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Blog

Mechanical Materials – Honors section, has helped the group to visually and conceptually understand how our engineering principles are used to solve real world problems. We really enjoyed the trip to the Baltimore Traffic Control Center. It was our first field trip as college students, and we all believe that they should be a mandatory part of the curriculum. We experienced first hand how traffic flow, and other operations are planned and executed. They showed us how technological advances are utilized in traffic control. For example, traffic cameras, red light cameras, and weight coils.

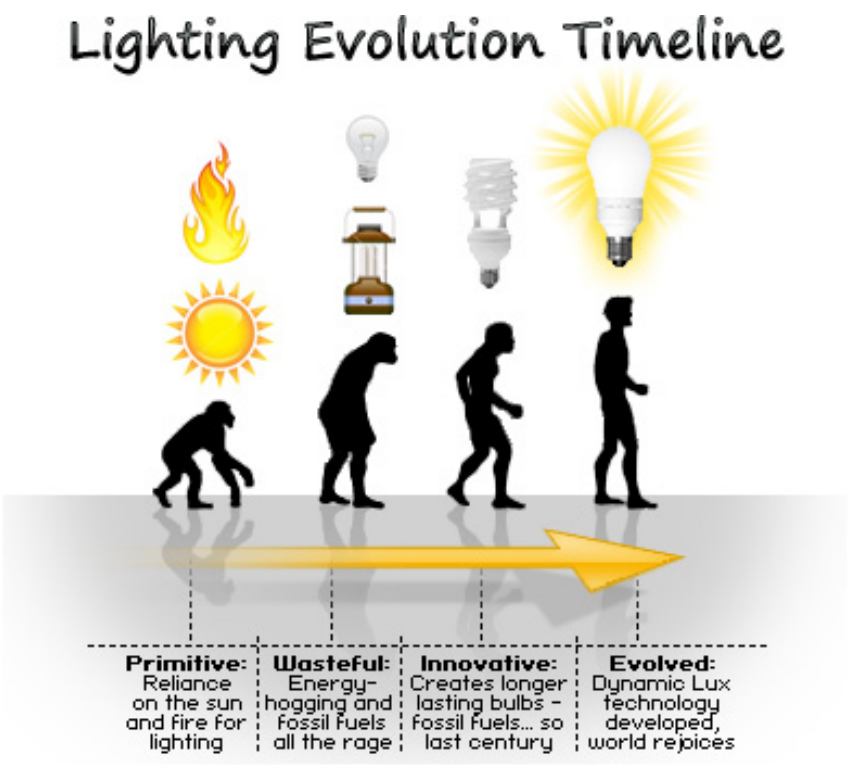
Cultivating Civic Mindedness & Civic Engagement: A photo collage featuring UMBC Mechanics of Materials Honors students visiting the City of Baltimore Traffic Management Center. The visit was hosted by Department of Transportation Director Zaied Khalil and TMC Manager T.J. Bathra.

Another inspirational meeting was with General Electric – Appliance Division. They showed us how all of the engineering principles can be used to design one part, from statics, to thermodynamics, to mechanics of materials. They all are needed to effectively develop and execute products to customer specifications. These are all experiences that are not common in the traditional classroom. They are unique to this honors experience, and we believe they should be a mandatory addition to the curriculum.

Connecting to the "real world" Skyping Session with Juan Alvarez of GE Aviation (November 6, 2012)

The project we chose to take on was from the Baltimore Department of Transportation. The assignment was to analyze an existing flawed intersection of Reisterstown Road and Liberty Heights Boulevard. This intersection has numerous flaws in the geometric configuration, and over all design, which causes numerous accidents involving pedestrians and other cars, slow movement during peak hours and heavy pedestrian volume during peak hours.

We found this picture to be very inspirational because we are looking at the future. The students around this table are the future of our society, and the beginning of innovation. Our desire to go the extra mile is what separates us from the rest, and will make the difference in our future. We are not afraid to work hard for what we want, on the road to become who we desire.



Our group also found this picture to be very intriguing due to the literal and metaphorical message behind the image. The image illustrates the means of light in the early stages of civilization and as time progress so did the efficiency of the light. On the other hand, our group conceives this imagery of the light as a microcosm of an idea. For instance, the beginning of time civilization ideas was less develop which had more flaws and less efficient which symbolizes the wildfire. However, as time progresses, the wits of our ancestors help formulize more efficient ideas that develop society to where it now uses dynamic lux technology to illuminate the darkness.