



MECHANICAL ENGINEERING NEWS

October 6, 2008

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

Calendar

Oct 8 GE Aviation Career Opportunities
Oct 13 Columbus Day, University Closed
Oct 15 Monday Schedule
Oct 26 University Open House
Oct 27 Advising Begins

Welcome

Welcome back to all our returning students, as well as new freshmen and transfer students. This semester we have 326 undergraduate students – up 26 from last year.

The biggest change you may have noticed this year is that the University is charging a \$500 a year undergraduate engineering student fee. This fee is specifically targeted to cover undergraduate laboratory and other teaching expenses, including software licenses. A new color printer has been purchased for the computer lab (please be gentle with it). The chairs and air conditioners in the lab will also be upgraded. A student project area next to the wind tunnel is being renovated.

I welcome suggestions from students as to how to best spend these funds.

I urge all students to attend the departmental seminar this Wednesday (10/8). Representatives of GE Aviation, Lynn MA, will visit the department. The presentation is at 11.30 in Cumnock Hall. Free pizza.
- Prof McKelliget

New Faculty

David Willis joined the faculty this semester as an Assistant Professor. His area of expertise is aeronautical engineering. He received his BS from Carleton University in Canada, and both his MS and PhD from MIT. David is involved in computational and experimental investigations of flight, specifically on the small scale – such as birds, bats, and small remotely piloted vehicles. There are some really cool pictures of bat flight at his Website:

<http://www.mit.edu/~djwillis/FlappingFlight/BatFlight.html>



David Willis

This semester David is helping out in the freshman Intro to Engineering I course (25.107)

Student Wins Prestigious Prize

During the recent Acoustic Society of America (ASA) Conference (jointly organized with the European Acoustic Association) held in Paris, France UML ME PhD student Berke Gur was the winner of the ASA Technical Committee on Signal Processing 2007 Student Challenge. This competition involves a real-life acoustical signal processing problem and is open to students world-wide. The winner is decided based on the clarity, creativity, rigor, and insight of the solutions. The 2007 problem was related to underwater acoustic based communications with autonomous underwater vehicles.



Berke M. Gur, PhD Candidate
Structural Dynamics and Acoustic Systems Lab

Berke receives an award of \$1,000.

Student Featured on NAE Website

Tanya Martinez, an MS student in the Energy Program, is highlighted on a National Academy of Engineering Web site designed to entice high school girls to study engineering.



Tanya Martinez

Although she grew up in Massachusetts, Tanya's mother is a Mi'kmaq Indian from New Brunswick, Canada.

Tanya was attracted to study engineering at UML because of its emphasis on alternative energy and service-learning.

More details can be found at the NAE Website

<http://www.engineeryourlife.org/cms/6167/6207.aspx>



Tanya collects data from solar energy panels on a Navajo reservation.

Research Awards

Prof. James Sherwood has been awarded a \$6000 contract from the National Science Foundation. The project is titled "*Linking Process-Induced Properties to Thermoplastic-Matrix Woven-Fabric Composites Performance*".

ME Seminar Schedule, Fall 2008

All students are urged to attend the ME Department Seminars. Free pizza and soda is provided.

Date	Speaker	Topic
Oct. 8 (W) 11:30 am Cumnock Hall	Jamie Cushman	GE Aviation
Oct. 15 (W) 11:30 am Kitson 309 (joint with Dept. Biological Sciences)	Dr. Wonshik Choi MIT	Field-based 3D microscopy for live cell imaging
Oct. 22 (W) 11:30 am Kitson 309 (joint with CHN/NCOE Seminar)	Dr. Daeyeon Lee, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University	Functional Nanoparticle Assemblies Based on Layer- by-Layer Assembly and Microfluidics
Nov. 6 (Th) 11:30 am Kitson 309 (joint with CHN/NCOE Seminar)	Dr. Bong Jae Lee Assistant Professor University of Pittsburgh	Coherent Thermal Emission from Nanostructures and Near-Field Radiative Heat Transfer