



Jordan Mansfield

*BS in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Purdue University (2013)*

### What have you been doing since the publication of your article in *JPUR*, volume 3?

I've been working as a construction manager for the past four years, traveling across the country building data centers for a confidential client. During this time, my knowledge and experience with MEP—mechanical (HVAC and building automation), electrical (low- and medium-voltage distribution), and plumbing systems—has improved immensely. It's not enough for me to just manage this work, I truly need to understand all aspects of these systems in order to be an effective construction manager for our clients.

### What are your career goals?

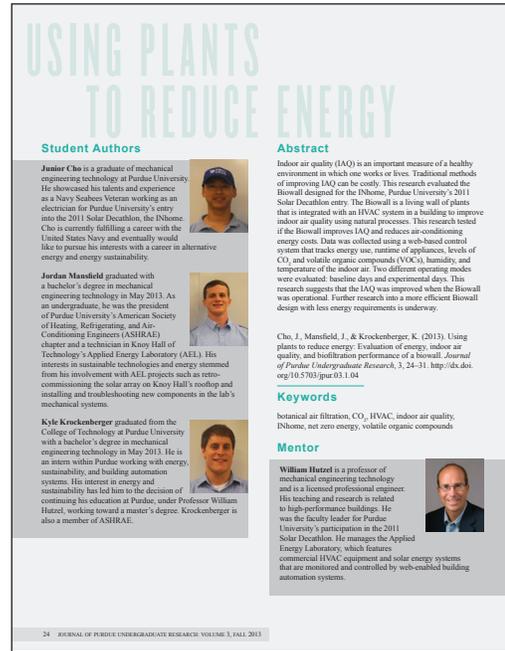
My overall goal is to keep learning as much as possible no matter where my career takes me.

### How did the research you did as an undergraduate at Purdue impact your current endeavors? What is the value of undergraduate research?

In my opinion, the research and experience I gained through undergraduate research at Purdue gave me a leg up on my peers. The topics I learned about were not necessarily taught in the traditional courses my degree offered. I gained a wealth of knowledge about BAS (building automation systems) and HVAC systems so when I started managing the construction of those systems, I could speak intelligently about them and manage that work much more effectively than someone who hadn't performed research in those areas.

### How did the faculty mentor relationship impact you during your time at Purdue?

I was lucky that I had a great mentor, Professor Hutzel, who is not only very intelligent but also



personable. He really pushed our team to be better students and researchers, but also made it a fun and engaging learning experience.

### How did the experience of publishing an article in *JPUR* benefit you? What advice would you give to other undergraduates at Purdue who are interested in contributing to the journal?

The experience of having a research paper published with my name on it is something that I will always be proud of. My advice to any undergraduate interested in contributing to *JPUR* is this—it takes a lot of time and effort, but is worth it at the end.

### What advice would you give to other undergraduates at Purdue who are interested in doing research?

Talk with your professors and tell them what you are interested in learning more about, then ask if they are performing any research that you can get involved with. Purdue has numerous state-of-the-art laboratories and research facilities, so you never know what doors that simple conversation may open!

Cho, J., Mansfield, J., & Krockenberger, K. (2013). Using plants to reduce energy: Evaluation of energy, indoor air quality, and biofiltration performance of a biowall. *Journal of Purdue Undergraduate Research*, 3, 24–31.

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