

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
~GOOD NEWS ITEMS~
January/February 2001



College News

February will be a busy month for the faculty, staff and students of CSET. On Friday, February 16, the engineering departments will again be hosting the annual Rube Goldberg Competition in the Centennial Student Union Ballroom from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. The theme for this year's competition is "Build a BIGGER Burger" and should be fun and entertaining. The final competition is scheduled for 2:00 pm. Please feel free to join us.

The College of Science, Engineering and Technology will honor its Who's Who nominees at a reception in Trafton East 210 on Tuesday, February 27. The reception will take place from 3:00 to 4:00 pm, with a presentation to the students at 3:30.

The Spring EXSEL Lectureship will be held on Wednesday, February 28 and will feature Chemistry Alum, Allan Bohlke. Mr. Bohlke graduated in 1986 with a degree in Chemistry. He is currently a Senior Chemist with 3M in St. Paul. Watch for more details. The lecture will take place in Trafton C121 at 2:00 pm.

Department News

AUTOMOTIVE AND MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Bruce Jones has been awarded a Flies Fellowship for the 2000-2001 academic year. Dr. Jones will be collaborating with The Engine Room on engine development and research. This collaboration will benefit students in the Automotive Engineering Technology program, as they will be involved in some aspects of the research project.

BIOLOGY

Drs. John Krenz and Brock McMillan, Department of Biological Sciences, send news of a recent award for research regarding wind-turbine-related bat mortality in southwestern Minnesota. This is a one-year external grant funded by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, \$4,500.

Dr. Dorothy Wrigley has had a chapter titled "Clostridium Perfringens" included in a book, Foodborne Disease Handbook published by Marcel Dekker, Inc. 2001.

Dr. Chris Conlin, Department of Biological Sciences, reports that his article has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Bacteriology*. Title: The apeE gene of

Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium is induced by phosphate limitation and regulated by phoBR. Authors: C.A. Conlin, S. L. Tan, H. Hu, T. Segar. Scheduled for publication: Journal of Bacteriology, March 2001. This work was supported by a Faculty Research Grant from MSU and a grant from the National Institute of Health and was done completely at MSU by Dr. Chris Colin, undergraduate student (Seng-Lai Tan), and graduate students (Huajun Hu and Todd Segar).

CHEMISTRY AND GEOLOGY

Dr. John Thoenke and Dr. Marie Pomije have been notified that their grant entitled "Making the Connections: An Integrated Approach to Physical and Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory" was successful. This grant, in the amount of \$50,610, was submitted to the Course, Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) program of the National Science Foundation. The grant will allow for the purchase of computers, Hyperchem modeling software, laser, and optical equipment for use in upper-level chemistry laboratories.

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Han-Way Huang, Professor of Electrical Engineering received from Lattice Semiconductor 180 programmable array logic (called PAL) devices and 20 design kits for high-density programmable logic devices (in printed circuit board format) that can be used in several digital design courses in our programs. The donation is valued at about \$5000 and was received during the winter break.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Dr. Hossein Shahmohamad, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, sends news of his publication "Some flow-equivalent planar and non-planar graphs," which has been accepted for publication in an upcoming edition of *Discrete Mathematics*.

Dr. Mezbahur Rahman, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, sends news of his publication co-authored with Professor Aman Ullah at Department of Economics, University of California, Riverside. Mezbahur Rahman and Aman Ullah (2001). Improved Combined Parametric and Nonparametric Regressions. Handbook of Applied Econometrics and Statistical Inference edited by Aman Ullah, Alan Wan, and Anoop Chaturvedi. Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York.

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

Mr. Michael Peters, Physics and Astronomy, has installed a weather station on the roof at the north end of Trafton and put it on the Web. Members of the university community can get information about current weather conditions from the Trafton Weather Station at <http://134.29.2.189>

Dr. Jeff Sudol, Physics and Astronomy, was awarded a Ph.D. in Physics by the University of Wyoming on December 15, 2000. The title of his dissertation is "High Angular Resolution Techniques in Infra-red Astronomy Applied to the Study of Late Type Stars with Circumstellar Dust."