ME students attend 4th annual EWB midwest conference
Multiple members of the ISU student chapter of Engineers Without Borders attended the 2012 Engineers Without Borders (EWB) USA Midwest Regional Conference from November 2-4. The conference was held at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri. It was hosted by the EWB-USA Saint Louis University Student Chapter and the EWB-USA Gateway Professional Chapter. The midwest region of EWB covers Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. In 2009, Iowa State University hosted the annual event.

Conference attendees were university faculty, professionals, and students. They attended various keynotes as well as breakout and technical sessions, from everything to "Fundraising 101" to "Mixing Concrete by Hand."

Iowa State's Engineers Without Borders student chapter was founded in 2008 and currently has 80 active members. For more information on Engineers Without Borders USA, visit their [website](#).

**Fall 2012 Research and Teaching Excellence Awards**
Three mechanical engineering graduate students received research and teaching excellence awards for the Fall 2012 semester. Timothy Morgan and Kristi Korkowski received teaching excellence awards, and Sudheer Tenneti received a research excellence award.

These awards recognize and encourage outstanding achievement by graduate students in research and teaching. The students were nominated by their major professors: Timothy Morgan's advisers are Ted Heindel and Judy Vance; Kristi Korkowski's adviser is Timothy Bigelow; and Sudheer Tenneti’s adviser is Shankar Subramaniam.

**ME students graduate with high placement rate**
An estimated 1,708 students completed Iowa State degrees last week and many of them celebrated the milestone in a cap and gown. The students were honored during the commencement ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 1:30 p.m. in Hilton Coliseum.

Of these 1,708 students, 87 of them are mechanical engineering undergraduates. 84% of these students have co-op or internship experience, and 19% have international study or work experience. 70% have job placement already, including 14% of these students pursuing graduate study. The average salary for reported employment positions is $64,616.

Also receiving degrees this term are four mechanical engineering Ph.D. students and eight Master's degree students. Two of the graduating M.S. students will be moving on to acquire a Ph.D.

Congratulations to all those graduating, and thank you to our faculty and staff for their continued excellence in preparing our students for life in the mechanical engineering profession.

**Fall Design Expo photos available online**
Be sure to view the photos from the December 4 Mechanical Engineering Design Expo in the Howe Hall Atrium. Click on the icon below to view the images.

**Upcoming events**
- December 24-25 – University holiday, offices closed
- December 26-28, 31 – Business office open, with minimal staff
- January 1, 2013 – University holiday, offices closed
- January 2-4, 7-11 – Business office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- January 14 – Business office resumes 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. hours