



The Engineering Management program attracted Anne to EMU as it appealed to her interests and future career goals. The program is a nice mix of technology, management, business and is a well rounded program. The fact that it is 100% online worked best for her schedule.

The program allowed her to meet amazing classmates and gain a depth of knowledge to aid in her current engineering role, as well as the building blocks for a future management role.

Anne intends on continuing her career within the field of Packaging and progressing to a role with increased responsibility and complexities.

Mechanical Engineering

Konrad Dixon

Konrad found that EMU was a local affordable college that is alma mater to a lot of people he met that had a direct influence on his life. He liked that EMU was the college that welcomed everyone that wanted to learn and better themselves. Being local, he was able to develop a network within his home area.

While at EMU Konrad was able to pursue his athletic career in football, develop technical skills for engineering analysis and design in the industry, and the opportunity to design a product from the ground up.



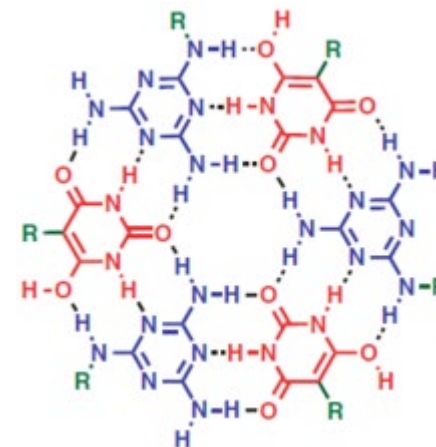
He plans to pursue further education in graduate school while completing his last 2 years of athletic eligibility and then to work in the industry to develop his skills, while gaining domain knowledge and expanding his network. Once an extremely firm foundation is developed, Konrad will pursue establishing a prosthetics/bionics company of his own.

Polymers & Coatings Technology

Vishakha Makode

Working as a researcher throughout her professional career, especially in the new product development and coating industry, Vishakha chose EMU because it has a great Polymers & Coatings program. The research interests of the faculty, Dr. Vijay Mannari and Dr. John Texter, were extremely congruent with those of her own.

Vishakha always believed that curiosity for knowing the facts and the reasons behind them has been the most important aspect for increasing the knowledge sphere. EMU was the best option for her to upgrade her competence level to global standards and would certainly facilitate a constructive approach.



Once she graduates, Vishakha wants to make a laudable contribution to the present world by initiating and executing innovative ideas and research-oriented approaches towards them, which would change the perception.

Product Design Engineering Technology

Mary McGregor



In May 2019, Mary earned her AS in Computer-Aided Design & Drafting from Baker College. Although this was a very important step in her life, she left college with a general feeling of unpreparedness. Mary then stumbled across Product Design Engineering Technology – finding a program that combined all her interests (CAD, art, and design) seemed far-fetched, but she ended up loving the program and discovered that she fit in well.

During her two years at EMU, Mary learned the necessary skills for thriving in the “real -world” of technical career paths; such as how to work in a dynamic team as well as the importance of utilizing technical resources when available. Most importantly, she made a grand discovery about herself: she is a creative, ultimately right-brained woman with a strong appreciation for the Arts. She learned to surround herself with an environment and career that nurtures both her technical skills and creative intuition. Instead of working to change her personality traits (or fit the “mold” of a conventionally successful engineering), she put herself first and sought out projects that filled her with passion.

While not knowing what her post-graduation future holds, she is open to new experiences and growth opportunities – which she believes is the key to self-discovery and fulfillment in one’s career journey.

Quality Management

Kelley Stevens

Kelley decided on EMU after completing her undergraduate degree here. She enjoyed the classes, the culture, and environment of the EMU campus and thought that it would provide a similar experience virtually. EMU offered a unique degree in Quality Management, which she was specifically interested in.

During her time in the program, Kelley was able to complete 11 projects that directly impacted her current organization, lending to an increase in efficiencies, decreased costs, and improved turnaround time in numerous different departments. She gained real life experience at the same time as learning new tools and giving back to her employer.

Kelley will continue with her current employment in healthcare administration. She sought this degree as a way to improve skills in the realm of quality with the intent to apply her knowledge in her own community hospital. Her hope is to continue to contribute to healthcare efficiencies which will impact our communities for many years.



Information Assurance & Cyber Defense



Zechariah (Zane) Pelletier

Zane decided to come to EMU because he was interested in Cybersecurity and saw that EMU had a good program that allowed for extracurricular engagement in Capture the Flag (CTF) cyber hacking competitions and student organizations.

During his time in the program, Zane participated in the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, published two scholarly articles in highly recognized international Journals, and participated in undergraduate research. Zane presented his senior thesis project at EMU's Undergraduate Symposium.

Zane plans to continue working as a Cybersecurity Engineer at ESCRYPT, performing automotive penetration testing and hardening – as well as to do traveling post-COVID.

Cyber Security

Raul Perdomo

Raul always wanted to finish his degree and in 2017 returned to EMU to do just that, choosing the Information Assurance and Cyber Defense program. During the next two years, he formed great relationships with the faculty and administration of the School of Information Security & Applied Computing. When they launched the M.S. Cybersecurity degree in the fall of 2019, Raul knew he wanted to be a part of it.

The program at EMU gave him so many opportunities to get hands on with some very exciting technologies. He learned new skills like hardware security, data analytics, web-application penetration testing, and network resiliency strategies. As a Graduate Assistant, Raul worked on Malware Analysis and Networking projects. He was also able to take and pass the CISSP certification exam.



The program has prepared Raul for what happens next. He worked with the faculty to plan his next steps even before his scheduled graduate and in February 2021 he landed a full-time position with General Motors as a Cybersecurity Engineering within the manufacturing engineering organization, helping to develop and deploy new controls for their ICS networks. Raul looks forward to now spending more time with his wife and newborn, who have been so supportive and instrumental to his academic success.

Aviation Flight Technology

Amir Farahani

Having an interest in Aviation and also wanting to have a degree led Amir to EMU, especially since it was the only University offering both a Bachelor in Aviation Flight Technology and Pilot school.

He has finished his Private Pilot Certification, Instrument Rating, UAS Drone Certificate and will have his BS degree by the end of Summer 2021. At that time, he will continue his journey to airlines and work in the aviation industry.



Aviation Management Technology



Colmore Mac Gregor Daniel

The reason that he chose to pursue his undergrad at EMU was because of the reviews he saw about the aviation program. The faculty came highly recommended by current and previous students and the school offered diversity on a larger scale than other he reviewed. Most importantly though, southeastern Michigan is a major locale for aviation with Detroit Metro, Willow Run and Ann Arbor municipal all within minutes of the campus. EMU is in the middle of them all so the possibilities for aviation majors to find employment and hands on training are endless.

Colmore had the opportunity to work alongside some amazing professors who are well respected in the aviation community and who have introduced him to new concepts with the industry. He has been able to network and form lasting connections with classmates and professors which will go far into the future. While enrolled in the program, Colmore achieved the Dean's List each semester and is well on his way to becoming a Certified Member of the American Association of Airport Executives.

After graduation Colmore plans on finding employment within the fields of either airline or airport management. As an international student, he also plans to return home to assist his country to improve their aviation industry with the knowledge he has gained while attending EMU. He also hopes to secure a scholarship to pursue a Graduate degree in Airport Management.

Hotel and Restaurant Management

Elizabeth Wilding

EMU was the perfect distance to “go away” to college without being too far from home – and they had the Hospitality Management program.

Elizabeth made the Dean’s list every semester of courses and kept a 3.9 GPA. A highlight was being able to study abroad with the Hospitality Management program in Paris, France and London, England right before COVID hit.

She is currently the dietary coordinator at a non-profit assisted living home for women, which is a job she never pictures herself doing, but found it to be thoroughly enjoyable and passionate about.

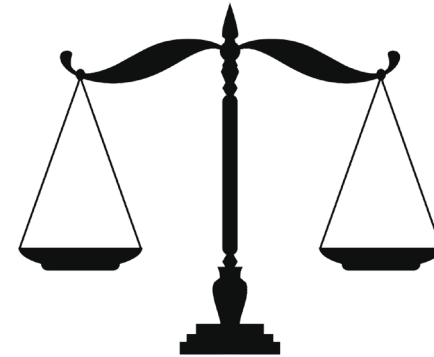
A strong passion for every aspect of the hospitality industry, especially food service, travel/lodging, and events has her keeping an open mind after graduation. One thing that is certain – being in a position to travel more.



Paralegal Studies

Bryce Layton

He came to EMU because of the opportunity to enter a transfer agreement to save money on tuition, while being enrolled in a top-15 program nationwide for Paralegal Studies. Bryce has many friends that either attend or attended and they all have had a memorable and high-quality education at Eastern and would not change anything.



Eastern enabled him to pursue specific courses on topics he found interesting and the courses/instructors challenged his thinking and pushed his capabilities in the legal profession to greater heights. While working full time and attending EMU full time, Bryce saw the knowledge and skills provided improved the effectiveness at his law firm. He feels well prepared for the future as an attorney.

Upon graduation he plans on attending law school and becoming a licensed attorney. No matter where that lands him, Michigan or elsewhere, he plans on using the skills and knowledge obtained at EMU and law school to help the community and society where able. Perhaps one day he may return to EMU to inquire into teaching students, which will allow him to give back to Eastern what is gave to him

Technology Management

Michael Barton

The notoriety of EMU, the articulation agreement with Oakland Community College and the online Technology Management program brought Michael to EMU.



While at EMU, Michael was able to enrich his knowledge on the management of technology to strengthen his future career. He plans to continue working as a network engineer and to investigate the Masters program in Cyber Security.

Technology Studies

Brian Woloski



Brian graduated from EMU in 1994 with a bachelor's degree and was fortunate enough to attend the Center for Regional & National Security, Police Staff and Command program. Upon completion of that program, he realized that he should pursue his master's degree from EMU.

There were several things that he accomplished while pursuing his degree at EMU. First and foremost was that of being a lifelong learner. At 50 years of age, he felt it was necessary to show his children that you never stop learning in life. Secondly, he was able to rediscover what it takes to think critically about studies. Lastly, Brian managed to complete the program of study while managing his career and family – a challenge to say the least.

Having a career in law enforcement for 21 years, he hopes to be able to use his degree as a stepping stone to future promotion. Upon retirement, he hopes that his advanced degree will aid him in establishing a new career in the corporate sector.

Communication Technology

Vardan Sargsyan

As a transfer student from Washtenaw Community College, he decided to attend EMU because it offered a bachelor programs that best suited his goals. The Communication Technology [B.S.] program is a perfect blend of technical skills and communication theory. This is unique as most other colleges only offer a Bachelor of Fine Arts, which he felt would not be beneficial to him. Further, EMU's articulation agreement with WCC was very general with the amount of transferrable credits.

During his short time here at EMU, his primary focus was synthesizing his understanding of technology with society at large. When at WCC his focus was on acquiring and honing technical skills, such as graphic design, web development, and video production; Vardan's efforts here were to understand the implications of these communication mediums in various social settings. For example, he worked on a research paper that investigated the link between religious fundamentalism in Orthodox Christian communities and information communication technology (ICT) adoption. This research was selected to be features in the 2021 Undergraduate Symposium.

Once he graduates in the summer of 2021, Vardan will be onboarding with the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America in a communications role. This is a very exciting position as it is a practical continuation of his undergraduate research and also connects his career with his personal life. He hopes to build a career there for years to come as communication technology adoption in the Armenian Church is in its infancy and requires a lot of careful consideration moving forward. Depending on the needs that he discovers in the organization, Vardan will consider the possibility of a masters degree, whether it be at the University of Michigan's School of Information or EMU. He looks to constantly learn and develop new skills in communication as the world of technology rapidly evolves.

Construction Management – B.S.



Alexander Garrett

Alexander decided to come to EMU because of the scholarship that was offered. Over the course of the last few years as a student here, he learned a great deal about what he plans on doing for the future. He learned enough computer science to know that typing the 1's and 0's were not nearly as satisfying as being able to look out at a building and know that you played a part in making it a staple in a city's skyline.

It is his hope that after graduation he will have a steady career at a general contracting firm.

Construction Management – M.S.

Hebah Hamdan

She came to EMU because it has a strong construction management program that combines both academics and industry growth opportunities. It also has a large diverse student body that exposes new points of view.

EMU helped Hebah to combine experience with theory to continue to grow. Having industry professionals teaching in the program, guest speakers, and meetings were like an insight into the industry. It provided her with the opportunity to connect with people in a professional circle. On the other hand, she was able to conduct personal research with experience mentors.

She plans to continue to grow in her career of Project Management and prepare to get Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.



Fashion Marketing Innovation

Allyson Burgor

She decided on attending EMU for the Fashion Marketing Innovation program. Living so close to the campus made this a no brainer for her to attend. Allyson was very happy she made the decision to transfer to EMU after attending community college because she felt very prepared and excited.

She learned so much in her program – for example, she learned how to develop products from conception to finished piece and learned so much about the fashion business and the importance of networking with industry professionals. Allyson loved getting the chance to learn from both Holly Mosher and Dr. Julie Becker, both of whom were so humble and open to sharing their knowledge.

She is very interested in a career in product development, pattern or technical design, or trim engineering. Her dream job would be to work for an apparel brand that uses technology to engineering their clothing to better suite their customers' needs – such as a company like Carhartt or Lululemon. She is excited for her future and feel confident that EMU prepared her for excellence.



Interior Design – B.S.



Alondra Chavez

Many factors played into my decision to choose EMU. As a minority, it was important for her to choose a school where she felt accepted and comfortable and EMU does a great job with recognizing and celebrating diversity through events and associations. Another reason was the campus. It wasn't too overwhelmingly large but it was still big enough to have a good selection of fields of study and opportunities for social connections. Lastly, there are a lot of scholarship opportunities one can take advantage of.

Alondra is very thankful for having access to the resources and the support of her professors and peers that helped her accomplish achievements in the Interior Design program here at EMU. She has been on the Dean's list from 2017 to 2020, presented at the EMU Undergraduate Symposium from 2018 to 2020, and won second place in the Configure Student Rendering Awards 2020. In addition to this, she was a Member at Large during 2019-2020 and a Secretary during 2020-2021 for the Interior Design Student Organization.

She hopes to get a job in Downtown Detroit or in a place that gets her inspired and excited about design. Alondra is also excited to continue to learn, gain experience, and meet wonderful people.

Simulation, Animation and Gaming

William Glover

Ever since middle school William had the desire to become an animator, however, he had always been turned away from his limited drawing skills. After taking an animation course at Washtenaw Community College in high school, William discovered that he could work on animation in the digital 3d space and fell in love with the medium. EMU ranked high in terms of an animation school in Michigan. The SAG program interested him by including Gaming as a part of its curriculum; another topic he had a desire to learn about.

Through the SAG program he was introduced to several of the processes that go into creating an animation. He discovered a passion for 3d modeling, specifically character modeling; discovering the process of giving a character the ability to be animated through rigging. The program allowed him to further his abilities in animation, utilizing character rigs and knowledge of the principles to create expressive and lifelike animations. William learned how to create detailed textures for rendering characters, providing him with the knowledge to create all the aspects needed for an animation. As a firm believer in animation as a medium capable of telling all stories, the skills that he learned through the SAG program have helped him discover all aspects of how a 3d animation is developed. These skills enabled him to create his project for EMU's 41st Undergraduate Symposium, *Dynamic Storytelling with Animation*. The project displays animations advantages in visualizing narratives compared to traditional media.

Once he graduates from EMU, he will go on to pursue a Masters of Fine Arts in Digital Animation and Interactive Media from Ohio State University as well as to continue to pursue expanding the uses animation has in telling all stories. Particularly, William wants to explore animations capabilities in more mature stories compared to what is seen in western media.



Ph.D. in Technology

Forough Zareanshahraki

EMU's College of Engineering & Technology is one of the handful of colleges/universities in the whole nation that offers the Polymers and Coatings program (and it is one of the best) and that's why Forough chose it for continuing her doctoral studies.

Her research at EMU has resulted in 13 conference and journal papers in well-known journals in the Polymers and Coatings field, and one patent application. She also had the chance to participate in more than 10 conferences, where she could present and share her research with fellow researchers in the field, was acknowledged by winning several awards and opened up a great network for her future career.

Forough was the recipient of the following awards: best poster award at the FOCUS conference, 3 years in a row; University Emerging Technology award at RADTech conference; best student paper award at RADTech conference; and best poster award at EMU's Graduate Research Conference, 2 years in a row.

Upon graduation she would like to work in one of the top coating companies where she can bring her knowledge into practice.

