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**MENU** 

**Oakland University**

**School of Engineering  
and Computer Science**



The official newsletter serving students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the School of Engineering and Computer Science at Oakland University.

**July 2012**

**Volume 1 - Issue 3**

## Oakland Robotics Association earns honors at international competition

The Oakland Robotics Association captured several honors at the 20th annual International Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC), which took place this June on Oakland University's campus.

Along with first place in the design category, ORA's "Botzilla" won third place in the JAUS Challenge and received a Grand Award for third place overall, claiming \$5,000 in prize money.

The competition drew roughly 40 robotics teams from the United States, Canada, India and Japan. The event was supported by numerous corporate sponsors, including Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, TARDEC, Takata and the National Defense Industrial Association-Michigan Chapter.

"It feels good to have seen ORA produce this great success," said Micho Radovnikovich, ORA president. "We had a fine team this year and everyone pulled together to create a great vehicle."

Teams utilize current technologies such as electrical and mechanical engineering and computer science. These vehicles and technologies also have many real-world applications. Military mobility, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), and manufacturing all use intelligent ground vehicles.

For more on the Oakland Robotics Association, view the website at [oaklandrobotics.wordpress.com](http://oaklandrobotics.wordpress.com) or e-mail [oaklandrobotics@gmail.com](mailto:oaklandrobotics@gmail.com) (<mailto:oaklandrobotics@gmail.com>). For more on the IGVC, visit [igvc.org](http://www.igvc.org) (<http://www.igvc.org>).



OU's team presented "Botzilla" at the Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC). Pictured left to right is Kevin Hallenbeck, Lincoln Lorenz, Micho Radovnikovich and Steve Grzebyk.

## CSE Chair and Professor Dr. Fatma Mili leaves Oakland SECS

After 28 years with the School of Engineering and Computer Science, Dr. Fatma Mili, Chair and Professor of Computer Science and Engineering, is leaving Oakland University.

Dr. Mili joined the SECS in 1984 shortly after receiving her Ph.D in Computer Science from Universite Pierre et Marie Curie. Her research interests are in optimization, formal modeling, and distributed computing. She is a strong advocate for broadening participation in Computer Science and Engineering. At OU, she played a key role in the promotion of women in the field.

"This department and school have become part of who I am and feel like home to me," Dr.

Mili said in an e-mail to faculty and staff shortly after she announced her departure. "I enjoyed knowing and working with every one of you."

Dean Louay Chamra said the SECS community will miss Dr. Mili.

"The contributions she has made to SECS and CSE have been enormous throughout the years she has

## ENGINEERING IN THE NEWS

**OU doctoral student earns prestigious AAMI scholarship**

([http://www.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=8878](http://www.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=8878))

**Oakland Students compete in SAE Formula 1**  
(<http://www.abc12.com/story/18314573/michigan-college-students-compete-in-sae-formula-1>)

**Oakland entrepreneurs turn ideas into reality with I2B lab**

([http://www.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=8769](http://www.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=8769))

**Professor Richard E. Haskell retires**  
(<http://www.oakland.edu/news/?sid=304&nid=8776>)

**Governor signs bill authorizing spending for OU SECS Engineering Center**

(<http://www.freep.com/article/20120625/NEWS02/120625051/Michigan-authorizes-spending-300-million-to-fund-18-projects-at-public-universities-colleges?odyssey=topicpage>)

**Impressive faculty honored**  
(<https://www.oakland.edu/?id=23627&sid=304>)  
**OU's engineering management program to be offered online**

(<http://www.oakland.edu/news/?sid=304&nid=8794>)

**Successful FAJRI research project has potential to save lives**

(<http://www.oakland.edu/news/?sid=304&nid=8793>)

**Engineers: Get lean at Oakland University!**

([http://www.automationalley.com/a2\\_nws\\_newsdetail?id=a0M600000B5xG7EAJ](http://www.automationalley.com/a2_nws_newsdetail?id=a0M600000B5xG7EAJ))

**Fulbright scholar, SECS may save lives with mine-detecting robot**

([http://www.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=8871](http://www.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=8871))

## IMPORTANT DATES

July 4

University closed - Independence Day holiday

## CONTACT US

**Office of the Dean**  
(<http://www.oakland.edu/?id=20078&sid=304>)

**248 DHE**

**Phone: (248) 370-2217**

**Fax: (248) 370-4261**

**Computer Science and Engineering**  
(<http://www.oakland.edu/secs/cse>)**168 DHE**

**Phone: (248) 370-2200**

**Fax: 248-370-4625**

**Electrical and Computer Engineering**  
(<http://www.oakland.edu/ece/>)**102A**



**Dr. Fatma Mili**

been at OU," he said.

Dr. Mili is the recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious Distinguished Woman in Higher Education Leadership Award from the Michigan American Council on Education (ACE) Network in 2011.

In addition to her professional endeavors, Dr. Mili is known for her appreciation of flowers, which she routinely presents to her co-workers on special occasions.

Dr. Mili will begin her new position as Department Head of the IT Department at Purdue University later this month. Professor Lunjin Lu was named Interim Chair of OU's CSE Department.

#### **SECS Brag Corner**

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**Phone: (248) 370-2177**

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#### **Industrial and Systems Engineering**

**(<http://www2.oakland.edu>**

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**Phone: (248) 370-2989**

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**SECS is always interested in hearing from our alumni. Email us a few lines about your latest job, accomplishment or relocation to [prawdzik@oakland.edu](mailto:prawdzik@oakland.edu) (<mailto:prawdzik@oakland.edu>).**

*News and notes from across the School of Engineering and Computer Science.*

#### **Computer Science and Engineering**

- Professor Debatosh Debnath has been selected to participate to the NSF-sponsored interdisciplinary workshop on Computational thinking along with Professor Blair from the Department of Music. Together, they will develop a new general education course at OU on computational thinking.
- Professor Mike Wu was selected to participate to the NSF-sponsored workshop on integrating Web services into introductory computing! He will be teaching the material and collecting data for the project.
- Professor Mike Wu and his PhD students have a manuscript accepted for publication in the IEEE Transactions on Information Technology in BioMedicine.
- Professor Huirong Fu received the SECS research award for 2011-2012.
- Professor Lu was named as the new Interim Chair of the CSE Department.
- *Correction:* Mohammad Siadat received NIH grant from William Beaumont Hospital/National Institutes of Health. Title: Urinary Continence Index for Prediction of Urinary Incontinence in Older Women. Amount: \$644,456. The project and the amount is for a three-year period.

#### **Electrical and Computer Engineering**

- Daniel Aloï and Osamah Rawashdeh were awarded \$90K of a subcontract from the University of Michigan for the DARPA project entitled, "*Reliable Peripheral Nerve Interfaces*." Total project funding is \$3M.
- Professor Hoda Abdel-Aty-Zohdy and three of her graduate students attended and presented research results in 2-papers and one-poster at the IEEE-USA Annual Meeting, and First Student Conference, in Cincinnati, OH on Friday, May 4th, 2012. "A Pre-processing Technique for AOA Classification with SNN's" by ShirinBadiei, Ashraf Mostafa, Sherine Elakkad, and Hoda S. Abdel-Aty-Zohdy, IEEE-USA Student Conference, May 4th 2012 (2<sup>nd</sup> Best Student Paper Award). "*Pre-processing for Chemical Sensor Data Classification by Daubechies 4 -vs- Haar Wavelets*," by Sherine Elakkad, Ashraf Mostafa, Shirin Badiei, and Hoda S. Abdel-Aty-Zohdy, IEEE-USA Student Conference, May 4th 2012 (3<sup>rd</sup> Best Student Paper Award). "*SAMPLING SPIKING NEURAL NETWORKS INTEGRATED CLASSIFIER FOR MIXED SIGNALS*," Hoda S. Abdel-Aty-Zohdy, Ashraf Mostafa, Jacob Allen, 2012 IEEE-USA Annual Meeting & 1<sup>st</sup> Student Conference, Cincinnati, OH, May 3-6 2012 (Poster Presentation)
- The following papers were presented by ECE department faculty and students at the 2012 IEEE International Conference on Electro/Information Technology, May 6-8, Indianapolis, IN. Waseem Sadeh and Omar Hirari. "Development of Low-Cost Fall Intervention System for Hospitalized Dementia Patients." "Towards Single-Chip Diversity TMR for Automotive Applications."
- Professor Ka C Cheok received the SECS Service Award.
- Professor Hoda Abdel-Aty-Zohdy received one of the two John F. Dodge Chair titles.

#### **Industrial and Systems Engineering**

- The Industrial and Systems Engineering Dept. will offer its successful M.S. in Engineering Management degree in a fully online format beginning in January 2013. Provided in cooperation with the School of

Business Administration, the program is intended for students with a bachelor's degree in any field of engineering who want to move into management positions. The online format is ideal for professionals working in industry and looking to advance. "There's a huge push in industry for alternative instruction delivery methods, and we've got a mature and successful on-campus program that's ready to be also offered online," said Robert Van Til, ISE Dept. Chair. More information is available at [oakland.edu/ise](http://www.oakland.edu/ise) (<http://www.oakland.edu/ise>)

- With the help of funds supplied by the Industrial and Systems Engineering Dept., four ISE students traveled to Orlando to attend the Institute of Industrial Engineers Annual Conference in May. ISE Graduate students Meredith Deneweth and Tommy White along with undergraduate students Kimmy Romstad and Michelle Tan attended the conference. Ms. Deneweth and Mr. White presented papers they co-authored with Professors Sengupta and Van Til. The students attended Applied Solutions sessions where proven solutions from applying industrial and systems engineering principles within industry, healthcare or service companies are presented. They also attended sessions in the concurrent Industrial and Systems Engineering Research Conference which is a forum for exchanging knowledge and discoveries in the industrial and systems engineering research community.

### Mechanical Engineering

- Prof. B. Sangeorzan and the Formula SAE team took 3rd place at the Formula North competition in Toronto.
- Prof. David Schall secured a \$48,500 grant from Battelle Memorial Institute for a project entitled, "Experimental and Molecular Investigations of Nanofluid Stability."
- Prof. Beth Zou received the 2012 SECS Distinguished Associate Professor award.
- Prof. Zissimos Mourelatos received the John F. Dodge Chair of Engineering award.



### School of Engineering and Computer Science

248 Dodge Hall of Engineering  
2200 N. Squirrel Road  
Rochester, MI 48309-4478  
(248) 370-2217  
[oakland.edu/secs/](http://www.oakland.edu/secs/) (<http://www.oakland.edu/secs/>)  
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[Coordinate map of Auburn Hills Entrance \(https://www.google.com/maps/@42.672702,-83.220234,16z\)](https://www.google.com/maps/@42.672702,-83.220234,16z)

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