Senior Seminar – Class of 2017

Boston University
College of Engineering
Welcome Back Seniors!

- **Purpose of the Senior Seminar:**
  - Provide an overview of senior year responsibilities.

- **Topics:**
  - Senior year events.
  - Graduation preparation and logistics.
  - Career services and resources.
  - Graduate school opportunities.

- **Alumni panel**
Senior Year Events

- Order of the Engineer: Fri, Feb 24th @ 4pm
- Senior Projects: Fri, May 5th
- ENG Senior Class Lunch: Mon, May 15th
- ENG Senior BBQ: Fri, May 19th
  All ENG seniors & parents welcome
Senior Year Events

Commencement Weekend, May 19 – 21

- ENG Ceremony – TBA
  (most likely Saturday, May 20, 10am)
- All-University Commencement – Sunday, May 21
  Nickerson Field, 1pm

- Tickets not required for either ceremony

- Information:
  
  bu.edu/commencement
  bu.edu/eng/current-students/annual-events/commencement
End of Year Preparation

- ENG Commencement Student Speaker
  - All graduating seniors eligible
  - Deadline Late March; speaker selected by mid-April

- Senior & Faculty Awards
  - Nominations required; details in March

- Logistics & Surveys:
  - Graduation info; benchmarking survey, post-graduation plans, prof of year voting
  - complete all by deadlines = eligible for raffle

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Preparing for Graduation - Fall

- Instructions emailed over summer
- Application for Graduation:
  - Complete and submit Application on-line *(before* review!)
  - www.bu.edu/eng/current-students/ugrad/seniors
- Graduation Review - make appointment by Oct 3
  - Undergraduate Office – ERB 107
    - (A-L) Jackie Cronin – jncm.youcanbook.me
    - (M-Z) Dawn Cardoso – cardosod.youcanbook.me
Preparing for Graduation - Fall

- **Data Restriction** (Student Link)
  Restricting release impacts:
  - Degrees, honors and awards data to prospective employers
  - Commencement Program & Yearbook – your name will NOT appear

- **Concentrations/Minors** Deadlines
  - Declaration/Applications: **Monday, October 3rd**
  - Concentration Project Proposal Approvals: **Monday, December 12th** (last day of class for Fall 2016 semester)

- All other deadlines – **Thursday, December 1st**
  - (Transfer Credit/Petitions/Grade Changes/etc.)

- **WebReg** Spring 2017: **Sunday, October 30th**

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Preparing for Graduation - Spring

- Drop/Add – keep Records Office informed of all changes to your spring registration!
- Latin Honors – cutoffs posted February 1
- Graduation Website opens – early March
- Complete all degree requirements
- Diploma Holds
  - Student Accounts – resolve any outstanding balance
  - Financial Aid – exit interview
CDO – Who We Are

- Dottie Catlin, Director
- Dave Brown, Assistant Director
  - Works with ME students
- Subhadra England, Assistant Director
  - Works with BME students
- Kathleen Fay, Assistant Director
  - Works with CE and EE students
CDO – What Do We Offer?

- Handshake
- Resume and cover letter assistance
- Interview preparation
- Career fairs, workshops, Networking Nights
- Information on local career fairs and networking events
- Access to ENG alumni
CDO Events – Fall 2016

- Job Search Workshops weekly
- Company Information Sessions
- On-Campus Interviewing
- Networking Nights (by Department) in November
CDO Events – Fall 2016

College of Engineering Career Fair
Wednesday, October 5th, 11:00AM-4:00PM GSU
CDO - What Next?

- Update your resume and cover letter
- Visit the Career Development Office
- Refresh and continue to expand your network; including LinkedIn!
- Use Handshake & other web resources
- Apply for jobs through company websites
- Seek out the advice of faculty members
- Attend on/off campus career fairs

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CDO – Come Visit!

- Make an appointment:
  - Call – 617-353-5731
  - Email – engcareers@bu.edu

- Walk-in Hours
  - Tuesday 1:30pm – 4:30pm
  - Wednesday 9:30am – 12:30pm
  - Thursday 9:30am – 12:30pm
  - Friday 1:30pm – 4:30pm
Thinking About Graduate School
Graduate School ≠ Research

- **PhD degrees (and MS w/ thesis) – for research careers**
  - independent research & completion of an original thesis
  - MS degree (w/ thesis)
    - ~1.5 to 2 years
    - can lead to PhD (or not)
  - PhD degree
    - ~ 4-6 years; generally funded (tuition & stipend)
    - Highly specialized; “world’s expert”
    - Academic or industry careers

- **MEng & non-thesis MS degrees – professional degrees for careers in industry**
  - professional degree; ~ 1 year
  - coursework only; usually incorporates practicum
  - may include elements of technology leadership
    (product development, project management, innovation, commercialization)
Financial Points to Consider

- Master’s degrees = limited financial aid

- PhD degrees
  - Virtually all cover tuition and stipend, usually in return for “services” – research assistant; teaching
  - Example: BU ENG
    - Doctoral Research Fellow (DRF)
      - $32,250 for 12 months
      - full tuition
    - Doctoral Teaching Fellow (DTF)
      - $21,500 stipend for 8 months
      - tuition for 8-10 credits per semester
Find Out More!

- **Graduate School Seminar**
  
  Friday, September 23rd @ 4:30pm in PHO 206

- Presentation and opportunities to ask questions about MEng, MS and PhD programs, application procedures, fellowship applications, etc…
Early Consideration for BU Seniors

- Apply to BU MS or MEng by September 28th and receive a decision by October 20th

- Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.4 or higher at the end of junior year will receive ‘automatic admission’ to master’s program.

Financial Aid

- All Master’s students are considered for merit-based scholarships of up to half tuition.

- Federal need-based and private credit-based loans.
What should I be doing **NOW** if I want to attend graduate school?

- Research application requirements; put all deadlines on your calendar!
- Prepare for & take required exams (GRE, LSAT, GMAT, MCAT)
- Discuss options with advisor & other faculty; ask professors for letters of recommendation
- Draft ‘statement of purpose’
- Think about financial aid options; research graduate fellowship opportunities & application deadlines
- **Get involved in research labs** (for research degrees)
Alumni Panel

- Yasmin Atefi – ME ‘12
- Ana Sofia Camacho – BME ‘13
- Tristan Campbell – EE ’13
- Ben Duong – CE ‘12