



PANORAMA

360° OF WPI ONLINE AND CORPORATE EDUCATION



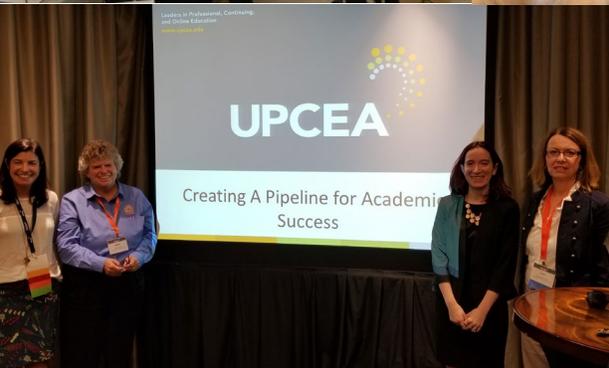
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Online and Corporate Education, Worcester Polytechnic Institute



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CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
CLASS OF 2019!

*Have something to promote in Panorama?
Contact Kate Vogel at kegorton@wpi.edu*

This year's Commencement for WPI Graduate Students was one to be remembered. The office of Corporate and Professional Education continued its annual ritual of welcoming online and corporate students and their families to a pre-Commencement celebration on campus at WPI's historic Higgins House. This is a wonderful tradition of meeting our distance students face-to-face and celebrating their success before they walk across the stage and into the next phase of their lives.



***“ This is the best part of my job. I like taking them from the time they start until today when I am going to walk them to their place in line in Harrington. It’s start to finish. We watch them grow and develop and take them through every step of the way.*”**

— Greg Cesar, WPI, Cohort advisor to MBA group

WPI CPE students from both online and corporate cohorts made up an impressive 28% of this year's graduating class – 220 online and corporate master's degrees and 36 graduate certificates. This is a true testament to the growing need and appreciation for customized, convenient education options.

For most online and corporate students, Commencement is their first time setting foot on campus. The CPE staff was on site to welcome them and their families with a true graduation celebration that included appetizers, a graduation cake, balloons, a guided tour of campus, and family photo opportunities in the Higgins House gardens. The team became full-service supporters of our students, even helping them make sure their caps, gowns, and hoods were all in order before the big event!

I was an online student—entirely online. But I felt like I was part of a community. I met up with my classmates at a pre-commencement meeting and I was just happy to see them. This is the ending of one chapter and the starting of another.

—Terence Carmichael, Jr., MS, Robotics, online student from Chicago

Excitement and pride were felt throughout the afternoon. Commencement is the culmination of hard work and the partnerships that made the success possible. The camaraderie between team members who worked together on projects throughout their program was evident, and so was the gratitude and connection between students and the folks behind the scenes at CPE who helped them along the way

I don't know how I did it. I work full time. I have three kids. I was insistent to get through this from the beginning. There were lots of hard days and lots of happy days. Today is a collection of all the happy days. I am proud of myself to say I have gone through all of this and here I am.

—Safaa Tahoun, MS, Power Systems Management from Chicago



Congratulations to all of our graduates! We can't wait to see where this milestone takes you.

2019 Graduate Degrees Earned By WPI Corporate and Professional Education Students

*Top 6
Most
Popular
Degrees*

66 MS in Systems Engineering

42 MS in Mechanical Engineering

25 MS in Electrical & Computer Engineering

25 MS in Fire Protection Engineering

**14 Masters of Business
Administration**

**14 Masters of Engineering in
Power Systems Engineering**

ADDITIONAL

12 MS in Robotics Engineering

3 MS in Aeronautical Engineering

3 MS in Environmental Engineering

3 MS in Power Systems Management

2 MS in Bioscience Administration

1 MS in Civil Engineering

1 Master of Engineering in Electrical & Computer Engineering

1 MS in Management

1 MS in Materials Process Engineering

1 MS in Materials Science & Engineering

214 Graduates In 2019!

FOURTH ANNUAL Advanced Biomanufacturing Symposium

On May 1 and 2, WPI's [Biomanufacturing Education and Training Center](#) along with key WPI faculty from Biology, Biotechnology, Chemical Engineering, and Biomedical Engineering hosted the [Annual Advanced Biomanufacturing Symposium](#). In its fourth year, the symposium continues to bring together minds from academia and industry to share insights and trends on Advancements in Protein Therapeutics and Emerging Technologies and Cell and Tissue Therapies.

The symposium kicked off with MA Secretary of Economic Development Mike Kennealy reaffirming the state's commitment to the life sciences sector in Boston and beyond by announcing a new Mass Life Sciences Center Biomanufacturing Innovation Grant, with WPI ChE Prof. Eric Young among those awarded a grant to advance his work in gene therapy. Travis McCready of MLSC elaborated on how his organization's capital investment in innovation hopes to keep discovery, development, commercialization and manufacturing in Massachusetts.



Keynotes by two industry leaders highlighted two areas in the industry. Dr. Michael Betenbaugh, Center Director, Advanced Mammalian Biomanufacturing Innovation Center (AMBIC), Professor, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Johns Hopkins University, emphasized the importance of collaboration to solve challenges in the life sciences. Dr. Richard McFarland, Chief Regulatory Officer,

Advanced Regenerative Manufacturing Institute (ARMI), BioFabUSA, outlined the changing landscape of the regulatory environment during his presentation, Drawing Creatively within the Lines: Regulatory Approaches for Emerging Regenerative Medicine Therapies.

UVA Faculty guest speaker Prof. Chris Highley stated that he loved the “strong industrial flavor” of the symposium, with industry professionals actively engaging with academic research, and asking great questions of our speakers. Overall, the symposium was a great opportunity to bring together industry and academia, with industry sharing new and timely information in Biomanufacturing and academia giving insight into research that may one day make its way into helping move the industry forward.

WPI continues to propel the industry forward, as highlighted by Dean of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Jean King, Dean of Engineering John McNeil, and Vice Provost for Research, Dr. Bogdan Vernescu, describing the thriving research and research partnerships WPI is engaged in, including 9 of the 15 USA Manufacturing Institutes, including NIMBLL and ARMI.

Thank you to all who came and made this year's event such a success! Next year's date for the fifth Annual Advanced Biomanufacturing Symposium has already been set. Save the date for May 6 – 7, 2020 for another two days of industry and academia collaboration and networking.

[SEE PHOTOS FROM THE EVENT](#) | [READ MORE ABOUT THE EVENT](#)

HERE'S TO 50 YEARS of Computer Science at WPI

2019 marks the [50th anniversary of Computer Science programs at WPI](#). This longstanding campus institution shows no signs of slowing in innovation, and their current advancement is no exception. Starting this fall, students will now have the opportunity to pursue WPI's Master of Science in Computer Science...from anywhere in the world.

Like many technical fields, computer science moves at the speed of light today; so much of the training and knowledge experts need today didn't even exist 10 years ago, and that's why [WPI's ongoing research](#) in the field is critical to keeping our programs on the leading edge. Just like the campus coursework, [WPI's new online graduate degree program in Computer Science](#) focuses on what lies ahead in the field, with ongoing research informing curricula in cybersecurity, intrusion detection, user interface design, and much more.

Speaking of keeping up with innovation, WPI knows life moves quickly, too, especially for working professionals, and one-size-fits-all education simply doesn't work anymore. For those who need to upskill now in a specific area, there are shorter programs available: graduate certificates in general Computer Science, Cybersecurity, and User Interface Design are all offered 100% online, too. Students who do pursue a full master's degree can earn one of these certificates on the way to their main goal for no extra coursework. 2 credentials in 1!

Another helpful aspect of these online programs: students can try out a course without having to go through the application process. To find out how, [email Susan Hicks](#), the WPI Online Computer Science program manager.

LEARN MORE ABOUT WPI'S
ONLINE GRADUATE PROGRAM
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE



WINCORPS YEAR 2

A Ringing Success

The second annual **WiNCorps Women's Leadership Workshop** took place on Monday, June 3, and proved as successful and rewarding as its first year, with some fabulous upgrades that put it over the top!

Twenty women from the WPI community were in attendance at Higgins House for **a day of speakers, panels, community building**, and more. Allison Rimm, President and CEO of Allison Rimm & Associates, led the morning keynote ("Success Strategies for Life & Career") remotely in the brand-new library, to much acclaim. Following that, Asima Silva, Director of Outreach at EnjoinGood.org, presented "Challenges of Women In STEM: Diversity in the Workplace," and her focus on diversity in STEM and women returning to STEM careers were two topics that continued to come up throughout the day.

After lunch (and a free professional headshot photoshoot in the courtyard), Kirsten Picard, PhD, founder of Kinetic Presence, led attendees to the reflecting pool for a moment of mindfulness and meditation. Imparting her knowledge on how to center yourself in the midst of a busy workday, the crowd was refreshed and ready for the Alumni panel.

WPI Alumni Julie Bliss (2012, CEO Alacrity), Liz Kinnal (2008, Selux Diagnostics) & Patti Newcomer (1990, ProConnect) provided thoughtful observations and answers to moderator Prof. Marsha Rolle's questions. They urged listeners to consider the role of their career in their lives, making the excellent point that sometimes what we think we want isn't always what we truly value. Our final speaker, Joanne Kamens, PhD, Executive Director of Addgene, finished the day with an excellent presentation on the importance of mentorship in bettering not only your career, but your personal life as well.

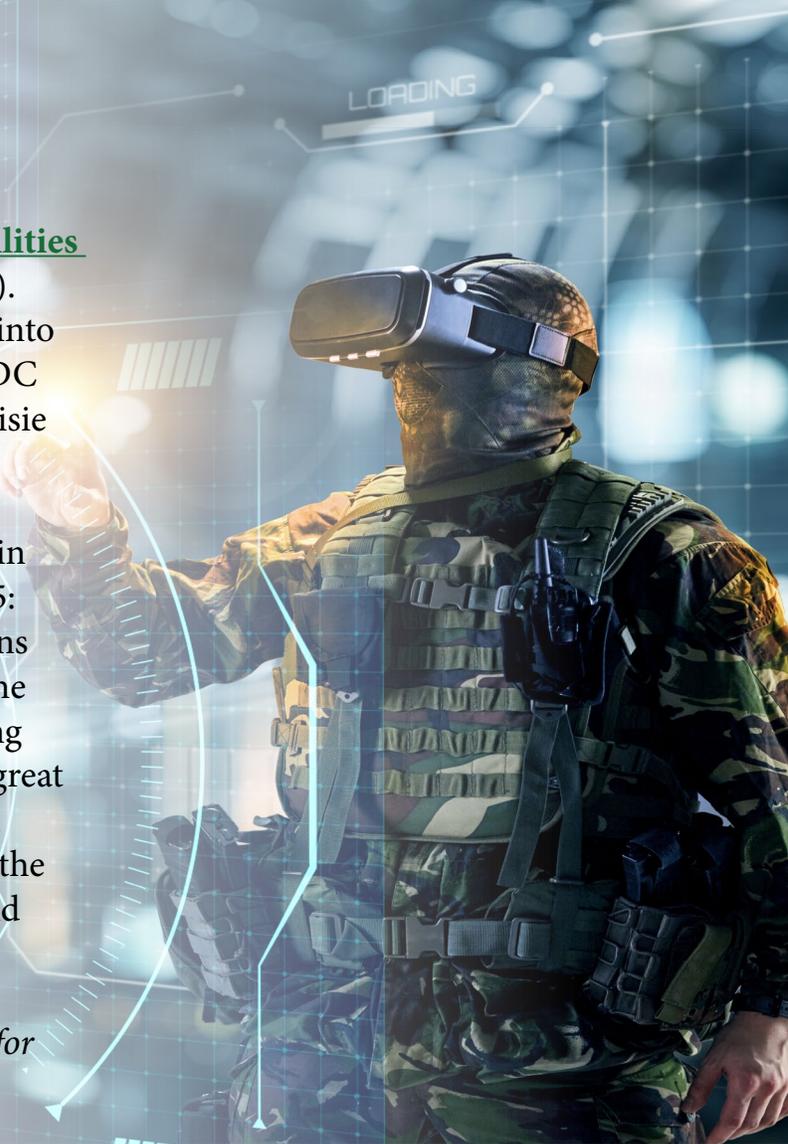
CPE is proud and excited that this year's WiNCorps workshop was even better than the last, and we can't wait to build on this success in Year 3! Stay tuned for the chance to participate in this event.



THE FUTURE OF SOLDIERS

WPI frequently collaborates with the [Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center](#) (CCDC SC). Many undergraduate, graduate, and PhD students go into the CCDC SC's WPI Cohort Program to become CCDC SC employees. Last May, an event took place at the Foisie Innovation studio with the intent of furthering these existing, mutually beneficial partnerships. Three WPI students got to participate with the CCDC SC cohort in brainstorming and presenting a project entitled: "2035: Future Soldier Concepts in a Multi-Domain Operations Environment," which was the highlight and focus of the event. Several WPI researchers also attended, including Vice Provost for Research Bogdan Vernescu, gaining great insight into the needs of Futures Command. All in all, the event was another collaborative triumph between the CCDC SC and WPI, a partnership that will surely yield plenty fruitful opportunities for years to come.

- [Peter Huie](#), Senior Manager, Corporate Partnerships for Academic & Corporate Engagement



CREATING CONNECTIONS



As part of WPI Online and Corporate Education's commitment to high-quality, advanced education for students and corporate partners, it's important for us to stay on the cutting edge of higher education industry trends and insights. Our involvement with University Professional and Continuing Education Association (UPCEA) has expanded over the years.

Staying involved helps our office share and hear insights on best practices, trends, challenges. It's a way for us to connect with other higher education professionals, seek assistance, and share knowledge on how to provide the best education for our students. We've even had the privilege of being thought leaders and presenters at regional conferences, because of the work we do in part-time graduate education. [Our focus on student success](#) is one shared by UPCEA and its members, and we look forward to continuing to improve for our students and corporate partners by nurturing our connections with UPCEA and other organizations.

STEPHANIE PAPIA, STUDENT SUCCESS MANAGER



WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

ONLINE GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- ▶ DESIGNED FOR THE WORKING PROFESSIONAL

What sets us apart

- ▶ Ranked #1 for faculty that combine research and teaching (*Wall Street Journal*)
- ▶ High-tech education with immediate relevance
- ▶ Flexible delivery with 24/7 access
- ▶ Dedicated student support team

LEARN MORE

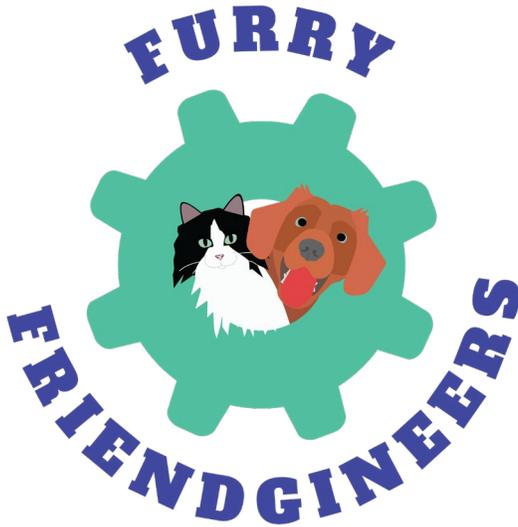


WPI

Engineering Has Gone to the Dogs...

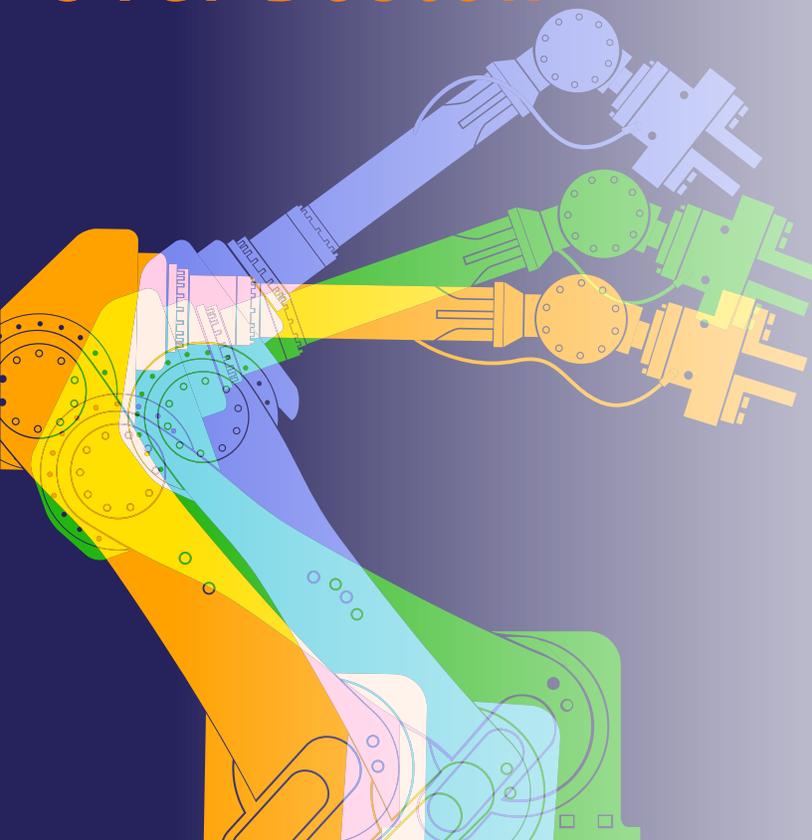
...in the best way possible!

Here's the first of our brand-new video series, "Furry Friendgineers," where we sit down and chat with an engineer and their four-legged friend. This episode features Kristin Goppel, a Chemical Engineer who works in our Corporate & Professional Education office, and her extremely telegenic pup, Daphne.



WATCH "FURRY FRIENDGINEERS"

Robots Take Over Boston



This June, WPI participated in two events in one: DeviceTalks and The Robotics Summit & Expo, both co-located in Boston!

WPI attended to talk about PracticePoint, and it was the ideal environment for demonstrating some of our distinctive research and medical robotics. Many WPI students took advantage of the free Robotics Engineering Career Fair conducted by MassRobotics as well, where their talents were in high demand.

PracticePoint is WPI's new research collaborative, focused on the development and testing of cyber-physical systems in the medical field that will deliver on the promise of patient-centric care.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT PRACTICEPOINT](#)

WPI is always on the go! To find out what conferences and events we're attending this year, [click here](#).

WPI Fire Protection Students LIGHT UP NFPA

Last month down in San Antonio, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) hosted its annual conference and expo, and WPI was there in full force!

WPI's significant presence at NFPA, from students through alumni, always makes this a special event, and this year was no exception. We're excited and proud that 5 of the 12 Accepted Student Posters for the NFPA Research Section were those of WPI Fire Protection Engineering students, who have some seriously interesting research topics:

- "Consideration of an Exterior Water Spray System for the Protection of Residential Structures from the Impingement of Firebrands During a Wildfire Event" – Shannon Alvarez
- "Effects of Pit Geometry on Fires" – Veronica Kimmerly
- "Soot Characterization of Porous Wildland Fuel Combustion" – Nadia Mofidi
- "Survey of the Use of 'Risk Analysis' Across NFPA Codes and Standards" – Muhammad Siddiq
- "Closing the Building Fire Performance Gap" – Honggang Wang

Congratulations to all of these brilliant WPI minds in fire, and see you next year at NFPA!



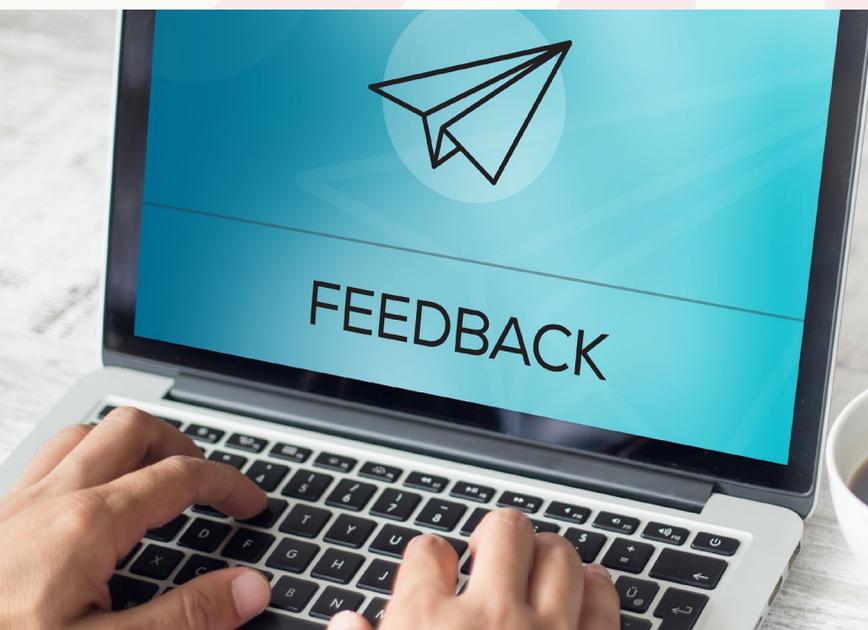
STEP RIGHT UP!

Spring Carnival Draws Diverse Crowd

This spring, WPI Corporate & Professional Education threw a party on campus: a carnival complete with games of chance, fairground snacks, and some truly fantastic prizes!

WPI CPE teamed up with folks from the [Career Development Center](#) and Foisie Business School to take over the Campus Center for an afternoon, and hundreds of students (and some faculty!) stepped up to try their luck at [graduate-school-themed carnival games](#), like “Toss the Ribbon on the Diploma” and “Balance Your Life as a Part-Time Student.” By the end of the day, we had shared what we do with over 100 members of the WPI community, including lots of undergrads who were excited to learn about the [ways CPE can help them upskill](#) once they’re in the workforce. Many thanks to everyone who stopped by or supported the day.

The event was such a success, there are plans in place to bring it back in the near future. Stay tuned for news on when the carnival will roll into town again!



GOT 7 MINUTES?

Take this short survey and help improve the grad-school-research experience for you and your peers.

TAKE THE SURVEY

THE LIBRARY CARD



Exclusive Content from
the CPE Collection



GET HELP WITH YOUR GRAD SCHOOL APPLICATION

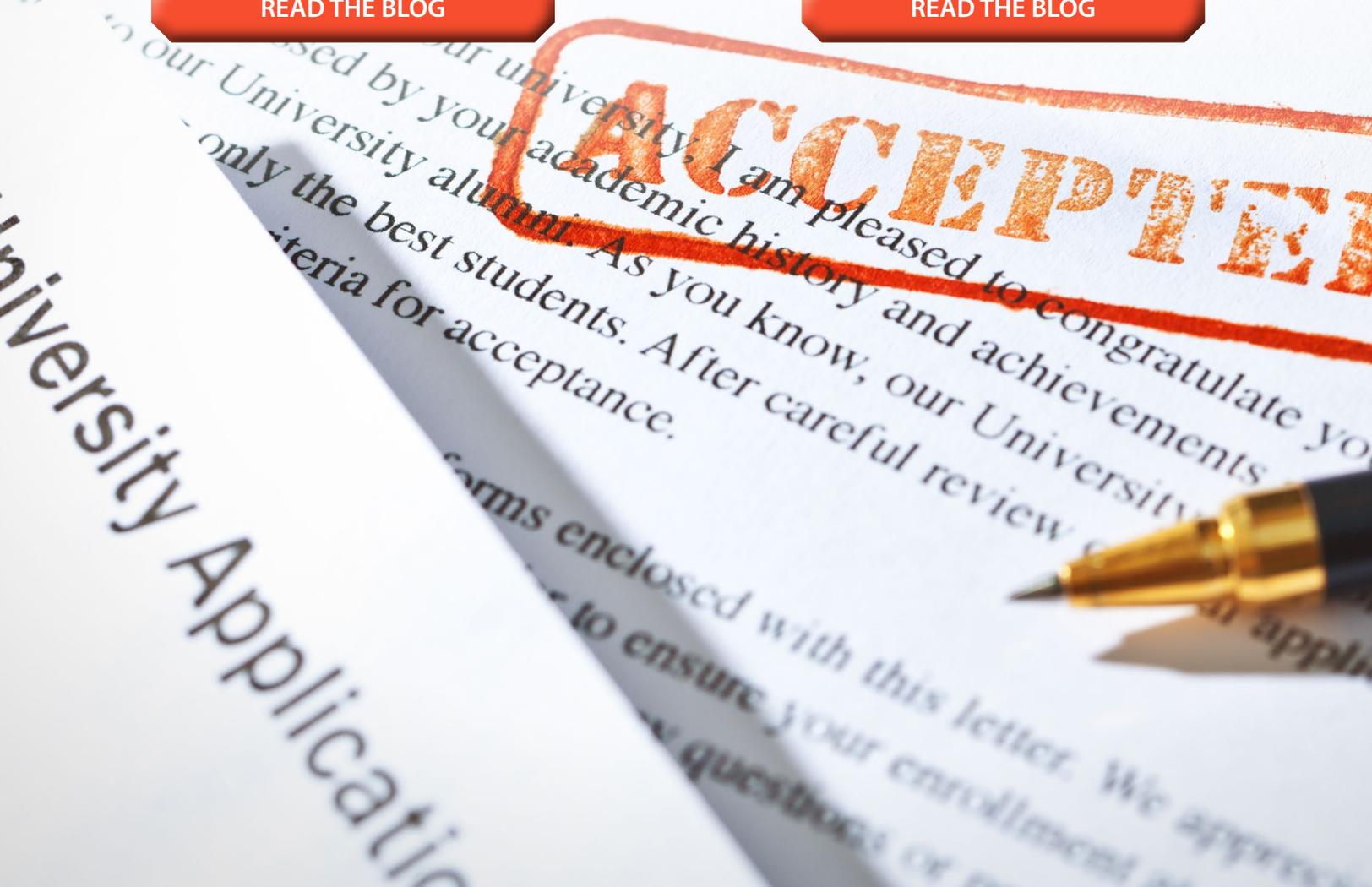
If you're curious about the application process, check out these two useful sources of information: this Catalyst blog entry offers a clear to-do list to simplify your grad school application prep, and this [helpful video](#) features WPI Online program managers who conveniently walk you through the steps of [applying to grad school](#) at WPI.

READ THE BLOG

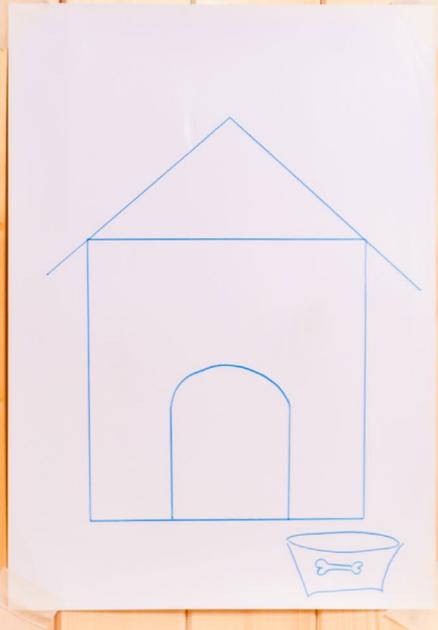
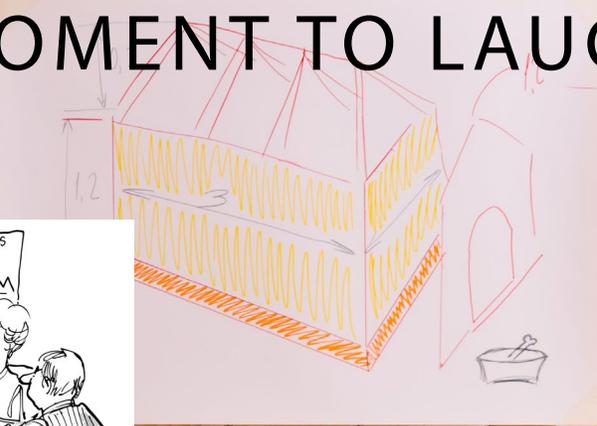
WRITING A PERSONAL STATEMENT OR COVER LETTER

Graduate school applications commonly require a personal statement—essentially a letter in which you recommend yourself. It may seem like a daunting task, but this Catalyst entry breaks it down into 8 simple steps that also come in handy when writing any résumé cover letter.

READ THE BLOG



TAKE A MOMENT TO LAUGH

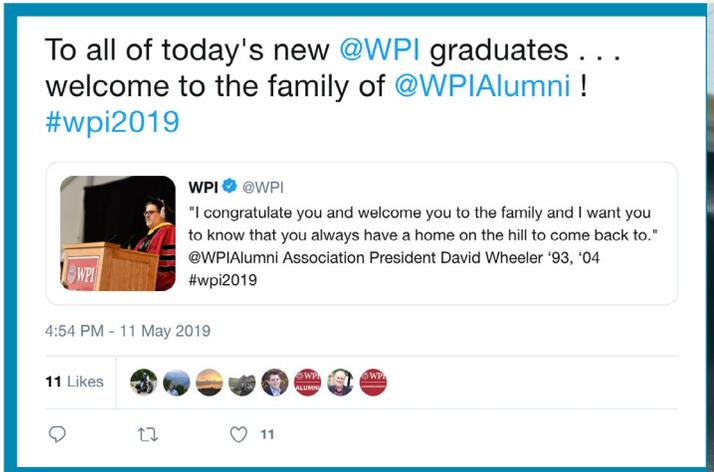


SOCIAL MEDIA MAVENS OF WPI



MIKE AHERN
WPI POWER SYSTEMS DIRECTOR
@MikeAhernWPI

[▶ VIEW TWEET](#)



DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY

20-25 INCOSE International Symposium, Orlando, FL - Booth 11

AUGUST

20-21 Essentials of Automation Engineering for Biomanufacturing (WPI BETC)

SEPTEMBER

9 Boston Young Professionals Association, Boston, MA

9-13 Upstream Processing of Animal Cell Culture Products (WPI BETC)

18 ISPE Boston Product Show, Foxboro, MA - Booth E27

23 Fundamentals of Biomanufacturing (8 week evening WPI BETC program)

26 WPI Energy Symposium, Worcester, MA

OCTOBER

2 WPI Systems Thinking Colloquium, Worcester, MA

13-15 Society of Fire Protection Engineers Conference, Phoenix, AZ - Booth 54

► [VIEW FULL LIST OF CONFERENCES](#)



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