

Biomedical, Industrial & Human Factors Engineering Newsletter

Spring 2022



Chair's Note

Welcome to Spring '22 Department Newsletter.

I am really glad that we are having another strong semester of being back on campus. The word that comes to my mind for this newsletter is "**gratitude**". I am grateful and thankful to my staff, faculty, students, and their family for being here with us and for working towards student success. I hope you find the newsletter informative.

Whether you are a prospective student or parent, an alumni, industry partner, or just interested please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,
Subhashini Ganapathy, Associate Professor & Chair

Rank #30 among all of the best online graduate engineering programs, U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, 2022

U.S. News & World Report has named Wright State University's online graduate programs in Industrial and Human Factors engineering as among the best in the nation for 2022. Wright State's ranked programs include the Industrial and Human Factors Engineering



Program in the College of Engineering and Computer Science. **It was ranked No. 30 out of 105 ranked programs, up from its ranking of No. 37 in 2021 and No. 41 in 2019.**

The ranking put the program ahead of those at Duke University, the University of Virginia and Villanova. Wright State's program was second in Ohio, ahead of schools such as the University of Cincinnati, University of Dayton and Case Western Reserve University. Wright State's Industrial and Human Factors Engineering Program (IHE) offers a highly customizable degree. It prepares working professionals towards effective design and operation of a variety of systems in health care, manufacturing, aerospace, distribution, retail and many others. The program's faculty are dedicated to student success and are available evenings and weekends to answer questions and provide less than a 24-hour turnaround. New lecture videos are produced each semester providing a rich student experience. [Read more.](#)

Congratulations Dr. Elbasiouny

Wright State University researchers in the Elbasiouny lab have received a new five-year \$2.72 million federal grant to continue to study the disease mechanisms of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a devastating neurodegenerative disease. The five-year grant is from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, which is part of the National Institutes of Health. The five-year grant is from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, which is part of the National Institutes of Health. It conducts and funds research on brain and nervous system disorders. In the research funded by the renewal grant, researchers have already gotten several steps closer to decoding the mystery of the disease and have identified additional key mechanisms involved in the cell death of motor neurons. [Read more.](#)



Biomedical engineering and electrical engineering student Yara Hakim discovers blueprint for career success



She was always a fast learner. She began her college education when she was 13, had her bachelor's degree at 19, and now at age 21 is well on her way to [master's degrees in biomedical engineering and electrical engineering](#). Wright State University graduate student Yara Hakim also works as a biomedical equipment technician in a major hospital system. But her journey has not been without its challenges. Hakim admits that finding internships and jobs in her field was not the easiest thing. But a never-give-up attitude and a flair for writing thank-you emails to prospective employers paid off big. "Apply for anything; interview for anything. Just get your foot in the door," she tells fellow students. "You won't know everything and that's perfectly OK because each position has on-the-job training. And that's how you get experience." For six months, Hakim worked part-time at Kettering Health as a biomedical equipment technician, specializing in troubleshooting, inspecting, calibrating, maintaining and repairing pumps that control the intravenous administration of fluids and medicine. She was recently promoted to full-time status. [Read more.](#)

Why Industrial & Systems Engineering?



Kara Combs shares her experience as an ISE and her efforts to introduce ISE to students. *Introducing ISE: Fostering Awareness One Student at a Time* was an article published in *OR/MS Today Magazine*. under student perspectives. [Read more.](#) Thank you Kara !!

Cacioppo Scholarship Award

Graduate engineering student and data intern Kaitlyn Ellison was awarded the prestigious Cacioppo Scholarship. She's a data detective. Interning with a defense contractor, Wright State University graduate industrial and human factors engineering student Kaitlyn Ellison digs up elusive data and makes it deliciously visible. Ellison interns in Mason with L3Harris Technologies, a pioneer in space exploration and military/defense. A leader in high technology and engineering services, L3Harris is known for its expertise in the areas of infrared detection and space and missile electronics. Ellison said the most challenging part of her internship is digging up the data needed by her coworkers, who sometimes need help finding it or showing it. Thank you to Dr. Cacioppo and family for supporting the Anthony J. Cacioppo, Ph.D. Memorial Scholarship for students majoring in Industrial and Systems Engineering. [Read more.](#)



Alumni Spotlight

Sharon Bommer, Ph.D.

Sharon Claxton Bommer earned a Ph.D. of Engineering in Industrial and Human Systems specializing in human performance and cognition from Wright State University. Dr. Bommer holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and two master's degrees: Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Industrial Engineering. Prior to earning her Ph.D. she worked for over fifteen years in industry in various roles for three multinational automotive manufacturing companies. Upon completing her doctoral degree, she worked at the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT), Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as a research scientist. She is currently the Dean of the School of Business and Applied Technologies at Clark State College. She has published technical journal papers and co-authored a technical reference book published by CRC Press, entitled 'Work Design: A Systematic Approach. Currently, she holds an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) appointment as a Warfighter Performance Faculty Fellow for the United States Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory (USAARL). She is the first African American female to graduate with a terminal degree in engineering from Wright State. **WSU recognizes her this Black History Month and Women's history month this semester.** Congratulations on all your great achievements.



Avinash Konkani, Ph.D.

Dr. Konkani is a Healthcare Technology Management professional, researcher and a patient safety advocate. He currently works as a Biomedical Engineer in the U.S. FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH), Silver Spring, MD. In the year 2005, he obtained his M.S. in biomedical engineering with emphasis on human factors engineering from Wright State University. After graduation from WSU, he went back to home country, India and worked as a biomedical engineer in a large teaching hospital and then worked as a full-time faculty member and taught biomedical

engineering courses for 3 years at a private engineering college in India. In Fall 2010, he came back to the USA, as a full-time doctoral student and graduate teaching assistant of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE) department at Oakland University (OU), Rochester, Michigan. He is actively involved with professional organizations: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI), American College of Clinical Engineers (ACCE), Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) and Sigma Xi. He is a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). According to him - "*Wright State and the department of Biomedical, Industrial, and Human Factors Engineering played a critical role in shaping his (my) professional life, for which he is thankful to the faculty and staff of WSU.*"

Bhaskar Iduri, MS, CCE, CHTM

Mr. Iduri started in the healthcare technology management field in 2010 after completing his MSBiomedical Engineering from Wright State University, Dayton, OH. He worked as a clinical engineer at a healthcare organization in Nebraska and worked in different areas of healthcare management technology and in patient safety. In 2012, He joined RENOVO Solutions LLC, an independent service organization, as a Clinical Engineer. Currently, he is working as Vice President of Health Technology Management & QA at RENOVO Solutions to establish and maintain a coordinated and integrated Compliance, Quality, and Risk Management Program & liaise with the external assessment body on all matters related to the ISO 9001:2015 accreditation process.



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