

# Laurel Wardell

Aerospace Systems Engineering  
Minor in Music

**Hometown:** Twinsburg, Ohio

## **Professional/Student Organizations:**

- The University of Akron  
Marching Band
- The University of Akron  
Symphonic Band
- Kappa Kappa Psi



## **Co-op/Research Experience**

- Rockwell Automation

## **Why did you choose the University of Akron?**

I chose the University of Akron for so many reasons. It's close to my hometown, I got a really good scholarship, the engineering program here is phenomenal, and I even have good opportunities to balance my engineering degree with my love of music. But most of all, UA feels like home. I feel comfortable and confident here, and I know I will be able to succeed. I love the campus, I love the environment, and I love being a zip.

## **Why did you choose Aerospace Systems Engineering as your major?**

I actually started in the chemical engineering program. I did well in my classes during my first year, but when I looked at which classes I was taking, I didn't enjoy my chemistry classes nearly as much as I enjoyed my math and physics classes. This led me to look into a more physics heavy discipline, and when I found out about the Aerospace Systems program I saw all of the possibilities of things I could do, and the more I thought about it the more excited I got.

## **What is the most valuable thing you have learned from your UA experiences?**

Failure is not the end, failure is okay. Nothing is a better teacher than a mistake, and often that lesson will take you much further than if you hadn't made the mistake in the first place. It won't seem like it right away, but with patience you can grow past your failures and become even greater.

## **What advice would you give to an incoming engineering student?**

Go to class and ask questions. College classes are by no means easy, but you are given all the resources you need to succeed. If there is something you don't understand, reach out to your professor, TA, or even a tutor to ask for clarification. They are there to help you, and as long as you are willing to listen and learn they will be more than willing to help.