

## Capstone Mission Statement

### The University of Maine Mechanical Engineering

The UMaine Mechanical Engineering curriculum emphasizes a foundation in engineering science. Mechanics and thermal-fluid sciences provide graduates with the background required for a long technical career or for graduate studies in engineering. While many applied technical skills will be obsolete within a short period of time, the foundation of engineering mechanics and thermal fluid sciences will allow graduates to contribute in basic and applied fields for many decades.

In order to provide UMaine mechanical engineering students with job ready skills required of a new engineering graduate the mechanical engineering capstone class emphasizes the application of engineering science to a real world problem. The capstone is not a shop class and is not simply a class where students create inventions. The capstone projects are selected to reinforce the core engineering science of mechanical engineering while requiring the students to put their concepts into practice. None of the projects could be completed without the prior three years of demanding engineering education. Putting ideas into practice also requires that the students develop a respect and understanding of the technical skills required for product realization. Graduates will encounter a wide range of technical trades and professional colleagues during their technical careers and appreciation of the value of teamwork is fundamental to the outcomes of the class.