

## Brandon Jones

Merthyr Tydfil College *EESW and F1 in Schools student*

Brandon first got involved with EESW studying at Cyfarthfa High School, taking part in the F1 in Schools Challenge. Brandon thoroughly enjoyed the project and pursued Product Design as one of his GCSEs.



*Brandon taking part in the F1 Challenge*

After completing his GCSEs, Brandon enrolled at Merthyr College to study Engineering. There, Brandon encountered EESW for the second time, taking part in the EESW Sixth

form project. His team were tasked with designing the lighting system for a new cycling tunnel in Merthyr Tydfil. Brandon took on the role of Team Leader for the project and produced a 'Break Beam Lighting System' for the tunnel to light up as users travelled through it.

In the same year, Brandon also led a team from Cyfarthfa High School who had entered for the F1 in Schools project. Brandon described how pleased he was to have had the opportunity to do the project that he loved a few years prior. He set up his own team and worked with the high school for two years, encouraging and motivating pupils through the F1 competition and helping them discover a new passion for engineering!



*Brandon (pictured with his Grandfather) receiving his VQ Award*

Brandon's passion for engineering and a love of teaching is evident to mentors, peers, and students. It has also been formally acknowledged, with Brandon winning prestigious awards such as 'Intermediate Learner of the Year VQ Award' and 'The British Education Award'.

These achievements helped secure Brandon a place to study Product Design at Cardiff Metropolitan University. Brandon recalled how his involvement with EESW did not stop there!

*"In my first year, I was in regular contact with Merthyr College and once again mentored a team who succeeded with the F1 in Schools project. During my second year, EESW came to the University to run Sixth Form Project Workshops, and I was surprised by how intertwined EESW are with all stages of Education. They offered me the opportunity to work as a student ambassador, and I jumped at the chance. Being an ambassador enabled me to help with various student projects, and I was fortunate enough to be a judge at the F1 in Schools Regional Finals and assisted on the racing tracks during the event. I spent two of my three years in University involved with EESW and being able to give back to students was extremely rewarding."*

Jonathan Davies, the Head of Design and Technology at Cyfartha High School, shared with EESW his thoughts on Brandon's journey and how EESW has helped him along the way. *"Brandon has not only become a role model to other great young engineers leaving Cyfarthfa High School but has truly forged himself as an engineering ambassador for the community of Merthyr Tydfil, where he continued his studies. The contribution of the Engineering Scheme of Wales and its associated workshops cannot be underestimated in his evolution; it has provided the platform to capture and inspire a fine young man who will undoubtedly inspire tomorrow's engineers."*



*Brandon and Martin Thomas, Lecturer at The College Merthyr Tydfil*

Brandon graduated with a 2:1 in Product Design, and alongside the awards he had achieved, and the experience provided by EESW, he was able to secure a graduate lecturer job at The College Merthyr Tydfil. He is currently lecturing there in subjects including Levels 1 and 3 CAD, Level 3 Communications for Technicians and Level 3 Engineering drawing for Technicians, whilst completing his PGCE to become a fully qualified lecturer.

Engineering and Physics tutor Martin Thomas, commented *"Not only has Brandon worked his hardest to achieve the best he can throughout his time as a learner and now a member of staff with us but he also continues to be such an inspiration to colleagues and learners alike. His achievements make him a superb ambassador, not only for the college, but also for the local community and Merthyr Tydfil as a whole. His success demonstrates the opportunities that are achievable with hard work and determination and I am looking forward to seeing him develop in his career at the college."*



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## Brandon Jones Coleg Merthyr Tudful Myfyriwr EESW ac F1 in Schools

Dechreuodd Brandon ymwneud â EESW wrth astudio yn Ysgol Uwchradd Cyfarthfa, gan gymryd rhan yn yr Her F1 mewn Ysgolion. Fe wnaeth Brandon fwynhau'r prosiect yn fawr iawn, a dewisodd astudio Dylunio Cynnyrch ar lefel TGAU.

Ar ôl cwblhau ei gymwysterau TGAU, ymrestrodd Brandon yng Ngholeg Merthyr i astudio Peirianeg. Fe ddaeth Brandon i gysylltiad â EESW am yr eildro yno, gan gymryd rhan ym mhrosiect Chweched Dosbarth EESW. Y dasg a osodwyd i dim Brandon oedd dylunio system oleuo ar gyfer twnnel seiclo newydd ym Merthyr Tudful.



Brandon yn cymryd rhan yn yr Her F1

Ymgwymerodd Brandon â rôl Arweinydd Tîm y prosiect ac aeth ati i greu 'System Oleuo Adnabod Symudiad' fel bod y twnnel yn goleuo wrth i ddefnyddwyr deithio drwyddo.



Brandon (gyda'i Dad-cu) yn derbyn ei Wobr VQ

Yn yr un flwyddyn, arweiniodd Brandon dim o Ysgol Uwchradd Cyfarthfa a oedd yn cymryd rhan yn y prosiect F1 mewn Ysgolion. Disgrifiodd Brandon pa mor falch oedd o gael y cyfle i weithio ar brosiect hynod bleserus ychydig flynyddoedd cyn hynny. Sefydlodd ei dim ei hun a gweithiodd gyda'r ysgol uwchradd am ddwy flynedd, gan annog ac ysgogi disgyblion drwy'r gystadleuaeth F1 a'u helpu i ddarganfod diddordeb newydd mewn peirianeg!

Mae diddordeb cryf Brandon mewn peirianeg a'i frwdfrydedd wrth addysgu eraill yn amlwg i fentoriaid, cyfoedion a myfyrwyr. Mae Brandon wedi cael cydnabyddiaeth ffurfiol am hyn hefyd, gan ennill gwobrau mawreddog fel 'Gwobr VQ Dysgwr Canolradd y Flwyddyn' a 'Gwobr Addysg Prydain'.

Roedd y cyflawniadau hyn wedi helpu Brandon i sicrhau lle i astudio Dylunio Cynnyrch ym Mhrifysgol Metropolitan Caerdydd. Mae Brandon yn cofio bod ei gysylltiad â EESW wedi parhau!

*"Yn fy mlwyddyn gyntaf, roeddwn mewn cysylltiad rheolaidd â Choleg Merthyr, ac unwaith eto fe es ati i fentora tîm a gafodd lwyddiant gyda'r prosiect F1 mewn Ysgolion. Yn ystod fy ail flwyddyn, fe ddaeth EESW i'r Brifysgol i gynnal Gweithdai Prosiect Chweched Dosbarth, ac fe'm synnwyd gan yr holl gysylltiadau rhwng EESW â phob cyfnod Addysg. Fe ges i gynnig y cyfle i weithio fel llysgennad myfyrwr, a manteisiais ar y cyfle yn syth. Fel llysgennad, fe ges i'r cyfle i helpu gyda phrosiectau amrywiol gyda myfyrwr, ac roeddwn yn ddigon ffodus i fod yn un o feirniaid Rowndiau Terfynol Rhanbarthol F1 mewn Ysgolion, gan helpu i gynnal y traciau rasio yn ystod y digwyddiad hefyd. Treuliais ddwy o'm tair blynedd yn y Brifysgol yn ymwneud â EESW ac roedd gallu rhoi rhywbeth yn ôl i fyfyrwr yn brofiad gwerth chweil."*

Dyma sylwadau Jonathan Davies, Pennaeth Dylunio a Thechnoleg Ysgol Uwchradd Cyfartha, am ddatblygiad Brandon a sut mae EESW wedi ei helpu ar hyd y ffordd. *"Mae Brandon wedi dod yn esiampl i beirianwyr ifanc gwych eraill sy'n gadael Ysgol Uwchradd Cyfarthfa, ac mae wedi datblygu i fod yn llysgennad peirianeg ar gyfer cymuned Merthyr Tudful, lle parhaodd â'i astudiaethau. Ni ellir tanbriso cyfraniad Cynllun Peirianeg Cymru a'i weithdai cysylltiedig at esblygiad Brandon; mae wedi darparu llwyfan i ysbrydoli dyn ifanc penigamp sy'n siŵr o ysbrydoli peirianwyr y dyfodol."*



*Brandon a Martin Thomas, Darlithydd yn y Coleg ym Merthyr Tudful*

Graddiodd Brandon gyda 2:1 mewn Dylunio Cynnyrch, ac ochr yn ochr â'r gwobrau a enillodd a'r profiad a gafodd gan EESW, llwyddodd i gael swydd darlithydd yn y Coleg ym Merthyr Tudful. Mae'n gweithio yno ar hyn o bryd fel darlithydd mewn pynciau fel Cynllunio gyda Chymorth Cyfrifiadur (CAD) Lefelau 1 a 3, Cyfathrebu ar gyfer Technegwyr Lefel 3 a Lluniadu Peirianeg ar gyfer Technegwyr Lefel 3. Hefyd, mae'n dilyn cwrs TAR i fod yn ddarlithydd cymwysedig llawn.

Meddai'r tiwtor Peirianeg a Ffiseg Martin Thomas, *"Mae Brandon nid yn unig wedi gweithio'n galed iawn i fod yn llwyddiannus gydol ei gyfnod fel dysgwr a nawr fel aelod o staff gyda ni, ond mae'n parhau i fod yn ysbrydoliaeth bwysig i gydweithwyr a dysgwyr. Mae ei gyflawniadau yn golygu ei fod yn llysgennad ardderchog, nid yn unig i'r coleg, ond i'r gymuned leol a Merthyr Tudful yn gyffredinol. Mae ei lwyddiant yn dangos y cyfleoedd sydd ar gael i rywun sy'n torchi llewys, ac rwy'n edrych ymlaen at ei weld yn datblygu yn ei yrfa yn y coleg."*



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