February 1, 2019

A monthly look at what is being written about the MSU Engineering community

The MSUMobility exhibit at the 2019 North American International Auto Show AutoMobili-D demonstrated how MSU is transforming its 5,200-acre campus into a connected ecosystem for new mobility solutions. MSU and the University of Michigan shared a booth in Detroit’s Cobo Center from Jan. 14-17.

Some of the reporters who visited MSUMobility included:
• Steve Plumb, AutoBeat Daily
• Pete Bigelow, Automotive News
• Tim Brown, CBS 62 Detroit
• Mark Phelan, Detroit Free Press
• Brian Straight, Freight Waves
• Dave Smith, WardsAuto
• Matt Witkos, WJRT TV 12 Flint
• Meg McLeod, WNEM TV 5 Saginaw/Flint

Special guests who visited MSUMobility included:
• U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters
• New Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist
• New MDOT Director Paul Ajegba
• IACMI CEO John Hopkins
• Mcity Director Huei Pang
• Jeff Schuster, LMC Automotive (industry analyst)

Sample of media outcomes:
MSU Dean Leo Kempel and U-Michigan Director of Mcity Huei Pang explain ways that Michigan’s two biggest universities are collaboratively competitive.

Blog - University of Michigan Media

Dean Leo Kempel discusses how Michigan State is creating driverless technology.

WNEM TV 5 Saginaw/Flint
Senior Greg Stark and the MSU Solar Racing Team show off concept drawing of next solar vehicle.

MSU’s advanced mobility ecosystem was on display at 2019 NAIAS. MSUToday

MSU engineering students showed off their vehicle designs at NAIAS. WNEM TV 5 Saginaw/Flint

**Media visiting MSUMobility included:**
- Auto Beat Daily
- Automotive News
- Bloomberg News
- BROSA, Germany
- Car-Revs-Daily
- CBS 62, Detroit
- China Global Television Network
- Detroit Free Press
- DreamCars Daily
- Fox 47 Youngstown, Ohio
- Freight Waves
- University of Michigan media
- WardsAuto
- WDIV TV 4 Detroit
- WJRT TV 12 Flint
- WKAR Radio East Lansing
- WNEM TV 5 Saginaw/Flint
- WWMT TV 3 Kalamazoo/Grand Rapids

**Photos from the 2019 event are posted at:**
- AutoMobili-D 2019
- MSU reception at 2019 NAIAS
- NAIAS Instagram and Twitter

**Other news items in January 2019**

Former MSU Engineering Dean Satish Udpa was named acting president at MSU by the MSU Board of Trustees on
Jan. 17. Prior to his new appointment, Udpa was serving MSU as executive vice president for administrative services.

Ninety percent of the public support more solar power use in Michigan, reports researchers Sharlissa Moore and Annick Anctil, both assistant professors of civil and environmental engineering.

As Michigan officials study the legality of a deal to tunnel the Line 5 pipeline beneath the Straits of Mackinac, an overlooked aspect of the project is whether it could bring a stronger electric connection between the Upper and Lower Peninsulas. Joydeep Mitra, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of the Energy Reliability & Security Research Laboratory at MSU, said the cost-benefit equation needs to be studied more.

Research at MSU created a model where Michigan should deploy electric vehicle charging stations to minimize the overall investment and driver delays. Mehrnaz Ghamami, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, has been on the frontline of the EV deployment research for nearly 10 years. “The modeling framework and algorithm is actually unique,” Ghamami said, adding that no other state has gone to this level of detail to map out an ideal EV charging network.

Artificial fingerprints have been developed by researchers who say they could one day be used to hack into everyday devices. Researchers Arun Ross, professor of computer science and engineering at MSU, and experts at New York
University have successfully generated "DeepMasterPrints." The machine-learning methods have the potential to unlock fingerprint-protected smartphones.

CNBC
Malta Winds
Sputnik International

- Ross tells Consumer Reporter Jennifer Profitt of Flint's NBC TV 25 and Fox 66 that it's a good idea to use both a passcode and fingerprint locks to keep your iPhone secure.

NBC TV 25 & Fox 66

**University Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Engineering Anil Jain**

- India says its biometric identity database system—built to cover its 1.3 billion people, a sixth of the world’s population—heralds a new model for governments to marshal citizens’ data, ease digital pathways and fuel their electronic economies. India’s Supreme Court in September ruled that the program doesn’t violate citizens’ privacy rights, removing a huge shadow over the program. “It’s mind-boggling that a country like India has pulled it off,” Jain said.

Wall Street Journal

- Jain named a fellow by World Academy of Sciences’ latest fellows.

India West

- Facebook 10 Year Challenge

Nova

**University Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science Ramani Narayan** will serve on the advisory board for the new Plant Based Products Council in California, which seeks more sustainable consumer products and packaging through greater use of plant-based materials. The council was launched Jan. 29 at the California Bioresources Economy Summit in Berkeley.

Compelo Packaging

Food Business News

The Fence Post

**University Distinguished Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering Venkatesh Kodur** was honored for his work in advancing fire safety in concrete materials and structural systems during two special ceremonies in India.

MSUToday

**University Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science Bruce Dale** was interviewed on Jan. 2 by Voice of America Science Correspondent Steve Baragona on the carbon footprint left by Christmas trees.

Ohio State University may have graduated the first female mechanical engineer, but land grant universities like **Michigan State** were progressive and less likely to exclude women from entering traditional STEM fields in the 1800s and early 1900s.

SWE Blog

**MSU students**

**Mechanical engineering** students Kurtis Potier and Owen Ruster, along the **AES** student Jon Urich and Yash Gangal in advertising are representing MSU in the Procter & Gamble CEO Challenge. The Spartans made it into second round of this business case study challenge and are now in the top 30 of 200+ North American teams.

State News

**Alumni**


Tri County Times (Fenton)

**Incoming students**

Joe Nelson, who will attend MSU to study **mechanical engineering**, was crowned Mr. South Haven. He is a senior at South Haven High School, an Eagle Scout candidate, swim team captain, and holds a 4.0-plus grade point average.

Herald-Palladium (St. Joseph)
MSU Pride Points

• **Jan. 7**: Joydeep Mitra, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, received a prestigious fellow recognition from IEEE, the world’s largest professional organization for the advancement of technology.

• **Jan. 16**: Lawrence Drzal, University Distinguished Professor of chemical engineering and materials science and the director of the MSU Composite Materials and Structures Center, has been elected a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors Class of 2018.

• **Jan. 21**: University Distinguished Professor Venkatesh Kodur, of civil and environmental engineering, was honored for his work in advancing fire safety in concrete materials during special ceremonies in India.

**Related Website:** [Communications contact: Patricia Mroczek](https://www.egr.msu.edu/news/2019/02/01/january-2019-media-report)

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