A Few Words From the Editor . . .

I’m sure you are thinking that this issue is quite a bit smaller in comparison than last month’s massive scheduling extravaganza. You are correct. Last month’s Blueprint was one that will go down in history as one of the most monumental events in U-M history! Okay, that might be a slight embellishment but it definitely was a very solid issue that I hope you all found quite useful.

This as I’m sure you all know, will be the last Blueprint issue of the year and let me just say that it has flown by all too soon. I can’t believe that I’m in the middle of studying for finals already! Where did all of those numerous weeks go by where I said to myself, “ah … finals aren’t until ‘x’ number of weeks, everything is going according to plan!” Now amidst a mad scramble to cram in as much random information as humanly possible (partly thanks to my two last day of class “exams”), these past few days have been a whirlwind of equations, theorems and tears of exhaustion. But I definitely know that these chaotic times will be nostalgically looked back upon once I hit the real world and reminisce about the “good old days.”

So everyone, study hard and proud so that you too can have good memories for the future!

Co –Editor Jevon Reynolds

Visit the IOE Department Website: 
http://ioe.engin.umich.edu/degrees/ugrad/ugrad.html
IOE Student Societies

Alpha Pi Mu (APM)
http://www.engin.umich.edu/soc/apm

Engineering Global Leadership (EGL) Honor Society
http://www.engin.umich.edu/students/support/egl/

Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES)
http://www.engin.umich.edu/soc/hfes

Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE)
http://www.engin.umich.edu/soc/iie

Institute for Operations Research & the Management Sciences
http://www.engin.umich.edu/soc/informs

Outstanding Multicultural Industrial Engineers (OMIE)
http://www.engin.umich.edu/soc/omie/

-Five Ways to Get Out of the Slump-

By Da Beum Shin

It’s already April and the winter semester is heading towards an end. It is a typical time for students to get stressed out by heavy school work. Students like me who often put off work from day to day easily get frustrated and sometimes hit a slump. To tell you my story, I was in a slump lately and felt like a loser for weeks. Fortunately, I was able to get out of the slump recently and had free time to write about it! If you are experiencing something like I went through, here are tips to get motivated; in my point of view these are the things that helped me to get out of it. If you could find only one or two here that work for you, maybe you will be on your way.

1. **Create desire.** A desire for an A in your class would work. Try to see the reward of your effort at the end.

2. **Have a regular life.** Do not get up late and miss your morning class. Remember, the early bird catches the worm. If you sleep enough and get up early, your entire day will be full of energy. When you start to feel like you are behind in your class after missing a couple of classes, it’s already a start of a slump. So, do not even start that.

3. **Do it now.** One reason that I hit a slump was the fear of the Superman (those of you who took IOE 334 or 491 will know). Because I was just afraid of the work that I had to start, I wasn’t able to do anything. Do not make things get behind. Take a small step. As soon as you write out a paragraph, you will want to finish the paper.

4. **Get some sunshine.** Sunny days are here. So, go outside and get some sunshine. We are animals before we are humans. It is known that a lack of sunshine can cause depression.

5. **Have energy.** Caffeine might help you temporarily, but you will need virtual energy to have daily motivation. Sleep well (the most important one!!!), exercise, and again, get some sunshine. Watch out for too much sugar and carbs because they can kill your motivation.

Now you have my tips to get out of a slump. How do you get motivated to do those? I have no idea guys… now you are on your own.
Editor’s Opinion: What Do You Want
By Franklin Jen

This issue is coming out really late. In fact, I would be willing to bet that about 85% of all IOEs who normally pick up the monthly copy of the Blueprint (those loyal readers who, when asked if they know what the Blueprint is, say “I do the crossword puzzle”) won’t even see this page. But I have a whole page to ask anyone reading this a favor. So I figured I might as well use it.

As a Blueprint editor for the last academic year, I have rarely actually put down any of my thoughts. Most of my work is organizing, compiling, editing, and distributing (little to no writing). I got the chance to work on this newsletter when I was invited to the IOE honor society Alpha Pi Mu. I’m not going to lie, I had no idea what APM was, but I definitely had seen the Blueprint scattered around 1610 IOE before I joined.

Most of the people that read the Blueprint probably have no idea what APM is. Well, most of the people in IOE period probably have no idea what APM is either. We are an honor society, and you have to be invited to join, based on your GPA. Even if you get invited, you have to volunteer your time to a wide range of activities over two semesters. It’s a selective group, and maybe now you know a little bit more about it than you did before.

As a member of the executive board of APM, I have something to ask everyone. What do you want us to do?

I want to get APM to give back to the IOE community more. The two most visible actions (to the IOE public) we do are 1) co-sponsor the Bar Crawl/Bar Nights and 2) publish the Blueprint. I usually not a big dreamer, but I want more. The executive board will be meeting before Fall 2007 begins to discuss what we can do in terms of events for the upcoming year. But I think everyone’s input is important, not just ours.

So if there’s anything you think we can do for you, ask away. In fact, even if you don’t think we can do it, ask too. Because maybe we can help find someone that can.

Here are some things I’ve heard in the past:
• Get scroll buttons for the mice in the computer lab
• Put in vending machines
• Keep the lounge open longer
• Get a better printer in the flex lab
• Explain what an IOE is (this even comes from juniors and seniors)

Alpha Pi Mu is here for you. Send the officers a note at apmofficers@umich.edu and tell us what you want to get worked on in IOE. We’ll try to amplify your collective voices.
The Back Page

These puzzles shamelessly stolen from WebSudoku.com

2 7 6 3
9 3 7 2 1
4
5
2 1 5 6 9
4 3
9
1 9 4 2 5
9 3 1 4

1 9 5 7 8
3 4 8 2 6
4 2 3 9 4
8 3 6 2
7 8 4 2 1
7 6 9 2 1

Life:
a repeating series
of misfortunes
strung together by
false hope.

What do you do
to deal with it?

What can you depend on
to replenish your
dried and emptied optimism?

Throw squirrels at strangers
walking around on campus!

"shitter"
"shitter"

Comic Strip by David Steele, many thanks to him!

Blueprint Editors:
Steve Agacinski (spagaci@umich.edu)
Kristin Banker (kbanker@umich.edu)
Franklin Jen (frajen@umich.edu)
Jevon Reynolds (jevonrr@umich.edu)

Thanks to EVERYONE that contributed this school year!!!!!!!

Note: The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Industrial and Operation Engineering Department at the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor. Any questions or comments should be submitted to IOEBlueprintGroup@umich.edu

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