

EUROTECH

An International Program
in Engineering

NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE:

*To Incoming Students:
About Your Future*

*The EUROTECH
Curriculum*

*Students' Report on
Various Activities*

*About Our German
Teaching Assistants*

*EUROTECH Module
Series*

*State-of-the-Art Lan-
guage Lab*

*Thanks to Supporting
Firms and Individuals*

*What Others Are Saying
About EUROTECH*



*News and Information About
the Dual-Degree Program in
German and Engineering at
the University of Connecticut*

Thinking About Your Future ...

by M. Regina Kecht

Professor of German

Co-Director, EUROTECH

When high school juniors start thinking of college and toying with the idea of engineering, they may not realize what a great asset it is for any engineer or scientist to know a foreign language. They may not be sure what kind of engineer they actually want to become—a civil, mechanical, chemical, electrical, or environmental engineer. And they may not have enjoyed foreign languages in high school.

When freshmen come to college, they are frequently overwhelmed with all the new tasks and assignments. It certainly is a challenge to adjust to a completely new environment, take up four courses, learn how to study properly, and make it through the first year successfully.

Quite often students concentrate so much on their short-range goals that they completely forget about the larger picture and don't see how a carefully planned course of study is necessary for a fulfilling and exciting career.

We want you to see the larger picture. We want you to stop for a moment and see why knowing a foreign language will give you more than a competitive edge when you graduate.

Of course, there is the fun of learning more about another culture, making trips to foreign lands, being able to talk another language and therefore making new friends. But integrating a foreign language into your professional training will allow you, above everything else, to explore how engineering is done overseas and then transfer your knowledge to your workplace in the US.

International engineering programs usually incorporate an internship abroad, which allows you to become fluent in the foreign language, acquire critical job training and familiarize yourself with problem-solving strategies foreign companies have devised for the workplace.

All of a sudden, you bring qualities to your future employer that only few

can rival: high motivation and perseverance because you kept your eyes on the prize; flexibility, as attested by your stay abroad; cross-cultural awareness and communicative competence that you developed through your studies and your international training; self-reliance and creativity that evolved as you took up the challenge of practicing engineering far away from home.

And furthermore, you are now able to apply your foreign language skills in correspondence, phone calls, business negotiations, etc., and you enjoy being sent on missions overseas.

International engineering programs like EUROTECH emphasize collaboration between the university and industry in order to provide excellence in education. You can receive a pragmatic international education preparing you for the global economy of the 21st century; and American business can hire young engineers who draw on solid academic as well as practical training, and who bring communicative abilities, foreign language skills, and intercultural awareness to the workplace.

So, as you start thinking about your future, realize that knowing a foreign language will open many, many doors for you!



About Your Course of Study In the Program

by Richard P. Long

Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Co-Director of EUROTECH

American industry has quickly learned that their products must be able to compete internationally if their business is to survive. As a result, engineers who design and manufacture these products must be aware of the needs of other cultures.

EUROTECH is an undergraduate engineering program that prepares students for engineering in this global marketplace. A good way to learn about another culture is to study the people's language. We selected German as the language for this program, because the ties between firms in Connecticut and Germany outnumber by far those of any other country, and firms in Germany are adept at providing engineering students with practical experience.

This program provides the student with two degrees in five years of study. EUROTECH has the following features:

- Engineering course work leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering;
- German course work leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree in German; and
- A six month engineering internship with a firm in Germany.

The EUROTECH Program is open to students in each of the undergraduate engineering programs at UConn: Chemical, Civil, Computer Science, Electrical and Systems and Mechanical Engineering. Students electing EUROTECH receive the same high quality engineering education that UConn has always provided, i.e., programs accredited by the Accrediting Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

The study of German in this program includes courses in literature and culture, as in the study of any foreign language. In addition, some of the German classes are reserved for engineering students in which they learn technical German.

Several engineering professors at UCONN are sufficiently fluent in German to conduct recitation sections of engineering courses in the language. Thus students have an opportunity to discuss engineering principles in both languages. In addition, German-speaking scientists and engineers from Connecticut industry give lectures in two German language courses dealing with science and technology.

Internships in Germany are an integral part of the program and give the students incentive to pursue their German studies. Our goal is to have our students receive the same type of industrial experience as their German counterparts.

Since practical experience is important to the engineer, we hope to develop additional opportunities of industrial employment for the students during two summers before they go to Germany. The student finishing this program will be a valuable asset to companies with an international focus. ■

Student Spotlight: Brian Schwegler

— see page 4 for English version —

Grüße aus Deutschland!

Ich heiße Brian Schwegler. Ich bin jetzt für ein Jahr in Deutschland im Rahmen meines Studiums im EUROTECH Programm. Es ist mein fünftes und letztes Studienjahr. Hier mache ich meine not-

wendigen Kurse fertig für mein BS Diplom in Chemieingenieurwesen und mein BA Diplom in Deutsch. Letzten Sommer war ich drei Monate in Köln als Teilnehmer des Bayer Summer Internship Program. Ich bin zur Zeit in Konstanz als Student

cont'd on next page

innerhalb des Austauschprogramms zwischen dem Connecticut Department of Higher Education und dem Land Baden-Württemberg.

Die Arbeit bei der Bayer AG in Leverkusen diesen Sommer hat mir eine Gelegenheit gegeben, Arbeits- erfahrung bei einer deutschen Firma zu sammeln. Dieses Programm begann mit einem einmonatigen Sprachkurs bei der Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft in Köln. Die nächsten zwei Monate habe ich in einem Chemieforschungslabor mitten in einer Firma mit 30.000 Arbeitnehmern

gearbeitet. Als Sommerwerkstudent hatte ich die Gelegenheit, eine "Rundfahrt" durch diese große Firma zu machen; ich konnte so viele der Verfahrenstechniken, die ich an der Uni in Connecticut vorher studiert habe, sehen. Im Labor konnte ich lernen, wie Forschungsprozesse ablaufen, und meinen Chemiewortschatz in Deutsch verbessern. Ich habe in einem Labor für organische Synthese gearbeitet, das neue Medikamente erforscht. Ich glaube, daß diese Arbeitserfahrung Vorteile für einen Mitarbeiter einer deutschen Chemiefirma in Amerika darstellt.

Als Teilnehmer des Baden-Württemberg Austauschprogramms studiere ich an der Universität Konstanz. Dieses Programm beginnt ebenfalls mit einem vierwöchigen

Sprachkurs; diesmal in Heidelberg. Konstanz liegt am Bodensee, im äußersten Süden von Baden-Württemberg. Ich kann innerhalb von fünf Minuten zum Rhein, zum Bodensee, oder in die Schweiz spazieren. Ich nehme an Kursen in Chemie, Wirt-



Brian Schwegler in the Lab at Bayer Corporation in Leverkusen, Germany

schaftswissenschaft, Informatik und deutscher Literatur teil, sie sind natürlich alle auf deutsch. Hier kann ich das amerikanische und das deutsche Ausbildungssystem, die Kultur, und die Lebensgewohnheiten vergleichen.

Diese Arbeit und das Studium im Ausland haben mir viele Erfahrungen gebracht, die ich nie vergessen werde. Es gibt auch viele Herausforderungen. Ich habe Reisen durch Deutschland und seine Nachbarländer gemacht, viele nette Leute aus aller Welt kennengelernt, ein bißchen Geld verdient, Arbeitserfahrung gesammelt, und habe kulturelles Verständnis bekommen, was einen lebenslangen Eindruck hinterlassen wird.

English version next column

Hello from Germany!

My name is Brian Schwegler. I am in Germany for my fifth and final year of the University of Connecticut's EUROTECH Program. Here I will complete the courses necessary for my BS degree in Chemical Engineering and a BA degree in German. This past summer I was in Cologne for three months participating in the Bayer Summer Internship Program. I am currently in Constance on the Connecticut Department of Higher Education Baden-Württemberg exchange program.

Working this summer at Bayer AG in Leverkusen was a great opportunity to get industrial experience in a German firm. This program started with a one-month intensive language course at the Carl Duisburg Society in Cologne. I spent the following two months working in a chemistry research laboratory in the heart of a 30,000 employee chemical industry. As a summer intern I had an opportunity to take a tour of the industrial park and see many of the working processes that I had learned about in my chemical engineering studies at UConn.

In the lab I was able to learn how the research process functions and to sharpen my German technical vocabulary relating to chemistry. Our lab concentrated on organic synthesis of new medicines. I believe that having this experience will be an advantage in the future working for a German company.

In the Baden-Württemberg exchange program I am studying at the University of Constance. This program started with a one-month intensive language course in Heidelberg. Constance is in the southernmost part of Baden-Württemberg. I can easily walk to the Rhine river, lake Constance, or the border of Switzerland. I am taking

classes in chemistry, economics, computer science, and German literature. They are all in German of course. Being surrounded by German is the fastest way to improve one's German comprehension. Here I can also see the differences and similarities in the German and American educational systems, cultural standards, and ways of life.

Working and studying abroad has been filled with experiences that I will never forget. It has also been filled with challenges to be overcome. I have met many people from other lands, traveled through most of Germany and its bordering countries, earned some money, work experience, and gained a cultural understanding which will last a lifetime.

Brian Boulanger and Laura Harris tell how they used their summer

English version in right hand column

Im August 1996 belegten wir "internationale Sommerkurse" an der Albert-Ludwigs-Universität in Freiburg im Breisgau. Dieser einmonatige Kultur- und Sprachkurs machte uns Riesenspaß. Die Kurse waren sehr interessant, die Lehrer sehr gut, die Mitstudenten sehr freundlich und das Erlebnis wunderbar.

Wir glauben, daß man Deutsch in Deutschland am besten lernen kann, weil man jeden Tag mit Deutschen sprechen kann und muß. Wir lernten auch viele Studenten aus verschiedenen Ländern kennen.

Es waren Studenten aus Italien, Spanien, Ungarn, Norwegen, Schweden, Polen, Frankreich, der Schweiz, England, Kanada, Japan,

Korea und anderen Ländern. Es war besonders interessant, denn viele Leute konnten kein Englisch. Das hieß, wir mußten auf deutsch reden, um Bekanntschaften zu schließen.

Wir lernten die deutsche Kultur dadurch, daß wir wöchentliche Ausflüge gemacht haben. Der Aufenthalt



Michelle, Laura and Brian enjoy sightseeing and language training in Germany

machte uns total viel Spaß, und wir empfehlen anderen gerne das Programm.

During the month of August 1996 we took part in international summer courses at the Albert-Ludwigs-University in Freiburg in Breisgau. These month-long courses in culture and language were great fun. Not only were the courses interesting, but the other students very friendly and the whole experience was wonderful. We now believe that the best way for one to learn German is to be in Germany, where you can and have to speak with Germans every day. We met students from many different countries. Participants were from Italy, Spain, Hungary, Norway, Sweden, Poland, France, Switzerland, England, Canada, Japan, Korea, and other countries as well. It was especially interesting since many of them couldn't speak English. That meant we *had* to speak German to make acquaintances.

Every week the group made excursions; through these trips we learned about the German culture.

The entire stay was really fun. We heartily recommend the program to others.

German Exchange Students Assist EUROTECH Students

Each year EUROTECH employs two German exchange students to enhance the program. We carefully choose students studying fields of science so that they can use their know-how to directly benefit our students. This year we are pleased to welcome Martin Geis, a student of *Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen*, and Norbert Preis, who studies computer science.

So wichtig ist ein Doppelstudium

VON MARTIN GEIS

In Deutschland habe ich Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen an der Universität Karlsruhe studiert. Dieses Studienfach hat etwas sehr Grundlegendes mit EUROTECH gemeinsam: den Gedanken, zwei verschiedene Studienfächer zu verbinden.

In EUROTECH ist die Zusatzqualifikation die deutsche Sprache, im Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen ist es das um-

fassende Verständnis von den Anforderungen im Geschäftsleben und der Volkswirtschaft.

Im Wettbewerb um einen guten Arbeitsplatz sind Zusatzqualifikationen heute wichtiger als je zuvor, und sie werden in Zukunft sogar noch an Bedeutung gewinnen.

Ein Doppelstudium macht das Studium zu einer sehr interessanten Herausforderung.

Zwei Studienfächer führen

zu fächerübergreifendem Denken und stellen eine solide Basis für den Start in eine erfolgreiche Berufslaufbahn dar.

Man eignet sich die Fähigkeit an, sehr verschiedene Aufgaben bewältigen zu können und erhält das Handwerkszeug um den Anforderungen kontinuierlichen Lernens im Leben erfolgreich zu begegnen.

The Importance Of Dual-Degree

BY MARTIN GEIS

In Germany I have been studying business administration within engineering at the Universität Karlsruhe.

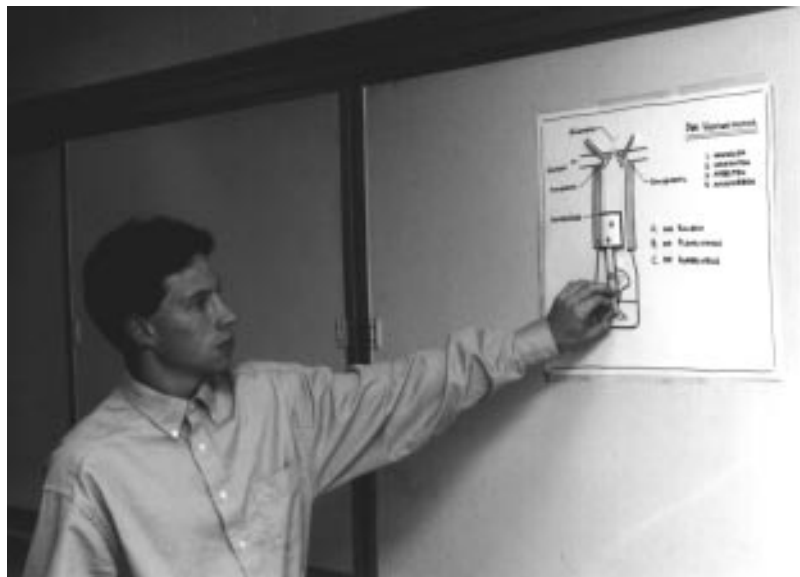
This field of study has something very fundamental in common with EUROTECH: the idea of combining two different fields of studies.

In EUROTECH the additional qualification is the German language, in *Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen* it is the comprehensive understanding of business requirements and economics. In the competition for a good job, additional qualifications are

more important today than ever before, and they'll be even more crucial in the future.

A dual-degree program makes studying more challenging and more interesting. The two paths of study lead

to cross-functional thinking and provide a solid basis for the beginning of a successful career. You develop the skills needed to address diverse issues and the tools important for life-long learning.



Martin Geis explains the four-stroke engine to EUROTECH Students

Teaching Assistants, cont'd

Weltweite Kommunikation durch Computer

VON NORBERT PREIS

Mit dem Einzug der Computertechnologie hat sich die Welt gewandelt. Während früher die Welt noch in viele kleine "Dörfer" zerstückelt war, wächst sie heute dank der Technologie zu einer einzigen Welt zusammen.

Dieser Internationalisierung dürfen sich die Ingenieurwissenschaften nicht verschließen. Dieser Erkenntnis trägt die Universität von Connecticut mit dem EUROTECH-Programm Rechnung.

Ich bin in diesem Programm als

Teaching Assistant tätig. Gleichzeitig bin ich als Student der Informatik über ein Austauschprogramm hier in Connecticut eingeschrieben. Schon zuhause habe ich verstanden, daß es nicht ausreicht, "nur" ein Studium zu absolvieren, sondern sich auf den internationalen Markt vorzubereiten. Weil mein Studium sehr viel mit der englischen Sprache zu tun hat, habe ich mich zu diesem Auslandsaufenthalt entschlossen, um meine Fähigkeiten, mich im Englischen auszudrücken, zu

verbessern. Dies ist für mich deshalb wichtig, weil ich später viel mit dem englischsprachigen Raum zu tun haben werde und ich mir somit meine Berufschancen erheblich verbessern will.



Norbert Preis works on the EUROTECH Homepage

Außerdem möchte ich das Land und die Leute kennenlernen, mit denen ich später zu tun haben könnte. Mit diesem Gedanken möchte ich jeden Leser auffordern, ebenfalls eine Sprache zu lernen, um seinen Horizont zu erweitern und auch für sich die Chancen im Beruf zu verbessern. Auch die Möglichkeit, durch EUROTECH in einem fremden Land Praktika zu machen, eröffnen einem viele neue Aspekte und Perspektiven. Somit kann ich jedem zukünftigen Studenten nur raten: Just do it!

Computer technology has changed the world. What used to be a collection of small villages, is becoming a single community – thanks to technology. The fields of engineering can't afford to be left behind. The EUROTECH program recognizes this reality.

I participate in this program as a teaching assistant. At the same time I study computer sciences through an exchange program in Connecticut.

Even while still in Germany I realized that it hardly suffices to study only your field. You have to also prepare yourself for the international market place. Although my course of study uses lots of English, I opted for this exchange program to improve my ability to express myself in English. This is important for me since I'll have much to do with the English-speaking world. I wanted to experience the country and meet the people with whom I might someday have to work.

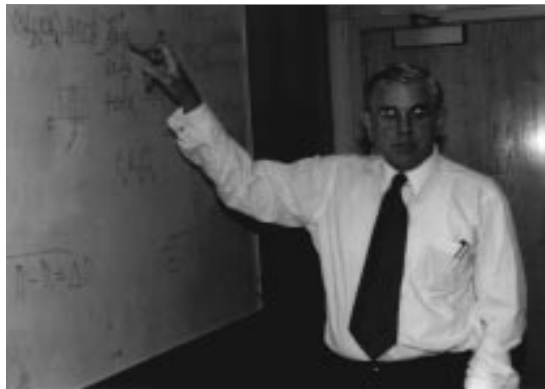
With this in mind, I encourage the readers also to learn another language. The opportunities available to you in EUROTECH – to do internships abroad – will give you new perspectives. So I'll say to future students: "Pack's an!"

The EUROTECH Module Series

by Herman De Vries, Assistant Professor of German

A unique part of the EUROTECH curriculum is the module course series. This series features three courses which you take during your sophomore and junior years. A "module" course is one that meets only one hour per week.

These courses are a special part of your curriculum because they feature guest speakers who are experts in topics of science and engineering. These guests are German speakers from Connecticut industry or from the UConn community. They speak to you during four of the fourteen semester class periods. During the remaining periods you prepare for or review these



guest talks – all the while honing your ability to understand and speak about this material in German.

So in these module courses you use your German to interact directly with engineers and scientists. This is called content-based education, which means you learn German not by talking about

German, but by talking about engineering in German. And of course you learn a lot about engineering at the same time.

And there is more. The EUROTECH program provides two native German assistants for the program. These assistants are from universities in Germany and have studied subjects similar to what you study here at UConn. These students are here to work with you, often one-on-one in these module courses. So you benefit from the close cooperation with not only your

professor, but also with German assistants.

Finally, you will not only listen to

many speakers in these courses, but you will give presentations – in German – yourselves. These presentations, for which you receive all the assistance and guidance you need, give you opportunity to show how you can use the German you're mastering to talk about the engineering topics that interest you most.

EUROTECH Newsletter

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EUROTECH: An International
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For additional copies of this newsletter, back issues, or for more information on EUROTECH: An International Program in Engineering, please contact either of the directors, or click on the order form found on our homepage:

<http://www.eng2.uconn.edu/EUROTECH>

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STATE-OF-THE-ART LANGUAGE LAB

The University of Connecticut has recently unveiled a brand new, state-of-the-art language lab. As a EURO-TECH student you will have immediate access to this lab which is located in the Arjona building right where you take most of your German courses.

Approximately \$170,000 have gone into this lab to provide our students with the most up-to-date technology and computer equipment designed to enhance your experience learning German. The lab features 15 work stations equipped with Power Macintosh computers, video monitors, and audio cassette equipment.

Students use the lab to enhance their language skills in a number of ways. You can use interactive software programs such as Transparent Language or Rosetta Stone as fun and efficient language learning tools. With these programs, you develop important language skills as you view pictures and quick-time movies, hear the language spoken aloud, record your own voice, practice your writing, and work through numerous exercises and quizzes -- all tailored to your indi-

vidual learning level.

The most attractive lab programs for you are the interactive language modules written and designed just for you, the engineering student. Using software such as Macintosh HyperCard and HyperGasp, our faculty and teaching assistants have written programs that present engineering topics



in German. You work through these programs at your own pace, mouse-clicking for help as you feel necessary. Built-in quizzes and exercises allow you to monitor your own improvement so you can chart your abilities to comprehend engineering topics in German.

Students currently use two programs on engineering topics that will appeal to anyone with interest in technology. One is called "Ottomotor," the other "Hubschrauber."

Ottomotor is German for "four-



stroke-engine." The *Otto* comes from Nikolaus Otto, the German engineer who invented the engine in 1867. *Hubschrauber* is German for "helicopter". This program was developed with information provided by Connecticut's own Sikorsky Aircraft, a world-leading designer and producer of helicopters.

Since the lab features a presentation screen and central authoring station, you may find yourself in the lab during a German class interacting with your fellow students and your instructor via the computerized network. With this setup you can practice your writing skills as you, for example, exchange your work with other students or exchange e-mail with German students half way around the world.

Using other features of the language lab you can, for example, view current news programs in dozens of languages. You can also view the video tapes or work through the cassette tape exercises that come with your language text books.

The EUROTECH program and the lab director, Barbara Lindsey (who herself holds a graduate degree in German), are committed to providing the best available language technology to benefit students with all the tools they need for success.

About the Cover Logo . . .

Eurotech students participated in a contest during the fall semester 1996 to design a logo for the program. The winner of this competition was Sewan Kim, a freshman at UConn. Sewan's logo was chosen for its attractiveness and because of the careful thought that he put into the logo's symbolism. In many ways, the logo speaks to the goals and characteristics of the program. In the text that follows, Sewan explains the meanings behind the logo's design.

The logo features a shield within a circular frame. The shield is divided into four sections, each with its own icons. Upper left we see the banner of the European Community, indicating the "Euro" of EUROTECH. German is the language spoken, of course, not only in Germany, but also in Austria, Liechtenstein, and parts of Switzerland. The open book in the icon on the upper right symbolizes the academic foundation of the program.

Deutsch - the German language - and *Ingenieurswesen* - engineering - are the dual components of our program. Lower right we see the logo of the UConn School of Engineering. The final icon represents the various engineering departments: a flask for chemical engineering; a shovel for civil engineering; a lightning bolt for electrical engineering; and a wrench for mechanical engineering.

The icons are found in a shield, calling to mind the European traditions of heraldry. The shield is surrounded by blue, the state color of Connecticut. The halo around the shield symbolizes the bright future of both the program and its students. Finally, the word 'EUROTECH' at the perimeter of the seal hints of a metal texture, suggesting the technical nature of the program.

Visit EUROTECH on the World Wide Web at

<http://www.eng2.uconn.edu/EUROTECH/>

Here is some of what you will find on our homepage:

- ◆ Details about the EUROTECH program, including its inception, its goals, and the supporting federal grants.
- ◆ Information about faculty and staff.
- ◆ Detailed description of the program's course schedule - semester by semester.
- ◆ The members of the EUROTECH Advisory Board; these are the firms and companies which support the program.
- ◆ Informations about individual students in the program.
- ◆ Information about HyperCard(tm) computer programs. You can also download our "Ottomotor" and "Hubschrauber" teaching modules to learn about these engineering topics in German.
- ◆ Students reports about their internships in various companies in the U.S. and in Germany.
- ◆ Links to other German language information sites.
- ◆ And much more...

EUROTECH Thanks the Following Firms and Individuals For Their Support

Firms Providing Internships in the USA To Our Students

*Bayer Corporation
Index Corporation
Lenze Power Transmissions
MAN Roland
Pratt & Whitney Aircraft
Roto-Frank
Trumpf Incorporated*

Firms Providing Internships in Germany

*Bayer Corporation
Trumpf*

Guest Lecturers

*Wolfgang Bürmann (UConn)
Robert Coughlin (UConn)
Klaus Julkowski (Mott Metalurgical)
P. G. Klemens (UConn)
Uwe Koehn (UConn)
Axel Krebs (UConn)
Jürgen Lahrs (Bayer Corporation)
Richard Long (UConn)
Wilfried Meier (Sikorsky Aircraft)
Nejat Olgac (UConn)
Sabine Reiter (UConn)
Günther Schubert (PTR Precision Technology)
Roman Solecki (UConn)
Klaus Voos (Index Corporation)*

Plant Tours

*Bayer Corporation
Mahle Cylinder
Torrington Co.
Trumpf Inc.*

Equipment Contributions

*Mahle Cylinder
Sikorsky Aircraft
Trumpf Inc.*

Financial contributions

*United Technologies Corporation –
\$5,000/ year for 3 years
Bayer Corporation –
\$5,000/ year for 3 years
Music Memories –
Scholarship endowed with \$10,000
Sikorsky Aircraft –
Scholarship endowed with \$10,000
Colin Green – \$200
R.P. Long – \$200*

The EUROTECH Program thanks all the members of the Advisory Board for their time and effort in getting this program off to an impressive start. We likewise thank the firms for encouraging their representatives to interact with our program.

Special Thanks to Renate Seitz of the Connecticut Department of Higher Education and to Sally Innis-Klitz of the Study Abroad Office for assistance in placing the EUROTECH teaching assistants

What others are saying about EUROTECH

"The EUROTECH program is just what is needed in an ever increasing global market. The engineer of today and even more so of the future has to be proficient not only in his technical field but has to have a good working knowledge of computers and at least one major foreign language and understand the associated culture of the country and its people.

I am very pleased that the University of Connecticut has identified the need and is, with the EUROTECH program, doing something about it. The students who are willing and able to handle the

additional demands of this course will later be rewarded many times over since more and more companies have to look overseas to stay ahead of the ever increasing competition. I wish the program well and I personally will support it wherever I can."

GOTTFRIED KUESTERS, PRESIDENT
PTR-PRECISION TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
ENFIELD, CT

"The State Council is delighted that the University of Connecticut has created the EUROTECH program. Clearly, it will give your graduates a

competitive edge if they are able to communicate with their technical counterparts in Germany. In addition, it will give the state of Connecticut a competitive edge to add people with such unique capabilities to its workforce.

The Council is charged by the federal government to encourage and support technical education and training throughout Connecticut. EUROTECH is precisely the type of program that improves opportunities for students, and Council members are happy to lend assistance in any way possible."

ANNE WINGATE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
STATE COUNCIL ON VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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