

**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**~GOOD NEWS ITEMS~**  
**1 November 2000**



**College News**

In case you haven't already heard, the IMPACT team that organizes and judges the Homecoming parade each year has announced a new award for CSET. It's called the Most Spirited College Award. In Lauren Weisblatt's words, "This year we have named the College of Science, Engineering and Technology as the winner of our new MOST SPIRITED COLLEGE AWARD, for their terrific unit during the Homecoming Parade!" Congratulations to all those CSET participants!

The following message was received from Rene Hersrud, Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Students: Angie Bomier, Student Relations Coordinator for the College of Science, Engineering and Technology, is MSU's nominee in the national search for Outstanding First Year Student Advocates. This competition is sponsored by the National Resource Center for the First Year Experience.

Ms. Bomier has a consistent and strong record of service to MSU's first year students. She was on the committee that led to the development of our First Year Experience office and has worked with that office since its inception. Angie is an active advisor and teacher for new entering students through her participation in orientation and First Year Seminar.

An active member of the planning group for our new Learning Communities, Angie also helped create and instructs students in the Learning Community for new entering students interested in pursuing life science/biology majors. She has also provided support for the establishment of an engineering Learning Community. Finally, Angie has helped implement enrollment groups for pre-engineering students.

Please join us in congratulating Ms. Bomier as an Outstanding First Year Student Advocate.

**DEPARTMENT NEWS**

**Biology**

Dr. Keith Klein, Professor of Biological Sciences, recently accepted an invitation to serve as an editorial board member for the American Journal for Microbiology, Applied and Environmental Microbiology for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2001.

John D. Krenz chaired the Behavior of Amphibians and Reptiles session during the annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in June, 2000, at La Paz, Mexico.

John D. Madsen, Department of Biological Sciences, sends the following information regarding his activities with publications and peer-reviewed journals: Netherland, M.D., J.D. Skogerboe, C.S. Owens, and J.D. Madsen. 2000. Influence of water temperature on the efficacy of diquat and endothall versus curlyleaf pondweed. *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management* Vol 38, No. 1. In press.

Madsen, J. D. 2000. Advantages and Disadvantages of Aquatic Plant Management Techniques, Part II. Mechanical and Physical Management Techniques. *Land and Water*, Volume 44 No. 5, September/October 2000. Pp. 37-41.

### **Chemistry and Geology**

The Department of Chemistry and Geology hosted the Leonard A. Ford Lectureship on Monday October 16. Dr. Richard Ward presented two talks on the role of vaccines in our world today. This was the 12<sup>th</sup> annual lectureship. The lectureship was named in honor of Leonard A. Ford, long-time faculty member at MSU.

Good news from the ACS Student Affiliate (Chemistry Club). The Chemistry Club was presented with an achievement award by the American Chemical Society (ACS) for meritorious service and outreach to the community for the 1999-2000 academic year. The Chemistry Club has a variety of community service activities in which they participate including mentoring elementary students entering the science fair, putting on demonstrations for high school students and organizing food drives. Congratulations to the outstanding efforts of this club!

### **Computer and Information Sciences**

Microsoft, Inc recently approved Ms. Pila Canton-Sanchez as a Microsoft DB2 Scholar. This honor includes a software package valued between \$4,000-\$6,000.

Dr. Colin Wightman attended the International Conference on Spoken Language Processing in Beijing, China. During that conference, he presented a paper entitled "Perceptually based automatic labeling and prosodically enriched unit selection improve concatenative text-to-speech synthesis" of which he was the first author. In addition, Dr. Wightman was second author on two other papers presented at that conference: "Perceptual evaluation of automatic segmentation in text-to-speech synthesis," and "Corpus-based techniques in the AT&T nextgen synthesis system."

Dr. Colin Wightman, Chair of the Computer and Information Sciences Department, accepted a donation, on behalf of the Department, from Apple Computers -- a G4/500Macintosh Computer [with dual processors] and a flat-panel display. Jean Mikkalson, our Apple representative, presented the computer during the SET-FEST activities on October 26. This computer will be used as "seed" hardware for the

beginning of a mutual project with Apple's software seeding programs. MSU's computer science students will be given the opportunity to learn Apple's software, work on beta-testing the new OS X operating system for Apple, and working directly with Apple's software engineers.

### **Interior Design and Construction Management**

Dr. Carl Egan reports good attendance at the "Open House", held on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, of the mobile trailer donated by Ryan Companies US and Stellar Concrete and Masonry. The catalysts behind this extraordinary gift were Dan Stanley, President of Stellar Concrete & Masonry, and Mike Cairl, Vice President of Minneapolis Construction, Ryan Companies US. Both of these gentlemen are graduates of the MSU Construction Management program and have served on its advisory board for a number of years.

The new facility, equipped with a conference table, computer, printer, fax machine, and other modern technology is located adjacent to the major construction projects currently in progress on the MSU campus. According to Dr. Egan, the trailer will be used in a number of ways such as: a laboratory for students to observe construction operations; an office to develop and monitor critical path scheduling activities; an on-site classroom to engage in resource management and productivity studies; and a base of operations for interns.

### **Mathematics and Statistics**

Dr. Francis T. Hannick, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, presented workshops at the following meetings: Hands-On Experience with Numerous Activities in the Elementary School Mathematics Curriculum, NCTM Eastern Regional Conference, Philadelphia, October 12 and Hands-On Experience with Numerous Activities in the Elementary School Mathematics Curriculum, NCTM Eastern Regional Conference, Springfield, MA, November 2.

### **Mechanical Engineering**

Dr. Vance Browne, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, gave the following presentation at the recent ASME 2000 Design Engineering Technical Conferences and Computers and Information in Engineering Conference in Baltimore, MD on September 10-13. His paper was entitled: Metal Belt CVT's - Performance Parameters. Paper No: DETC2000/PTG-14404. Good news on the engineering front.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering received word that their proposal to MnSCU passed unanimously and a new program in civil engineering will appear in the university bulletin next fall. With civil engineering added to our list of engineering majors, MSU now has the four major engineering programs most typically selected by college students. The civil program will join the electrical, computer and mechanical engineering programs already established within the College of Science, Engineering and Technology. With the addition of civil engineering, MSU is better positioned to recruit engineering students as we now have the greatest number and diversity of engineering and engineering technology programs available in the MnSCU system.

Dr. Jerzy Fiszdon, Mechanical Engineering, attended 2000 International Mechanical Engineering Congress. He presented a paper entitled "EFFECTS OF VARIATION OF THE OVERALL HEAT TRANSFER COEFFICIENT IN THE FEEDWATER HEATERS ON THE THERMODYNAMIC AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE OF POWER STATIONS". At the Congress Dr. Fiszdon chaired a session and attended meetings of the executive committee of Advanced Energy Systems Division of ASME, of which he is a Vice Chairperson.

### **Physics and Astronomy**

In early September, the Department of Radiology and Cardiology at Immanuel St. Joseph's/Mayo Health System donated to the Department of Physics and Astronomy a Spectrometer system which includes a Ludium Measurement, Inc. Model 2600 spectrometer and two NaI detectors. The price of the donated equipment was estimated at \$5,000 and the equipment will be used in the physics research and teaching laboratories. The donation was made possible through Anne Chapman, Director of Radiology and Cardiology at Immanuel St. Joseph's Hospital and the Radiation Physicist, Daniel Peterson, BS in Physics in 1992.