Dear Biomedical Engineering Alumni and Friends:

As we all know, it's people who we work, learn, live, and discover with that fulfill our lives, and this is especially the case in a small, collaborative department, such as ours. So, although I'm very pleased to send our Autumn 2014 newsletter and share news about the successes of members in our community, our joy is tempered by our sadness from the loss this winter of Vlad Marukhlenko, our long time IT systems manager, to pancreatic cancer. His colleagues and friends will miss him greatly.

On positive notes, our wonderful year is highlighted by the department’s successful recruiting with the addition of three new faculty members: Mingjun Zhang, Tanya Nocera, and Jennifer Leight. A short introduction of each is included. In addition, we have included a profile of Professor Zhang in this issue, and plan additional profiles in subsequent newsletters. As just the second full Professor with a tenure home in Biomedical Engineering, Professor Zhang’s experience and research leadership will provide a substantial boost to accelerate the transformation of our potential into our accomplishments!

We also include information about the remarkable success of our students, faculty and alumni. Our senior year team design projects, led by Professor Mark Ruegsegger and aided by funding from the National Institutes of Health (R25) award, have continued to provide meaningful, creative, and successful experiences for our graduating seniors, and provide the curriculum’s capstone experience.

We continue to be excited by efforts to relocate BME to the main campus. During the past two years, we have conducted two feasibility studies that recommend relocating our department, along with Materials Science and Engineering, to a new or renovated site. The first study recommended combining the Koffolt and Fontana Lab buildings; the more recent study builds on that idea with a more comprehensive, multiple building cluster for BME, MSE, and Biochemistry. Although much remains before a move becomes reality, it is exciting to initiate plans for us to be located in the heart of the engineering portion of campus. A new main campus location will allow for improved, central facilities for instruction, teaching labs, administrative and research.

Thank you for helping support our continued successes. Gifts targeted to the department can help us achieve our strategic goals, and could include opportunities to endow a named professorship, a named scholarship, or laboratories and facilities. More modest gifts help with our operations and events. (See our “Give to BME” button on our newly revamped website at bme.osu.edu.)

In addition to financial support, we continue to rely on the network of Ohio State alumni and friends to help our students find internship and employment opportunities. Please continue to let us know of any opportunities as you find them.

I am always happy to meet our alumni and friends. Please stop by, if convenient, to get a firsthand look at our progress. In addition, I’ll probably be able to weave in how my hobby as a Beatles enthusiast has turned into part of my day job: I recently served as a Resident Director for Music 3350, a May-term course about the British Music Invasion that included a two week trip with 35 OSU students to London and Liverpool!

Richard T. Hart, PhD.
Edgar C. Hendrickson Professor and Department Chair
hart.322@osu.edu

bme.osu.edu
Meet the New Faculty

The Department of Biomedical Engineering was delighted to welcome three new faculty members this year. We are excited for them to continue their careers with us, and we can’t wait to see what they will achieve!

**Mingjun Zhang, PhD.**
*(January 2014)*

Professor Zhang has taken a unique educational path. He earned BS and MS degrees in Mechanical Engineering, a PhD in Chemical Engineering (from Zhejiang University in China) followed by a D.Sc., degree in Electrical and Systems Engineering (Washington University, St. Louis), followed by two additional MS degrees from Stanford University (Palo Alto, CA) in Electrical Engineering and Bioengineering. Between the D.Sc. degree in 2000 and the dual MS degrees in 2007, he worked as an R&D engineer at Agilent Technologies. He has been on the faculty at the University of Tennessee since 2008.

He has several active research grants, including two from NSF and two from the Office of Naval Research. He has published actively with over 80 journal publications since 1992, numerous conference proceedings and book chapters, and has 3 patent applications (1 provisional, 1 pending, and 1 granted). We are thrilled to welcome him to Ohio State!

**Tanya Nocera, PhD.**
*(March 2014)*

Dr. Nocera has a BS in Physics from Allegheny College, were she served as an undergraduate teaching assistant prior to matriculating to graduate school in Biomedical Engineering at OSU. She earned MS and PhD degrees from our department, serving as a Graduate Teaching Assistant for us. While here she won all three of our departmental awards for graduate students including the Andreas F. von Recum Graduate Research Achievement Award, the BME Graduate Teaching Award, and the BME Graduate Service Award.

Dr. Nocera’s primary field of interest in Biomedical Engineering is nanotechnology. As a graduate student, she worked alongside Dr. Gunjan Agarwal to develop a technique that “detects and characterizes the magnetic properties of a particular type of nanoparticle commonly found in biology and/or used in biological applications. We are excited that Dr. Nocera is remaining with our department as she begins her career!

**Jennifer Leight, PhD.**
*(August 2014)*

Jennifer Leight has earned a BS degree in Biomedical Engineering from Tulane University (2004) and a PhD in Bioengineering from the University of Pennsylvania (2011). She has served as a postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Colorado since 2011. She attended Tulane with a Distinguished Scholar Award, and held a NSF Graduate Research Fellowship while at Penn.

Professor Leight’s technical expertise is in Cancer Research, specifically in the area of imaging in the 3D microenvironment of cancerous cells. The microenvironment encapsulates the structural unit of cancer (more than a single isolated cell) and she uses fluorescent peptide biosensors to visualize and quantify MMP activity (Matrix Metalloproteinase) that is responsible for degradation of matrix and surrounding proteins. She is a wonderful addition to our department, and we look forward to working with her!
2014 Engineering Capstone Design Showcase

On April 18, The 7th Annual Engineering Capstone Design Show­case was held in the Archie Griffin Ballroom, at the Ohio Union. The showcase is a culmination of senior undergraduate capstone design projects from all engineering disciplines. Individual students or student teams presented their projects and selected findings to a team of judges comprised of industry and faculty.

The Senior Capstone Design course in Biomedical Engineering is the culminating experience for the students, and the two-semester design course provides all project teams with a real-world opportunity to solve an open-ended problem as identified by individuals with disabilities, or by community groups whose mission is to help those with disabilities. The overall goal of this program is to build a dynamic Senior Design program that fosters multi-disciplinary efforts at the student, mentor and University level, and promotes outreach to the disabled community.

In the 2014 EEIC Engineering Capstone Design showcase, 60 BME students from the BME Capstone and 7 BME students from the Multi-Disciplinary Capstone collaborated with students from multiple engineering and clinical departments. The showcase consisted of 10 divisions: Computer Science Engineering I, II, and III, Biomedical/Mechanical Engineering, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Motorsports Capstone Projects, Multidisciplinary Engineering, Integrated & Systems Engineering (6-Sigma), and Integrated & Systems Engineering.

Winners in the Biomedical Engineering/Mechanical Engineering division were:

**EZ-Gas AccuPuncture**

Students: Alex Autran (BME), Rebecca Bennett (BME), Erin Kosel (BME), Kedryn Marquart (BME)

Faculty Advisors: Mark Ruegsegger, Associate Professor of practice and Director of Undergraduate Studies (BME) and Jim Bott, OSU Medical Center Respiratory Therapy

Goal of Project: The team created a device that uses ultrasound to help guide needles for easy arterial blood gas draw.

**Without a Paddle**

Students: Ashley Chiu (BME), Kyle Bodnyk (BME), Greg Huffman (ME), Ryan Donnelly (ME), Eisman Morales (BME)

Faculty Advisors: Theresa Berner, Clinical Instructor School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Division of Occupational Therapy; Sandra Metzler, Associate Professor of Clinical, Mechanical, and Aerospace Engineering

Goal of Project: The team designed an assistive device to help persons with assymetric, upper arm weakness paddle a kayak.

The Department of Biomedical Engineering would like to commend these teams as well as the other teams who participated for a job well-done! We would also like to extend our thanks and appreciation to Mark Ruegsegger, Associate Professor of practice and Director of Undergraduate Studies of BME, David Lee, Assistant Professor, BME and Ben Jones, Instructional Laboratory Supervisor, BME.

Longtime Buckeye and BME faculty member David Lee left Ohio State after almost five years with our department. Dr. Lee, who began his time with the BME department in July of 2009, was responsible for the supervision of BME undergraduate labs during their development. Additionally, he worked with the domain instructors to define the labs and then developed the facilities, and for some of the labs, the curriculum, required to implement the junior domain labs. Dr. Lee also created the machine shop, instrumentation, and design rooms for the Capstone program. Aside from teaching in the domain labs, Dr. Lee was an engineering mentor for students in the Capstone design program. Lee was a graduate student at Ohio State from 1996-2002 studying Physics. He worked as a post doctoral researcher with John Lannutti, Professor of Materials Science Engineering, from 2006-2009. Dr. Lee will be moving to Rockville, MD to support his wife in her new career. “I’m going to miss working with everyone in BME,” said Lee. “I haven’t worked in a more friendly or supportive environment.” Dr. Lee will be missed, but we extend our best wishes to him and his family!
1. **What brought you to Ohio State?**

I was deeply impressed by the excellent interdisciplinary research environment and collaboration opportunities at OSU, especially with the Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute, the medical center, and the Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy. I was particularly excited about the opportunities to work with the outstanding faculty members and students at OSU. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to work in this fascinating community, and look forward to contributing to world-class research and education.

2. **What is your current research? How will your research impact/change your field?**

A fundamental question to be addressed in my research is how we can learn from biological systems in nature, especially at the micro/nano-scale, in order to engineer biocompatible nanomaterials and further develop innovative devices and systems that are capable of interfacing with molecular and cellular systems for advanced therapeutics and tissue engineering applications. In one direction, my lab studies the emergent micro/nano-scale properties of biological materials and cells by combining the enhanced quantitative capabilities of various nano-instrumentation platforms with the computational power of mathematical modeling techniques. This integrated approach will help to improve our understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying disease at the cellular level, providing better targets for medical diagnostics and treatment strategies. In another direction, my lab develops novel bionanomaterials and devices inspired by underlying mechanisms of the unique properties exploited by micro/nano-scale scale biological systems, so that they can be utilized or integrated with other living systems to address key interests in many areas of biomedical research. One of the goals combining both aspects of the above research is to build nanoparticle-based devices/systems with sensing, actuation and decision-making capabilities for disease diagnosis, treatment, and defense applications. If successful, this research could significantly impact the fields of disease diagnosis, prevention and treatment, and advance the field of nanomedicine.

3. **Which BME courses do you teach?**

I will join Dr. Jun Liu, and work with her to teach BME 3702 on Measurements and Instrumentation starting Spring 2015. I am also planning graduate level courses on bio-inspired micro/ nano-robotics, bio-inspired nanobiotechnology, cell-based imaging, modeling and devices.

4. **Who or what has influenced your work and research?**

Nature, especially biological systems in nature, has greatly inspired my research, and become an important source of inspiration for innovation in my work. I have always been fascinated by inner working principles of biological systems, especially in small scale. My long-term research goal is to create more bio-compatible, smart and small devices/systems for biomedical applications by learning from nature.

5. **What have you learned or gained from teaching young engineers at the collegiate level?**

I love to work with young engineers, and have established a track record of providing opportunities for undergraduate student research in my lab. I am particularly interested in working with motivated collegiate level students for new research. I learned and gained the most from them for their passion, energy, and fresh view for many fundamental research questions. It is inspiring for me to teach and work with them on research projects. It is most fun to see and hear their progress in their learning experiences. Teaching and working with young engineers is one of the main reasons for my switch from industry to academy. They make me feel young, energetic and motivate me to learn every day.

6. **How do you spend your time outside of work and research?**

I like almost any outdoor activity, especially hiking and jogging. I most enjoy playing with my two sons and my wife in the outdoors.

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### Sensing Something Big

**Stephen Lee, associate professor, BME**, along with several College of Engineering and College of Medicine professors at Ohio State, is a member of ProteoSense LLC, an Ohio State spinoff company. The Technology Concept Fund recently invested $1 million in the company, which will benefit research and company growth. The group is currently working on a sensor that upon testing food samples, can immediately detect proteins that create pathogens, such as salmonella and E. coli, in food, specifically fresh produce.

“This is truly an interdisciplinary project,” said Biomedical Engineering Professor Stephen Lee. “A marriage of solid-state electronics and molecular biology.”

With the investment, the team will create prototypes of the sensor in order to broaden testing. The sensor is being designed to operate in the ever-changing markets of food testing, medical diagnostics, and environmental monitoring.

We look forward to hearing news of the team’s future success, and we congratulate Dr. Lee and the team’s discovery!
Meet a New Alumni:
Brett Geiger

1. Where are you from and what brought you to Ohio State?
I am from West Chester, a suburb of Cincinnati, Ohio. There is a lot of buckeye history in my family, which got me interested in Ohio State. I was fortunate to receive a good scholarship to Ohio State, which made the decision obvious.

2. What are you currently working on?
(Following graduation...research, higher degree, etc?)
I will begin my PhD at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the fall. I will be studying biological engineering, but with a specialization in polymer science through MIT's interdisciplinary Program in Polymer Science and Technology (PPST). While I have not yet selected my research advisor, I will most likely be conducting research at the intersection of biology and polymer engineering.

3. What was your undergraduate research focus?
Who was your advisor, and can you explain your research?
I conducted my honors undergraduate thesis research with Professor John Lannutti of the Materials Science & Engineering department. My research with Professor Lannutti was focused on controlling drug release from polymer nanofibers. These nanofibers are produced from a process called electrospinning and resemble the microstructure of extra-cellular matrix (ECM), making them useful in biological applications. The polymers we used to make these nanofibers are amenable to a number of materials processing techniques. We used high pressure CO2 infusion, one such technique, to make the nanofibers more suitable for drug release. For my thesis research, I investigated and controlled the effect of hydrophobic-hydrophilic interactions between drugs and nanofibers on CO2 infused drug release.

I also worked with two other BME students on a project focused on developing a low cost screening tool for ovarian cancer. We began by targeting circulating tumor cells but have since pivoted and are currently testing for protein biomarkers. We are preparing a patent application to allow us to commercialize this technology in the future. Our project is advised by Professor Michael Tweedle of the Radiology department as well as Professor Ron Xu of the BME department.

4. What was your favorite class at OSU?
Cell Physiology. At times it felt like drinking out of a fire hose, but that course greatly stimulated my interest in the field of biomedical engineering. Our cells operate by some incredibly elaborate mechanisms that function consistently and with high flexibility thousands to millions of times per day. It really illustrates the challenge that biomedical engineers face, but also provides a source of inspiration.

5. What are your future plans?
After I earn my PhD, I plan to pursue a career in academic research as a professor. I have not yet picked a specific topic I want to contribute to, but a major career goal is to develop a biotechnology with great therapeutic benefit and translate it into medical practice through technology commercialization.

6. Favorite memory as a BME student at OSU?
A couple other BME students and I worked on a research project geared towards technology commercialization. Early in the project’s lifetime, after several weeks of long working hours, we made a big experimental breakthrough and found out we received an important grant all within a short period of time. That was definitely a high point.

In Memoriam: Vladimir Marukhlenko

Vlad Marukhlenko, IT Systems Manager, passed away on Sunday, February 23, 2014, surrounded by his loving family. He was 57. Vlad dedicated over 20 years of service to the Department of Biomedical Engineering at The Ohio State University. He will forever be missed by faculty, staff and students. The Department of Biomedical Engineering extends our sympathies to Vlad’s wife Mila, his daughters, and to the entire Marukhlenko Family.
Gunjan Agarwal, associate professor, BME, and Internal medicine (cardiology), received a grant of $300,000 over the next 3 years for her research on “indirect MFM for sensing magnetic nanoparticles.” The project will be funded by the Biosensing division of the National Science Foundation-Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems.

B. Rita Alevriadou, associate professor, BME and cardiovascular medicine, served as the co-Chair of the newly formed Vascular Endothelial Biology 4 Study Section of the American Heart Association (AHA) with Dr. Karen Stokes, Louisiana State University Health Science Center, as the Chair. The meeting took place at the AHA headquarters in Dallas, TX, on April 14, 2014.

Samir Ghadiali, associate professor and director of graduate studies, BME, received the 2014 Lumley Engineering Research Award. This award honors the research productivity of engineering faculty members over the past five years.

Richard Hart, Chair, BME, was elected president of the Biomedical Engineering Society. He will assume his new role at the 2014 BMES Annual meeting in San Antonio this October.

Xiaoming (Shawn) He, associate professor, BME, announces that his postdoctoral student Dr. Hai Wang received the prestigious Pelotonia Fellowship 2014. Shuting Zhao, a student also advised by Dr. He, received the prestigious Howard Hughes Medical Institute (H‡MI) Med into Grad Scholars Fellowship. Additionally, He’s research lab was featured in Lab on a Chip journal.

Thomas Hund, assistant professor, BME, became faculty advisor of Alpha Eta Mu Beta and was named BME Faculty Member of the Year.

Doug Kniss, professor, obstetrics and gynecology, and BME, received the 2014 Building Bridges of Excellence Award from the College of Engineering. This annual award is presented to a non-College of Engineering faculty member at Ohio State whose collaboration with the college advances its reputation, as well as Ohio State’s.

Stephen Lee, associate professor, BME, along with several other professors within the College of Engineering at Ohio State, is a member of ProteoSense LLC, an Ohio State spinoff. The group is currently working on a sensor that can detect proteins that create pathogens in food, such as salmonella and E. coli. The Technology Concept Fund recently invested $1 million in the company, which will benefit research and company growth.

Jun Liu, associate professor, BME, received the 2014 CEOS Connect Award from Project CEOS at Ohio State. This award grants Dr. Liu $5,000 to be used for networking with professionals in her area of research. Dr. Liu will be working with Dr. C. Ross Ethier from Georgia Tech and Emory University. Dr. Ethier and Dr. Liu will visit each other’s respective universities and departments to discuss research, network and collaborate with other individuals conducting similar research.

Cynthia Roberts, professor, Ophthalmology, and BME, was named by The Ophthalmologist magazine as one of the top 100 most influential people in ophthalmology.

Mark Ruegsegger, Associate professor of practice and director of undergraduate studies, BME, received a grant from ONE Ohio State Framework Project for his research project “Wayfinding Technologies to Connect the Community with the Campus.” The Grant totals $10,000 to be given over the course of one year, and he will collaborate with CSE. Ruegsegger also completed training to be a Program Evaluator for Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

Jessica Winter, Associate professor, BME and materials science engineering, was named Senior Member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). Winter was also named to the “20 people to know in technology” list by Columbus Business First magazine.

Yi Zhao, associate professor, BME, announces that his lab invented a lens that combines the focusing ability of a human eye with the wide-angle view of an insect eye to capture images with depth.

In addition, Dr. Zhao, received an award for his proposal to the National Science Foundation entitled: “I-Corps: Commercialization of A High Throughput Cell Mechanical Stimulator.” Over the course of one year, Dr. Zhao will receive $50,000 for his research.

We also wish to recognize Doug Kniss, Ph.D. and Samir Ghadiali, Ph.D. for their research that revealed new information about reducing the spread of cancer cells within breast cancer patients. Kniss, Ghadiali, and their team discovered that decreased levels of myoferlin, a protein within a specific gene, could help lessen the spread of infected cells. Reduced spreading of cancer cells means that the tumors that do develop are smaller and more easily removed. Their research was published in the science journal PLOS ONE, and they also received recognition by ScienceDaily.com and CellBank Australia, a non-for-profit research facility. Their co-investigators are William E. Ackerman IV, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology; Heather M. Powell, Ph.D, BME and Materials Science Engineering; Thomas J. Rosol, DVM, Ph.D, Veterinary Biosciences; BME graduate students Christopher S. Ahn, Cosmin Mihai, Leonithas Volakis and Rachel Zielinski; Obstetrics & Gynecology graduate students Meagan Bechel, Ruth Li and Taryn L. Summerfield.
Congratulations to our Newest Alumni!

**Undergraduates**

**Autumn 2013**
- Ryan Brennan – Copley, OH
- Matthew D’Errico – Milford, OH
- Ernest Levert – Dallas, TX
- Austin Prakel – Dublin, OH

**Spring 2014**
- Joseph Amand – Findlay, OH
- Vincent Ayueung – Cincinnati, OH
- Rebecca Bennett – Euclid, OH
- Jared Bobulski – Grove City, OH
- Kyle Bodnyk – Ontario, OH
- Jacqueline Bono – Park Ridge, IL
- Eli Brantingham – Cortland, OH
- Joshua Brockman – Centerville, OH
- Lauren Bruss – Avon Lake, OH
- Rachel Bullock – Chagrin Falls, OH
- Laura Caggiano – Cincinnati, OH
- Ashley Chiu – Mason, OH
- John Collins – Bainbridge, OH
- Bridget Crawford – Rocky River, OH
- Nicholas DiGiulio – Canton, OH
- Elliot Dirr – Cincinnati, OH
- Nicholas Domicone - Beavercreek, OH
- Ryan Donnelly – Cincinnati, OH
- Daniel Dressler – Copley, OH
- Brian Eng – Westerville, OH
- Patrick England – Avon Lake, OH
- Britt Geiger – Cincinnati, OH
- Michael Geletka – Elyria, OH
- Michael Guthrie – Cincinnati, OH
- Brad Homyak – Fairview Park, OH
- Xiaodi Hu – Findlay, OH
- Anne Jackson – Westerville, OH
- Matthew Keller – Cuyahoga Falls, OH
- Erin Kosel – Cincinnati, OH
- Dennis Lee – Dublin, OH
- Samantha Lewis – Colorado Springs, OH
- Elizabeth Maione – Green, OH
- Kedryn Marquist – Bluffton, OH
- Clay McRoberts – Strongsville, OH
- Kinshuk Mitra – Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
- Eismar Morales – Panama City, Panama
- Sean Pisano – Sandusky, OH
- Connor Pyles – Columbus, OH
- Ryan Reyes – Naperville, IL
- Matthew Reynolds – Moorpark, CA
- Matthew Rudy – Wadsworth, OH
- Yeonsu Ryu – Hudson, OH
- Timothy Sanchez – San Antonio, TX
- Alexander Scott – Pataskala, OH
- Benjamin Sidertis – Cincinnati, OH
- Maneesha Sivalingam – Westerville, OH
- David Sohutskay – Solon, OH
- Martin Spang – Willoughby, OH
- Jaqueline Stuber – Dayton, OH
- Esper Wadhi – Cincinnati, OH
- Benjamin Weekes – Beavercreek, OH
- Michael Whipple – Toledo, OH
- Michael Wolfe – Plano, TX
- Jared Yeggy – Cincinnati, OH
- Jay Young – Hudson, OH

**Graduates**

**Autumn 2013**

**Doctorate:**
- Natalia Higuata-Castro – Medellin, Colombia
  Advisor: Samir Ghadiali
  Dissertation: “Micro/Nano Scale Modeling of Cellular injury and Inflammation in the Alveolar Microenvironment during Mechanical Ventilation”

- Carol Lee – Columbus, OH
  Advisor: John Lannutti
  Dissertation: “Electrospun Polycaprolactone Scaffolds for Small-Diameter Tissue Engineered Blood Vessels”

- Tanya Nocera – Butler, PA
  Advisor: Gunjan Agarwal
  Dissertation: “Magnetic Force Microscopy of Superparamagnetic Nanoparticles for Biomedical Applications”

**Masters:**
- Lingqian Chang – Lanzhou, China
  Advisor: L. James Lee
- Jayne Kim – Cincinnati, OH
  Advisor: Heather Powell
- Theodore Rader – Broadview Heights, OH
  Advisor: Samir Ghadiali
- Zachary Rudd – Powell, OH
  Advisor: Derek Hansford

**Spring 2014**

**Doctorate:**
- Qian Wang – Shenyang, China
  Advisor: Yi Zhao
  Dissertation: “Elastomer-based Cellular Micromechanical Stimulators for Mechanobiological Study”

**Masters:**
- Rachel Childers – Kingsland, GA
  Advisor: Keith Gooch
- Daniel Clark – Hudson, OH
  Advisor: Michael Knopp
- John Clark – Holland, OH
  Advisor: Mark Ruegsegger
- Colin Hisey – Grafton, OH
  Advisor: Derek Hansford
- Jacqueline Lewis – Colorado Springs, CO
  Advisor: Ajit Chaudhari
- Samuel Wordeman – Cincinnati, OH
  Advisor: Timothy Hewett

**Summer 2014**

**Doctorates:**
- Britani Blackstone - Hilliard, OH
  Advisor: Heather Powell
  Dissertation: “Biomaterial, Mechanical and Molecular Strategies to Control Skin Mechanics”

- Maureen Schickel - Commerce, MI
  Advisor: Samir Ghadiali
  Dissertation: “Biomechanics of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis and Inferior Vena Cava Filter Perforation”

- Jeremiah Schley - Huntington, WV
  Advisor: Derek Hansford
  Masters:
- Benjamin Cruz Perez - Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
  Advisor: Jun Liu
- Christopher Schettlin - West Chester, OH
  Advisor: Barbara Alevriadou
On Friday, April 18th, the Department of Biomedical Engineering’s Annual Awards Picnic was held at the Women’s Field House on OSU’s campus. Department faculty, staff, and students came together for good food and great conversation. This annual event is organized and hosted by the Department of Biomedical Engineering and the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES), OSU Chapter.

The highlight of this event is the awards ceremony. Awards are presented to undergraduate and graduate students in recognition for excellence in academics and leadership. In addition, The Herman Weed Excellence in Teaching Award is presented to one faculty member in recognition by his/her students of exemplary instruction and mentorship in service to students in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. This year’s recipient is Thomas Hund, Ph.D., Associate Professor of BME.

Additionally, this year’s recipient of the second annual BME Staff of the Year Award is Kirsten Gibbons.

The Andreas F. von Recum Graduate Research Achievement Award is honored in recognition of excellence in research and investigative pursuits by a graduate student in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. This year’s recipient is Niki Blackstone, Ph.D., candidate in BME, advised by Heather Powell, Ph.D., BME and Materials Science and Engineering Associate Professor.

Additional 2014 award recipients are:

**Undergraduate**
1. **Junior Outstanding Scholar Award** – Constantine Nicolozakes
2. **Senior Outstanding Scholar Award** – Brett Geiger
3. **Research Achievement Award** – Brett Geiger
4. **Undergraduate Service Award** – Ashley Chiu
5. **Senior Leadership Award** – Martin Spang
6. **Biomedical Engineering Society Scholarship Award** – Abd Al-Rahman Traboulsi and Natenon “Max” Tongtae

**Graduate**
1. **Graduate Service Award** – David Yeung
2. **Graduate Teaching Associate Award** – Jennifer Malik

Congratulations to all of our accomplished recipients!