



MECHANICAL ENGINEERING NEWS

December 1, 2005

A newsletter for the UML Mechanical Engineering community (also available online at <http://mechanical.uml.edu>)

Any items you would like to see included in the newsletter or any suggestions/comments? Please email them to: john_mckelliget@uml.edu

Calendar

Dec 2	CoE Ice skating, Tsongas Arena, 2.20-5.40
Dec 8	ME Seminar, Jon Greene, Lambda Inc
Dec 14	Last Day of Classes
Dec 15	Reading Day
Jan 21	Snapshot Day (an open house)

Announcements

- December 2005 graduates please make sure you have submitted a DIG form and that your name appears on the graduation list on the ME Web site. DIG forms are completed by your advisor and checked by the Dept. Chair.
- Flu shot clinics will be provided on campus for all students, faculty, and staff on Tues. 12/6, 10 a.m.-2.00 p.m., McGauvran SUB, 3rd floor lobby, south campus. \$ 15 with valid UML I.D. For further info dial x1234
- Interested in the Society for Automotive Engineering (SAE)? Sign-up sheet in ME office, or contact Matt Massey.
- Interested in serving on the ME Student Advisory Council? Contact Prof. McKelliget.
- The College of Engineering will pay 75% of the registration fee for seniors interested in taking the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam. You are responsible for registering for the exam and paying the fee, and then we will reimburse you. The FE exam is the first step in the process of professional registration as an engineer. Deadline for April exam is December 1, deadline for October exam is June 1.

ME Seminar Series

Sam Chow, of Intrinsic Therapeutics Inc, was guest speaker at the ME seminar on October 19, 2005. Originally a transfer student from the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, he graduated, cum laude, from our BS program in '99. He then worked in the composites lab and graduated from our MS program in '02, completing a thesis under Prof. Chen.

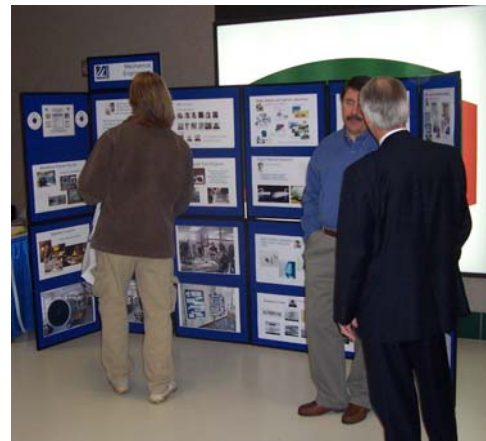
In his talk he introduced a new approach to treating close annular defects in the human spine using a mechanical barrier. Sam also discussed his role as a test engineer in the field of medical devices.



Sam Chow with Profs. Shina and Chen

Open House 2005

On Sunday October 23rd, 2005 the University held its annual open house at the Tsongas Arena. North campus laboratories were also open for tours. The open house is an important component of our recruitment efforts and we are always looking for students who are willing to help out.



ME dept. display boards at the Tsongas Arena



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Prof. McKelliget would like to thank the following students, staff, and faculty who donated their time: Dana Nicgorski, Pradeep Govindaiah, Matt Massey, Sarah Tremblay, Peter Tavilla, Adam Butland, Rafael Plahm, Craig Boutin, Chris Silva, Peter Avitabile, Hongwei Sun, Christopher Niezrecki, Glen Bousquet, Jackie Paradise, Robert Ladebauche, Patrick Drane.



Senior Adam Butland talks to prospective students and their parents at the 2005 Open House.

PTC 9/11 Scholarship

Junior ME student Brian Hidalgo was recently awarded a scholarship from PTC Corp. (the maker of Pro-Engineer). The scholarship is awarded on a state-wide basis to students of the University of Massachusetts who were significantly affected by the events of 9/11. Brian had his studies interrupted for a period of military service in Afghanistan from Spring 2002 to Spring 2004. This scholarship is awarded once a year, so if there is anyone out there who thinks they might be eligible for next year please let Prof. Parkin know.

SLICE Project

The College of Engineering was recently awarded a major (\$1M) grant for departmental curricular reform from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Principal Investigator (PI) on the grant is Prof. John Duffy of the ME department. The title of the grant is Service-Learning Integrated throughout a College of Engineering (SLICE). The goal of the project is for all engineering students to see at least one service-

learning project each semester. The projects are to be integrated into our existing core courses. The College has hired Linda Barrington to coordinate the project. Linda is an ME dept. graduate ('04).

In addition to the integrated projects, students particularly interested in service-learning can sign up for 3 one-credit courses, starting in their sophomore year. The three courses combined can count towards a technical elective in ME. Profs. Parkin and Duffy are particularly active in this area.

Service-learning helps us address a number of learning outcomes that are required by our accrediting body (ABET). Such projects have also been shown to enhance student learning and retention.

We have also instituted an inter-departmental capstone design course whereby students can work on cross-disciplinary service-learning projects, such as the Peru Project or the Assistive Technology Project (EE dept.). This inter-departmental capstone course may be taken in place of the ME capstone course 22.423.



**DEPARTMENT OF
MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING**

University of Massachusetts at Lowell