

# NOTES

## FROM DEAN CLARK

April 11, 2016

Dear members of the Hajim School community:

Congratulations to . . .

. . . **Pedro Vallejo-Ramirez '16** of Optical Engineering, who has added a **Gates Cambridge scholarship** to his exemplary list of achievements. He is **only the third University of Rochester student to be accepted by this program**. Pedro will pursue a Master's of Philosophy in the University of Cambridge's chemical engineering department, doing research in biotechnology. Click [here](#) to read more about Pedro's productive four years here, and his future plans.

. . . **Nathaniel Powers '16** of Electrical and Computer Engineering, a Marine Corps veteran who later this month will **receive an Outstanding Adult Student award** from Rochester Area Colleges Continuing Education. Click [here](#) to read about Nate's journey from Parris Island to the River Campus — and the **positive impression he has made all along the way**.

. . . **Michael Skarlinksi**, PhD student in Materials Science, who is **recipient of the Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student** for the superb job he did stepping up on short notice to teach a course in Mechanical Engineering last fall. Read more [here](#).

. . . **Vito Martino '17** of Chemical Engineering and **Lance Floto '17** of Computer Science for being **elected President and Vice President of the Students' Association** in a close election last week. Click [here](#) to read a *Campus Times* story about their successful campaign.

. . . These Hajim School students who will be **studying in Germany this summer** as part of the [DAAD-Rise summer research internship program](#): **Raymond Chin '18** Biomedical Engineering, Universitat Leipzig; **Eric Holmgren '17** Chemical Engineering, Johannes Gutenberg-Universitat Mainz; **Haberly Kahn '18** Chemical Engineering, Technische Universitat Hamburg-Harburg; **Natalie Jara '18** of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Albert-Ludwigs-Universitat Freiburg im Breisgau; **Marina May '17** of Biomedical Engineering, Technische Universitat Berlin; **William Porter '17** Chemical Engineering, Technische Universitat Kaiserslautern; and **Ge Song '17** Biomedical Engineering, Friedrich-Alexander-Universitat Erlangen-Nurnberg. The program pairs undergraduate science and engineering students from the United States, Canada and the UK for three months with doctoral students whom they assist and who serve as their mentors at universities and top research institutions across Germany.

. . . **Mark Buckley**, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, and collaborators A. Samuel Flemister and Alayna Loiselle of Orthopaedics, and Michael Richards of Surgery, who were **awarded a 2016 AOFAS Research Grant** recently for their project entitled, "In Vitro Assessment of the Role of Mechanical Strain in the Pathogenesis and Reversal of Insertional Achilles Tendinopathy." The study seeks to elucidate how mechanical deformations in the Achilles tendon insertion can lead to

IAT and whether IAT-associated changes can be reversed in vitro by specific mechanical loading regimens. This could lead to effective, targeted non-surgical therapies for IAT.

Best wishes to our [Baja SAE team](#), which **heads to Cookeville, Tenn., this week for the first of two Baja SAE events** this spring in which they'll compete against teams from other universities. Team members recently gathered at their test track next to the Valentine Lot to unveil the offroad vehicle they designed and built for this year's competitions. Click [here](#) for a look at the vehicle. The team has made several modifications this year, including a 10 percent reduction in roll cage weight and strengthened rear bracing. They'll also compete at a Baja SAE event hosted by neighboring Rochester Institute of Technology in June.

As always, keep me updated, and have a great week.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Clark  
Professor and Dean



HAJIM SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES  
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