

# DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION NEWSLETTER

# FALL 2022



COLLEGE OF  
ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

## STUDENT INTERN HIGHLIGHTS



### Emily Tran

Emily is a senior majoring in architecture and the co-founder of the local National Organization of Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS). For the past year, she has been a Preceptee Junior Designer for Pelli Clarke and Partners (PC&P) in New Haven, Connecticut. Emily has been working with design teams on large-scale architectural

projects located in the United States, Italy, China, and the Netherlands. Emily shared, *"As a junior designer, my range of work has greatly been based on the project needs but typically involves 3D modeling, project development/documentation, and graphic communication. I've deeply enjoyed my time at PC&P and look forward to finishing my last year at OSU with a new perspective and improved architectural skills."*



### Mason Adams

Mason is a junior majoring in electrical and computer engineering and the President of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). This summer he is an Explore Intern with Microsoft serving as a software engineer and manager in the Business Applications Platform. Mason shared, *"I am finding solutions to problems.*

*As a software engineering intern I think through possible shortcomings and implement what we design in code."*



### Raegen Daigle

Raegen is a junior majoring in industrial engineering and management and is a Career Coach with CEAT Career Services. This summer Raegen is an Area Manager Intern for Amazon at the SAT5 in San Antonio, Texas. She is working in the sorting center with the operations team and coordinating the productivity of

the center to optimize the sorting process. Raegen shared, *"I am learning and working all the associate roles so I can get a better feel of the process as a whole. Today is my third day and I am loving it!"*

### Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends;

CEAT's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Programs is revolutionizing academic support for students majoring in engineering, architecture and engineering technology. We are excited to share that fall 2022, CEAT will be welcoming the largest class of women and Hispanic/Latinx students. With this increase, we have developed new initiatives to not only help CEAT students succeed but help them thrive!

As of fall 2021, Carisa Ramming, (Professor in the School of Architecture) began a new role in CEAT as Dean of Engagement and Inclusion, overseeing the College's recruitment, retention and DEI, student services, and scholarships. Dean Ramming's leadership in spearheading these programs led to increased student attraction and programming. She will continue to propel CEAT forward in recruiting and graduating future student leaders.

Late fall 2021, Dr. Jovette Dew (a CEAT industrial engineering and management alumna) transitioned from Vice President of Institutional Diversity to a new role as the Director of CEAT's Department of Defense Program. She is leading the CEAT STEM Outreach efforts for K-12 students with a focus on under-tapped communities. Under Dr. Dew's direction and guidance, CEAT will be hosting over 2000 K-12 students in STEM camps during the summer of 2022.

Campus has returned to in-person events and the students were ready, we all needed some normalcy. We ramped up student programming and engagement to provide resources and support. This coming year we are planning networking, leadership workshops, mental health awareness, DEI focused study abroad trips, and much more. A CEAT degree brings many opportunities and we want to aid our students to help them reach their academic goals. If you know of a student interested in engineering, architecture, or engineering technology please contact me at

[ceatinclusion@okstate.edu](mailto:ceatinclusion@okstate.edu). I would love to meet with them. The next time you are on campus please stop by to say hello.

I wish you well and **Go Pokes!**



*Yokolanda S. Speight*

**Yokolanda Speight** (She/Her)

Coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion,  
College of Engineering, Architecture and  
Technology Oklahoma State University

# DEI STUDENT ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHTS

CEAT is an inclusive community that welcomes people of all backgrounds and values individuality in making the OSU CEAT community strong. CEAT's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) programming is essential to enriching each students' academic career through providing leadership, resources and support. Learn more about our DEI student organizations and follow them online.



## **AISES** [@osu\\_aises](#)

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) held monthly meetings on leadership and networking, and members attended the AISES National Conference. Through the sponsorship of ADG|Blatt Architects, Anthony and Julie Blatt (both CEAT alumni) provided a guided tour of the newly constructed First Americans Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



## **SASE** [@sase.okstate](#)

The Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE) held monthly meetings with industry representatives who shared tools and tips on resumes, interviewing, and what to look for in an inclusive employer. SASE members attended the national conference, hosted Science Week and study nights with other CEAT student organizations, and had members compete in the OSU Asian Scholarship Pageant with Jonathan Lin being crowned.



## **oSTEM** [@okstateostem](#)

Out in STEM held monthly meetings, study sessions, and a t-shirt design contest. oSTEM also led their first CEAT STEM Pride Week festivities which consisted of raising awareness, a presentation by Honeywell FMT, a spin class with Dean Ramming, tie dyeing and t-shirt giveaways, and a free lunch.



## **SHPE** [@okstate\\_shpe](#)

The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) held monthly meetings on time management, career prep, study skills, and much more. SHPE members attended the regional and national conferences and Cheyenne Mata, the 2021-2022 President received the National SHPEtina award and led a virtual SHPEtina Conference spring 2022.



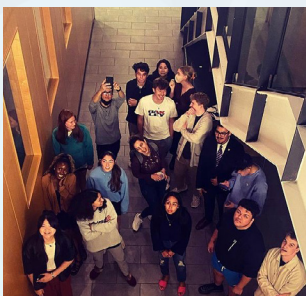
## **NSBE** [@okstatensbe](#)

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) held monthly meetings with industry leaders, hosted a carnival for CEAT students and various community outreach efforts. NSBE executive member Jasmine Taplin competed in the Mr. and Miss Black OSU Scholarship Pageant receiving the academic award. Several members attended the NSBE national conference in Anaheim, California.



## **SWE** [@okstate\\_swe](#)

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) held monthly meetings with industry speakers, career readiness, and academic support for their members. SWE co-hosted Introduce a Girl to Engineering day to encourage young women in K-12 to pursue STEM careers.



## **NOMAS** [@okstatenomass](#)

The National Organization for Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS) put a lot of effort and energy into their national NOMAS competition and placed in the top six entries. They worked on their project from May 2021 to October 2021 and received valuable feedback from multiple professionals around the nation. NOMAS hosted monthly meetings for its members and invited their peers to raise awareness about the new organization.



## **TAS** [@okstate\\_a.o.e](#)

The Almighty She (TAS) is a design-oriented group to support women in all design fields. TAS held monthly meetings for their members with design professionals, held outdoor painting and yoga sessions, stress and finals prep workshop, and celebrated Women's History Month.

# COMPANY SPOTLIGHT

During the 2021-2022 academic year, CEAT's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion office hosted 13 Company Spotlights with industry partners who shared about their organization's inclusion initiatives, employment opportunities, outreach and sustainability efforts, and more. These well-attended events each engaged over 100 students and we look forward to hosting more if you are interested. A special thank you to the following companies for your partnership and presentation:



## Awards Banquet

The 22nd Annual Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leadership Awards Banquet was held on April 14, 2022 at the OSU Alumni Center. This annual event is to recognize student leaders, faculty and staff, alumni and industry partners.

The keynote speaker was alumnus Joseph Brown, a Project Engineer for General Mills, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia. Brown moved the audience with his vulnerable speech on his struggles with mental health, being a high-achieving student and the importance of prioritizing your own wellbeing. Brown concluded his speech with *"I used to think that I had to prove that I deserved a seat at the table and that it was my personal responsibility to challenge people's preconceived notions about African-American gay men, and I attached my value to titles and recognitions that made me feel like I was accomplishing those goals. I am learning to embrace the fact that I bring value without the need for a qualifier or justification. It is not because I have overcome obstacles or because I bring a diverse perspective, but simply because I am a human being."*



Following the keynote, students were recognized and awarded for their leadership in the community with trophies and scholarships. The Legacy Awards which was implemented last year, these awards recognize alumni leaders who have impacted the diversity, equity and inclusion in the College and in their communities. This year's special award recipient was alumna Jennifer Hamby, Global Proposal Director of KOCH Separation Solutions. Hamby was recognized for her leadership as the former CEAT Women's Coordinator and establishing Maude's Squad living learning community which is still active today. We also recognized alumnae who were under Hamby's guidance during her time as Coordinator. Those awards went to Susan Crenshaw, Partner of Harrison Energy; Amanda Madl, Math Instructor; and Carisa Ramming, Dean of the College.



Last year's awardees were Sandrel Jones-Webster for leadership as the first Coordinator of the Multicultural Engineering Programs (MEP) and founder of HOMES Living Learning Community (renamed DEI Engineering Floor) that is still active today. Dr. Jovette Dew was recognized for her leadership as Coordinator of MEP, and alumni Anthony Delce, Officer Engineer of Oklahoma Department of Transportation; Kari Gutierrez, Instructor of Stillwater Public Schools; Terrell Howard, Senior Quality Assurance Engineer of Raytheon Technologies; Dexter Hunter, Staff Hardware Installation Engineer of Lockheed Martin; Johnnetta Johnson, Compliance Director of ONE Gas; Brian Powell, Chief Information Officer Deputy Manager for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); and Maya Turner, Office Manager of Carollo Engineers, Inc.

The evening was concluded with faculty and staff awards, recognition of graduating seniors, and appreciation of our company sponsors—ONEOK, ConocoPhillips, Phillips 66, Baker Hughes, Boeing, International Paper, KOCH Industries, JMA Solutions, and ONE Gas.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 22, 2022 – **Faculty Meet and Greet (classes begin)**

September 19, 2022 – **CEAT Senior Social**

September 20, 2022 – **CEAT Career Fair**

October 21, 2022 – **CEAT ENDEAVOR Tour (Pre-Walk Around)**

October 22, 2022 – **Cookies with CEAT DEI (2 hours before Tailgate\*)**

October 22, 2022 – **CEAT Dean's Homecoming Tailgate\***

November 1, 2022 – **OSU DEI Career Summit**

February 20-23, 2023 – **CEAT DEI Engineering Week**

April 20, 2023 – **CEAT DEI Leadership Awards Banquet**

Interested connecting with students and sharing about your company? Contact Yokolanda Speight at [ceatinclusion@okstate.edu](mailto:ceatinclusion@okstate.edu)

# SAM BRINTON

CEAT hosted Sam Brinton as part of the CEAT Inclusion Speaker series. Brinton holds two degrees from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in nuclear engineering and nuclear with mechanical engineering and technology policies. They currently serve as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Spent Fuel and Waste Disposition in the Office of Nuclear Energy for the Department of Energy and Vice President of Advocacy for The Trevor Project, the world's largest suicide prevention organization.

Brinton gave a powerful presentation sharing their passions for nuclear engineering and waste management, and their advocacy for the LGBTQIA+ community. Brinton shared personal accounts that led them to leading legislation efforts to create the first LGBTQIA+ inclusive law for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and to ban conversion therapy in the United States. As the founder of Deep Isolation the nation's only nuclear waste disposal company, Brinton shared their passion for nuclear waste management and creating the cutting-edge mapping of the advanced nuclear industry. Their map is now studied in most nuclear engineering classes around the nation.

Brinton's trailblazing work in the field of nuclear energy and LGTBQIA+ advocacy are nothing short of inspiring. They concluded their presentation by encouraging students to be authentic, create connections, and to create the change they wish to see in the world.



## DEI ENGINEERING WEEK



The CEAT Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Engineering Week was held February 21-24, 2022. The inaugural event kicked off with a DEI student organizations fair and cultural awareness, a Phillips 66 presentation by David Nash with free food and t-shirt giveaways for the attendees. In the School of Architecture, the DEI committee held an event highlighting African American designers, architects, artists, and business owners.

CEAT DEI held heritage poster competitions, distributed positive messages in different languages and hosted mental health sessions led by Nikkie Dunnigan from University Wellness. We are increasing our mental health programming and CEAT Case Manager Jessica Ley will provide additional student support.

**Make a donation to support student programming and scholarships by giving to OSU Foundation.**

**DEI Fund# 26-9103**

**Thank you for your support!**

## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

### Dexter Hunter



Alumnus Dexter Hunter is a staff hardware installation engineer for Lockheed Martin. He has been with the company for over 18 years and recently led teams of engineers and technicians in Slupsk, Poland in supporting the installation of SYP Radar Arrays, directional radars, and high voltage hardware and cabling, and the maintenance of the vertical

launcher enclosures. Dexter enjoys traveling domestically and internationally and has been to 40 different countries.

## RECOGNITION

### Sushrut Lokhande



Sushrut Lokhande is a Masters student majoring in Industrial Engineering and Management and served as the graduate assistant for DEI during the 2021-2022 academic year. He led student programming, social media and marketing efforts, and providing resources for students. This summer Sushrut is a Purchasing Intern with Curium Pharma in Missouri. He will return this fall to continue assisting with DEI efforts before graduating in December. Sushrut has been a great addition to the team and he will be greatly missed by the students and staff.



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