University/Institution name:	University of British Columbia	
Department name:	Department of Mechanical Engineering	
Department website:	https://mech.ubc.ca/	
Year the department was founded:	1915	

Department heads:	From year	To year
L. Killam (Acting)	1915	1921
L. Gill	1921	1922
C. Ryan (Acting)	1922	1923
H. Vickers	1924	1936
H. MacLeod	1936	1950
W. Richmond	1951	1965
J. Duncan	1965	1978
P. Hill	1978	1983
I. Gartshore (Acting)	1983	1984
E. Hauptmann (Acting)	1984	1985
M. Salcudean	1985	1993
I. Gartshore (Acting)	1993	1994
R. Evans	1994	1999
D. Cherchas (Acting)	1999	2000
N. Rajapakse	2000	2006
S. Green	2007	2018
S. Feng	2018	2023
C. Ollivier-Gooch (Acting)	2023	2024
S. Feng	2024	current

## **Description:**

A Mechanical Engineering option was included in the plans for "McGill BC", the forerunner of UBC and included in their opening in 1908. Thus, Mechanical Engineering was one of the initial engineering departments present when UBC started in 1915. Lawrence Killam was the first (assistant) Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

From its humble beginnings, the department has grown to modern, research active Mechanical Engineering department. The department has 40-50 faculty, representing a wide range of research and teaching specializations. It takes in ≈150 undergraduates annually and has MEng, MASc and PhD programs

A book was commissioned, recording the history up until 2001: "Discovery by Design", Eric Damer, Ronsdale Press 2002. A revised edition is underway that eventually will be electronically available.