October 2016 Media Report

Oct. 31, 2016

IN THE NEWS -- MSU College of Engineering

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Highlights include:

A $1 million National Science Foundation Supporting Excellent Engineers (SEE) grant will help finance second- and third-year engineering students on their paths to graduation. S. Patrick Walton and Theo Caldwell served as spokespersons.

ASEE First Bell, 10.31.2016
Big News Network, 10.30.2016
Detroit News, 10.29.2016
Houston Chronicle, 10.29.2016
MSUToday, 10.25.2016
Owosso Argus Press, 10.29.2016
Tech Century, 10.25.2016
MSU celebrated its new **Bio Engineering Facility** with ribbon-cutting ceremony and welcomed **Christopher H. Contag** as the inaugural director of the **Institute for Quantitative Health Science and Engineering** and chair of the new **Department of Biomedical Engineering**. Also, he was named the **John A. Hannah Distinguished Professor**, Department of Biomedical Engineering.
Here’s more on October media --

Startup businesses are picking Michigan these days, because that’s where the engineers are. Schools in the region include University of Michigan, *Michigan State University* and Purdue University, consistently adding to the talent supply. *Automotive News*, 10.31.2016

Grace, the underwater robot created by **MSU Foundation Professor Xiaobo Tan** and his research team in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, swims like a fish. *Motherboard*, 10.26.2016

Universities are complex systems and sometimes intertwined, as the *Chronicle of Higher Education* reports in “A Family Profession.” See note on **Martin C. Hawley**, a professor of chemical engineering and materials science, senior associate dean of engineering, and director of the Composite Vehicle Research Center at Michigan State University. *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 10.23.2016

Research on wearable devices that are powered by human motion being conducted by **ECE associate professor Nelson Sepulveda** and graduate student **Tongyu Wang** is getting national notice. *ScienceDirect*, 10.13.2016

**Tenneco** has supported the **MSU CoRe Experience** with almost $300,000 and a newly designed lobby workspace. A celebration on Oct. 14 included Tenneco COO Brian Kesseler, MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon, and **Engineering Dean Leo Kempel**. *AfterMarket News*, 10.20.2016
Anil Jain, University Distinguished Professor of computer science and engineering, continues to attract national and international media for a variety of stories:

- NPR stations around the country, including Albany, Atlanta, Dallas, Jacksonville, New Orleans/more, ran a story on flawed facial recognition technology being used by police.
  
- Technology from the old James Bond movies is both reality and flawed. His research team cracked the fingerprint security code.

• Fingerprint project with children in India -- Jain and his team of biometrics researchers demonstrated in a first-of-its-kind study that digital scans of a young child's fingerprint can be correctly recognized one year later.

An MSU graduate, who relied on a scholarship in the 1960s to help complete his college education, is giving a $5.3 million charitable bequest to the school's College of Engineering. The Associated Press moved the story nationally. Here's just a sampling of media:
Susan Masten is part of a University Research Corridor team that is examining if the water filters being used in Flint are best for the Flint water distribution system. The professor of civil and environmental engineering has learned that after filtration, chemicals in the water are below levels that are measurable.

Starting salaries for new college graduates this year should see some of the best starting salaries in a decade, predicts an MSU survey of more than 4,300 employers -- electrical engineers: $62,428; software design: $61,466; civil engineering: $54,333.

Homeland Security eyes expanding biometric collections at U.S. borders -- Arun Ross, director of the Integrated Pattern Recognition and Biometrics lab at MSU, said the collected data should, at a minimum, be encrypted while it is stored. It should also have “cancelable properties,” which could nullify the value of stolen data.

Other news --

Friends of the College
Shannon Houtrouw was coding before it was cool. The Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center (KAMSC) instructor began transforming computer courses into hands-on coding and computer science opportunities nearly 20 years ago. He brings his KAMSC teams to the MSU High School Computer Programming competition each year, working with faculty members and Women in Engineering staff members.

Alumni
Advance Auto Parts Inc. has appointed Thomas Okray (’85) as executive vice president, chief financial officer, effective Oct. 31. He earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from MSU and now lives in Raleigh-Durham, N.C. area.

The Detroit Zoo is again preparing for its wildly popular holiday light show, thanks to the creative design of electrical engineer Steve Greening (’96, ’98). As technical supervisor, he helps attract 170,000 people a year to see the five million LED lights.
What was once a Design Day project is now a revolutionary new device that helps babies with jaundice. Alexa Jones ('14) is the CEO of TheraB Medical, where a specialized blanket allows parents to hold babies during jaundice treatments. 

Babble, 10.17.2016

**Current Students**

Anthony Capriglione, a computer science senior, has met the challenges of an MSU education while dealing with autism spectrum disorder. MSU has created programs to help develop his strengths and aid in his challenges. 

State News, 10.20.2016

“A House Without Snakes:” one of the college’s current MasterCard Scholars was part of a documentary featured at the 2016 Buffalo (N.Y.) International Film Festival, Oct. 8-9. Ketelelo Moapare, from Botswana, is an undergraduate studying civil engineering. At the age of 13, he helped Peace Corps volunteers set up the first community library in New Xade. His hope is to live in a house with no snakes some day. 

Lockport Union-Sun & Journal, 10.10.2016

Engineering students at U.S. colleges are getting valuable experience in both hands-on engineering and communications while helping others as they carry out humanitarian and engineering projects. Students at MSU will be helping folks in Kenya by developing a filter that converts grey water into safe irrigation water and giving villagers in Guatemala a helping hand by building a thresher for harvesting green pigeon peas. 


It’s a family reunion for the Okoniewski family at Consumers Energy. Tom M. Okoniewski is in his 19th year at Consumers Energy. Pete Okoniewski, in his second year with Consumers, is an intern and works in the customer attachment program. 

Jackson Citizen Patriot, 10.6.2016

**Incoming Students**

Traverse City Student of the Month: Traverse City St. Francis High School senior Shea Flannery is in the National Honor Society, on the varsity soccer team and played JV volleyball. She received the Excellence in Geometry Award, Scholar Athlete and Academic Athlete Award and maintains a 4.125 grade point average. She plans to attend MSU Engineering. 

Traverse City Record Eagle, 10.17.2016

**MSU Pride Point**

- **Oct. 25:** Assistant professor Mohsen Zayernouri won a 2017 Young Investigator Program Award from the U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research.

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Some links only stay active for a short period of time.

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