

## 2009 Notre Dame Energy Center Student Advisory Board



**Alexander Augugliaro** Junior, Chemical Engineering

[aaugugli@nd.edu](mailto:aaugugli@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Haddonfield, NJ

*Favorite Energy Source:* Wind turbines because, they are highly efficient in their production of energy, and wind can be found almost everywhere, especially in South Bend.

*One Interesting Fact:* I studied abroad in Australia last semester and traveled all over the country as well as to New Zealand and Fiji.



**Michael Bergerson** Graduate, Law

[michael.s.bergerson.1@nd.edu](mailto:michael.s.bergerson.1@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Michigan City, IN

*Favorite Energy Source:* Nuclear, because it offers great potential to increase American-made energy and provokes intense environmental, social, and economic debate. If waste storage and safety issues can be resolved, nuclear energy could be part of a new national energy policy that all sides could support.

*One Interesting Fact:* I worked on energy issues for Indiana Congressman Pete Visclosky in Washington; played college golf for four years at DePauw University.



**Patrick Brown** Senior, Physics and Chemistry

[pbrown4@nd.edu](mailto:pbrown4@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Logansport, IN

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar (especially organic PV), because it has the greatest potential of any resource available to us, it's equitably distributed, and it's where all of our truly renewable energy resources originate.

*One Interesting Fact:* I once climbed Longs Peak, a 14,259 ft. mountain in Colorado.



**Thomas A. Catanach** Freshman, Physics and Classical Languages

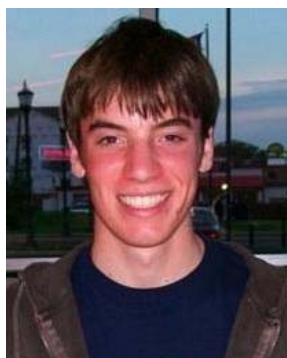
[tcatanac@nd.edu](mailto:tcatanac@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* originally from Allen, TX; now living in Trinity, AL

*Favorite Energy Source:* Nuclear, because I believe that it can produce large amounts of clean energy, which is necessary to meet the world's growing need for energy and also protect the environment.

*One Interesting Fact:* I have not touched food since I was in 6th grade.

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**Jonathan Conway** Sophomore, Chemical Engineering

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*Hometown:* Lancaster, PA

*Favorite Energy Source:* Geothermal, because it is readily available and only requires a capital investment to tap into it.

*One Interesting Fact:* I drank water off the Mendenhall Glacier in Alaska.



**Lindsay Ficke** Graduate, Chemical Engineering

[lficke@nd.edu](mailto:lficke@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Cincinnati, OH

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar, because of the sun's reliability and the vast potential of the developing technologies.

*One Interesting Fact:* I have been skydiving twice!



**Jenna Heffernan** Freshman, Business

[jheffern@nd.edu](mailto:jheffern@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Boca Raton, FL

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar, because I'm from the Sunshine State!

*One Interesting Fact:* I know every single word to "We Didn't Start the Fire" by Billy Joel.



**Sean Hoban** Graduate, Biology

[shoban@nd.edu](mailto:shoban@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Louisville, KY

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar, for three reasons: 1) it is completely renewable and abundant; 2) as a plant biologist, I find it fascinating that we can harness the same energy source that plants have captured for hundreds of millions of years to make food with; and 3) it can be harvested on extremely small scales, even by individual people for their homes, so it should empower and encourage actions by individual people rather than needing the support of large groups and lots of money.

*One Interesting Fact:* I also work as a DJ at WVFI

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**Colleen Kelly** Junior, Economics

[ckelly10@nd.edu](mailto:ckelly10@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Western Springs, IL

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar, because it is estimated that the amount of solar energy that hits the Earth every day is enough to supply the world's energy needs for 25 years!

*One Interesting Fact:* I have never gone to a school without another person named Colleen Kelly.



**Jennifer Kovacs** Sophomore, Chemical Engineering

[jkovacs@nd.edu](mailto:jkovacs@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Houston, TX

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar, because if I were in a place where we could use solar energy, it would mean that it would be sunny most of the time.

*One Interesting Fact:* I have been to 12 countries and 38 states.



**Nathaniel Lee** Freshman, Political Science

[nlee5@nd.edu](mailto:nlee5@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Sonoma, CA

*Favorite Energy Source:* Wind, because both back in Sonoma and here at Notre Dame, it gets really windy, so I'm glad that even though I may be freezing, some good is coming out of it!

*One Interesting Fact:* I am a huge fan of SpongeBob SquarePants.



**Meehan Lenzen** Sophomore, Environmental Geosciences

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*Hometown:* Bloomington, IN

*Favorite Energy Source:* Cellulosic ethanol (not corn ethanol), because if scientists could just find a way to effectively mass-produce it, it could become a great stepping stone away from fossil fuels and toward renewables.

*One Interesting Fact:* I hate static electricity (and, therefore, fleece too) more than almost anything in the world.

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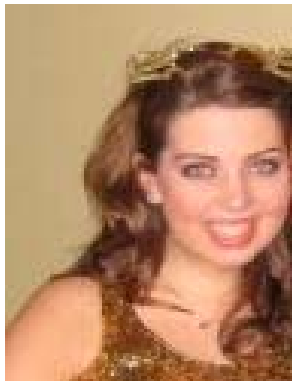
**Tim Malecek** Junior, Mechanical Engineering

[tmalecek@nd.edu](mailto:tmalecek@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* St. Louis, MO

*Favorite Energy Source:* Wind, because I believe wind has the most potential for the future.

*One Interesting Fact:* I can unicycle.



**Meghan Manning** Sophomore, Political Science

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*Hometown:* New York City, NY

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar, because it's remarkably clean, virtually inexhaustible, and we have already developed the technology (especially for a solar-electric economy) to command true change with it very quickly. While the costs of solar panels are currently too expensive for many to use, I think that the amazing developments we have seen in recent years (i.e. with hybrid cars) shows that we can work to making solar energy a realistic alternative energy source for many consumers.

*One Interesting Fact:* I'm a dual citizen of the United States and Ireland.



**Carol Matasci** Senior, Chemical Engineering

[cmatasci@nd.edu](mailto:cmatasci@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Kihei, HI

*Favorite Energy Source:* Concentrating solar thermal, because it uses the resources of the sun but in a different way than photovoltaics.

*One Interesting Fact:* The farthest place I have been to is Mauritius.



**Regina McCormack** Sophomore, Environmental Sciences

[rmccorma@nd.edu](mailto:rmccorma@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Decatur, IL

*Favorite Energy Source:* Wind, because it uses the Earth's resources efficiently and is feasible in many climates.

*One Interesting Fact:* I enjoy visiting art museums.

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**Laura Moore-Shay** Junior, Environmental Geosciences and Anthropology

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*Hometown:* Granger, IN

*Favorite Energy Source:* Wind, because it can be economical in a large area of the United States and has a smaller environmental impact than other forms of energy.

*One Interesting Fact:* I spent the last two summers in western Ireland doing archaeology research.



**Krysta Pfeifer** Junior, Chemical Engineering

[kpfeifer@nd.edu](mailto:kpfeifer@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Overland Park, KS

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar, because it is amazing how much the sun already provides and that it has the potential to do even more.

*One Interesting Fact:* I went bungee jumping in New Zealand.



**Andres Rojas-Ruiz** Junior, Finance and Economics

[arojasru@nd.edu](mailto:arojasru@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Santa Cruz, Bolivia

*Favorite Energy Source:* Nuclear, because it aids the country's dependency on oil and is relatively safe, clean, and more economic than oil.

*One Interesting Fact:* I want to be an investment banker despite the current financial crisis. I think it would be a greater challenge to enter the industry at this moment.



**Thomas Ronan** Junior, Chemical Engineering

[tronan1@nd.edu](mailto:tronan1@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Sioux Falls, SD

*Favorite Energy Source:* Solar, because all forms of energy are derived from solar energy in some fashion, so I see solar as the least invasive and most promising form of alternative energy.

*One Interesting Fact:* I was born on Christmas Eve.

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**Yohannes Tekle** Graduate, Economics

[ytekle@nd.edu](mailto:ytekle@nd.edu)

*Hometown:* Eritrea, East Africa

*Favorite Energy Source:* Hydroelectricity, because it is cheap and ecosensible.

*One Interesting Fact:* I love to visit historical places.