

Petition To
Theta Tau Professional
Engineering Fraternity

From

The State University of New York at
Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau



The State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York
November 2002

Theta Tau
State University of New York at Buffalo Colony

Jamey K. Vann
112-FB Hadley Village Apts.
Buffalo, NY 14261

Mr. Michael T. Abraham
Executive Director
Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity
815 Brazos, Suite 710
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mr. Abraham:

Greetings from the University at Buffalo. Our colony has been in existence for two years now, and we feel that it is time to move on in our journey. We have prepared the following petition for status as the newest chapter of Theta Tau.

On April 29, 2000, we officially became a colony of Theta Tau. Since that day we have actively been participating in community projects, professional development for our brothers, fundraising events, as well as social gatherings within our group. We have successfully completed four rush periods, and are currently involved with our largest pledge class ever. This semester we look to induct as many members as the last three pledge classes combined. We have been very active within the engineering department here at the University at Buffalo, and are gaining popularity and recognition among our fellow engineers on campus.

All of our members, pledges, and alumnus genuinely want to become involved with Theta Tau as a chapter. We have grown successfully together in brotherhood, and feel we are ready to become full fledged brothers of Theta Tau.

I now present you with the State University of New York at Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau petition to become the newest chapter of Theta Tau.

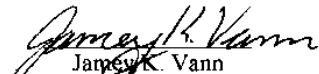
Best regards,

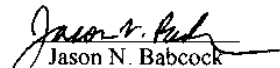
A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jamey K. Vann".

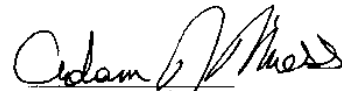
Jamey K. Vann
President
University at Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau

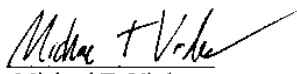
We, the members of Colony of Theta Tau at the University at Buffalo, do hereby petition the Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity for chapter status.

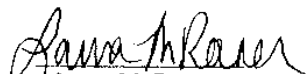
We, the undersigned, are all currently enrolled in the School of Engineering or have graduated with a degree from the University at Buffalo and have no affiliation with any organization considered to be competitive with Theta Tau.



James K. Vann
President



Jason N. Babcock
Vice President

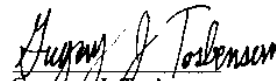

Adam J. Migg
Treasurer


Michael T. Virdone
Pledge Marshal


Laura M. Rovner
Corresponding Secretary

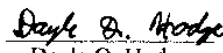

Charles J. Masca III
Founding Father

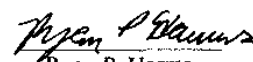

Eric D. Burns
Sergeant at Arms

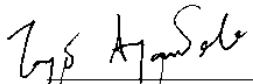

Gregory J. Forbenson
Webmaster


Daniel Kim
Brother

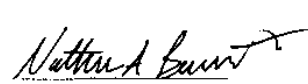

Kevin A. Dunckley
Brother

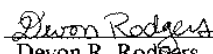

Dayle Q. Hodge
Brother

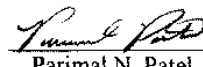

Ryan P. Harms
Brother

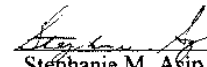

Tayo Ayandele
Brother

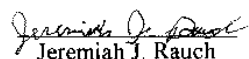

Brian J. Griffiths
Brother


Nathan A. Bennert
Brother


Devon R. Rodgers
Alumna


Parimal N. Patel
Alumnus


Stephanie M. Asp
Alumna


Jeremiah J. Rauch
Alumnus


Di Song
Alumnus

University at Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau



Name: Jamey K. Vann
Office: President
Hometown: Fulton, New York
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2004
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 2.0
Campus activities: ASME, Pep Band, Intramural Sports
Email: jkvann@eng.buffalo.edu



Name: Jason N. Babcock
Office: Vice-President
Hometown: Lockport, New York
Major: Electrical Engineering
Graduation Date: December 2002
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.3
Campus activities: ASME, IEEE, Eta Kappa Nu
Email: tentrio@yahoo.com



Name: Adam J. Meiss
Office: Treasurer
Hometown: West Seneca, New York
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2003
Degree: Dual Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 2.7
Campus activities: AIAA
Email: meiss@eng.buffalo.edu



Name: Michael T. Virdone
Office: Pledge Marshal
Hometown: Wading River, New York
Major: Electrical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2004
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.3
Campus activities: Eta Kappa Nu (Treasurer),
IEEE, Intramural Sports
Email: mvirdone@buffalo.edu



Name: Laura M. Rovner
Office: Corresponding Secretary
Hometown: Buffalo, New York
Major: Mechanical Engineering/MBA
Graduation Date: June 2004
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.3
Campus activities: ASME, NSPE (Vice President)
Email: qbee923@aol.com



Name: Charles J. Nasca III
Office: Founding Father
Hometown: Fulton, New York
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2003
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 2.6
Campus activities: ASME (President),
Intramural Sports
Email: cjasca@eng.buffalo.edu



Name: Eric D. Burns
Office: Sergeant at Arms
Hometown: Cheektowaga, New York
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Graduation Date: December 2004
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 2.4
Campus activities: ASME, Intramural Sports
University Choir
Email: xeric@juno.com



Name: Gregory J. Torbenson
Office: Webmaster
Hometown: East Amherst, New York
Major: Computer Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2005
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.5
Campus activities: UB Robotics
Email: greg@torbenson.net



Name: Daniel Kim
Office: Brother
Hometown: Syracuse, New York
Major: Chemical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2004
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.1
Campus activities: AIChE, Intramural Sports
Email: dekim@buffalo.edu



Name: Kevin A. Dunckley
Office: Brother
Hometown: Seaford, New York
Major: Electrical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2003
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 2.7
Campus activities: ASME, Intramural Sports

Email: kd7@buffalo.edu



Name: Dayle Q. Hodge
Office: Brother
Hometown: East Amherst, New York
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2005
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 2.8
Campus activities: ASME, AIAA, NSBE,
NAACP

Email: dqhodge@buffalo.edu



Name: Ryan P. Harms
Office: Brother
Hometown: North Tonawanda, New York
Major: Computer Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2005
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.38
Campus activities: Pep Band

Email: rpharms@eng.buffalo.edu



Name: Tayo Ayandele
Office: Brother
Hometown: Lagos, Nigeria
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2005
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.3
Campus activities: SAE, Intramural Sports

Email: ayandele@buffalo.edu



Name: Brian J. Griffiths
Office: Brother
Hometown: Amherst, New York
Major: Computer Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2003
Degree: Dual Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.1
Campus activities: IEEE, ACM

Email: bjg9@buffalo.edu



Name: Nathan A. Bennert
Office: Brother
Hometown: Lewiston, New York
Major: Chemical Engineering
Graduation Date: December 2004
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Current GPA: 3.4
Campus activities: AIChE

Email: nbennert@buffalo.edu

The University at Buffalo Colony Advisor



Dr. Kemper Lewis is not only the University at Buffalo's advisor, but also a fully initiated honorary member of our colony. He has fulfilled his pledging requirements and has passed all national exams put before him.

Dr. Lewis received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering along with a B.A. in Mathematics from Duke University. He received his Ph.D. and Masters Degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

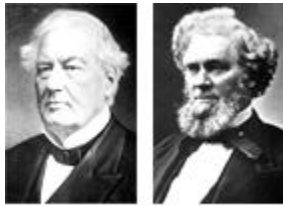
Dr. Lewis is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the University at Buffalo. His research area is large-scale systems design, decision theory, collaborative design, and game theory. He is also Director of the Design of Open Engineering Systems Laboratory, and is Director for Education and Training in the New York State Center for Engineering Design and Industrial Innovation (NYSCEDII). His teaching interests include design methods, design theory, mechanism design, optimization, and systems engineering.

History of the University at Buffalo

The University at Buffalo is the great flourishing of a seed planted more than 150 years ago by farseeing citizens of the nineteenth century. Its original seven faculty members and sixty-seven students in one department today number 2,000 faculty and 25,000 students, expanding the limits of knowledge and achievement in more than eighty departments.

The University began in a few lecture rooms in 1846. It was a private institution for one hundred sixteen years before it accepted a public role. What had already grown into a fine regional university soon became a research-intensive institution of national stature. This private-public heritage endows the University at Buffalo with a special character: great independence of spirit in the service of the people of New York and the nation.

1846-1885



Millard Fillmore

James Platt White

The University of Buffalo is granted a charter by the New York State Legislature on May 11, 1846; its first lectures take place in a renovated church building. Buffalo has a population of 30,000 and is growing rapidly. The effort to found the university is led by civic leaders, including Millard Fillmore, who would be its first chancellor, and three young physicians - James Platt White, Austin Flint, and Frank Hastings Hamilton - all of whom would leave their marks on American medicine in the nineteenth century. For the next forty years, the medical department is the university's only academic unit. It graduates its first woman physician in 1876 and its first African American in 1880. In 1883, Roswell Park is recruited to Buffalo from the faculty of Rush Memorial Medical College in Chicago. Park is already one of the nation's best-known surgeons; he adds considerable luster to an already fine medical faculty.

1886-1908

The University of Buffalo grows in response to the need for education in fields that are becoming professionalized and regulated, adding a pharmacy school in 1886, a law school in 1891, and a dental school in 1892. By this time, Buffalo is a busy city of 250,000 inhabitants. In 1893, the medical department moves to a spacious new building on High Street, near the Buffalo General Hospital, where it would remain for the next sixty years. In 1898, Roswell Park establishes the first laboratory in the world devoted exclusively to the study of cancer; it would eventually become the Roswell Park Cancer Institute. The university organizes a school of pedagogy to give instruction in the arts and sciences, but the effort is short-lived.



Dental School Infirmary, circa 1893

1909-1919

The Erie County Board of Supervisors deeds 106 acres at the intersection of Main Street and Bailey Avenue in the northeast corner of Buffalo to the University of Buffalo, contingent on the university's improvement of the property within ten years. The land is the site of the Erie County Almshouse, which will eventually be renovated into Hayes Hall (whose bell tower remains the most prominent landmark on what is now the university's South Campus). A reformation of national standards for admission to medical education, which requires at least one year of general post-secondary education, prompts



the university to offer arts and sciences courses beginning in 1913. The courses are taught in Townsend Hall in downtown Buffalo; the first graduates of a full four-year course of baccalaureate study receive their degrees in 1919. With this addition of the arts and sciences, the modern university is born.

1920-1939

Groundbreaking takes place in 1920 for the first university building on its new campus. Two years later, Foster Hall is dedicated. Meanwhile, the university is renovating the existing structures into classrooms and laboratories. Samuel Capen, a prominent educator who has served in Woodrow Wilson's administration, arrives in 1922 as the University of Buffalo's first full-time chancellor. In this period the university adds a number of divisions: evening sessions (later named Millard Fillmore College) in 1923, business administration (later the School of Management) in 1927, education in 1931, social work in 1935, and a graduate school to confer graduate degrees in the arts and sciences in 1939. The university is the beneficiary of two tremendous Buffalo fund drives, the first in 1920 and the second in 1929. Some university departments gain national prominence.



Foster Hall, 1923

1940-1962

During World War II, all medical students are inducted into the armed forces and drill each morning before classes. Civilian enrollment in the university drops 50 percent but is replaced by government-subsidized war training programs. After the war, full-time enrollment more than doubled to 13,000. The university installs its medical school in new quarters on the Main Street Campus in 1953 and then builds its first dormitories. In 1958, UB has the best small-college football team in the East. When the trustees of the young State University of New York adopt a plan to create four university campuses, one in Western New York, the University of Buffalo negotiates a merger with the state system for the benefit of both institutions. On September 1, 1962, the State University of New York at Buffalo takes up its public mandate.



Soldier-students at the medical school, circa 1943

1963-2002

Both enrollment and faculty at the University at Buffalo grow rapidly; by 1964, there are 12,000 applications for 2,300 places in the freshman class. That year the university announces that it will build a new campus in Amherst, three miles away from its Main Street location. Construction for what will eventually be called the North Campus begins in 1970, and the first buildings on the new campus open in 1973.



North Campus under construction, 1972



Natural Sciences and Mathematics Building, 1995

By the mid-1980s, most of the non-health sciences departments have moved to the North Campus; the Main Street (now South) Campus begins renovation as a health-sciences center. In 1989, the University at Buffalo, with its many programs of national distinction, is elected to membership in the Association of American Universities, signifying its arrival in the first ranks of research-intensive universities.

As the world continued into a new millennium so did the University at Buffalo, looking to continue its role as a top notch research institute the university decided to investigate the possibility of a high performance research computing facility. In January 1999 the Center for Computational Research (CCR) was created. In 2002 an upgrade to the computing hardware in the CCR placed the University at Buffalo at #6 computing power in the world while attaining the rank of the #1 academic computing power.

History of University at Buffalo's College of Engineering

1921-1945

In 1921, The University at Buffalo added an engineering curriculum to its growing list of degrees. In 1923 Chancellor Samuel Capen declared, "The University cannot long delay the establishment of courses which will meet in a large way the demands of its industrial environment. These courses may be comprehended under the general term 'engineering'...Buffalo with its unrivaled, location especially for work in industrial chemistry, will some day see [In] this frontier the seat of a great engineering school." By 1929, this degree of mathematics, hard science and engineering specific courses was even in the night school. The program changed again in 1941 and 1942 as it was reshaped to the Engineering Science, Management and Defense Training program. This program had a very high enrollment during the war years peaking at 3139 in 1942-1943. In 1945 ground was broken on the construction of Parker Hall. This South Campus building was the first building to be specifically for engineering.

1946-1958

In 1946, the Department of Engineering separated from the College of Arts and Sciences to form the separately administrated School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. On October 3 1946, Parker Hall was dedicated and the school began operations. In 1947 the New York State Education Department approved degrees in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. Nearly immediately it was apparent that enrollment was greatly exceeding expectations and thus in 1948 Parker Hall more then doubled in size. In 1949, The Departments of Mechanical, Industrial, Electrical and Drawing, Mechanics and Design were established. Mechanics and Design Department's duties were gradually absorbed into the other departments and it was dissolved in 1963.

1958-1966

In 1958, a later President of the University, Robert L Ketter headed the forming of the Department of Civil Engineering. In 1961 the Department of Chemical Engineering was established. Also in 1961 the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies and Research was formed with Doctor Irving H. Shames as its head. This division served as the successor to the dispatched Drawing, Mechanics and Design Department. In 1962, the University as a whole merged with the State University of New York system to become the fourth graduate center and largest school of the system. Soon following the merger the school began to receive ABET accreditation for its programs. Civil Engineering Department received accreditation in 1963, then Mechanical in 1964, followed by Aerospace and Electrical in 1965 and finally Chemical and Industrial in 1966.

1966-1983

A master's degree in Nuclear Engineering was added in 1968 complimenting the Universities reactor. It was also during this period that it became readily apparent that the growing School of Engineering was outgrowing Parker Hall and thus the expansion on to the temporary Ridge Lee Campus began in 1966. In 1970 the construction of the eventual

permanent home for the school began at the Amherst Campus. In 1979 the 10 story high Furnas Hall was opened. By 1983 Bonner Hall the final building in the engineering complex was completed. Next Computer Engineering was added as an option to Electrical Engineering.

1983-2002

In 1986, UB School of Engineering and Applied Sciences was chosen as the National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research and was given a 25 million dollar grant from the National Science Foundation. Through this entire period the Engineering clubs began to emerge as a force, with UB Society of Automotive Engineers fielding Mini-Baja, Supermilage, Clean Snowmobile, and Formula cars. UB American Society of Mechanical Engineers began entering the Human Powered Vehicle Competition. The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics enters micro-gravity experiments, an airplane and Mars Colony projects. UB American Society of Civil Engineers was also heavily involved entering the Steel Bridge, Concrete Canoe. In addition the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers annually enters the Sumo Robotics competition. In 1998 the Computer Engineering degree separated from Electrical Engineering to merge with the Department of Computer Science creating a new department housed under both the School of Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences. The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences was given yet another grant from the National Science Foundation to put towards more equipment and a new facility for the National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research.

University at Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau History

1999 – Gamma Delta Epsilon ($\Gamma\Delta E$) was founded as a local fraternity in the presence of Michael Abraham at the University of Buffalo on April 21, 1999. At this time the fraternity consisted of a small, but dedicated, group of students who have developed $\Gamma\Delta E$ into a permanent club (We became a permanent on campus organization on February 23, 2000).

In our first year as a local fraternity we participated in Habitat for Humanity as an Off-Campus community service project. In order to better serve the engineering department we assisted them with tours during open house. We also started a Rube Goldberg machine project. $\Gamma\Delta E$ continued to grow and develop as the year progressed. We had two pledges that decided to join the local fraternity. While only one remained, he formed a strong bond with the members.

2000 – Gamma Delta Epsilon continued to grow and develop as the year progressed. We both hosted and visited chapters of Theta Tau and in doing so acquired information that was useful in growing as a colony. In this year we also started an academic database and a textbook lending program for the younger members.

On April 29, 2000 Gamma Delta Epsilon officially became the University at Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau. We were honored to have Tau and Gamma Beta Chapters, as well as former Grand Regents, Lee C. Haas and Dean W. Bettinger. The colony held its first meeting on September 6, 2000. During the fall of 2000 we had a successful rush and pledge class. The colony not only attended the Atlantic Regionals at Omega Beta chapter, but some members had the pleasure of joining the Detroit chapters for a formal dance in honor of Founder's Day on October 13, 2000.

The colony continued with the Rube Goldberg project and competed in the spring of 2000 at Omega Beta chapter. In addition to our participation in rube we assisted in planning Engineer's Week and the 2nd Annual Engineer's Ball with a number of other engineering clubs such as AIAA, SAE, ASME, and the Engineering Student Association. The colony continued the programs started as a local fraternity. We continued to visit chapters and gain a larger network of friends within the fraternity.

2001 – In 2001 our colony gained a few new members through two more pledge classes. Though they were small, the members initiated from them proved to be very motivated. The colony was beginning to move away from the small group of friends that started the club and broaden into an organization of beneficial members. The usual campus activities of helping the Engineering Department were done this year as well.

2002 – The University at Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau had a great year in 2002. With pledge classes of 9 and 8 in the spring and fall respectively we have shown that there is a definite interest for membership amongst the engineering community here at the University of Buffalo. We had two representatives at the national conference in Fort Lauderdale Florida, where they learned how to help the colony grow. We continued to bond with chapters as we visited Gamma Beta in the spring and Tau in the fall, we also had a very strong showing at both Regionals Conferences. In the spring we had 5

members and 4 pledges attend the conference at Pi chapter, while in the fall we had 11 members and 2 pledges in attendance at the conference at Upsilon Beta chapter. In September we had the privilege to host Dean W. Bettinger for our official visit.

As our membership has grown so has our organization and determination. We have become more streamlined in our processes. The formation of committees under the regent has allowed us to focus our efforts on areas such as professional development, community service, fundraising, construction, rush and publicity, and social events.



TUSHAR SHAH – GAMMA BETA 657

25 CANAL STREET
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06052

April 1, 2002

Mr. Michael T. Abraham
Executive Director
Theta Tau Fraternity
655 Craig Road, Suite 128
St. Louis, MO 63141-7168

Dear Brother Abraham,

I feel it my duty to convey my strong support for the petition of the Colony at The State University of New York at Buffalo for installation as a Chapter of Theta Tau. I believe the Colony Brothers have shown the qualities of brotherhood and the organizational abilities necessary to thrive as a Chapter of Theta Tau and would be proud to refer to them as brothers.

Throughout my interactions with the Colony Brothers, they have demonstrated a high level of brotherhood within their group. I have also seen this brotherhood on display during multiple visits to Washington D.C. and the interactions with the brothers and alumni of Gamma Beta Chapter.

During my time with Gamma Beta Chapter, and during a subsequent visit to the chapter, I have observed excellent organizational skills among the Colony Brothers, and a strong dedication towards attaining their goals especially attaining chapter status within Theta Tau. Over the past few years, I have seen them flourish from a small local fraternity petitioning for colony status to a large group that has re-established the Engineering Student Association at SUNY Buffalo, organized and Engineers Week Celebration, and become active in visiting and interacting with chapters throughout the Atlantic Region, as well as planning a successful Engineers Ball, and inviting several local chapter brothers to attend. I cherish the interactions I have had with the Colony Brothers, and I feel that any member of Theta Tau would benefit from those same interactions.

I believe the qualities of brotherhood exhibited by the members of the Colony at The State University of New York at Buffalo are consistent with those sought among members of Theta Tau, and will stand them in good stead if installed as a Chapter of Theta Tau. I commend their efforts, and wish them the best in their endeavors. Respectfully submitted,

In H&T,

Tushar G. Shah, GB #657
Alumnus and Former Regent



University at Buffalo
State University of New York

School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

October 27, 2002

Michael T. Abraham
Executive Director
815 Brazos, Suite 710
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Abraham,

I am writing with regard to the establishment of the University at Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau as a National Chapter. I am very pleased to recommend the establishment of a Chapter at the University at Buffalo. As a Colony this organization has conducted themselves in an enthusiastic, dedicated, hardworking, and professional manner. The members of the Colony have assisted the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences in a variety of ways. They have voluntarily assisted at our Open House events, Commencement ceremonies, and Engineering Opening Day activities, among others.

The University at Buffalo Colony of Theta Tau has been a positive benefit to students, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and the University at Buffalo. I am in full support of their establishment as a National Chapter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Ryan
Professor and Associate Dean



University at Buffalo
State University of New York

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Michael T. Abraham
Executive Director
815 Brazos, Suite 710
Austin, TX 78701

November 4, 2002

Dear Mr. Abraham,

It is with great pleasure that I recommend our section of Theta Tau to become a chapter. I have seen effective growth, service, and dedication in the members and they have certainly proven themselves to be contributing members of not only the school of engineering, but also the University at Buffalo community and the city of Buffalo.

They have grown from a very small membership to a group with over 20 members and 5 alumni. They are involved in many service activities around the school of engineering and university. Each year they help with the university wide events, UB's Open House and Preview Day. They have also helped with Engineering Opening Day, a very effective outreach to incoming freshmen and the local community, and with various university functions at Alumni Arena. They are consistently involved with Student Association activities such as "Love Your Student Association Day" and many others. They are a huge supporter of E-week, a week long celebration of the field of Engineering, which includes daily events, demonstrations, and outreach presentations. The members also attend the annual Engineer's Ball, a large social event that allows our busy engineering students to enjoy a night with their friends outside their studies.

I am thrilled to support our Theta Tau group as a faculty member and as their faculty advisor. They have a very high standing in our school of engineering and have proven to be a very effective group of scholars with a mission of academic excellence and service. I look forward to future collaborations with them.

If you need any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kemper Lewis'.

Kemper Lewis, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
1010 Furnas Hall
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Buffalo, NY 14260
(716) 645-2593 x2232
kelewis@eng.buffalo.edu
