

Congratulations

to the 2008 Alan Blizzard Award recipients: the 14 members of the Mech 2 team selected for 'a collaboratively designed and delivered program.' Begun in 2004 as a project in the Faculty of Applied Science, Mech 2 involves faculty in five departments and two faculties at the University of British Columbia.

Mech 2 is a complete, integrated, second year mechanical engineering undergraduate program that aims to develop the analytical, practical, and design skills of students. Mech 2 is a radical departure from a conventional curriculum as it completely incorporates previous content from 15 disparate courses into four main courses taken in series. These four courses, one at a time, include thoughtfully integrated lectures, tutorials, labs, design projects, presentations, field trips and other activities. Integration, coordination and collaboration take place within courses as well as across the entire program.

The project courses are absolutely amazing. After completing Mech 2, I definitely feel I have a better sense of what engineering is all about. Considering how much material second year mechanical engineers are expected to cover, Mech 2 does a great job of teaching material as efficiently and effectively as possible.

student 2004

I love the personal interaction with professors, TAs, other staff and a broad range of students. On the whole, we are one of the most cooperative groups at the University. In Mech 2, the support network is amazing and the training is unique and powerful.

student 2005

I'll never forget my experience in Mech 2, the people I met and the things I got to do. Please keep this program, encourage it and advertise it. Programs like Mech 2 make better students, better engineers and better people.

student 2006



Elizabeth Croft Markus Fengler Sheldon Green Antony Hodgson Philip Loewen Martin Davy Peter Ostafichuk Warren Poole Steven Rogak Gary Schajer Michael Schoen Tatiana Teslenko Brian Wetton Joseph Yan

Through the program, students also work closely with six technicians and a team of over 50 teaching assistants. Mech 2 is structured to ensure good communication within this team, and between the teaching team and the students. Student performance in senior year courses has greatly improved following the introduction of Mech 2, and in program surveys, students have indicated a strong preference for the Mech 2 format over a conventional approach. Nearly 500 students have experienced Mech 2.

**UBC Mech 2 Team
Presentation
'A collaboratively
designed and
delivered program'**

**Saturday, June 21
Closing Plenary, 11:00 AM
Essex Hall Theatre**

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2008 ALAN BLIZZARD AWARD

Recognizing Collaboration in University Teaching and Learning