Department of Mechanical Engineering

Allen Robinson, Raymond J. Lane Distinguished Professor and Department Head
Scaife Hall 401
http://www.cmu.edu/me

General Overview

Mechanical engineers design, analyze, and manufacture new products and technologies. They address society’s needs through a combination of mechanical engineering fundamentals and innovative ideas. Our curriculum emphasizes engineering theory, hands-on experience and technical skills. Our students learn how to solve practical problems and analyze situations by converting concepts into reliable and cost-effective devices and processes.

Mechanical engineers work in a variety of sectors: small start-up companies, multi-national corporations, government agencies, national laboratories, consulting firms, and universities. Specializing in research, design, manufacturing, or management, they design and implement devices that affect our daily lives. Examples include:

- Jet Engines
- Automobiles
- Aircraft and Spacecraft
- Acceleration and Pressure Sensors
- Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning Systems
- Power Generations Systems
- Energy Storage Devices
- Biomedical and Biomechanical Devices (such as artificial hip implants)
- Mechanical and Electronic Systems (such as robots)

Through our curriculum, students receive a solid scientific foundation from the start. During their first year, students take courses in mathematics, physics, computer programming, and chemistry. In addition, students take two introductory engineering courses which expose them to the different engineering departments. Our mechanical engineering introductory course is project-oriented, and students learn about the various disciplines of mechanical engineering through lectures, laboratories, and hands-on projects.

In their sophomore and junior years, students take core engineering courses to develop strong engineering fundamentals. These course topics include:

- Solid and Fluid Mechanics
- Thermodynamics
- Heat Transfer
- Dynamics
- Systems and Controls
- Design Methods and Skills
- Experimentation and Numerical Methods

During their senior year, students complete a capstone course in engineering design. In this course, students work on teams to develop prototype hardware for new products. These projects expose students to the design process, from concept to product, and emphasize effective communication and presentations skills. Starting in Fall 2017, we will offer an alternate capstone class in electromechanical systems design.

Past design projects include:

- motion activated phone protection system
- wheelchair push-off assist mechanism
- golf simulator lie board
- multicolored pancake printer
- water purification and transport system

Additionally, students can utilize our flexible elective structure to pursue individual interests. We recognize the broad role mechanical engineers play in society as leaders in business, government, and law. Therefore, we offer elective options that enable students to:

- begin taking elective courses during their sophomore year
- specialize in a particular area of mechanical engineering
- emphasize a technical area within another engineering or science department
- pursue interests in another Carnegie Mellon department (such as foreign language, design, music, or business) to earn a double major or minor

We offer advanced courses that students can choose as electives, depending on their interests. Electives include:

- energy and environment
- controls
- vibrations
- dynamics
- manufacturing
- robotics
- internal combustion engines
- mechatronics
- fluid and solid mechanics
- engineering design
- computation engineering
- additive manufacturing
- project management
- product design
- bioengineering

As mentioned, students can also take technical and non-technical electives from other Carnegie Mellon departments. Students can use these courses to pursue a double major or minor, or develop an individual concentration with a faculty advisor.

Students can also tailor their undergraduate experiences through study abroad, research, cooperative education or the Integrated Master's/Bachelor's Program. In today's global society, a study abroad experience is crucial and should serve as an integral part of an undergraduate engineering education. An academic experience abroad is encouraged and assistance provided for course choices, but students may also participate in research, or complete an internship or co-op. Exceptional students are eligible to participate in departmental or college senior honors research under faculty supervision. In the Integrated Master's/Bachelor's program, students complete graduate courses during their senior year, accumulating credit toward their Master's degrees. Students then complete all the requirements for the M.S. degree (course-work option) in the fall following their B.S. degree.

Students use the latest computer-based design and analysis methods for their courses and project work, including industry-standard design tools aided by computers. We provide an undergraduate computer lab where students can complete design work, structural analyses, thermal/fluid finite element analyses, and dynamic system simulations. Using these computer tools, students can visualize a product’s performance before they fabricate it.

We also provide students with a variety of resources including MIG welding, rapid prototyping, and a fully equipped student shop (includes lathes, drill presses, milling machines, band saws, and other hand and power tools). Our Thermal Fluids and Mechanical Systems laboratories contain state-of-the-art experimentation hardware and software.

Our faculty performs research sponsored by industry and government agencies. Faculty often use the results of their research as specific examples, case studies, and projects in undergraduate courses, allowing students to see firsthand the recent advances in mechanical engineering.

We also sponsor frequent seminars and invite nationally and internationally reputed speakers to give lectures. We encourage all students to attend these seminars to learn about broad perspectives on mechanical engineering.

Educational Objectives

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Educational Objectives

According to ABET (http://www.abet.org), which evaluates applied science, computing, engineering and technology programs for accreditation, “program educational objectives are broad statements that describe what graduates are expected to attain within a few years of graduation.”

The core objective of our undergraduate program is to provide our students an education that enables them to be productive, impactful, and fulfilled professionals throughout their careers. In light of this vision, the objectives of the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon are to produce graduates who:

- Distinguish themselves as effective problem solvers by applying fundamentals of Mechanical Engineering.
- Are innovative and resourceful in their professional activities.

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- Are innovative and resourceful in their professional activities.
• Excel in multidisciplinary team settings.
• Become leaders in their organizations, their profession and in society.
• Conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner in the workplace.
• Excel in diverse career paths within and beyond engineering profession, including in industry and academia.

Educational Outcomes
The undergraduate curriculum in the Department of Mechanical Engineering offers students significant opportunities to pursue directions of personal interest, including minors, double majors, participation in research projects, and study abroad. Design and teamwork experiences occur at regular intervals in the curriculum, and graduates have significant hands-on experience through laboratories and projects.

The faculty of the Department has endorsed the following set of skills, or outcomes that graduates of the program are expected to have:
• an ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering
• an ability to design and conduct experiments, as well as to analyze and interpret data
• an ability to design a system, component, or process to meet desired needs within realistic constraints such as economic, environmental, social, political, ethical, health and safety, manufacturability, and sustainability
• an ability to function on multidisciplinary teams
• an ability to identify, formulate, and solve engineering problems
• an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility
• an ability to communicate effectively
• the broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global, economic, environmental, and societal context
• a recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in life-long learning
• a knowledge of contemporary issues
• an ability to use the techniques, skills, and modern engineering tools necessary for engineering practice.


Curriculum
Minimum units required for B.S. in Mechanical Engineering: 382
The following template outlines the four-year B.S. program through the standard and recommended course sequence. To ensure that prerequisites are completed and to prevent scheduling conflicts, students should discuss any changes to this sequence with their department academic advisor.

Freshman Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-120 Differential and Integral Calculus</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-101 Fundamentals of Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33-141 Physics I for Engineering Students</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99-101 Computing @ Carnegie Mellon</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76-101 Interpretation and Argument</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>46</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-122 Integration and Approximation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xx-xxx Second Introductory Engineering Course</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xx-xxx Restricted Technical Elective 10-13</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xx-xxx General Education Course</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>41</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sophomore Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-259 Calculus in Three Dimensions</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-221 Thermodynamics I</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-261 Statics</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xx-xxx Restricted Technical Elective 10-13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>53</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes on the Curriculum
1. Students need a minimum of 382 units to complete the B.S. degree.
2. During the first year, students complete 24-101 Fundamentals of Mechanical Engineering and another introductory engineering course. Students who do not take 24-101 during their first year should take 24-101 during the fall semester of their sophomore year in place of the General Education Course. They can then replace that General Education Course in their junior or senior year.
3. Students must pass the following three courses before they begin the core Mechanical Engineering courses in the fall of their sophomore year:
   • 21-120 Differential and Integral Calculus (10 units)
Students must have the following courses completed by the end of their sophomore year. These courses may have prerequisites and tight enrollment limits that students should consider in their planning.

1. Engineering Electives

Students are required to complete 24-626 Engineering Statistics and Quality Control, which may be scheduled in any semester. The sequence of calculus courses (21-120, 21-122, 21-259) and 21-260 Differential Equations, should be scheduled as indicated due to Mechanical Engineering Core class prerequisites.

2. The Communications Requirement can be satisfied by completing one of the following options:

- Units
- 24-302 Mechanical Engineering Seminar I- either fall or spring
- 70-340 Business Communications
- 76-270 Writing for the Professions

3. Students must enroll in 24-452 Mechanical Systems Experimentation in the fall of their senior year.

4. Students may take either 24-441 Engineering Design II: Conceptualization and Realization or 24-671 Special Topics: Electromechanical Systems Design (students may choose one for their capstone design class) in either fall or spring of senior year.

5. Restricted Technical Electives

Students should have the following courses completed by the end of their sophomore year. These courses are listed as “Restricted Technical Electives” in the example course sequence. Students do have some flexibility in how they sequence these courses during their freshman and sophomore years:

- 09-101 Introduction to Experimental Chemistry 3
- 33-142 Physics II for Engineering and Physics 12
- 09-105 Introduction to Modern Chemistry I 10
- 15-110 Principles of Computing 10

6. Mechanical Engineering Technical Electives

Students must take at least one non-core 24-xxx course (9-unit minimum) to fulfill the technical elective requirement. Options include:

- Design and Manufacturing
  - 24-341 Manufacturing Sciences 9
  - 24-650 Applied Finite Element Analysis 12
  - 24-651 Material Selection for Mechanical Engineers 12
  - 24-681 Computer-Aided Design 12
  - 24-683 Design for Manufacture and the Environment 12
  - 24-688 Introduction to CAD and CAE Tools 12

- Mechanical Systems
  - 24-354 Special Topics: Gadgetry: Sensors, Actuators, and Processors 9
  - 24-451 Feedback Control Systems 12
  - 24-655 Cellular Biomechanics 9
  - 24-657 Molecular Biomechanics 9

- 24-358 Special Topics in Culinary Mechanics 9
- 24-612 Cardiovascular Mechanics 12
- 24-650 Applied Finite Element Analysis 12

7. Thermal-Fluid Systems

- 24-421 Internal Combustion Engines 12
- 24-424 Energy and the Environment 9
- 24-425 Combustion and Air Pollution Control 9
- 24-623 Molecular Simulation of Materials 12
- 24-628 Energy Transport and Conversion at the Nanoscale 12
- 24-618 Special Topics: Computational Analysis of Transport Phenomena 12
- 24-642 Fuel Cell Systems 12

Note: We regularly offer these courses and/or new options according to our teaching schedule. However, we cannot guarantee to offer a particular course in a given semester.

Students can also take certain mechanical engineering graduate courses to fulfill the technical elective requirement. However, students must have the appropriate prerequisites and the instructor must approve taking the course. Students can find a list of graduate courses we offer on our website.

Students cannot use research or project courses to fulfill the technical elective requirement. However, these courses, with limitations, will count as general elective units. Project/research courses that do not fulfill the technical elective requirements are:

- 24-391/24-392 Mechanical Engineering Project
- 24-491/24-492 Department Research Honors
- 39-xxx CIT series courses

8. Electives

Students must first complete five elective courses, as indicated in the example course sequence. Students can take either technical or non-technical courses to fill these five slots from either the mechanical engineering department, College of Engineering, or any other Carnegie Mellon department. However, students may only use one elective slot for an ungraded class. We offer these electives so students can pursue individual interests or obtain a minor or double major.

9. Constructing a Program of Study

In order to properly plan their course sequence, students should select their six elective courses with the department academic advisor. If students are pursuing minors, double majors, or double degrees, they should choose electives that meet requirements of these programs. We provide more information on selecting courses and electives in the Undergraduate Student Handbook. We offer the following options to students for tailoring our program to fit their needs and interests.

Specialization Within Mechanical Engineering

Students can specialize in a specific area by taking additional mechanical engineering electives beyond the one required technical elective. Students can choose courses from the Mechanical Engineering Technical Electives list or take approved mechanical engineering graduate courses.

Research and Independent Study Projects

Students can work on a design or research project if supervised and coordinated by a faculty advisor. Interested students should contact faculty members to identify potential projects of mutual interest. Projects generally involve lab, analytical, field, design or computer work.

Students complete projects and research by taking either or both of the following courses for their electives. As previously mentioned, students cannot use these courses to fulfill the technical elective requirement.

- 24-391/24-392 Mechanical Engineering Project Var.
- 24-491/492 Department Research Honors Var.

*Enrollment in 24-491/492 requires a minimum 3.2 GPA (quality point average).

Qualified students enrolled in 24-491/492 are recognized at commencement. To graduate with department research honors, students must have a GPA of 3.2 or higher, complete 18 units of 24-491/492 with at least a "B" grade, and submit an approved thesis to their faculty research advisor.
Students who complete all requirements for CIT Honors Research are also recognized for research honors. These students must complete 18 units of (39-500) CIT Honors Research under the supervision of a mechanical engineering faculty member.

Developing a Concentration of Interdisciplinary Studies

Students can also take courses outside of mechanical engineering to fill elective slots. Usually students select courses around a common theme; although courses span several departments, students choose courses to form a specific concentration. Students can either construct an informal program of study based on their interests or they can pursue a minor or double major using these courses.

Pursuing a Minor or Double Major

The College of Engineering offers designated minors for students wishing to specialize in an engineering area. Students can find a list of minors on the CIT website (https://engineering.cmu.edu/education/undergraduate-programs/curriculum/majors-minors.html). Students can generally complete a designated minor without increasing the number of units required for graduation, but they should plan early so that they can complete a minor on time.

Students can also complete a double major within the College of Engineering. Students can earn double majors in Mechanical Engineering and Engineering and Public Policy, Mechanical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering and Robotics. Additionally, students can pursue minors or double majors with other Carnegie Mellon departments. Interested students should contact the main department of the minor/double major they seek to learn the requirements for that program.

Advising, Counseling, and Mentoring Opportunities for Mechanical Engineering Students

Several groups of individuals can provide advising, counseling, and mentoring to Mechanical Engineering students at Carnegie Mellon. Below we summarize the types of advice and mentorship that each group typically can provide. Everyone is here to help, and we encourage students to benefit from different types of advising. Note that academic advisers and the career consultants focus entirely on providing advising and counseling to students. Faculty and alumni each bring a very distinct set of experiences to their advising roles, which will benefit some students, but not others. We encourage you to cultivate multiple advisors. And, when you have particular questions, the department will always try to find people who can help you.

The Academic Advisors, Lauren Warden-Rodgers (last name A-mid-alphabet) or Eva Mergner (last name mid-alphabet-Z), will:

• Collaborate and assist in achievement of academic goals by sharing information and resources, and providing encouragement and support
• Offer accessibility through appointments, walk-ins and email exchanges
• Verify progress toward degree requirements
• Discuss course alternatives for CIT requirements and electives
• Register research credit
• Assist with pre-requisite issues
• Offer information regarding double majors, minors, study abroad procedures, etc
• Explain summer transfer credit policies

Faculty mentors will:

• Discuss challenges students face in their courses or in research, if appropriate
• Discuss research for credit and summer research opportunities in the faculty’s lab
• Discuss general technical subjects in mechanical engineering
• Answer questions about life after CMU
• Give insight into career paths
• Give advice on pursuing a graduate degree
• Discuss tradeoffs between different opportunities that students might choose from

Your Career Consultant* Lisa Dickter (in the Career & Professional Development Center) will:

• Help you to create and update your resume

• Teach you how to search for a summer internship and full-time job
• Provide many resources for your internship/job search
• Offer advice on: how to interview, how to navigate a career fair, what to say to employers at career fairs, how to network, how to write a cover letter, and how to evaluate/negotiate a job offer

* Make an appointment to meet with your Career Consultant using Handshake (http://cmu.joinhandshake.com) www.cmu.edu/career

Alumni Advisors may:

• Answer questions about life after CMU
• Give insight into career paths
• Give advice on pursuing a graduate degree
• Answer questions about working at specific companies
• Look over resumes, drawing on their particular experiences
• Point to professional skills they gained while at CMU that helped them in their career path, and other skills that they later found useful

Integrated Master's/Bachelor's Degree (IMB)

The Integrated Master’s/Bachelor’s program (IMB) is an exciting opportunity for students who excel academically and want to pursue both a Bachelor’s degree and a Master’s Coursework (MSC) degree in Mechanical Engineering. The application fee, Graduate Record Exam (GRE), and recommendation letters are waived. The Bachelor’s degree may be completed simultaneously with the MS degree or in a preceding semester. Courses taken for the MSC degree may not be counted in the Bachelor degree requirements. The two degrees are typically completed in 8 to 10 semesters. At least one semester of full time graduate status is required when completion of the two degrees extends beyond the 8th semester.

A student with a cumulative QPA of 3.00 or higher in the second semester of their junior or senior year is guaranteed admission into the MS degree through the IMB program. To be officially admitted, the student must complete the IMB degree program form: MechE IMB Form (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1bQGUY6VDtRjoLMMC-n1FPRFK1PCTMeXcmZjYWM2N/viewform).

If a student does not meet the exact overall 3.00 QPA requirement, they must apply for admission via the Graduate Admissions guidelines (http://www.cmu.edu/me/prospective/graduate-admission.html). All portions of the application must be completed.

Quality Point Average Requirements

To be eligible to graduate, undergraduate students must complete all course requirements for their program with a cumulative Quality Point Average of at least 2.00 for all courses taken. For undergraduate students who enrolled at Carnegie Mellon as freshmen and whose freshman grades cause the cumulative QPA to fall below 2.0, this requirement is modified to be a cumulative QPA of at least 2.0 for all courses taken after the freshman year. Note, however, the cumulative QPA that appears on the student’s final transcript will be calculated based on all grades in all courses taken, including freshman year. The Mechanical Engineering Department requires that students attain a quality point average of 2.00 or higher for all required Mechanical Engineering core courses.

Pursuant to university rules, students can repeat a course in which a grade below C was attained in order to achieve the QPA requirement. When a course is repeated, all grades will be recorded on the official academic transcript and will be calculated in the student's QPA. For all required Mechanical Engineering courses, the highest grade obtained between the original and the repeated class will be used to calculate the Mechanical Engineering QPA.

Full-Time Faculty

MARK BDELLION, Associate Teaching Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D, Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 2016–.
JACK LEE BEUTH, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Harvard University; Carnegie Mellon, 1992–.
JONATHAN CAGAN, George Tallman and Florence Barrett Ladd Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Associate Dean for Graduate and Faculty Affairs - Ph.D, University of California, Berkeley; Carnegie Mellon, 1990–.
MAARTEN P. DE BOER, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Minnesota; Carnegie Mellon, 2007–.

B. REEJA JAYAN, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Texas-Austin; Carnegie Mellon, 2015–.

DIANA HAIDER, Assistant Teaching Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Delaware; Carnegie Mellon, 2017–.

AARON M. JOHNSON, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania; Carnegie Mellon, 2016–.

LEVENT BURAK KARA, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 2007–.

PHILIP R. LEDUC, William J. Brown Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., The Johns Hopkins University; Carnegie Mellon, 2002–.

SHAWN LITSTER, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Stanford University; Carnegie Mellon, 2008–.

CARMEL MAJIDI, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley; Carnegie Mellon, 2011–.

JONATHAN A. MALEN, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley; Carnegie Mellon, 2009–.

ALAN J.H. MCGAUGHEY, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Michigan; Carnegie Mellon, 2005–.

JEREMY J. MICHALEK, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Michigan; Carnegie Mellon, 2005–.

O. BURAK OZDOGANLAR, Ver Planck Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Michigan; Carnegie Mellon, 2004–.

RAHUL PANAT, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Carnegie Mellon, 2017–.

ALBERT PRESTO, Assistant Research Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 2012–.

YOED RABIN, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – D.Sc., Technion-Israel Institute of Technology; Carnegie Mellon, 2000–.

ALLEN L. ROBINSON, Raymond J. Lane Distinguished Professor & Department Head – Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley; Carnegie Mellon, 1999–.

EDWARD STEPHEN RUBIN, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Stanford University; Carnegie Mellon, 1969–.

SHENG SHEN, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Carnegie Mellon, 2011–.

KENJI SHIMADA, Theodore Ahrens Professor of Engineering – Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Carnegie Mellon, 1996–.

SATBIR SINGH, Associate Teaching Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison; Carnegie Mellon, 2012–.

PAUL S. STEIF, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Harvard University; Carnegie Mellon, 1983–.

RYAN SULLIVAN, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of California at San Diego; Carnegie Mellon, 2012–.

REBECCA TAYLOR, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Stanford University; Carnegie Mellon, 2016–.

VENKAT VISWANATHAN, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., Stanford University; Carnegie Mellon, 2013–.

KATE S. WHITEFOOT, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Michigan; Carnegie Mellon, 2016–.

SHI-CHUNE YAO, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley; Carnegie Mellon, 1977–.

YONGJIE ZHANG, Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin; Carnegie Mellon, 2007–.

Emeriti

ADNAN AKAY, Lord Emeritus Professor of Mechanical Engineering – PhD, North Carolina State University; Carnegie Mellon, 1992–.

NORMAN CHIGIER, Emeritus Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Sc.D., University of Cambridge; Carnegie Mellon, 1991–.

JERRY HOWARD GRIFFIN, William J. Brown Emeritus Professor of Mechanical Engineering – Ph.D., California Institute of Technology; Carnegie Mellon, 1981–.