WHY MECHANICAL ENGINEERING?
Because it’s exciting and all-encompassing. You’ll learn the engineering aspects of almost everything that moves in the universe, including fluids, solids, thermal systems, robotics, the human body, automotive parts, energy, materials and aerospace technology.

Mechanical engineers play a role in much of what people drive, play with or live in. They design and build engines and artificial muscles, computers and wind turbines, hovercrafts and satellites. It is their responsibility to design devices — from a simple doorknob to a complex space shuttle — whose parts and assemblies function in a safe, reliable, predictable and efficient fashion.

Mechanical engineering students are in demand. With an average starting salary of more than $60,000, UMaine’s mechanical engineering students are among the highest-paid graduates in four-year degree programs.

WHY UMAINE?
At UMaine, you will learn how to address some of the most pressing issues of our time, including clean energy, environmental sustainability, efficient transportation and cutting-edge health care technology.

At UMaine, engineering classes are small. Our mechanical engineering program is accredited. UMaine’s College of Engineering offers a five-year B.S.—M.B.A. degree with the Maine Business School, as well as a minor in engineering leadership and management. UMaine is home to one of the country’s oldest honors programs.

When you become a UMaine mechanical engineering student, you become part of a strong, well-connected network. Our alumni are leaders in energy, public utilities, manufacturing, aerospace technology and transportation, but they also make a mark in business and entrepreneurship. The curriculum and hands-on research opportunities at UMaine give students an advantage in the job market and a strong foundation for the most competitive graduate programs.

UMaine’s American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) coaster car team unseated the defending champion and won best design and best new entry in the 2009 Coaster Car Derby in New Brunswick. The student design team that created UMaine’s human-powered submarine placed third in the speed category during the 2009 International Submarine Races in Maryland. The University of Maine Clean Snowmobile Team ranked fifth in the March 2009 Society of Automotive Engineers Clean Snowmobile Challenge in Michigan.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
There are too many undergraduate research opportunities for mechanical engineering students to list here, but undergraduates are able to gain hands-on experience in our biomedical engineering lab, advanced robotics and robotics surgery lab, and inflatable space structures/lunar habitat lab. One of the strengths of the Mechanical Engineering Department is the senior design capstone, a yearlong class in which students gain hands-on experience. Seniors can choose from a variety of subject areas, including sustainable heating and cooling systems, humanoid robots, tidal turbine testing, and the extraction of alternative fuels, as well as the popular human-powered submarine and clean-snowmobile projects.

INTERNSHIPS AND CO-OPS
As part of its co-op program, the Department of Mechanical Engineering collaborates with UMaine’s Career Center, which provides advising, mock interviews, resume critiques and more. Mechanical engineering students work with paper companies, semiconductor firms, power plants, manufacturing facilities
Students in UMaine’s mechanical engineering program have the opportunity to do real, meaningful, hands-on research alongside faculty members. In addition, students are able to gain real-world experience through a variety of co-ops and internships, both on and off campus.

and other industries in Maine and beyond. These co-ops give our students real-world experience and allow them to refine their career path long before they graduate.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Thanks to the generosity of mechanical engineering alumni and friends, we offer a variety of scholarships and awards annually — most of which cover up to $4,000 in tuition.

HOW DO I APPLY?
Visit go.umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

I have had many opportunities to get exposure to new environments, and apply knowledge and be challenged in many different subjects, ranging from chemistry to mechanical vibrations. [At Pratt & Whitney] My work focused primarily around the PW1100G-JM geared turbofan engine currently in development for the Airbus A320 NEO aircraft. I have contributed to the airfoil design and processing strain gage measurements form these airfoils taken during engine testing.”

Allie Hayford, Mechanical Engineering major, Class of 2014

Allie has interned three summers at Pratt & Whitney. She is among the 80 percent of UMaine engineering students who participate in internships and co-ops as part of their academic experience.