



# BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING | THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

## A Message from the Department Chair:

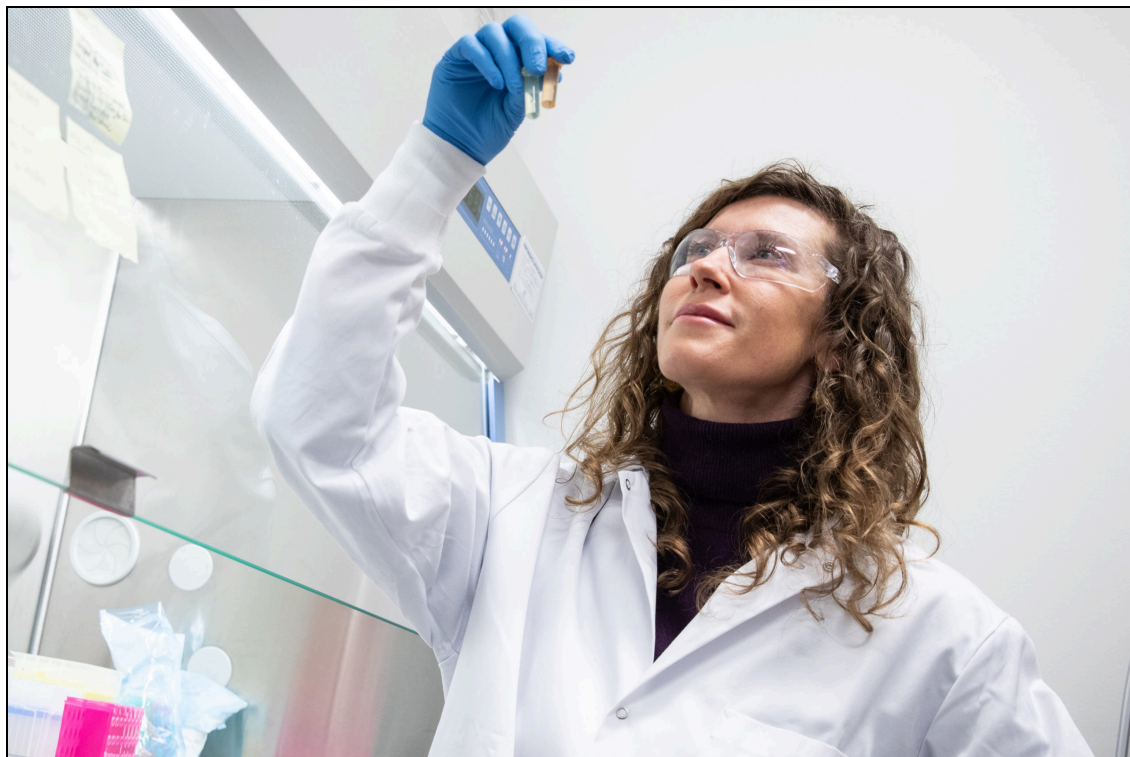
Remarkably (at least to me), our semester teaching primarily in-person on campus so far this winter has proven to be relatively “normal” – the new “normal” defined by standards of conduct, safety, respect and courtesies learned from the past year’s history of teaching on-line, masking and vaccines. I have learned that the system can work well when participants respect the rules and reasons. Students, faculty and staff have welcomed the return to campus and our daily personal contact in pursuing our mission. We have also learned that some parts of our job work quite well on-line, proving that the past two years’ enforced habits will likely produce some permanent changes in how we engage and conduct business across our jobs. Engineers certainly understand efficiency of process: our experiences now indicate that select campus tasking, teaching, and meetings will likely become virtually enabled, enduring and accepted modes of work. Academic conference travel, an important part of our dissemination mission, may more frequently be as simple as connecting remotely to the virtual conference host site via internet. No one had done the “experiment” until COVID conditions forced it.

Utah BME has excelled despite the pandemic – our students have taken research to new levels, our faculty have innovated creative approaches to effective teaching and hybrid learning modes, and our production has not slowed.

I encourage you to read our BME news items here and follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).



**David W. Grainger, Ph.D.**  
University Distinguished Professor and Chair  
Ole and Marty Jensen Endowed Chair  
Utah Biomedical Engineering



*MUCUS PREVENTS SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUSES ON SURFACES*

Mucus and saliva may prevent the spread of coronaviruses through contaminated surfaces, according to a new study lead by Dr. Jessica Kramer.

People produce different forms of mucus and salivary proteins, called mucins, depending on their unique genetics, diet and environment.

[Read More](#)



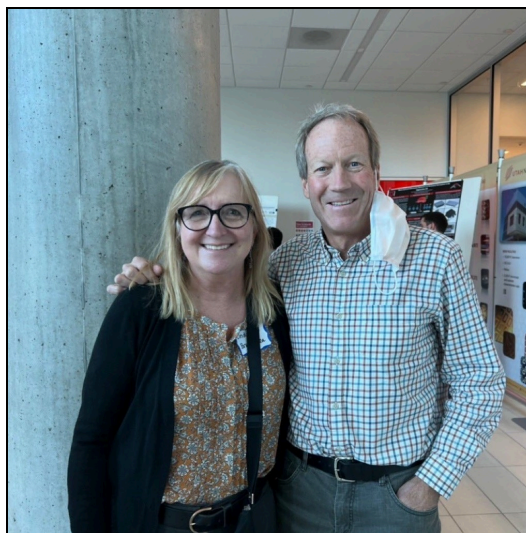
## In Memoriam

Carl Hodson Durney, a beloved University of Utah professor of electrical engineering and bioengineering who spent 34 years with the university and is known for his contributions to the dosimetry of electromagnetic fields for models of the human body and animals, died Nov. 29 in a Payson, Utah, hospital.

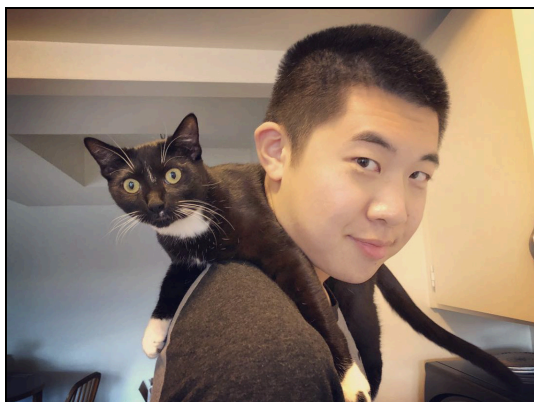
He was 90 years old. [Click here to read more.](#)

## Alumni News: Cindy Bruckner-Lea Speaks at UBEC

Dr. Cindy Bruckner-Lea, a University of Utah BME Doctoral student who received her PhD in the late 1980s is an expert in biological defense, with over 30 years of experience in biodefense and the development of chemical and biological detection systems for national security, environmental, and health



applications. She recently was a keynote speaker for 2022 UBEC. [Click here to read more.](#)



## BME Graduate Spotlight

My name is Yifan Jack Wang, and I am a BME PhD student at the U. I am an international student, a non-US citizen, and a member of the Chinese/Asian diaspora in the US. I acquired these identities only after I arrived in the US 9 years ago, and each of them presented unique challenges that shaped my journey. [Click here to read more.](#)

## BME Ph.D. student Caleb Thomson Awarded Fellowship

BME Neurological Engineering grad student Caleb Thomson received a TL1 Fellowship from the University of Utah Health Sciences Clinical and Translation Science Institute, and an internship with local neurotechnology company. [Click here to read more.](#)



## Off to Summer School!

BME graduate students Anna Busatto and Lindsay Rupp, mentored by BME faculty Dr. Rob Macleod in the Scientific Computing and Imaging Institute (SCI), were among 30 students accepted to participate in the 2022 Simula Summer School in Computational Physiology. [Click here to read more.](#)

## In Memoriam

Dr. Edward Clark was a true visionary—a visionary leader, a visionary physician, a visionary colleague, and a visionary friend. The impact he had on thousands of people in our community and on our organization locally, regionally, and nationally is a legacy that will last for generations. [Click here to read more.](#)



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