

Ultrasonic and Model Validation of Composite Material Damage (Mentors: Tom Claytor /Brett Nadler)

Rodrigo Cooper

Rodrigo is a student at Texas A&M pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in French. Rodrigo is a native from Mexico City, and resides in Houston, TX. He intends in continuing graduate studies in either Texas A&M or t.u. During his free time, Rodrigo likes to mountain bike, exercise, and enjoy the outdoors. Rodrigo also enjoys traveling around the world and has been several times in Europe and Latin America.



Manny Gonzales



Manny Gonzales was born and raised in El Paso, TX, where he attended Eastwood High School and graduated with honors. He currently attends The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) where he pursues a dual B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. Manny is currently a research assistant in Basic Engineering (BE) education as well as Biomedical Engineering. As a researcher in BE, he has worked with students and professors to improve curriculum structure and student outlook, as well as in the development of better assessment tools and outreach programs for all BE students at UTEP. Manny has also worked in the geometric modeling and manufacturing of patient-specific aortic dissection flow phantoms with compliant flaps, which will be

used for subsequent experimentation using Particle Image Velocimetry (PIV) techniques for the hemodynamic characterization of aortic dissection. He also has researched the failure characteristics of nickel-based superalloys for first-stage turbine applications, specifically from a failure investigation point of view (Fractography and Finite Element Analysis of laser-scanned models).

Greg Graf

Greg Graf is a senior at Virginia Commonwealth University pursuing a B.S. in mechanical engineering with minors in mathematics and physics. His past experience includes work with ceramic piezoelectric smart materials at VCU and NASA's Langley Research Center. In the fall he will help lead a senior design group in building a human powered submarine that will compete in the 2006 human powered submarine competition in San Diego California. His hobbies include mountain biking, rock climbing, racquetball, and Scottish highland dance.

