

Alumni Days

Fall 2020
ENGR333a
Calvin University
Prof. Heun

“What are you going to do when you grow up?” The childhood question may still be relevant today. But you are not the first Calvin engineering students to face the question as jobs, graduate school, moving out on your own, and other life transitions await.

I have invited several Calvin engineering alumni to join ENGR333 for virtual, online “alumni days” (or A-days) on Wednesdays throughout the semester. On the A-days, we will hear answers to the childhood question from those who blazed the university-to-career transition before you. As we hear the alumni voices, we can expect to learn that the question is never answered; all engineers face surprising changes and evolve throughout their lives and their careers. We never know where God will lead!

The flow for each A-day will be as follows:

- All speakers resumes are available on Moodle.
- 2 days before the A-day (a Monday), each ENGR333 student will submit 2 questions for the speaker. The questions must be based on the speaker’s resume(s) and your independent research.
- On each A-day (a Wednesday), the speaker will take 10 minutes to introduce themselves and their work in an online Teams session. Thereafter, I will moderate a Q&A session by selecting interesting questions that you to put to the speaker.
- 2 days after the A-day (a Friday), you will submit (via Moodle) a summary of
 - your learnings from
 - your research into the alumnus and
 - the virtual Q&A session
 - and implications for your own career path.

At the end of the semester, you will submit a reflective writing. The writing will be in the form of a letter to yourself 10 years hence. You must discuss lessons learned from the A-day sessions for your career and outline the kind of engineer you want to become. Your letter must end with 3 challenging questions that you will ask yourself in 10 years.

Grading

Altogether, the A-day assignment counts for 20% of your total grade for ENGR333.

Each A-day is worth 5 points:

2 points for the questions you submit,

3 points for your summary.

The final letter to yourself is worth 50 points.

Schedule

| | Alumnus | Sound Check (Mon) | Questions due (Mon) | A-day (Wed) | Summary due (Fri) |
|----|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Prof. Heun | | 7 Sep | 9 Sep | 11 Sep |
| 2 | Laura Rip | 14 Sep | 14 Sep | 16 Sep | 18 Sep |
| 3 | Jordan Hoogendam | 21 Sep | 21 Sep | 23 Sep | 25 Sep |
| 4 | John Sherwood | 2 Nov | 28 Sep | 30 Sep | 2 Oct |
| 5 | Jeena Velzen | 12 Oct | 12 Oct | 14 Oct | 16 Oct |
| 5 | Andrew Bouma | 12 Oct | 12 Oct | 14 Oct | 16 Oct |
| 6 | Jessica Bouma | 26 Oct | 26 Oct | 28 Oct | 30 Oct |
| 7 | Neal Kruis | 28 Sep | 2 Nov | 4 Nov | 6 Nov |
| 8 | Jenny Haney-Haan | 9 Nov | 9 Nov | 11 Nov | 13 Nov |
| 9 | Noah Ver Beek | 16 Nov | 16 Nov | 18 Nov | 20 Nov |
| 9 | Elvin Vindel | 16 Nov | 16 Nov | 18 Nov | 20 Nov |
| 10 | Michael Merz | 30 Nov | 30 Nov | 2 Dec | 4 Dec |

Letter to self due: Mon, 7 Dec 2020 (via Moodle)