FACILITIES

Our new engineering labs, located in the Phillips Building on Milligan’s campus, were completed in December. This summer we will be adding equipment to the Applied-Specialization Labs for hands-on experimentation and class discussion, the Multi-Disciplinary Design Labs for student capstone projects, and the Maker-Space Lab. At Milligan, engineering education provides multiple opportunities for students to practice “hands-on” design in a multi-disciplinary environment.

FACULTY

Current West Point professor Dr. David Hampton, PE, is our newest faculty member. Dr. Hampton has taught in the civil and mechanical engineering department at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point for over a decade and previously at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He served several years as an officer in the U.S. Navy and completed summer research fellowships with various NASA centers, the Army Research Lab, and Cambridge University. He holds a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy, a master’s in nuclear engineering, and a Ph.D. in mechanical and aerospace engineering from the University of Virginia. Dr. Hampton also holds a master’s degree in theology from Dallas Theological Seminary and is a committed Christian. Dr. Hampton is an excellent addition to our engineering faculty.

In March, program director Dr. Greg Harrell, PE, was named the Malcolm C. and Ruth G. Myers Chair of Engineering at Milligan during a special academic ceremony. This is an honor and is an endorsement of Milligan’s engineering program and its strong STEM programs in science, technology, engineering, and math. The chair was established by Ruth Myers of Cincinnati, Ohio, in memory of her late husband, Malcom, who served in World War II and then graduated from Purdue University with a degree in mechanical engineering. He later served in management positions, including CEO of the Carlisle Company.

ACCREDITATION

In February, the Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) reviewed and approved Milligan’s Bachelor of Science with majors in Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering. Dr. Harrell just returned from an ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) conference where he is preparing the Milligan engineering programs to meet all ABET objectives in the necessary timeline. Dr. Harrell and Dr. Hampton are familiar with ABET requirements and the teaching methods required to sustain excellence in engineering education. The programs the faculty have served (Virginia Tech and West Point) are ABET accredited with sustained accreditation compliance. It is of the upmost importance to Milligan that our engineering faculty are experienced and seasoned academicians who have been core faculty members in ABET-accredited programs. More information on ABET accreditation can be found at www.abet.org.
INDUSTRY SUPPORT

In February, Eastman Chemical Company co-sponsored with Milligan a special dinner honoring regional engineering leaders. Former Tennessee Eastman President Dr. Bob Hart, who attended Milligan’s V-12 program in the 1940s, was honored with the establishment of the Robert C. Hart Engineering Scholarship for Milligan engineering majors. Several current and former Eastman executives were in attendance to honor Hart.

Major industry leaders, such as Eastman, TPI Corporation, Nuclear Fuel Services, Bell Helicopter, Siemens, and others have offered co-op and internship opportunities for Milligan engineering students. They have reviewed with confidence the curriculum, teaching methods, specialization fields, along with the quality and experience of the faculty, and they stand ready to receive Milligan engineering graduates into the engineering profession immediately upon graduation. Here’s what several have said about Milligan engineering:

“I applaud Milligan for coming up with a different approach. We need more problem solvers, particularly with the education of engineers to solve the world’s problems. Thank you, Milligan, for running such a fantastic show, thank you for your faith, and thank you for what you’re doing for the future.”
– David Golden, senior VP & chief legal officer at Eastman Chemical Company (global Fortune 500 company)

“It’s wonderful that a high-quality, nationally-ranked college in our area can now plug in to the engineering that is so desperately needed here by so many industries . . . I’m so delighted to be a part of that. I’m going to continue to be a part of it and it’s going to end up being one of the big lifesavers for the expansion and continued growth of our area.”
– Bill Greene, CEO of BancTenn and Milligan Trustee (member of Tennessee Banking Hall of Fame)

“We’re pretty excited about Milligan’s program, because as we grow into different market segments, we have a need for more and more engineering. We are looking for a place to create a technical incubator, a place to expand our R&D resources, and we’re going to go to a place that has engineering talent that we can take advantage of. If that talent is in concert with an academic institution, that’s even better.”
– Rich Holder, CEO of NN Inc. (leading diversified industrial manufacturer)

“Milligan provides well-rounded graduates with strong Christian values that would be a good fit for our organization. We have a good-sized population that will be retiring in the next five years or so. To have a feed of students who are ready to work, well-trained, and want to be in this area is a positive for us.”
– Ron Dailey, engineering dir. at Nuclear Fuel Services (major supplier of fuel for the U.S. Navy’s fleet of nuclear-powered vessels since the 1960s)

“The markets that we sell – electrical and mechanical – mesh with the type of students that Milligan’s going to train in this program. I think that the establishment of the engineering program at the school is going to benefit people here in ways we can’t really fathom yet.”
– Aaron Cox, vice president of marketing and part owner of TPI Corp. (major U.S. heat and electrical equipment manufacturer)