Summer 2010

News from the College

MSU Hosts International Conference in Structural Fire Engineering
Michigan State University hosted the Sixth International Conference on Structures in Fire, June 2-4, at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. More than 200 individuals from 35 countries attended, and 125 technical papers on various aspects of structural fire safety were presented. Though there has been an increased focus on structural fire engineering since the September 11 collapse of the World Trade Center in 2001, it remains one of the least developed areas of engineering research today. Read More

New ME Department Chair Named
Alejandro Diaz has been appointed chairperson of the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Diaz, who has a BS, MS, and PhD in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan, joined the ME faculty at MSU in 1986. His research interests include optimal design of structures and materials, topology optimization, and the use of finite element methods in design. Read More

$1.7 Million Grant Supports Harvesting of Alternative Fuel from Bacteria
R. Mark Worden, MSU professor of chemical engineering, is part of a group receiving $1.7 million from the U.S. Department of Energy Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy to build a reactor system for Ralstonia eutropha, a bacterium that scientists aim to engineer to metabolize hydrogen and carbon dioxide to produce isobutanol, a fuel that can be used as a replacement for gasoline. Read more

HAPPENINGS

June 23
College of Engineering Alumni Reception
Chicago area
For more information: mertzsmi@egr.msu.edu

June 29 - July 1
Grandparents University

AWARDS & HONORS
Summer 2010

News from the College

RSU Hosts International Conference in Structural Fire Engineering

Michigan State University hosted the Sixth International Conference on Structures in Fire, June 2-4, at The Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. More than 200 individuals from 35 countries attended, and 120 technical papers on various aspects of fire engineering were presented. Sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), the conference is held biennially in alternating years. Conference Chair Raghavendra Ramani, professor of mechanical engineering and director of MSU’s Biomechanical Design and Engineering Laboratory, was one of the chairpersons of the conference.

New REE Department Chair Named

Michael Guy has been appointed Department Chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering Science. Before coming to Michigan State University, Guy was Director of MSU’s Energy Systems Research Laboratory and held a faculty appointment in the Department of Mechanical Engineering Science. With this new position, Guy will be the new leadership for MSU’s Energy Systems Program, which has been a leading program in the nation for over a decade. His research interests include finite element methods and structural dynamics.
College of Engineering e-Currents

Summer 2010

News from the College

RSU Hosts International Conference in Structural Fire Engineering

Michigan State University hosted the Sixth International Conference on Structures in Fire, June 22, at the K catalogs Hotel and Conference Center. More than 200 individuals from 35 countries attended, and 120 technical papers on various aspects of structural fire safety were presented.

The conference, "Designing Buildings for Lasting Distinction," was held in honor of structural fire safety research, and featured keynote speakers from the International Society of Building Performance Simulation, the University of Michigan, and the University of British Columbia.

Fourteen presentations were made on the third floor of the Bursar Building, and a keynote address was given by Dr. Thomas W. van der Hoef, a professor of mechanical engineering at the University of British Columbia.

Awards & Honors

Three Students Receive NSF Research Fellowships

Three students in the College of Engineering have been selected to receive the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) Program.

The GRF provides three years of support for graduate students in science, mathematics, and engineering. The support includes a stipend of $31,000 per year for living expenses, plus $10,500 per year for tuition and fees.

The three recipients are:
- Roman Roman, a chemical engineering and materials science senior from East Grand Rapids, MI, who was selected to receive a GRF in materials science.
- Yanni Sun, an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, who was selected to receive a GRF in computer science.
- Tamara Reid Bush, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering and director of MSU’s Biomechanical Design Investigators Initiative program, who was selected to participate in the NSF’s Young Investigators Initiative program.

For more information, contact:
Dr. Mark Worden, MSU professor of chemical engineering, (517) 355-2564, mertzsmi@egr.msu.edu

College of Engineering

3410 Engineering Building
College of Engineering
East Lansing, MI 48824-1226
· 517-353-3126

e-Currents

To: mertzsmi@egr.msu.edu
From: Todd Frable
Subject: e-Currents – Summer 2010

Warmest regards,

Todd Frable
Office of Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations
East Lansing, MI 48824-1226
· 517-355-1320
mertzsmi@egr.msu.edu

For more information, contact:
Dr. Mark Worden, MSU professor of chemical engineering, (517) 355-2564, mertzsmi@egr.msu.edu