NSF Awards $20 Million Grant to Research Team Led by Robert Brown

Robert C. Brown, an Anson Marston Distinguished Professor in Engineering, the Gary and Donna Hoover Chair in Mechanical Engineering, and the Iowa Farm Bureau Director of Iowa State’s Bioeconomy Institute, will lead a $20 million, five-year National Science Foundation grant to build Iowa’s research capacity in renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Iowa Power Fund, a state program supporting energy innovation and independence, has also granted the project $2 million in cost-share to pay for research equipment. (Full story)

Meet the New ME Faculty

Profiles for each of the four new ME faculty members are available on the ME website.

Vance Receives Anderlik Medallion

On September 9, 2011, Judy Vance received a medallion to commemorate her position as the Joseph and Elizabeth Anderlik Professor in Engineering during a ceremony that included remarks from President Gregory Geoffroy and Dean Jonathan Wickert. (Full story)

Record Enrollment of ME Students

The mechanical engineering undergraduate student numbers are at a record high with 1342 students, again making mechanical engineering the most popular program on campus. Our graduate student numbers are at 180 students. The College of Engineering has also increased its student numbers to nearly 7,000 total students.

Brown to Give Keynote Talk at IMECE 2011

Robert C. Brown will give a keynote presentation at the ASME 2011 International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition in Denver, CO, on November 16. His presentation title is "Pyrolysis Energy Systems," and will review a variety of pyrolysis processes and discuss promising applications of pyrolysis products. (Abstract)

Embrace Your Inner Engineer at E-Week 2011

Engineers’ Week (E-Week) 2011, which includes the nation’s largest indoor career fair, has a plethora of activities planned to engage students not only in the College of Engineering, but across all departments at Iowa State. This year’s theme “Embrace Your Inner Engineer” encourages students to take pride in being an engineer. (E-week release)

Levitas Receives Honorary Title

Valery Levitas, Schafer 2050 Challenge Professor and faculty member in both aerospace and mechanical engineering, has received a title of Honorary Doctor in Materials from the Institute for Superhard Materials of the Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences, Kiev, Ukraine. This title was just established on occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Institute for Superhard Materials and Levitas was one of the three researchers in the world who were awarded with this title. The awarding took place at the end of the International Conference on High Pressure Effects on Materials in Kiev, just after Levitas delivered a closing keynote lecture. The award was given in recognition of Levitas’s pioneering works on the theory and modeling of diamond synthesis and high pressure.
September 24 – E-Week Charity Ball  
September 27 – College of Engineering Career Fair