Previous Recipients

VMASC Industry Association Gene Newman Scholarship

Melissa Periman

Melissa Periman is currently a sophomore student majoring in Modeling and Simulation Engineering. She first became interested in engineering in her senior year of high school. She credits her father for her decision. They were discussing her future and he told her that due to her success in high school that she would excel in an engineering program. After that conversation she researched engineering and the different kinds of jobs she could pursue with an engineering degree. It was then she realized that engineering was a great fit for her.

After deciding to attend Old Dominion University, she was invited to the Early Engineering Advantage Program (EEAP) through ODU. This program spent a period of time discussing the MSVE department. She found herself feeling very excited about this field and developing an intense passion for it. It was then that she chose to be a Modeling and Simulation Engineer and she could not be happier about it.

VMASC Industry Association VCCS Transfer Scholarship

Nathan Gonda

Nathan’s introduction into the world of technology was a fairly gradual one from his early childhood. At first, he was not very interested in computers or other electronic devices; all he seemed to use them for were writing school papers and playing video games. But over time, he became exposed to more advanced topics such as 3D animation, computer-aided design, and computer programming. He greatly enjoyed studying different programs and how they could be used to solve various problems or make certain tasks easier to accomplish. He also became increasingly interested in the process of software engineering.

Since that time, Nathan has tried to apply his knowledge to help certain individuals in his school and community. While most of his work has been in an assistant capacity, he has still been able to contribute a fair amount to the final result, and has gained a great deal of experience from doing so. His most notable achievement is earning his Associate’s Degree in Computer Science from Paul D. Camp Community College in the spring of 2014.
Nathan chose modeling and simulation engineering because of its emphasis on design and simulation in order to solve real-world problems. He believes that this major will greatly improve his design capabilities and give him the experience and knowledge necessary to correctly and sufficiently develop professional simulations.

VMASC Industry Association BS/MS Scholarship

Michael Lewis

Michael Lewis was born and raised in Virginia Beach. After going to Tidewater Community College, he transferred to Old Dominion for a bachelor's degree in modeling and simulation engineering. He will stay at ODU to pursue a master's degree in Modeling and Simulation. He's had an interest in gaming and technology for a majority of his life, and hopes to find a career in that field. Modeling and Simulation Engineering looked to be the most fitting to the area(s) he liked, and he's found that he has a good affinity for math and programming, so it is a good match.

HR-ITEA John Bolino Scholarship

Lee Dumaliang

Lee Dumaliang is a sophomore in the modeling and simulation engineering program at Old Dominion University. He is a member of the University's sailing team and competes in both the position of skipper and crew. Lee is from North Kingstown, Rhode Island and graduated with honors from North Kingstown High School where he was captain of the sailing team for two years. He enjoys volunteering with the Boy Scouts and is an Eagle Scout. He has also participated in Brown University's Sleep for Science study and has volunteered with the Rhode Island Food Bank and Soup Kitchen and Operation Smile among other organizations.

Lee chose modeling and simulation engineering because he wanted a one-of-a-kind experience. In high school, Lee enjoyed creating computer models in his introduction to engineering design course. This course eventually led Lee to create and test wind turbine designs as part of his senior project. Lee is intrigued by computer programming courses and looks forward to growing in the modeling and simulation engineering discipline. For these reasons, he was selected as the inaugural recipient of the 2014 ITEA Hampton Roads Chapter John Bolino Scholarship.