

Corporate Connections



On Site Insights

For Janine Yieh, MS '06, a six-month internship with EA Engineering, Science, and Technology last year allowed her to get her feet wet—both literally and figuratively—in the world of environmental engineering, including wastewater management. In one project for the Carroll County Department of Public Works, she worked to upgrade the municipality's sludge dewatering facilities, going on site to inspect and gather information to evaluate alternative design proposals.

"The internship was extremely interesting and relevant for me because it directly applied what I was learning in the classroom," Yieh says. "It taught me how consulting actually works." Yieh is the first recipient of EA's newly created Jensen Fellowship, established in 2005 to sponsor a student pursuing a master's degree in the Whiting School's Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering (DoGEE). Named in honor of EA's founder and current chairman, Loren Jensen, the fellowship covers a student's tuition for two semesters and provides an internship at EA's Hunt Valley, Maryland, office. The completion of the two semesters and the internship earns the student the 30 credits needed to complete the department's master's degree requirements.

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EA employs 430 people in 22 locations across the United States as consultants on water resource issues, environmental problems, and regulatory issues. Launched in 1973 by Jensen, an expert in freshwater biology and former professor of environmental engineering at Johns Hopkins, the company has always had close ties with the university. EA currently employs 10 DoGEE graduates, many DoGEE students have done their PhD work on EA projects, and some of EA's staff members teach in the Engineering Programs for Professionals. The Jensen Fellowship was created to build on these existing relationships.

"The benefit to us is that we get someone who's very bright in here helping us with our work," says Ian MacFarlane, EA president and CEO. "By tying it to the master's program we found that we can attract even better, brighter students."

*A fellowship that paid off:
Janine Yieh, MS '06*

EA Vice President Jonathan Brownstein was Yieh's mentor during her internship. "Because she was already working on an advanced degree," he notes, "engineers from many departments were competing for her time. Everyone wanted Janine on their project." During her internship, Yieh worked with EA's Facilities Management and Engineering group, the Water, Natural Resources, and Ecotoxicology group, and the Site Characterization and Remediation group.

Having a bright intern in the ranks wasn't the only benefit the executives at EA foresaw. "The mid-Atlantic region is an intensely competitive environment for finding talented people," says Brownstein. MacFarlane agrees. "We aren't a huge, national name brand," he says. "By supporting these students, they get to know us instead of one of our competitors. If they decide to stay and become a full-time employee, it's icing on the cake."

Yieh, in fact, did sign on with EA after earning her master's degree and is now a project engineer with the company. "It's a pretty unique partnership with many benefits for all involved," MacFarlane says. "I can't figure out why other companies aren't doing it." —AR

Analyze This

Every Tuesday this past spring semester, David Audley, PhD '72 commuted by train from New York to Homewood to teach more than 30 graduate and undergraduate students enrolled in Mathematical Modeling of Securities and Financial Markets, a new course offered by the Whiting School's Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics (AMS).

"There's huge student interest in the study of finance at universities across the country," says Dan Naiman, chair of the department. "Math majors today are going on to work as financial analysts."

To complement an already top-notch mathematics curriculum that includes some classes in finance, AMS has proposed a new master's program in financial mathematics. And while the approval process moves ahead, the department decided to debut one of the offerings.

"For this class we knew we wanted someone with a strong mathematics background and



wide industry experience—a senior practitioner," says Naiman.

Fortunately, Audley, who was serving on the new program's advisory committee, not only fit the bill, but was eager to return to the School of Engineering. Audley received his PhD in electrical engineering in 1972. His son, Christopher, earned a degree from the Whiting School in electrical and computer engineering in 1994.

Today, Audley is a part owner of two companies—Watch Hill Fund, a hedge fund, and Beacon, a peer-to-peer networking tool for bond trading—and has experience in analytic trading, risk management, securities and

*David Audley, PhD '72
returns to Hopkins*

market research, and financial technologies. In short, he has all the skills, knowledge, and practical experience needed to teach the class.

"I hadn't been back here for years—since Christopher graduated," says Audley. "So returning to campus, seeing what's changed, was interesting." He adds, "The high level of interest in the class didn't surprise me, though, given the number of Hopkins graduates I see on Wall Street."

Interest is so high that Audley will return in the fall to teach the second half of the course. "Students here can go to the library and learn about the relatively new concepts I cover, but what I have to offer is first-person experience."

"Dave is not the only alumni practitioner on board," Naiman notes. Jim Tzitzouris '02 got his PhD from AMS, is now a vice president at T. Rowe Price, and has been teaching Investment Science since he graduated. "Our alumni are well-positioned to help us," says Naiman. —AL