News From the College

In Memoriam

Herman Koenig, professor emeritus and former chairperson of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, died July 31, 2010. "Herman was an intellectual giant who did so much to advance science and engineering," says Satish Udpa, dean of MSU’s College of Engineering. "He was one of those very few individuals who could take the loftiest of ideas and distill them into engineering principles and practice. Above all, he was a wonderful human being. We will most certainly miss him."

Read more

Donald Keith Anderson, professor emeritus and past chairperson of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, died September 26, 2010. "He had a stellar career here at MSU, providing strong leadership during the time that MSU was embarking on increased attention to research and graduate education while maintaining balance with undergraduate education," says Martin C. Hawley, professor and current chair of the department. "Don will be remembered for his professional accomplishments and his humanity. He was a very kind person." Read more

Power Electronics Lab Drives Renewable Energy Research

The MSU Power Electronics and Motor Drives Laboratory hums with high-energy activity as researchers here develop technologies that will keep pace with increasing consumer demand for cleaner, more efficient, and more affordable energy. Fang Z. Peng, professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of the laboratory, is currently working on novel Z-source inverter technology, which potentially offers a more efficient, more reliable, and more economical power conversion system than the traditional inverter in many applications. Bingsen Wang, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, and his team are working on improving the reliability of the power converter interface that connects renewable energy to the energy grid. Read more

Future Scientists Give Up Summer Vacation to Work in MSU Labs

Ten young scientists were hard at work in MSU research labs this summer. But they were not MSU’s ten newest faculty hires. They were high school juniors participating in the Future Scientist Program. The goal of the program is to encourage high school students to pursue careers as research scientists, specifically in the area of cancer research. Read more

Happenings

October 6-7
Career Gallery

October 9
Spartan Future Engineers Preview Day

October 14
MSU Alumni Association Grand Awards Ceremony

October 16
College of Engineering Homecoming Tailgate
Motorola Foundation Funds New Robotics Competition

A new program funded by an Innovation Generation grant from the Motorola Foundation will bring together MSU engineering students and teams of students from underrepresented high schools to learn principles of engineering while designing and building robots for competition. The uG9-12 (undergraduate and 9-12 grades) Robotics Competition-Driven Mentoring Program will help first- and second-year engineering undergraduates develop problem-solving skills using an engineering design process as they design, build, program, and test robots for collegiate VEX Robotics competitions. The engineering students will also serve as mentors to VEX Robotics high school teams. Read more

$1 Million in Funding to Support MSU Spinoff XG Sciences

An agreement between Korean-based conglomerate Hanwha Group and an MSU spinoff will lead to $1 million in funding to XG Sciences, Inc. and further research on a nanomaterial discovered and developed at MSU—xGnP® brand Graphene (Graphite) Nanoplatelets. Read more

Student News & Accomplishments

Four Von Ehr Scholars Named

Incoming students Mairin Chesney, Justin Fila, Stephen Lindeman, and John Luzenski were selected to receive Von Ehr Scholarships for the 2010-11 academic year. A $1 million endowed scholarship fund was established in 2006 by James R. Von Ehr II, a 1972 computer science graduate and successful entrepreneur, to benefit College of Engineering undergraduates. Each fall since 2006, four incoming students have been named Von Ehr Scholars. Read more

Alumni & Development News

Roy Link Receives Prestigious Award from Engineering Society of Detroit

Alumnus Roy H. Link (BS Mechanical Engineering ’67; MBA ’68) was recently recognized by the Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD) and Harley Ellis Devereaux, an architecture and engineering firm. Link was awarded the prestigious ESD Harold Slaitgh Ellington Leadership Award for his legacy of outstanding leadership. Read more

Joanne Maguire Wins International von Kármán Wings Award

Joanne M. Maguire (BS Electrical Engineering ’75), executive vice president of Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company (SSC), is the first woman to be honored with the International von Kármán Wings Award, which has been given annually since 1985 to an aerospace pioneer by the California Institute of Technology’s Aerospace Historical Society. Past winners are men who shaped the global aerospace business. The award is named for Theodore von Kármán, a Hungarian-American aerospace pioneer and visionary strategic planner who, together with General Henry H. “Hap” Arnold, forged modern Air Force research and development. Read more

November 13

Spartan FIRST LEGO League Challenge - East Lansing Regional Tournament

AWARDS & HONORS

Percy Pierre Appointed to National Academies Committee

Percy Pierre, professor of electrical and computer engineering, has been appointed to the Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (COSEPUP), a joint unit of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine.

Bruce Dale Tapped Twice for Bioenergy Expertise

Bruce Dale, chemical engineering and materials science professor and internationally known leader in exploring alternatives to fossil fuels, has been invited to serve as an expert reviewer for the draft International Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources, and was confirmed as a member of the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Ajit Srivastava Named Distinguished Alumnus by Ohio State

Ajit Srivastava, chair of MSU’s Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, received the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Ohio State University.

Richard Lyles Serves on ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission

Richard Lyles, professor of transportation engineering and planning, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been appointed as a member of the 2010-11 ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission.

Class Notes

Read about College of Engineering alumni accomplishments, awards, and updates.

Make a gift to the college

To give to the College of Engineering, contact Stephen Bates, Senior Director of Development and Alumni Relations, at