

# DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING



## WELCOMING A NEW DEPARTMENT HEAD



### JOHN BERGER APPOINTED DEPARTMENT HEAD

John has been a faculty member at Mines since 1994, and is honored to be chosen to lead the ME department. John received his BS in Civil Engineering, and his MS and PhD in Mechanical Engineering all from the University of Maryland, College Park. John's primary research interests are in the general area of the mechanical behavior and fracture of advanced materials, and most recently he has been involved with mechanics related issues in lithium-ion batteries and proton-conducting membranes.

## NEW HIRES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING



### JEFF ACKERMAN, TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Jeff earned a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University, where he studied the dynamics of legged locomotion while carrying loads with suspension systems. Jeff is passionate about design, robotics, biomechanics, 3D printing, prototyping, and entrepreneurship. He serves as the Faculty Advisor for the Mines Makers Society.



### ANDREW OSBORNE, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Andy earned his PhD in Nuclear Physics in 2006 from the University of Glasgow in Scotland. His work centers on the application of high performance computing and reactor theory to model coupled multi-physics phenomena in nuclear reactor systems. Andy's research interests also include hybrid energy systems, numerical methods and software engineering.



### GARRITT TUCKER, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Garritt earned a PhD in 2011 from the Georgia Institute of Technology School of Materials Science and Engineering. His research group at Mines integrates high-performance computing and theory to discover the fundamental structure-property relationships of materials that will enable the predictive design of advanced materials with tunable properties.



### JEFF WHEELER, TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Jeff earned his PhD from Mines in Engineering Systems in 2016. His research focused on applying optical measurement techniques to study liquid electrolytes. His current research interests include instrumentation development, diagnostic techniques, process monitoring, and material characterization.

## PROMOTIONS



### VENTZI KARAIVANOV

has been promoted to Teaching Professor



### ANNE SILVERMAN

has been tenured and promoted to Associate Professor



## ME IS THE LARGEST DEPARTMENT AT MINES

**29 FACULTY MEMBERS**

**1,510 TOTAL STUDENTS**

● **1,320 BS STUDENTS**

● **129 MS CANDIDATES**

● **61 PhD CANDIDATES**

## DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH VOLUME

**FOR FISCAL YEAR 17**

▶ **\$6.2M**

