



August 7, 2020

Dear former student and friend of the department,

Welcome to this edition of the Biomedical Engineering Department newsletter. Like for many other institutions, the last few months have been challenging for our department, its faculty, staff, and students. We started the spring semester in regular fashion, moved to a distance learning model during spring break and told our students that they had to move off campus and participate in classes remotely. Despite this short notice for everyone, the semester went by smoothly with only a few minor hiccups along the way. In May, we had one of our largest classes graduate where 110 BS degrees, 13 MS/MEng degrees, and 5 PhDs were awarded. Since the graduation ceremony could only be done online, the department put a video together to celebrate the achievements of our students: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y0mc9QkW-Vs>

The summer semester was also held in distance learning mode, while the fall is scheduled to use a hybrid education model, where smaller classes will be taught in person, while larger classes will be held virtually. Additionally, all classes will include an online component to ensure that students who cannot be on campus can participate. Also, while the campus has been shut down for research for the last four months, the institute is slowly working towards reopening the research activities.

Despite these challenges, a number of accomplishments have been made, awards and honors were received, and research milestones were met even while working remotely:

- Juergen Hahn named Fellow of American Institute of Chemical Engineers [\[More\]](#)
- Deepak Vashishth named Fellow of the American Bone and Mineral Society [\[More\]](#)
- Research News: Latest \$2.5 Million Grant Accelerates Advances in Bioimaging at Rensselaer [\[More\]](#)
- Juergen Hahn named Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Process Control [\[More\]](#)
- Michael Bramson wins student paper award [\[More\]](#)
- Research News: New Imaging Technique Enables the Study of 3D Printed Brain Tumors [\[More\]](#)
- Student wins NSF Graduate Fellowship [\[More\]](#)
- Deva Chan receives NSF CAREER award [\[More\]](#)
- Ge Wang Named a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors [\[More\]](#)
- Xavier Intes, Xun Wang, and Uwe Kruger win SoE awards [\[More\]](#)
- Liz Blaber's experiment to participate in space mission [\[More\]](#)
- Xavier Intes elected OSA Fellow [\[More\]](#)
- Juergen Hahn invited to Speak to National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Board [\[More\]](#)

I am excited about these developments, especially given the current circumstances and look forward to future achievements by our faculty and students in the coming year!

Best regards,

Juergen Hahn  
Professor and Department Head  
Department of Biomedical Engineering

