

ECE Weekly

The Ohio State University Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

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Volakis steps down as ESL Director



After almost 14 years of transformative leadership at The Ohio State University ElectroScience Laboratory (ESL), director **John Volakis** announced he is stepping down from his role to focus more time on research and mentoring. A large group of friends, students, faculty and staff gathered at ESL on Oct. 4 for a reception to honor his achievements and to welcome interim director **Robert Burkholder**.

Pictures from the event:

<http://go.osu.edu/volakis-pics>

Full story:

<http://go.osu.edu/volakis1>

Animating the Inanimate

One day, advanced robots and humanoids may step in for people, navigating life-threatening and dangerous situations to help save lives.

ECE alumnus **Patrick Wensing**

has found himself at the forefront of this research. After graduating from the ECE PhD program in 2014, he went on to apply this education as a postdoctoral researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Biomimetic Robotics Lab.

Wensing is now using the control system design methods he learned while studying humanoid robotics under Ohio State professor **David Orin**, and is applying them to realms such as robotic perception, sensing and mechanical design.

Full story: <http://go.osu.edu/wensing>



ECE Student Spotlight:

Amber Silvaggio

Sometimes following in the footsteps of the family business is a safe route for students heading to college. After all, parents can offer helpful advice and guidance since they've been there before.

Fourth-year student **Amber Silvaggio**, however, allowed a passion for discovery to fuel her time at The Ohio State University. She is the first in her family to explore the world of electrical engineering – and her involvement is only growing. Silvaggio is the new 2016-2017 president of the IEEE Undergraduate Chapter at Ohio State and recently became one of the new student representatives of the EE/ECE Alumni Society Board.

Find the full story here: <http://go.osu.edu/silvaggio>



Next MeetUp: ElectroScience Lab

Join the **Electrical and Computer Engineering Alumni Society** on Thursday, Nov. 10 (6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.) for an evening at the ECE Department's preeminent facility, the **ElectroScience Laboratory**. In addition to a tour and update of the renovated facility, we will hear from Department Chair **Joel Johnson**, other

companies housed within the ESL, and mingle with Department Faculty, Staff, Students and Alumni. **RSVP:** <http://go.osu.edu/meetup-esl>