To:       MME Students  
From:    C.J. Van Tyne  
About:  MME Update and Information for Fall 2013  
Date:   August 19, 2013  

Welcome back to CSM. We hope that you had a productive and restful summer.  

Departmental News:  
A number of changes have occurred over the summer and you should be aware of them. The most exciting news is that Prof. John Speer has been named the John Henry Moore Distinguished Professor of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. He was selected after a rigorous international search. When you see Prof. Speer it would be good to offer your congratulations on him being recognized as one of the best in world in metallurgical engineering.  

During the summer Elaine Wolfschlag decided to retire. We will miss her presence and support of the students in MME. Prof. Matlock also decided to retire after 41 years of service at CSM. He has accepted a transitional appointment to be with us part time for the next 3 years. We have one new faculty member who will start in January. Prof. Zhenzhen Yu who has been working at Oak Ridge National Labs will join us as an Assistant Professor in the Department.  

Accreditation Visit:  
Last Fall we had a visit by ABET, the engineering accreditation agency in the US, to provide us with an evaluation of our program. The visit and the review were very successful. Our program remains accredited, so you have the assurance that you are receiving a quality education.  

First Year Students:  
For the first year students having an interest in MME, we want to welcome to the MME family. The advising process for first year students is through CASA. Nevertheless we in MME are open and willing to talk with you about your academic program or about the department at any time. We hope to schedule a few informal meetings during the year so that we can get to know each other better. If during the semester you have concerns or questions, you are welcome to contact me, so that they can be addressed.  

Curriculum Reminders:  
Starting with the fall 2012 bulletin the MME program has four tracks – 1) Physical and Manufacturing Metallurgy, 2) Ceramic and Electronic Materials, 3) Physicochemical Processing of Materials, and 4) Biomaterials. These tracks replace the Area of Special Interest (ASI) of pervious bulletins. With the new track system you can use your MTGN elective courses to obtain a focus to your degree program. A track is not required but is an option for those students who wish to pursue one. If you want to pursue a track you must be on the 2012 or later bulletin.  

MME Guide for Undergraduates:  
Over the summer Prof. Bourne and I updated the MME Guide to the Undergraduate Program. This version (version 2.0) is available for download from the Undergraduate page on the MME
website. We hope that this document will provide you with specific information so that you can plan your academic program and move through the CSM bureaucracy with the minimum of hassle.

**Course Designation Changes:**
Within the MME department we have separated the lab sessions in all courses as individually designated courses. In the past we had a mixed arrangement where some courses (e.g. MTGN300/302) had a separate lab designation and other courses (e.g. MTGN311) the lab was embedded in the course. We have made all courses consistent where each course will have a designation and the lab will be designated as a separate course (e.g. MTGN311 and MTGN311L). The L indicates it is a lab course. The courses are linked as co-requisites so you cannot take one without the other. Some faculty will grade the two courses separately while others will give you the same grade for both the course and the lab. The reason for the change was to obtain consistency and for better accountability of our classes with the administration.

There have been other designation changes in other departments for some of the required MME courses:
- DCGN209 "Introduction to Thermodynamics" is now CHGN209
- DCGN241 "Statics" is now MNGN241
- DCGN320 "Mechanics of Materials" is now CEEN311
- SYGN101 "Earth and Environmental Systems" is now GEGN101

A bit more drastic change is:
- BELS101 has been combined with BELS301 to become BIOL110.
I am trying to understand this change with regard to the BELS minor. If you have concerns or questions you can contact me after next week when I get that information.

Because of these changes we have produce a new flowchart. The requirements for the degree have not changed since 2011, but the course designations have. The new flowchart is available for download from the MME website.

**Registrar Forms:**
In order to make it easier to obtain copies of the various forms required by the registrar, we have also put copies of many of these forms on the undergraduate page of the MME website. You are welcome to download them as needed. Unfortunately the registrar's office will not accept electronic submissions of these forms so you will need to make a hardcopy and deliver it when completed to the registrar's office. As with any document that goes to the registrar's office we strongly recommend that you retain a copy for your records.

It is good to have you back on campus. We hope that the semester is good and that you learn more about engineering and especially about materials.

If you have questions or concerns about the curriculum or the department please contact your advisor or contact me in Hill Hall 201B or via email cvantyne@mines.edu