

InCyde Mechanical Engineering

December 10, 2010

Design Expo a Success

The Department of Mechanical Engineering sponsored the first [Design Expo](#) on December 7, showcasing a wide range of design projects that ME students have been working on this semester. Over two hundred students from five ME undergraduate design classes presented their projects to throngs of spectators and judges. "It's a good opportunity for students to have to explain their projects and justify their decisions and concepts to people who might not have had anything to do with their projects so far," noted Assistant Professor Dr. Ross Morrow who helped organize and host the expo.



A mechanical engineering student presents their project to Dr. Morrow at the Design Expo.

In addition to practical uses provided by companies, many of the designs had sustainable means or helped present a solution to a problem abroad. Some of the design projects included prototype for a prosthetic leg designed for amputees in Haiti, an air filtration system for earthquake victims in China, a windmill for sustainable energy in Kenya, and a rainwater collector to be used in Tanzania.

The expo was a great opportunity for students to engage with the public, talk about their ideas, and essentially learn how to sell an idea in a short amount of time. "They are going to have to do this for the rest of their lives," reasoned expo co-organizer Dr. Erin MacDonald who is an Assistant Professor and Michael and Denise Mack 2050 Challenge Scholar. They will be "bringing these projects into their managers and explaining very quickly why they should go forward with the project, why it would bring revenue, etc."

Undergraduate Student Wins Paper Contest

Tim Morgan, senior in ME and concurrent BSME/MBA student, recently won the ASME Fluids Engineering Division 2010 Young Engineering Paper Contest with his paper entitled "X-ray Particle Tracking of Dense Particle Motion in a Vibration-Excited Granular Bed". He presented his paper at the 2010 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition in Vancouver, BC, November 12-18. The award was based on his written paper and his conference presentation. The second and third place winners were graduate students at Virginia Tech and Purdue, respectively. His project was part of his honors research project that he completed in the Experimental Multiphase Flow Laboratory, and his project

mentor was Ted Heindel, Bergles Professor of Thermal Science. Upon graduation in December, Tim will continue his studies at ISU as a PhD student in the Experimental Multiphase Flow Laboratory.



Ted Heindel congratulates Jim Bernard on his retirement.

Jim Bernard Retires

A retirement reception was held on December 8 for Jim Bernard, Anson Marston Distinguished Professor of Engineering. Jim was surrounded by family, friends, colleagues, and students who all helped him celebrate his past twenty seven years at Iowa State. Jim has provided great leadership and service in a variety of positions such as department chair, interim dean, and director of VRAC. He has also been known as being an enthusiastic teacher and he helped create one of the most popular courses in the current ME

curriculum-- Technology, Globalization, and Culture. We all wish Jim the best on his retirement!

Department Welcomes New Staff Member

Clare Polking has joined the administrative office staff as a Program Assistant who will be working with the OEI grant and other departmental duties. Clare holds a B.S. in nursing and an M.S. in anatomy. She is also a CPA and with experience in education, accounting, and management.

Limited staff and office hours

The main office and advising center will be closed from Thursday, December 23 through Sunday, December 26, and also Friday, December 31. Limited staff will be available Monday, December 27 through Thursday, December 30.

Graduation

The fall 2010 joint graduation reception will be held on Saturday, December 18 at 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the Reiman Ballroom of the ISU Alumni Center. The commencement for undergraduates and graduates will take place at 1:30 p.m. in Hilton Coliseum. Congratulations to all of the Fall 2010 graduates! For more information about graduation, please contact Denise Birney at 515-294-4932.

