Re: Which university produces good analog EEs?

Source: http://sci.tech−archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2007−09/msg04979.html

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- *Date*: Wed, 26 Sep 2007 09:39:17 −0700

"RST Engineering (jw)" <jim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:13fl1h7nsr6uu93@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

> Odds are you will get silence or "Oh, that club folded years ago" as the answer. If you actually find a working club, talk to the faculty advisor and ask how many students are in the club. If there are a dozen or more, you've at least found yourself a prospective school.

That would rule out Oregon State... the typical number of people in the club varied between 0 and 10, always dwindling as the year progressed. Part of it might have been a lack of "advertising," though −− the first time I found their web page and contacted one of the professors involved, the number had been near−zero for a couple of years. We eventually started to get a little more proactive in letting people know we existed; see, e.g., http://media.barometer.orst.edu/media/storage/paper854/news/2005/02/01/News/Amateur.Radio.Club.Members.ham.It
It's started to dwindle again though −− all the guys mentioned in that article have since graduated. One bright spot is that one of the newer (younger) professors that OSU recruited from Intel (yeah, a digital guy, but oh well :−)) has become interested and mentions the club in his beginning EE classes.

I think Oregon State turns out some decent chip designers (while I was there I knew one guy who it was already clear was going to go far), but like most universities they don't really have much emphasis on board−level analog design specifically.

TekBots (http://www.tekbots.org/) have been quite popular, although they were struggling with how to move them out of being heavy on the microcontroller/programmable logic emphasis and into somewhat more challenging areas, such as control systems and wireless links/communication systems (where you're designing, e.g., the radio and the error−correction protocols yourself, not just using someone's off−the−shelf wireless module, which is already quite common).

−−−Joel

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