First Michigan Industry Road Trip a Big Success

During the weeklong Michigan Industry Road Trip the WMU engineering group was introduced to and networked with recruiters and WMU alumni at various state engineering firms. Some of these alumni have reached senior leadership positions at such companies as the Stryker Corporation, Gentex Corporation, AutoCam, Consumers Energy, Chrysler, and General Motors. The new program emphasizes the importance of networking with potential employers and gave the students a real on the job experience of working as an engineer in Michigan. This was an opportunity for the companies to connect with WMU’s very talented engineering students as well. The group also had the opportunity to meet with our State Representative Sean McCann, at the State Capitol Building who shared his outlook on the working opportunities in Michigan. The students in addition toured and explored the downtown communities of Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Lansing, and Detroit to see what the cities had to offer for housing, recreation, and entertainment which gave the group insight into what it would be like to live and work there. The plan is to have the road trip annually during spring break.

Touring Consumers Energy at their J.H. Campbell Generating Plant along the Lake Michigan shoreline in West Olive, MI.

Group visited our state capital building with and meet with Representative Sean McCann.

CEAS Students Save $ With CASPad

In an effort to replace the schedule modules at CEAS a team of two students Jason Johnson and Anne Franco, took the idea of former CEAS IT director Karlis Kaugers and ran with it. Instead of using the existing model for replacements at a cost of $3500 a piece, they purchased first generation iPads and produced a 100% student developed app for the iPads. The cost of the end product was a total of $700 a piece, which was a significant savings for the college. The iPad with the application is a customizable and reliable solution for room schedule information and will help to alleviate confusion for students, especially on the first week of class. The need for schedule print outs should be eliminated as well, which will also add to the cost savings. Anne is expected to graduate this spring with a B.S. in Graphic & Printing Science and Jason is expected to graduate this summer with a M.S. in Computer Science. The CASPad was also accepted for presentation and very well received at the EDUCAUSE Midwest regional conference.
Lois Lemon Named LHC Faculty Fellow

Lois Lemon, pictured center in printing lab with her students.

Lois Lemon Master Faculty Specialist in the CEAS Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Imaging, has been named a Faculty Fellow of the Lees Honors College. Lois joined PCI as an instructor in the Printing Programs in 1996. The Faculty Fellow designation is the highest honor that the LHC can give to a member of the WMU faculty and this award recognizes Lemon’s many years of dedicated teaching and mentoring of honor students. Lois will receive the award on the evening of Friday, April 27 at a ceremony at the Shaw Theater recognizing our April graduates.

OVPR Award Goes to Spencer Watza

Spencer Watza a CEAS mechanical and aeronautical engineering student, recently received the Office of the Vice President of Research Undergraduate Research Excellence Award for spring of 2012. The goal of this award is to provide WMU undergraduate students with an opportunity to receive a mentored research or to participate in creative activity experiences with WMU’s faculty. Students who earn the OVPR award receive $500 toward a stipend, travel or supplies for a semester or for a two term experience.

Pnina Ari-Gur is Spencer’s mentor and she is a professor in the MAE department as well.

Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Awards

CEAS Department Graduate Teachers for 2011–12:
Ahmed Tausif Aijazi – Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging
Sean Derrick – Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
Subash Gokanakonda – Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering
Lalith Prasad Narasimhan – Electrical and Computer Engineering
Thomas Tran – Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging

Graduate Research & Creative Scholar Awards

CEAS All-University Scholar for 2011–12:
Angela Marotta Garrison – Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology
CEAS Department Scholars for 2011–12:
Ting Chen – Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging
Sooman Lim – Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging

The University community is invited to attend a program and reception to honor the Graduate Research and Creative Scholars on Thursday, April 26, 2012, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the South Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. The program will include presentations by student award winners. For more information visit: The Graduate College

ITE Student Paper Competition Winner

Civil and Construction Engineering graduate student Farhad Abasahl was awarded 1st place and $500 at the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) student paper competition. ITE has recognized recipients of the Student Paper Award since 1976. The purpose of this competition is to encourage student members of ITE to conduct and report on independent and original research and investigation of traffic or transportation engineering subjects and to provide a means for recognizing outstanding accomplishment in this area. Farhad’s paper “Key Elements of Safety in Modern Roundabouts”, will now be electronically forwarded to the district level competition where it will be evaluated and the winners will be announced in mid-July.

ITE Student Paper Competition Winner

Pnina Ari-Gur is Spencer’s mentor and she is a professor in the MAE department as well.

 CEAS Upcoming Events
- Stryker Challenge April 4, 4:30 to 6:30pm
- Litho Day April 4, 11am to 2pm in the ParkView at CEAS
- Outstanding Student Luncheon April 6, in the ParkView in the ParkView
- Paper Engineering Open House April 14
- Senior Engineering Design Presentations April 17

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