



Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

news for alumni • fall 2020

From our chair

Typically our fall calendars are full of move-in days, welcome picnics and football weekends. Needless to say, the world has thrown us all for a loop. Although the COVID-19 pandemic is certainly making things look different on campus and around the world, rest assured that there is still plenty to get excited about in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering.



In alignment with the university's "Smart Restart" program, many of the efforts of our faculty, students and staff are now being carried out virtually. This has required some creative and innovative solutions for face-to-face meetings and instruction. We're proud of how well our folks have adapted to this new world. We're also extremely proud of research right here at UW Madison, and especially in ISyE, that is advancing worldwide progress in the fight against COVID-19. You can read more about these specific efforts in this semester's newsletter.

We hope that you and your loved ones stay healthy as we continue to navigate a new normal. As always, thank you for your support of our department.

On, Wisconsin!

Jeff Linderoth

David Gustafson Department Chair and Harvey D. Spangler Professor

Supportive chair

Our department chair has been endowed with a \$3 million fund and named in honor of pioneering health systems engineering researcher Dave Gustafson.

[Read more](#)



Help from afar

PhD student Rebecca Alcock is leading a UN-backed effort to mobilize PPE production in developing countries.

[Read more](#)



Investment with impact

A historic \$32 million commitment from The Grainger Foundation of Lake Forest, Illinois, will propel the College of Engineering on its growth trajectory. The pledge funds a major undergraduate scholarship program and seven professorships, and establishes the Grainger Dean of the College of Engineering.

[Read more](#)



More headlines

- We've [revamped our undergraduate curriculum](#) to allow our students to further explore their career interests through declared focus areas.
 - Assistant Professor Justin Boutilier is collaborating on a project to [develop an advanced surveillance system](#) to identify future waves of COVID-19 and responsive training for frontline healthcare workers in Wisconsin.
 - Professors Laura Albert and Jingshan Li [were named fellows](#) by the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers, while Associate Professor Kaibo Liu earned the organization's [IISE Innovations in Education Award](#).
 - Pascale Carayon, the Leon and Elizabeth Janssen Professor in the College of Engineering, was elected to the [Academy of Quality and Safety in Health Care](#).
-



New Assistant Professor Yonatan Mintz uses optimization and machine learning [to tailor healthcare solutions](#).



Two-time alum James Tamplin is [helping lead Covid Act Now](#), a data hub that's informed policy decisions during the pandemic.

