Andrea Felicelli

Mechanical Engineering

Hometown: Hudson, OH

Professional/Student Organizations:

• Women in Engineering

Co-op/Research Experience

- Swagelok Co., Corporate Engineering Intern
- Fives Bronx Inc., Mechanical Engineering Co-op
- UTC Aerospace Systems, R&D Co-op
- Additive Manufacturing Research, Undergraduate Assistant
- 21MedTech, 3D Printing Co-op

Why did you choose the University of Akron?

I chose the University of Akron because of its unique co-op program and the hands-on, real-world experience that can be gained from it. I think having this experience is invaluable as an engineering student, and greatly increases chances of getting a job or being accepted to graduate school after graduation. I also chose it due to proximity to my family and affordability compared to other schools.

Why did you choose Mechanical Engineering as your major?

I chose Mechanical Engineering because I knew I was interested in the problem-solving aspect of engineering, but I wasn't sure what discipline I would be interested in before starting college. Mechanical Engineering seemed to be the broadest one, where I could learn a bit of everything. It also turned out that of all the mechanical engineering courses I've taken have been my favorite and the most intuitive personally. So, it worked out!

What advice would you give to an incoming engineering student?

Get involved in something hands-on. There's really no better way to figure out what area is best for you than to try everything once, whether it be through co-op, design teams, or undergraduate research. You'll only gain from the new experiences and grow as a future engineer.

What resources were provided at the University of Akron to help you succeed as an engineering student?

Akron really does provide so many opportunities for its students. I've mentioned the co-op program and design teams a few times now, but I really can't emphasize enough how great having that hands-on experience has been for me and for so many of my classmates. In addition, there's plenty of great research opportunities for undergraduates, and the professors I've had at Akron have constantly shown dedication to helping their students succeed while also challenging them to grow.

