Richard Heist:

The purpose of our gathering today really is to acquaint you further with our School of Engineering and our academic programs and also to provide you with more information about this first year experience that you're about to embark on. So, here's our plan for today. To begin with, I'll share with you a general description of engineering, perhaps something you haven't heard before, a different way to think about this wonderful profession, and then also a general description about our school of engineering with respect to what it is that we believe and what it is, who we are.

Next, we'll give you a general, just a general, overview of our first year curriculum, general because each department has variations of this general curriculum for each of their students, and you have a chance to learn that information about that from our department chairpersons. Then we're going to point out a number of the very many special opportunities that are available to you as a member of our team here at the School of Engineering. Then finally, as I mentioned earlier, you'll have a chance to meet the chairpersons of the departments and ask them specific questions regarding their individual programs.

So, first of all, I share with you my belief that engineering is a very, very special profession and also my belief that the School of Engineering here at Fairfield is a very special place. Engineering is special because of several features. First of all, it's a very unique blend of a number of different disciplines, and you will begin to realize this during your first year curriculum when you study math, sciences, humanities, and social sciences, along with your first engineering or programming course.

Next, engineering is a flexible, multidimensional profession. Think about what these engineers have done during this recent COVID crisis. Businesses and industries that have been introducing cars, rocket parts, components for the space station, adhesives, other consumer items for the marketplace, all of a sudden were asked to pivot 90 degrees, in some cases 180 degrees, and start producing ventilators, parts for ventilators, face masks, face shields, swabs for testing, a variety of health care products to help us deal with this pandemic. Talk about flexibility, multidimensional. There you're seeing it.

Engineering is a trusted profession. There is a Gallup poll that was held, was carried out in January of 2020, and it showed that nursing and engineering as the two most trusted, honest, and ethical professions, which is a strong ... Even above clergy, above doctors, above educators. It points to the fact that this profession is special, and it's held to a higher standard than virtually every other profession in our country today.

Finally, engineering is a service to humanity profession. Think about it. Everything that engineers do, everything, is designed to help someone and to make lives better for people. It truly is a profession designed for people.

Now, the School of Engineering is a special place, because we begin laying the foundation for your entry into this very special profession, and I believe we do that very well. The foundation for our beliefs and all our actions here in the school forms the basis for everything that we do. Everything that we do in this school is based on our foundation, and it's comprised of four pillars: our vision, our mission, our purpose, and our values. The first two are shown here, our vision and our mission, and it's worthwhile to take just a few minutes to look over every word, because every word is thought through and every word is carefully used to convey our foundation.

We are going to be a recognized leader in modern experiential based engineering education. Experiential means learn by doing, hands on, actually getting out and making and doing something. We're going to be known for innovative, entrepreneurial and applied research, that, when you take them all together, fosters a strong student-centered and research-focused educational experience. It

connects you to the faculty. The faculty is doing applied research, and they embrace you to be part of the projects and the work that they do. All this together prepares our graduates for a successful and a rewarding career, again, in service to others. This is why all of our students get hired or go on for further graduate study elsewhere.

Our mission, we are dedicated to providing that transformative experience that prepares you for successful careers, and we're dedicated to advancing engineering knowledge through our applied research. Universities don't just convey knowledge; they create knowledge. That's a part of our mission with our focus on applied research. Supporting the university and also supporting our university's mission of whole person development. You'll see that when we talk about our curriculum, and we do that by inculcating into our students that service to humanity character, which is so fundamental to the engineering profession.

The last two pillars of our foundation, purpose and values. If you take vision and if you take mission and you overlap them, where they overlap creates a purpose. This is our purpose. We believe that that modern, experientially, learn by doing, based curriculum supported by a faculty with an applied research focus will lead to enhanced academic reputation. That's important, because you'll be graduating from this institution with a strong, academic, and growing stronger academic, reputation. It will increase scholarship. We're adding to our body of knowledge. We'll be part of a community of scholars here in the School of Engineering.

Finally, it leads to having our students prepare to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving, technology-based society. Things change virtually monthly out there in the real world, and we need to be prepared to deal with that, not just deal with what you'll do here, but be able to deal with other unexpected and challenging, evolving events during your career. And that's how we will prepare you.

Finally our values. These are key. We believe in excellence in all we do. We plant our flag in quality, because that's what helps to set us apart and make us special. We believe engagement in every level, with the community and industry, within the school, across the different colleges and schools of the campus, and into the government, engagement at every level. Innovation and entrepreneurship across all disciplines. We're looking for thinking outside the box, nontraditional approaches to issues and problems looking for solutions.

Diversity and inclusion, absolutely in all things we do, and not just racial, ethnic, male/female, but I'm talking intellectual as well. The more people you have around the table with different backgrounds, the better the chances are you'll come to an innovative solution by engaging all those individuals and doing it with a level of quality appropriate to the problem.

Service to humanity is our lifelong goal. That's engineering. That's what it's all about, service to humanity. And finally, character. All these five values builds character, and character is a fundamental building block of leadership. That's one of the reasons all of our students get hired, because they have this innate, builtin leadership quality that comes from their exposure here at the School of Engineering. Indeed, it makes us a very special place.

Those four pillars that support our foundation, they provide the basis for what I define as our identity. By that I mean who we are and what helps to make us special and sets us apart. Look at the individual words again. At Fairfield University, we're student-centric with a strong applied research focus that encourages innovation and evolves both students and faculty. This is what you can use to say who we are when someone asks you about your time here at the School of Engineering at Fairfield University.

Both the undergraduate and graduate curriculum are progressive and forward-looking. We stay connected to industry, because things are changing at light speed in our world. There's a strong industry

alignment supporting our applied research. We have a very strong connection to our industries. Also, the innovation ensures career opportunities for all our students. Our students are sought after because of our identity and our foundation.

Finally, the engineering school is known for its strong service to humanity character, and that reflects the engineering profession, as I said earlier, and it also reflects thee Jesuit-based institutional heritage of our school: truth, social justice, and service to others. Finally we're known for the leadership traits, for the leadership traits, of our graduates. We educate leaders for our profession.

Before I pass the discussion to our overview of our curriculum, just let me frame it just a bit to help provide context. Here at the School of Engineering, we have three departments, and we offer four academic majors. Each major has its own distinguishing features, and these are best described in detail by the chairpersons of the departments. These are the people you want to get to know and know very well.

As I said, it's going to be important for each of you to meet with the chairpersons of the department of the academic major of interest to you. If you're not sure about that interest yet, that's fine. That's not a problem. What you want to do is meet with all the chairs of the departments. They are approachable, very easy to talk to and deal with, and they have you at their heart. It's important for you to learn about all those opportunities so you can make a better choice at some point, usually during your first year, where you'd like to spend the remaining years of your career here in the School of Engineering at Fairfield.

With that as a bit of context, we'll begin with a little more general, and that's why, a little more general overview related to our majors, and as you begin your engineering orientation experience here at Fairfield. For this, I'm pleased to introduce Associate Dean Harvey Hoffman and Assistant Dean Marcia Arambulo Rodriguez who will share with you a general overview of that first year curriculum I've alluded to several times as well as the many special opportunities that are available to you here in the School of Engineering. So, with that, I introduce Dr. Hoffman.

Harvey Hoffman:

Thank you very much, Dr. Heist. If we go ahead and take a look at this slide, we see the full breadth of the engineering work that we do here at Fairfield University. We prepare you for things like big data, cybersecurity, defense, helicopters, of course, aerospace world, power. We have several power companies in the state of Connecticut. Materials engineering, manufacturing, right over here the lower left-hand corner manufacturing, microelectronics, musical instrumentation and instrumentation for the entertainment industry. Medical electronics, and you can see a prosthetic that we're involved in at various times. So, we're going to introduce you to all of these areas.

This discussion that we're going to have is going to introduce you to engineering as a career, and then we're going to take a look at a typical first year curriculum. We'll go into our core, our magis core that everyone takes. We'll talk a little bit about that, talk about your subsequent years here at Fairfield University. We'll talk a little bit about the opportunities and the society and clubs, the opportunities for study abroad, which is really wonderful, the internships that we might have or you might take advantage of, the five-year programs, and then we'll take a short peek at some job opportunities that you may have.

But first, I want you to understand what engineering is about. The likelihood is that you may or may not know anybody in the world of engineering. Engineers improve the quality of our life. We take known existing technologies and improve them. Sometimes we create new technologies. Engineering is really about making products and services better, safer, more reliable. We make things with improved

quality, improved performance. Engineers build things, they design things. Engineers are entrepreneurs and problem-solvers. Engineers do things that have never been done before, or sometimes engineers improve a product or a service that's been around for a very long time.

The world of engineering is shown in this slide. We work from research to complex analysis, design, development, manufacturing. Most of us are involved in test and evaluation of the products that we design. We go into production. Then we go into operations, service and maintenance. Some of our engineers go into distribution and sales. Then, because we're all interested in the environment, we have to think about the disposal of products that we indeed build.

One of the nice things about engineering is the fact that you're not going to starve. You're going to do very, very well. Of course your salary will be dependent upon which industry you go into, the location, the experience that you're required, the skills, your education, but the mean starting salary for an engineer, it varies between 55 and $70,000. That's a good salary to begin with. Then, for all engineers, the mean salary varies from 68 to 114, $115,000. The top engineers will earn over $100,000 quite easily. Bottom line: it is well worth the time, well worth the effort, to become an engineer, because engineering is an intellectual profession, it's an exciting profession, and it's a healthy profession.

Here at Fairfield, we're involved in bioengineering. You can go into the computer science major, and the computer science major has two parts. You can get a BA, in which case you could then go ahead and proceed to get a minor or a major in another area. That's quite easily done with a BA in computer science. You can also go into a BS in computer science and focus the time and energy in computer science or software. You can go into electrical engineering, mechanical engineering. Then there's the opportunity to combine your bachelor's and master's degree and get it in five years, which is really a great opportunity.

You can go into a whole host of careers from Fairfield University. You could go into aerospace, bioengineering. Many of our students go into computer engineering, communications. Cyber is really a tremendously growing area. Cybersecurity in Connecticut, there are tremendous opportunities, a lot of jobs in that area. You can move into data science. Of course electrical and electronics engineering. There are many companies in the area that are involved in electrical and electronics engineering. Mechanical engineering, manufacturing, very, very big in Connecticut. In Connecticut, as I indicated earlier, we have several companies involved in power. Of course within the mechanical engineering and manufacturing engineering area, we have robots. Finally, many of our graduates go into software engineering.

One of the things that's truly important to us here at Fairfield University is the magis core. All students, all students, take a fundamental core at Fairfield University. This core is rooted in the Jesuit and Catholic tradition of a humanistic liberal arts education. It is a 15-course sequence, and irrespective of your major, you will be taking this core. So, some of the advantage of this core are shown in the next slide. In the next slide, we can see some of the benefits of the magis core, because we're trying to develop the whole person. Heist indicated that earlier, that we want a multidimensional person, a person who has a social responsibility, a person who is committed to making the world a better place.

So many of the problems in our time can be resolved through technology, reducing hunger, pollution, things like water purification. A lot of the areas in this world that have serious problems with water. Minimizing our carbon footprint, environmental engineering, developing health care for the people, providing services to people want disabilities. All of these areas require the integration of a liberal arts involvement in their engineering education, because we want our graduates to be able to anticipate, define, and solve problems that we're confronted with in our world.

We can see on this slide over here that it is crucial that engineers be able to communicate our thoughts and ideas in papers and in presentations. Once you do this, you'll be more easily be able to adapt to a professional life. So, this is another benefit of the magis core curriculum that all of us have.

Now, there are times when people discover after a year or two that maybe engineering is not the field for them. Okay. That's not a problem. If you come to that conclusion, then it's quite easy to switch to a different path, because you will have been involved in the magis core. Remember, the magis core is something that everybody takes. So, that will enable you to switch majors if you so choose to do that in the future.

The magis core involves, as I indicated a few moments ago, 15 courses. There are seven courses involved in what we call orientation. So, we go into English, religious studies, a little introduction to math, history, philosophy, a language, your choice. Then we go into what we call exploration. So, we take a look at the humanities, perhaps another course or so in religious studies, philosophy, or history, another course in perhaps literature, and then of course that deals with the visual and performing arts. Most engineers will automatically take courses in the natural sciences, things like physics or chemistry. That will come as part of our normal core in the engineering world. But you'll also be taking social and behavioral sciences, sociology, anthropology, and psychology. You'll be taking two courses in that area.

So, now I'm going to transfer this to assistant dean Marcia Rodriguez, and she's going to take you further.

Marcia Arambulo Rodriguez:

Thank you, Dr. Hoffman. I'm going to talk a little bit more in depth about the first year schedule in the School of Engineering. In the fall, you're going to take either Fundamentals of Engineering or Introduction to Computing, depending on your major. You're going to take a calculus course, a science course, and most likely two core courses. In the spring, you're going to take one or two engineering or computer science courses, Calculus II, a science course, and again one or two core courses. This schedule depends a lot on the major that you're pursuing. At the same time, we highly encourage you to talk to your advisor, because all of these courses are going to be picked with him or her to help you.

As we can see in the next slide, the majors may suggest variations of the courses listed in the typical first year program. We're encouraging you to take at least 12 credits and try to enroll in 15 credits or more if you can. You need to review your first year courses with your advisor. So, communication will be sent to you regarding that.

About the engineering curriculum, you're going to take a liberal arts magis course, like Dr. Hoffman said. You're going to take English and literature, religious studies, philosophy, history, social sciences, and a modern language. You're going to take calculus, differential equations, physics, chemistry, or biology for your math and science. For your engineering foundation, you're going to take fundamentals of engineering or computer programming. Later on, you're going to take mathematical analysis, and in your last year you're going to take a senior design project.

Lastly, some of the examples of our engineering specialties are the computer languages, database systems, cybersecurity, robotics, communication, nanotechnology, control systems, thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, engineering materials, bioengineering or artificial intelligence, just to name a few.

On the next slide, we can see that the culminating class that we call the Senior Design Project takes about a year. You're going to have to identify a need with your team. You're going to create this team, and you're going to generate a project proposal based on the ideas of your team. Maybe it's going to bring from some ideas from faculty research, or maybe it's a project that's going to be generated by

industry. Then you're going to be required to prepare a design, develop this product or service, test your system, and lastly prepare a final report and presentation at the end of your senior year.

Some of the examples that we have senior design projects are the solar powered desalination system that we had a couple years ago, if I'm not mistaken, where the students were able to design a contraption to desalinate water in a way that was both cheaper and efficient. On the next slide, we can see an image of the customized stent for a less invasive circulatory assist device that was basically a pump to redirect the blood flow. It was a very cool project, also encouraged by industry. On the next slide, we can see the aircraft conflict resolution cataloger. You can see the picture of two of our students that went to visit the Federal Aviation Administration center in New Jersey, and they were able to fly and then land an airplane in a virtual reality environment.

Then we also have on the next slide a reticle simulation package, another project that was brought up by our association with industry, in this case ASML, a company in Wilton. Our students were able to create this reticle simulation program and then test it back at the factory. The next slide shows the multipurpose solar recharging station where our students created this charging station that was able to pursue the sun as it drew energy from it. On the next slide we can see the temporally and spatially encoded optical imaging. Once again, another project for ASML that our students worked on. All of these projects are great to build your curriculum and to build your resume once you leave Fairfield so you already have experience with industry in something tangible that you can show on your last year.

On the next slide we can see that our students are very involved in innovation and entrepreneurship. In this case, our master's students were presenting at the the Global Game Jam in Stamford a year ago. They won the best in show award. So, it was quite good for them to be able to showcase their project and at the same time to win an award. Our students are highly encouraged to present their projects in different venues. One of them is the Dolan School Business Startup Competition where our students have won the competition a bunch of times. So, it's a good idea to involve engineering and entrepreneurship.

On the next slide, we can see our students professional societies. They are all governed by the Engineering Student Society that offers these. All of our other societies, such as the Student Branch of IEEE, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. They do a lot of projects and also showcase during the school year. We can see all of their projects. We have the American Society of Mechanical Engineers as well, ASME. They bring a lot of speakers on campus. We have Engineers Without Borders, which is a great club that, if you're planning to do something, as Dr. Heist said, engineering for humanity, this is a great project that we did in Bolivia where we tried to provide clean water for a rural population in La Paz.

On the next slide, we can see that we also have the Biomedical Engineering Society that, as it was mentioned before, they are producing some protection equipment during this pandemic. So, they've been very busy. We also have a branch of the National Society of Black Engineers and our Fairfield 3D Printing Club, which basically gives you access to all the 3D printers we have in the School of Engineering. We also have a student branch of the Society of Women Engineers. We try to encourage and support our women engineers and at the same time try to go to all the conferences that they have available.

On the next slide, we can see the Society of Automotive Engineers, which is another great club. They basically build a car from scratch, and then they run the car, and they test it. Then they compete at the national level with other institutions, and they also draw from international participants. So, it's a very interesting thing to put on your resume at the same time.

We also have opportunities for study abroad. If you're an engineer, we have an agreement with the National University of Ireland in Galway, Ireland, where our students can go in their junior year. If our bioengineers decide to pursue their master's overseas in Ireland, if they've done well during their junior year over there, they get pretty much guaranteed acceptance into their master's program. We're also working with IQS in Barcelona and with Comillas in Spain for other engineering specific programs. So, our engineers can take engineering courses in English while they are in Europe.

On the next slide we can see our programs. The bachelor of arts in computer science. We have also a bachelor of sciences in electrical engineering, bioengineering, mechanical engineering, and computer science. We have the master of science in electrical and computer engineering, mechanical engineering, software engineering, data science, cybersecurity, and management of technology. Our four-year programs can also culminate in a five-year degree where you can do your four years of undergrad and do your master's in just one year for softer engineering or data science, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, or management of technology, if you wish to do that.

For grant opportunities, we have a close connection with the NASA Connecticut Space Grant that supports undergraduate research. Dr. Hoffman is the liaison with these agencies; so, if you're interested in that opportunity, he's a good person to contact. Connecticut Next, which offers support for any Connecticut startup. The State of Connecticut Bioscience Innovation Fund, which leads to products or services which impact human health. Lastly, some opportunities that are particular to Fairfield, such as the Hardiman Scholars Fund that provides funds for students to engage in research projects.

On the next slide, we can see that our students get jobs and internships thanks to many things that we do. For example, the professional development series, which is a program in four levels that build on each other that supplements the academic development of our students. They gain knowledge and skills to reach their career goals, because we prepare them in networking session, we try to do resume workshops as well, and we try to prepare them with the soft skills necessary for them to hit the ground running when they are looking for jobs.

We also have the support of academic support services, and they prepare tutoring sessions. They are ready to process your AP credits. They are an office, aside from the dean's office, that you can go to if you need some help relating to the academics. There are also two career fairs that we host every year, in the fall and in the spring. We work closely with career planning, and they do resume workshops and mock interviews for us. If you ever need contact with the career planning, we have a specific point person that's our liaison with the career center for engineering.

These are some of the companies that hire our students. You can see that big companies are here, such as ASML, Medtronic, General Electric, NASA, Hologic, Sikorsky of course, and United Illuminating, many companies, as you can see. This is just a short list of the companies that have hired our students.

On the next slide we can see how local industries belonging to Connecticut have hired Fairfield graduates. Sikorsky, Pratt & Whitney, Cooper Surgical, Kohler Ronan, Eversource, Servo-Robot, General Dynamics Electric Boat, IBM, just to name a few. Our engineers are highly sought after, and we believe that it's because of the great preparation that we give you, both with the core and also with your engineering curriculum.

Next is just a slide with our contact information in case you want to reach out to us. As Dr. Heist said, you can reach out to us at any point in time. We're happy to answer any of your questions. So, I'm just going to give it back to Dr. Heist so he can continue the presentation.

Richard Heist:

All right. Thank you, Marcia. And thank you, Harvey, for that introduction to the first year curriculum as well as the many special opportunities that are awaiting you here as a member of the School of Engineering.

I'm going to return to this part of the discussion about the importance of the department chairs. These people are the most important persons right now certainly as you're beginning your career here at the School of Engineering, because it's so important that you tap into these people to learn about those different degree programs, especially if you're not quite certain yet which degree program fits you the best.

So, with that in mind, we'll ask each of these three persons, these three chairpersons, to share a little bit more intimate knowledge about their programs to help give you some thought and perhaps some material for questions that you might choose to ask.

I will start with Dr. Balaji who is the chairperson of the electrical and the bioengineering department, offering those two degree programs. Dr. Balaji, would you please care to make a few comments about your department?

Uma Balaji:

Thank you, Dean Heist. Good afternoon, everyone. From our department of electrical engineering and bio engineering, we offer two majors: electrical engineering and bioengineering. For the electrical engineering, we offer a concentration called the computer engineering concentration. If the student wants to focus on this computer engineering concentration, we give course that are very related to that area, and they could take them. Bioengineering grew organically from the department, from [inaudible 00:37:54] faculty interest.

We have about 10 to 15 students in each of the major, in each of the years. It's a small class size. We are able to give focused attention to the students. We have [inaudible 00:38:08] labs where students can use them when they do work for their clubs, the [inaudible 00:38:16] Club and the Biomedical Engineering Society club. Students come to the labs, and they're able to do work on interesting projects. We have a committed faculty who also engage them in interesting research projects. Sometimes the student research projects end up as publications.

Some of our students did the Business Plan Competition, and they were winners of these competitions. Our programs are geared such that they're career-ready at the end of four years. But if the student is interested, they could sign up for the master's in electrical computer engineering their junior year and pursue the master's program. We offer courses that have more breadth and depth. If there are any questions related to these programs, you could definitely write me.

Bioengineering students find jobs not only in companies that are more engineering focused, they also find jobs in pharmaceutical area. Bioengineering also allows you to be ready for premed option if you're interested to pursue medicine. Our electrical engineering students have been able to find jobs [inaudible 00:39:32] in the power companies close by, United Illuminating and Eversource and other companies, but they also work in New York City computer systems maintenance and ASML and other places. The program is strong that they are able to find a career.

Together with a committed faculty, I'm here to help you anytime you have any question. Please don't hesitate to reach.

Richard Heist:

So, why don't we go to Dr. Rusu, the chairperson of computer science and engineering? Dr. Rusu, how about you sharing a few details about your programs in the department?

Adrian Rusu:

Yeah. Hello, everybody. Thank you for joining us today. I'm Dr. Rusu. I'm the chair of the computer science engineering department. For all students here that join us today that are computer science, I will be your academic advisor. I'm already very excited to meet with you and work together with you towards your career. We have a very innovative computer science program with a curriculum that is at the cutting edge, as well as a unique set of experiences that set our students apart from students at other universities. As part of the computer science program, we have concentrations in computer engineering and in software engineering. At the master level, we have the data science, software engineering, and cybersecurity programs.

One thing I would like to mention is over the summer I'm available, I will be looking forward to interact with our students, either remotely or in person. So, again, I'm very excited already for the semester to start and looking forward to working together with the computer science students, because I'll be their advisor, and I'll be responsible for their academic wellbeing.

Richard Heist:

All right. Thank you very much, Dr. Rusu. All right. It looks like Dr. Etemad's back with us again. Dr. Etemad is the chairperson of mechanical engineering. Would you please share with us a few comments about your program and your department, Dr. Etemad?

Shahrokh Etemad:

Sure. Welcome aboard our class of 2024. I'm Dr. Etemad. I'm chair of mechanical engineering department. Mechanical engineering is the largest undergraduate program here at Fairfield University within the School of Engineering. The field of mechanical engineering has good overlaps with aerospace engineering, civil engineering, structure engineering, chemical engineering. That makes you marketable, number one, to be able to find jobs within different industries, and also, if one sector goes down, you're going to be able to jump into other sectors and move forward.

As a mechanical engineer, during the first year, we have a similar curriculum within other programs here. Electrical, biomedical engineering, computing engineering. During the first year, if you know your major, fine, move forward. If you don't know, we have a course, fundamentals of engineering, which will guide you to be able to select and declare your major.

Those of you thinking about the field of mechanical engineering, if you have interest how things work, if you have interest and you are curious about taking things apart to find out more about a gadget, machine, a clock, a watch, you're going to be a good candidate to become a good mechanical engineer. The field of mechanical engineering, we have students within the first year be able to do internship. We highly encourage the students to do internship starting within their first year. Most of our students, they do it during the junior year. Students, they start to get jobs with internships/permanent jobs within local industries.

Sikorsky Helicopters is about half an hour from campus, Pratt & Whitney about an hour. Electronic chip maker ASML, they're about again half an hour. Medtronic Environmental Company, about half an hour, 40 minute. Then we have other, small companies like HVAC heating, ventilation, and air conditioning like Kohler Ronan, they're also about a half an hour, 40 minutes from campus.

During your sophomore all the way to junior year, you start to take courses within the field of solid mechanics and thermofluids, energy related areas. As mentioned here earlier, there is an option of five-year BS/MS for those of you interested to move forward.

I highly encourage make sure your GPA stays about a 3.0. The higher, the better. That makes you marketable, makes it easier to find jobs. Enjoy your time here on campus. Have fun. If you want to contact me, I have open door policy. You don't need an appointment. Just send me an email, text, or phone call, and we should be able to sit down and talk. Thank you, and welcome aboard again.