

**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**GOOD NEWS**  
**APRIL 2004**

**AUTOMOTIVE AND MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

Professor Ann Goebel will be conducting a technical session presentation of her paper "No Ice Cream, Copycats, or Muda Please", on June 23, 2004, in the Engineering Management division of the 2004 ASEE Annual Conference.

This paper studies and evaluates the long range cost bloat and other consequences versus the value returned when two primary production improvement initiatives, ISO 9000, and Lean Manufacturing are approached in hit and run fashion rather than as strategic organizational transforming technologies.

**BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Dr. Steve Mercurio's student, Eddie Kalombo, has just been accepted into the Life Science Summer Undergraduate Research Program at the University of Minnesota with a stipend and full room and board (for this coming summer).

Mr. Christopher Buyarski, an undergraduate-biology student in the laboratory of Dr. Christopher Ruhland, has accepted a six-month internship with Pioneer Hi-Bred International to study maize genetics.

**CHEMISTRY AND GEOLOGY**

Dr. Dean Moosavi, Assistant Professor, was invited to the Journey through the Universe Annual Workshop in Atlanta (March 30-31) sponsored by the Challenger Center. MSU and the greater Mankato region are being recruited to participate in this NASA funded initiative to raise community wide space science education levels through a multi-year sustainable program of community and school workshops featuring NASA scientists and space science education specialists.

Dr. Moosavi was interviewed by the University of New Hampshire Magazine (Winter 2004) regarding his experiences as alumni advisor to the New Hampshire Outing Club prior to coming to MSU-Mankato. This organization is the star of UNH and a model for student run experiential education organizations across the nation.

**COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES**

Professor Ann Quade's work, Promoting Undergraduate Research: A Classroom Model, has been accepted for presentation at the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education in Leeds, England. Her work will be published in the conference proceedings.

The CIS department is holding its first annual technical writing contest. This contest has been designed to recognize exceptional technical writing and encourage students to create publication-worthy documents. We are inviting all computer science, computer information science, and management information systems majors and minors to submit samples of writing from the 2003-04 academic year. Winners will

be announced in May; they will also be honored at the annual CSET scholarship awards ceremony in the Fall. The top five entries will be published in online and hard copy versions of the first volume of The Linked List: Journal of the Department of Computer & Information Sciences at MSU. The deadline for entries is April 30, 2004 at 5:00 pm.

Dr. Cesar Guerra-Salcedo, Assistant Professor, was invited to the 2004 Chicano-Latino Conference as a panelist for "Latinos in Higher Education" (March 26)

Dr. Guerra-Salcedo had a paper accepted for presentation, with former master student Zhaoxing Zhang, entitled "Cluster Significance Analysis Applications", at the 8th World Multiconference on Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics (SCI 2004) to be held in Orlando, FL July 18-21, 2004.

#### **ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**

Drs. William J. Lewinski, William Hudson and Tamara Tucker Wilkins, and Mr. Craig Staff wrote and presented a paper entitled "Perception and Reaction Factors in Lethal Force Encounters" at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV in March 2004.

#### **INTERIOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**

Dr. Carl Egan, Professor, attended the Educator Sessions in conjunction with the North American Steel Construction Conference in Long Beach, CA held March 24-27, 2004.

The MSU Construction Management Program and Faegre & Benson LLP presented the 5th Annual Construction Industry Seminar on March 30, 2004. Over 80 attendees were at this event held in Minneapolis. Assistant Professor Scott Fee moderated the panel discussion.

#### **MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS**

Dr. Francis T. Hannick, Professor, will present a workshop on Hands-On Experience with Numerous Activities for the Elementary School Math Curriculum at the 82nd Annual Meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in Philadelphia on April 22, 2004.

Sam Peterson, Instructor, will be giving a presentation entitled "A Purely Geometric Approach to Phase Diagram Construction for Geochemical Reaction Systems" at the Hawaii International Conference on Statistics, Mathematics, and Related Fields. The dates of the conference are June 9-12.

#### **MECHANICAL AND CIVIL ENGINEERING**

Dr. Deborah Nykanen, Assistant Professor, presented an invited seminar at Iowa State University entitled "Topographic and Meteorological Influences on the Space-Time Scaling of Heavy Convective Rainfall in Mountainous Regions", March 25, 2004.