

The First Year Experience

By: Matt Jenny ('14), Tristan Jones ('14), and Ellen Zhong ('14)

First year Rodman Scholars are presented with many unique bonding and learning opportunities. Rodmans live alongside other Rodman and Echols scholars in the honors dorms, extending the honors experience beyond the classroom. In the classroom, ENGR 1410, the Rodman section of the first year Intro to Engineering class, provides a personal opportunity to learn what it means to be an engineer and is

the primary opportunity for the new Rodman Scholars to get to know each other. The professor, Dana Elzey, stresses a project-based approach to learning key engineering concepts. Whereas students in traditional classes learn material and are then tested, students in 1410 engage in challenging engineering design group projects and learn through the process. For example, the Problem Identification and Conceptual Solution



Several first year Rodmans work on an STS project in Clark Library

project assigns a broad prompt and requires each group to identify the “real problem” and generate a solution through application of the engineering design process. Students extensively research the topic, such as land mine casualties or recycling challenges, and present their findings of the “real problem” and their suggested conceptual solution to the class. As a whole, the class prepares the Rodmans for their coming semesters as SEAS students and their engineering careers beyond.



A few first year girls at a Rodman picnic

Rodman Council: Student Governing Board

Rodman Council develops new program initiatives, plans program events, and works with faculty to expand the Rodman curriculum. All academic and social functions of the Rodman program are executed by Council. Currently the council is composed of the following members:

Kelly Anderson (BME '12), President
Manya Garg (ChE '12), President
Reed Wilson (EE '12), Treasurer
Kate Geberth (ME '12), Secretary
Liz Dobrenz (BME '13), Networking Chair
Carolyn Pelnik (ChE '13), Networking Chair
Jessica Ungerleider (BME '13), Academic Affairs Chair
Daniel Amante (BME '12), Social Chair
Ashley Samay (SE '13), Social Chair
Cari Bergner (ChE '13), Advising Chair
Kareem El-Gohary (Aero '12), EStud Representative
Rourke Wilner (Aero '12), EStud Representative
Adwait Mane (ME '13), Media Coordinator
Roy Hanna (SE '12), New Programs Coordinator

Bo Qin (BME '13), Entrepreneurship Chair
LeeAnn Li (BME '13), Research Coordinator
Chris Higby (EE '11), 4th Year Representative
Hannah Meredith (BME '12), 3rd Year Representative
Zhou Song Wang (ME '12), 3rd Year Representative
Emma Winstead (BME '12), 2nd Year Representative
Matt Jenny ('14), 1st Year Representative
Tristan Jones ('14), 1st Year Representative
Ellen Zhong ('14), 1st Year Representative



Several members of RodCouncil on the lawn