



Welcome to your 2020 Mechanical Engineering Alumni Newsletter



Hello, I hope this newsletter finds you well.

As I left my office on 19 March, I did not imagine still working from home in August and writing this introduction to the Mechanical Engineering Alumni Newsletter from my bedroom. As I write, the Engineering Building is about to reopen and laboratory research can restart, and then we start to prepare for the new academic year.

[Read more from Duncan Shepherd](#)



State-of-the-art engineering building tops out

Our new building is almost complete! Bringing our many disciplines into one combined space will provide more flexible ways of working for both staff and students, training the next generation of engineers.

[Find out more](#)



Congratulations to the inspirational Naomi Green!

Dr Naomi Green, a Research Fellow in Biomedical Engineering, has won the Stephenson Award for her work in encouraging more young people to study engineering.

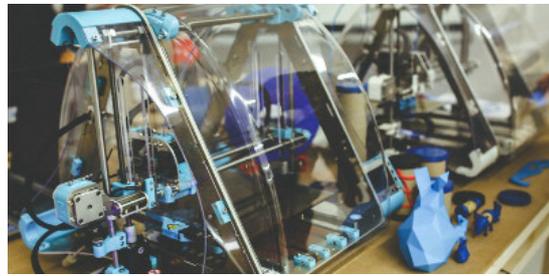
[Find out more](#)



Students launch Computer Aided Design Society

A group of third year students formed CADSoc to enhance the technical skills of their fellow students. In just a year, they've opened their own lab space and secured sponsorship from two major partners.

[Find out more](#)



Transformative 3D printing from developmental biology

Engineers need to get more creative in their approach to design and additive manufacturing systems, by taking inspiration from the way humans grow and develop. Our teams are doing just that.

[Find out more](#)



Give more people the chance to build a better future

Engineers and scientists can revolutionise the world – but only if they can get the right education. Every year, 69,000 jobs for engineers and skilled technicians in the UK go unfilled, while those with the potential to help create a greener, healthier world don't get the chance to attend university. We are launching a new Foundation Year in STEM (EPS Futures) degree programme, the first of its kind, to help bridge this gap.

[Find out more and get involved](#)



Hear from the mechanical engineering societies

With now 10 student groups associated with the Department, it's been a busy year. From new societies CADSoc, Virtual Reality, Engineering Brigades and Space Soc, to established UBRacing, WISE, Brum



A very special Virtual EPS Societies' Awards

Sadly we weren't able to hold the usual celebrations for our remarkable student groups, but not to be hindered by a pandemic we took the event online for a unique virtual Awards ceremony. We're

Eco, Rugby, UBRobotics, and of course MechSoc, there's always something to do!

[Discover what they've been up to](#)

proud of all our nominees and 7 shortlisted students and projects! Congratulations!

[Watch the Awards ceremony](#)



Birmingham, STEM Ambassadors and Me

Yvonne Baker, alumna and Chief Executive of STEM Learning, delivered the 2020 EPS Distinguished Lecture in March. Best known for founding the national STEM Ambassadors volunteering scheme, Yvonne is passionate about encouraging school pupils to see the every-day science around them. In her talk, she reflects on her favourite Birmingham memories and shares her thoughts on how we can continue to make science, technology, engineering and maths attractive to the young and not so young.

[Watch Yvonne's Distinguished Lecture](#)

**WE ARE
BIRMINGHAM**
ALUMNI

Share your story and help inspire our students

From recent graduates to industry leaders, you are making important things happen. You can inspire young people and offer an insight into the opportunities awaiting them. Anyone who submits a profile will receive an Old Joe fridge magnet. Never have your stories been more valuable.

[Share your Birmingham story](#)



Alumni perspective: Mobolaji Oyedele

Mobolaji graduated in 2018 with an MEng in Mechanical Engineering with Industrial Experience and is now a Graduate Engineer at Jaguar Land Rover. Here she shares her journey from Nigeria, through her learnings at University, to prototype building phase for the F-Pace Jaguar.

[Read more about Mobolaji](#)

MENTORING

Could you mentor a student?

We're looking for enthusiastic alumni and professionals to provide expertise and advice to help our students start their careers. Mentoring makes a real difference; we all know the benefits of having someone to bounce ideas off, particularly in these current uncertain times. Your advice is invaluable. If you'd like to be that person, please get in touch.

Email Grace to become a mentor

News roundup

Did you graduate in the last 5 years? You're eligible to enter the [6th China International College Students' "Internet Plus" Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition](#).

[New graduate Sabeeka Qureshi launches a careers blog](#) offering advice to students and graduates looking for a jobs or internships in lockdown.

The School of Engineering has achieved an [Athena SWAN Bronze Award](#) for the first time, while the University as an institution, has had its 2014 Bronze Award renewed.

[Small and medium businesses are being offered additional free support](#) to help them overcome some of the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic via Birmingham Energy Institute.

Recent graduate [Mercurius Saad receives £40,000 grant](#) from Innovate UK towards his education start-up Tutorbloc.

Mechanical Engineering students are celebrating after winning a prestigious competition aiming to find solutions to global problems by [developing a prototype to tackle litter issues](#).

[Student Hasan Khanani has won a scholarship prize](#) worth £1,000 from global cyber security firm MetaCompliance.

Professor Hongming Xu is [elected president of the UK Chinese Society of Automotive Engineers](#).

University of Birmingham [appoints leading computational scientist as Pro-Vice-Chancellor](#) and Head of College of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

Do we have the correct contact details for you?

Make sure you update your details to ensure you receive the latest news and information about events in your area. [Update now](#)



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