

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
NOVEMBER 2006

GOOD NEWS

AUTOMOTIVE AND MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Drs. Bruce Jones and Vince Winstead have just received word that they will be getting \$20K from Xcel Energy for the AET Plug-In Hybrid Senior Design Project this year. They are working on a Toyota Prius that has been loaned to MSU from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

CHEMISTRY AND GEOLOGY

Dr. Brian Groh, Associate Professor, recently published a set of Classroom Response Systems “clicker” questions to accompany the text Organic Chemistry 5th Ed. by Paula Yurkanis Bruice. These questions accompany each chapter of the text and are included in the Instructor Resource CD (Prentice Hall, NJ, 2007. ISBN 0-13-196317-1).

Jeffrey R. Pribyl, Professor, served as advisor for five books recently published by Picture Window Books. These science books are geared towards students in grades 4-6. The book titles are *Science Tools*, *Science Measurements*, *Magnification*, *Erosion and Composting*.

Jeffrey R. Pribyl, was inducted as an honorary member of the Golden Key International Honour Society on Sunday, October 29, 2006.

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES

Dr. Steve Case, Associate Professor, announced an agreement with General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems to support a student team to compete in a mobile robot design competition. The design team consists of students from the Department of Computer and Information Sciences, the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Technology, and the Department of Mechanical and Civil Engineering. The students will design and build a mobile robot that uses a collection of sensors and wireless communication to deploy (and retrieve) remote sensors. The students will compete in April against a team of students from St. Cloud State University.

Dr. Steve Case announced an additional agreement with General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems to support a student team to work with engineers at General Dynamics to research and develop remote sensors as part of a wireless sensor network. The sensors will consist of microphones, geophones, wireless communication, and solar cells to allow for remote monitoring applications.

Dr. Steve Case announced the award of a one year research contract with InRadio to support students involved in the development of a system for web-based delivery of licensed media content.

Dr. Steve Case announced the award of a one year research contract with Walter's Publishing to support students involved in the development of a system for automated software testing, software re-engineering, and hosting of applications on heterogeneous platforms.

R. Bates, M. Ostendorf, R. Wright, "Symbolic Phonetic Features for Modeling of Pronunciation Variation", has been accepted for publication in the journal *Speech Communication*.

R. Bates, E. Willingham, C. Kuyper, R. Eklund, "An Overview of High-level ICSI Meeting Corpus Augmentations", was presented at the Conference of the American Association of Applied Corpus Linguistics, 20-22 October, 2006, Flagstaff, AZ.

N. Drescher, R. Bates, "Hedged Opinion in Academic Settings", was presented at the Conference of the American Association of Applied Corpus Linguistics, 20-22 October, 2006, Flagstaff, AZ.

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

A paper, "Development and Use of a Feedback Control System in Introducing Biotechnology Students to Environment Control Systems", co-authored by Gale Allen, Gregg Marg and a senior EET student Erick Kithinji, was presented at the 2006 ASEE North Midwest Sectional Conference, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, Wisconsin, by Gale Allen on October 6, 2006.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Dr. Francis T. Hannick, Professor, presented a workshop on Hands-On Experience with Numerous Activities for the Elementary School Mathematics Curriculum at the Phoenix, Arizona meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics on October 6, 2006.

Dr. Hannick also presented a workshop on Hands-On Experience with Numerous Activities for the Elementary Math Curriculum at the Atlantic City, New Jersey meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics on October 19, 2006.

Dr. Deepak Sanjel, Assistant Professor, published as follows:

Journal: Communications in Statistics: Theory and Methods

Issue: Volume 35, Number 9 / 2006, 1671-1683

Title: Use of Orthogonal Polynomial Approximations for Inference in Exponential Distribution Based on K -Sample Doubly Type-II Censored Data

Link to abstract: <http://taylorandfrancis.metapress.com/link.asp?id=rlk4rn33305q2617>

An optimization paper "Manning Manufacturing Cells with Multi-functional Workers in Group Technology", with Namyong Lee and C. Kim, was presented at the 2006 IABE conference in Las Vegas, NV. The same titled paper will appear in the journal, Review of Business Research.

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

Dr. Andy Roberts, Assistant Professor, presented an invited seminar October 26 at the Rochester Mayo clinic departments of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine titled "Novel PET brain imaging tools resulting from improvements in standard PET radioisotope production techniques".

Dr. Roberts has been invited to give a seminar on November 17 on medical physics at St. Cloud State University.

Additionally, Dr. Roberts has been invited to chair a conference session on accelerator use in radiopharmaceutical production at the Eighth International Topical Meeting on Nuclear Applications and Utilization of Accelerators (AccApp'07), held in Idaho in July 2007.

Dr. Russ Palma, Professor, received a \$60,000 award from NASA for a proposal entitled "Noble Gas and Other Characterizations of Interplanetary Dust Particles". The grant period is for the summer of 2007.