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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.

May 2012
Volume 1 - Issue 2

Plans underway for new Engineering Center

In 2010, Oakland University was included in the Michigan FY 2010-11 capital outlay budget bill, which provides $383 million in state funding to support nearly $1 billion in university, college and state infrastructure projects.

Oakland has been allocated $30 million to help finance a $74.6 million engineering center. As the new home for the School of Engineering and Computer Science, this 127,000-square-foot facility will feature state-of-the-art classrooms and research space. The new building will serve as the heart of the Engineering and Computer Science community at Oakland University.

The building was listed as the top priority in the university's 2011 Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan, and will enhance Oakland University's support of global competitiveness of U.S. alternative energy, health care and biomedical, automotive, defense and other high-tech industries.

"We are extremely grateful that funding for the Engineering Center is included in the capital outlay bill, as we believe it will help expand our highly skilled workforce, advance research and foster technological innovation that will fuel the development of a 21st century economy in Michigan," Oakland University President Gary Russi said.

"The allocation of this funding demonstrates that the state not only sees the wisdom in investing in higher education, but also acknowledges the exceptional work being done by the Michigan's universities and colleges."

In 2011, the School of Engineering and Computer Science approved plans through the architectural firm, SmithGroupJJR. Groundbreaking is expected to take place later in 2012.

To learn more about the Engineering Center visit **oakland.edu/SECS/EngineeringCenter (http://www.oakland.edu/secs/EngineeringCenter)**.

Artistic rendering of the future Engineering Center.

Winter 2012 Senior Design competition was a success

Students recently participated in the Winter 2012 Senior Design competition. Those majoring in computer science, computer engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and industrial systems engineering complete interdisciplinary projects to demonstrate their understanding of the material.

The design groups competed with devices they have designed and built to target, load and toss tennis balls into a small bucket that was relocated for each group's attempt. Targeting the bucket was done through processing a webcam image.

Professor Michael Latcha described this as a "highly difficult, timed challenge," of which the students were eager to show off their designs.

"We give the senior design students projects that are extraordinarily difficult, compounded by the very limited time frame in which the projects must be developed, built and tested," he said. "The students have never failed to perform at levels that surpass even our optimistic expectations, and this year's projects were no exception."

Ryan Gentry, Electrical Engineering '12, said past experience, along with inspiration from America's favorite pastime, provided direction for their design.

"The design was inspired from typical baseball pitchers, as well as another group member's experience

ENGINEERING IN THE NEWS

Dr. Zissimos Mourelatos wins two Colwell Merit Awards from SAE (http://www.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=304&nid=8705)
Dr. Sayed Nassar named OU's 2012 Distinguished Professor (http://www.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=304&nid=8608)
OU engineering professor earns SAE distinguished speaker award

(http://www.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=304&nid=8683)Fulbright Scholar Prof. Arbnor Pajaziti welcomed (http://www.oakland.edu /view_news.aspx?sid=304&nid=8640)

Push to lure talent to manufacturing (http://www.detroitnews.com/article /20120330/BIZ/203300342/Push-lure-talent-manufacturing?odyssey=mod%7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE%7Cs)

Siemens PLM Software and Oakland University Develop New Course to Prepare Students for STEM Jobs (http://www.plm.automation.siemens.com /en_us/about_us/newsroom/press/press_release.cfm?Component=183652& ComponentTemplate=822)

IMPORTANT DATES

May 7
Summer classes begin

May 28
Memorial Day holiday

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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)

in FIRST Robotics," Gentry said. "Also, inspiration comes from the design constraints and overall trying to keep it as simple as possible."

About 70 students participated in the 2011-12 academic year Senior Design competition.

Students demonstrate their project for the Winter 2012 Senior Design competition, the culmination of their education at Oakland University's School of Engineering and Computer Science.

SECS Brag Corner

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

Computer Science and Engineering

- Mike Wu received $20,400 from Summer Student Campus Corp to pay a summer student to work on the Virtual Reality Tour. He was also recognized at the Founders' Day for his extensive service and excellent teaching. In addition, his paper was accepted in the IEEE Transactions on Information Technology in BioMedicine. He has been selected to participate in an NSF grant on integrating web services into introductory computing. He has also received $5,000 from MSGC for the project titled "Optimization of Space Data in Web/Cloud Service Infrastructure".
- 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 for this year $644,456.
- Shamil Hadi, PhD student (Siadat) received honorable mention Poster Award at the SPIE Conference for his poster:"Comparison of the BOLD Signal within the Amygdala between the Long-and Short-Allele Serotonin Carriers during Emotional Tasks" SPIEMedical Imaging Symposium, San Diego, CA, Feb. 2012.
- Shamil also presented at the same conference:"Negative BOLD Response and Serotonin Concentration within Rostral SubgenualPortion of the Anterior Cingulate Cortex for the Long-Allele Carriersduring Perceptual Processing of Emotional Tasks," SPIE Medical ImagingSymposium, San Diego, CA, Feb. 2012.
- Undergrad EGB student Mobin Anandwala (Siadat) has presented the followingpaper at SPIE Medical Imaging 2012 Symposium: "Simulation of fMRI signals to Validate Dynamic Causal Modeling Estimation," SPIEMedical Imaging Symposium, San Diego, CA, Feb. 2012
- John Meyer, PhD student, accepted in the Editorial Board of Conference Papers in Communications and Networking
- Allison Rosetto, PhD student received funding to participate in the CRA-W Graduate Cohort Workshop
- Ishwar Sethi appointed Series Editor for Springer Verlag series on MATLAB Applications in Engineering and Technology.
- Guangzhi Qu received $50,000 from Beaumont to support a research project: APSiS: Acute Pain Service information System.
- Tao Shu: "Securing Multi-Hop Communications in Mobile Ad Hoc Networks," URC Fellowship 2012, $9,500.
- Dae-Kyoo Kim: "Grid-Wise Information Base and Configuration Engine Development by Unifying IEC 61850 and IEC 61970" funded for 1.23 M (OU: $305 K) by Korea Institute of Energy Technology Evaluation and Planning (KETEP).
- Number of proposals submitted the current year: 14 for a total of 7,230,828.

Electrical and Computer Engineering

- Dr. Daniel N. Aloi was approved by the Board of Trustees to the promotion of Full Professor, effective August 15, 2012.

- Prof. Arbnor Pajaziti's of the University of Pristina, Kosovo is visiting SECS under a Fulbright Scholar program from March 1, 2012 until June 30, 2012 and will be under the supervision of Prof. Ka C Cheok.
- Han Deng defended her M.S. thesis, "Intra-Vehicle UWB MIMO Channel Capacity," under the supervision of Professor Jia Li.

Industrial and Systems Engineering

- The ISE Dept. is a co-sponsor of Automation Alley's Symposium on Modeling, Simulation and Visualization. The event will feature an industry panel discussion with representatives from local businesses discussing hiring needs and small breakout sessions where attendees can speak with the representatives. It is designed to enable educators and the workforce development system to address the ever-evolving needs of the current and future Modeling, Simulation and Visualization (MSV) workforce. The Symposium will be held on April 26 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 at the Velocity Collaboration Center, 6633 18 Mile Rd., Sterling Heights.

- The ISE Dept. has created a new group on the professional networking website Linkedin. All ISE and Engineering Management students as well as alumni have been invited to join our *ISE @OU Networking & Mentoring* group. This private, by invitation only, group provides a platform for ISE and EM alumni to e-mentor our students on issues such as internships, finding a full-time job, and professional networking. It also allows ISE and EM alumni to network.

Mechanical Engineering

- Sayed Nassar received the 2012 OU Distinguished Professorship.
- Zissimos Mourelatos received the SAE International Arch T. Colwell Merit Award for the following two papers: "Time -Dependent Reliability Estimation for Dynamic Systems using a Random Process Approach," Paper # 2010-01-0644, co-authored with A. Singh and for "Piston Design using Multi-Objective Reliability-Based Design Optimization," Paper # 2010-01-0907, co-authored with P. Patel and P. Shah. The awards will be presented at the 2012 SAE World Congress.
- Zissimos Mourelatos received $50,000 (sole PI) from TARDEC through the Automotive Research Center at UofM for the project entitled, "Reliability Assessment and Optimization of a Smart Charging Microgrid." He also received $70,000 (with Dorin Drignei, Math & Stats Dept as co-PI) from TARDEC through the Automotive Research Center at UofM for the project entitled, "A Novel Integrated Approach for a Resource-Efficient Design Validation Co-process."

School of Engineering and Computer Science

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Coordinate map of Auburn Hills Entrance (https://www.google.com/maps/@42.672702,-83.220234,16z)

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