

Colburn Gazette

Undergraduate Newsletter

Issue II, May 2010



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Members:

Seniors:

Abdal Barakat
Marco Bedolla
Doug Behrens
Rafael Jimenez
Andrew Kroestch
Van Lam
Aaron Reinecker
Megan Zagrobelny

Juniors:

Brian McDermott
Tracy Powell
Kevin Tran

Sophomores:

Joey Kim

Freshmen:

Kameron Conforti
Ron Lewis

Fellow ChemE's, and particularly our graduating Class of 2010:

This issue of the Colburn Gazette is dedicated to those of you who are about to begin a new chapter in their lives, those who are living the Dream. To all of you, congratulations **ChemE Class of 2010!** Your dedication has brought you to this day and you are ready to reap the rewards of four years of hard work. However, let us not forget that life is a continual struggle, and regardless of where you go there will be hurdles to overcome. I urge you to strive to be the best of the best, to demonstrate, with pride, why our department is among the top in the nation. Go then, carrying the vigor of youth, and make yourself a successful Blue Hen!

In this issue, the Colburn Gazette sticks to its mission by giving a voice to the undergrads in the department. Through a series of questions, the Class of 2010 provides us a snapshot of their four-year experience. This section is named **The Senior Experience**, which can be identified by the blue cap like the one of the top left corner of this block. We invite all to learn about this Class. Perhaps, in the future when we all cherish similar memories, we will discover how much we have in common.

- Marco Bedolla



The Colburn Gazette is committed to serve as a medium for communication between the different graduating classes in our department, to carry the voice and character of the ChemE community outside the department and beyond and to provide everyone an outlet for respectful discussion and expression of ideas and opinions. We invite all to be part of this goal by submitting their thoughts, suggestions, etc. Thanks,

-The Colburn Gazette

The Colburn Gazette offers its most sincere gratitude to **Dr. Norman J. Wagner** and to the administrative staff at the Department of Chemical Engineering for the generous support that has made this publication possible. Thank you!

Questions, comments, concerns? Please contact us at ColburnGazette@gmail.com

Engineers like to solve problems. If there are no problems handily available, they will create their own problems.

-Scott Adams (Cartoonist)

UNDERGRADS SAY

How would you spend 1,000 to better the life of the undergrads in the department?

Cheg party! Let's have a BBQ with all of the Cheg students and professors so that we have an opportunity to connect outside of Colburn. – Cara Touretzky

More Aspen locations/licenses, a clock and a microwave for the undergrad lounge and better couches for sleeping. – Amy Chavalier

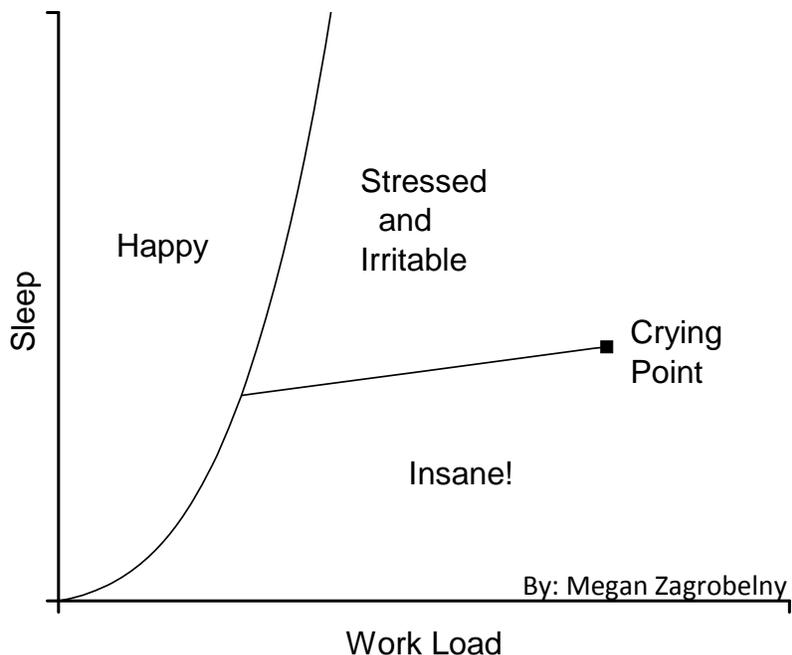
What recommendations would you propose to improve Colburn?

Dell lab needs a makeover - anything would be better than white walls and fluorescent lights. – Cara Touretzky

Better temperature regulation. – Amy Chavalier

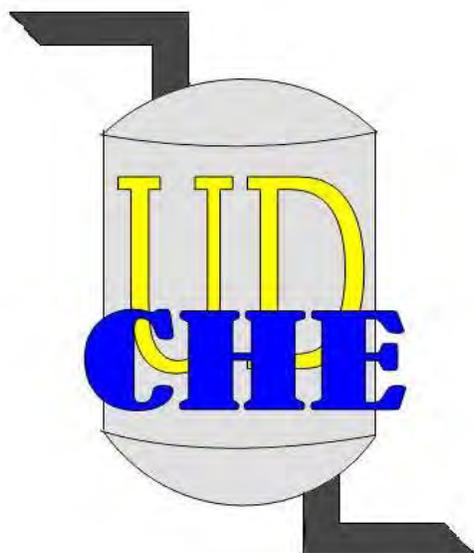
[It needs] more computers, better printers and a working A/C and heat control. – Katie Wiseman

Phases of a ChemE



LOGO

The Colburn Gazette has a logo! Congratulations to Tracy Powell for her winning design. Her logo, displayed below, was awarded \$30 and the opportunity to be displayed on all subsequent issues of the Colburn Gazette. Well done!



THE SENIOR EXPERIENCE

What has been your favorite moment so far as a Chemical Engineer?

Getting a job! – Michael Baney

A grader's comment on one of my homeworks: "NOT EVEN CLOSE". – Daniel Gregory

Finding a job and learning how to brew beer. – Tompall Toone

Finishing J-Lab and finally getting some sleep. – Kevin Brew

Graduating. Nothing will feel better than never dealing with Aspen or Matlab again. – Douglas Behrens

My favorite moment as a chemical engineer hasn't occurred yet. It will be Tuesday, May 18th at 3:20 when I am finally done. – Christine Smith

Typing my name into science direct and seeing the article that I co-authored come up. Finishing J-lab (the day after, because the first day I was too tired to care). The sight of a converged flowsheet. – Megan Zagrobelny

FACT: The chemical engineering class of 2010, with 34 members, is the smallest graduating class from this department on this decade (and millennium!). Given current recruitment trends, it is possible that they'll keep this honor for years ahead.

CONGRATULATIONS CHEMICAL ENGINEERING CLASS OF 2010!



Top: Rafael Jiménez, Abdal Barakat, Evan Vanarelli, Michael Baney, James McGovern, Tompall Toone, John Quigley
Second Row: Kevin Brew, Omar Salah, Michael Albani, Aaron Reinicker, Eitan Barlaz, Colin Heberling, Douglas Behrens
Third Row: Katherine Wiseman, Parag Jalan, Christine Smith, Lukas Bercy, Kyle Macasevich, Adam Perfitt, Timothy Bogart
Forth Row: Van Lam, Christina Gilchrist, Carolyn Slusser, Amit Kapur, Alyssa Durney, Daniel Gregory, Andy Damiani, Derek Falcone
Fifth Row: Megan Zagrobelny, Marco Bedolla, Meghan McCabe **Front:** Andrew Kroetsch, Daniel Walls



*What is the most interesting episode you witnessed in Dell Lab/E-
Calc?*

One day, I walked in and there was a baby bunny in Dell Lab, and I thought to myself, "This is a vast improvement over work." – Michael Baney

The sunrise. – Daniel Gregory

Watching this year's juniors argue about Jlab. – Tompall Toone

Watching the seniors drink bourbon while working on senior thesis. – Kevin Brew

Watching the juniors squabble over Jlab. – Douglas Behrens

I loved listening to the absolutely ridiculous conversations and those certain people who just brought them to a whole new level. – Christine Smith

What is the funniest moment you remember from class, Colburn, JLab, etc?

Lukas fell asleep during a Jlab experiment. – Daniel Gregory

Lenhoff calling Kevin, Evan, and I fat/couch potatoes in class one day in Thermo II. – Tompall Toone

The time a group of students climbed in through the window in Sharp lab to get to [class] on time. – Kevin Brew

The day that we all sent out doctored pictures to the whole class. The one that really sticks with me is the one with Parag and Tompall as Adam and God (respectively) in the Creation of Adam by Michelangelo. Too funny! – Kyle Macasevich

I walked into Prof. Lenhoff's office hours for thermo II, and his immediate response was "Ah, I thought Kevin was missing something." – Megan Zagrobelny

TIP: Having trouble holding back tears? Hold your breath and count to 20, remember the frustration and anger of JLab, bite your lip and think about that person you've wanted to punch these 4 years. Voila, now you are more eager to be done with college!



If you had to start over as an undergrad, what would you do differently?

I'd do it the same. Making a bunch of mistakes sure was helpful! – Michael Baney

I would dance more swing and get involved in the university orchestra. I also would have worked on ChemE car. – Kevin Brew

I would have been a chemical engineer again, but I would have gotten better grades freshman year if I knew it was only going to get harder. I thought I could slack off and catch up later, but I was wrong. – Douglas Behrens

If I could do it all over again, I would pick up an econ minor and maybe a double major in international relations. I would not pay as much in rent since I spend the majority of my time in dell lab. Lastly, I would invest in a pair of really good noise-canceling headphones to block out the voices of certain people (you know who) in Dell Lab. – Christine Smith

Start talking and making friends with more people in my major right away. Take easier classes senior year. Take more time to have fun. – Megan Zagrobelny



What advise would you give to people considering taking Senior Thesis, Senior Design or Senior Research next fall?

Good Luck! – Daniel Gregory

Don't grind the sausages, that is just painful. – Tompall Toone

Go for it [Senior Thesis] if your advisor is willing to help you or if you have a graduate student to advise you and help you often. And for the love of all that is good, DON'T PROCRASTINATE: start it in the summer, finish it by winter, write it in the spring. For senior design, talk to Prof. Short, he has the best stories. – Kevin Brew

Stay away from thesis, by that point your applications to graduate school/employers should be submitted and none of that will matter. It only brings pain and misery. – Douglas Behrens

Don't do the thesis if you aren't going to grad school. It's kind of cool to operate the distillation column, so I would recommend it. – Christine Smith

Really communicate with your advisor so that you both are operating under the same timescale and have the same goals in mind. Also start early - the summer before. Fall gets busy really quickly. – Megan Zagrobelny

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