



Professional Doctorate in Engineering (PDEng)

THE INNOVATION DEGREE

PDEng Graduation Ceremony

By Mahsa Haji Vandi

On April 4, 2013, the Delft Product & Process Design Institute had the pleasure to congratulate 9 young professionals with obtaining their Professional Doctorate in Engineering (PDEng) degree. During the joint Graduation Ceremony, the combined achievements of the PDEng graduates of the following PDEng programmes were celebrated:

Process and Equipment Design

Bhaskar Patil PDEng

Design Project at TU Delft – Product & Process Engineering
Project supervisor: Dr.ir. J.R. van Ommen
TU Delft supervisors: Ir. P.L.J. Swinkels, Ir. Drs. G. Bierman PDEng

BioProcess Engineering

Giacomo Cerfeda PDEng

Design Project at AVEBE
AVEBE supervisors: Dr.ir. M. Giuseppin, R. Velasco MSc. PDEng
TU Delft supervisors: Prof. Dr. M. Ottens, Ir. J.F. Jacobs, Ir. P.L.J. Swinkels

Ramona Ursache PDEng

Design Project at RIVM - InTraVacc
InTraVacc supervisors: Dr. W.A.M. Bakker, Ir. Y.E. Thomassen
TU Delft supervisors: Dr. Ir. P.J.T. Verheijen, Prof. dr. Ir. J.J. Heijnen, Prof. W. van Gulik

Maria Del Mar Palmeros Parada PDEng

Design Project at Malaysian Oil Palm Biomass Center
Supervisors: Prof.dr.ir. L.A.M. van der Wielen, Ir. J.F. Jacobs

Susana Pedraza de la Cuesta PDEng

Design Project at BE-BASIC
BE-BASIC supervisor: Prof.dr.ir. L.A.M. van der Wielen
TU Delft supervisor: Dr. M.C. Cuellar Solares

Pedro Nuno Riachos Duarte Pessoa PDEng

Design Project at Heineken
Heineken supervisors: Dr. H. Bloemen, Ir. H. van den Bergh
TU Delft supervisors: Dr.ir. A.J.J. Straathof, Ir. Drs. G. Bierman PDEng

Zenaide Ramos Santos PDEng

Design Project at CTBE – Brazilian Bioethanol Science
BIRD Engineering supervisor: Ir. M. Lankveld
TU Delft supervisors: Prof.dr.ir. L.A.M. van der Wielen, Ir. J.F. Jacobs

BioProduct Design

Ioanna Stavarakaki PDEng

Design Project at to-BBB
to-BBB supervisors: S. Zeilemaker, P. Gaillard, B. Brunnhuber
TU Delft supervisors: Drs. J.A. Kiers, Prof. P. Verhaert

Basilios Sideris PDEng

Design Project at DiagnOptics
DiagnOptics supervisor: B. van den Berg
TU Delft supervisors: Prof. dr. ir. K. van het Riet, Drs. J.A. Kiers

Chairman of the ceremony: Prof.dr.ir. L.A.M. van der Wielen

Ceremony lecture: “Facing the Challenges ahead – Why we need Engineers” by Dr. R. Geertman, Principal Scientist Particle Technology – DSM Chemtech Centre



Ioanna Stavarakaki

Currently Project Manager at to-BBB

As a recent graduate of the PDEng programme BioProduct Design at TUDelft, I can share some thoughts and experiences of my two years in this program. My background is related to Pharmacy and Nutrition and before applying for the PDEng programme, I had realized that I would like to work at the pharmaceutical industry. The idea of continuing my studies and combining it with projects from the industry sounded fascinating to me and this is why I decided to apply for this programme. During the first year of the programme, I had the opportunity to learn about important aspects of the industrial

world, like economics, patents, project management and business. Moreover, I got introduced to the pharma/biotech landscape of the Netherlands, by following courses in my field where numerous people from the industry were participating or lecturing. During the two years of the PDEng programme I also had the chance to perform two projects for two different companies. I regard these two projects as the peak of this programme. In these projects I needed to combine academic knowledge with real life time situations and this was a great lesson for me. By working for these companies I could envisage how my future could look like and I could realize which positions in a company could fit best my interests and skills. The short term result of this valuable experience was a nice position in one of these companies, a challenging and fascinating working experience. The long term results will be realized in the years to come. I would definitely recommend the PDEng programme to people who dream of combining knowledge with real life situations and would like to see themselves in a challenging position in the industry.



Bhaskar Patil

Currently PhD candidate at TU Eindhoven

My mentor and PDEng alumni, Vishwanath Dalvi introduced me to PDEng programme when I was about to complete my graduate studies. Somehow none of the opportunities at hand could grab my attention than PDEng programme. Because PDEng programme had to offer “something” which I was looking for. After going through PDEng programme brochures and interacting with number of PDEng alumni, I became very much fascinated and my journey toward PDEng programme started.

During these 2 years of PDEng programme, I have enriched myself with many new experiences. In the first year of PDEng I had freedom to design my own study plan, in which I took numerous advanced courses offered by OSPT and universities to broaden and deepen my technical knowledge as well as

management skills. Beside coursework, I also worked on group assignments in industrial environment with real time deliverables and deadlines which gave experience of working in an international team. During my second year project, I was working on challenging project of conceptually designing a non-conventional chemical plant involving production of coated nanoparticles. Tangible deliverables of the project and opportunity to work in close collaboration with research team helped me to develop critical and creative approach toward the task at hand and regular feedback from my design coach, introduced me to Dutch approach toward work.

PDEng programme gave me an experience of handling a project independently, approach/attitude to solve the given problems and that “something”, which I was looking for. Now, I can clearly see the transformation which PDEng brought in me.

I will say, PDEng is a valuable investment in oneself and helps in deciding whether you want to go for academic or industrial career; without losing time and being paid like a regular employee. Nonetheless, openness and eagerness to learn is the key to get maximum out of PDEng programme.



Susana Pedraza De La Cuesta

Currently PhD candidate at TU Delft

I found the PDEng programme in Bioprocess design via its website while I was looking for a job in The Netherlands. When I checked the

structure of the programme and the courses that were offered, I thought this was a very

good opportunity to integrate my knowledge in chemical engineering and biotechnology and to develop my career as bioprocess designer.

The courses that I have followed and particularly the group and individual design projects, gave me a practical perspective which I did not have before. After finishing the programme I learnt how to apply the knowledge I had acquired in the university to real industrial problems and I gained self-confidence in my abilities as an engineer.

The aspect that I appreciated the most about the program is the strong teamwork environment. All the assignments and projects require a very close collaboration with the other PDEng trainees. Since all of us come from different cultures and have diverse backgrounds, sometimes this is quite a big challenge. However, It is also a good opportunity to learn from people who think in a different way.

These two years have passed very fast. Initially I found the program was rather hard in the sense that my agenda was sometimes overloaded with too many different activities. I was able to improve my time management skills though and this made life easier. Getting to know the other PDEng trainees, going out with them, organizing trips, enjoying international food, definitely made my life more than easier.

Summarizing, I would recommend the PDEng programme as a way to improve your professional and personal skills while enjoying a very friendly and open-minded working environment.

The PDEng traineeship programmes have shown to be effective in different settings. There is a rising demand from as well the industries as trainees for PDEng programmes in more areas related to technological design.

The PDEng traineeships offered are fulltime, salaried, take two years, and are the bridge from academy to the industry.

For more information about the TU Delft PDEng programmes please visit:

www.pdeng.tudelft.nl

www.facebook.com/DPPDI