2010 New England International Auto Show

The Department of Mechanical Engineering Formula SAE team recently exhibited their Formula car at the 2010 New England International Auto Show, at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, December 1 – 5. The show is the premier showcase for the newest model year import and domestic vehicles - cars, vans, light trucks and sport utilities.

This event was great publicity for the Department and the University, and all expenses for the trip were covered by the UML Provost’s Office. Thank you to all the club members involved, and special thanks to Paul Paradise for towing the trailer.

Robotics Minor Website

The official robotics minor web site is here!

http://www.uml.edu/robotics/

Prof. Niemi Appointed to Associate Fellow in AIAA

Prof. Gene Niemi was recently notified that he has been elected to the grade of Associate Fellow in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). Associate Fellows are individuals of distinction who have made “notable and valuable contributions to the arts, sciences, or technology of aeronautics or astronautics.” The qualifications leading to his membership upgrade are listed below:

Professor Niemi has served as a teacher and mentor to many hundreds of students who have taken his aerodynamics courses over 35 years. He has provided this opportunity in a state educational system of five universities where no other aerodynamics courses are regularly offered. He is also jointly responsible for starting an AIAA student branch at his university.

Dr. Niemi has been awarded numerous Summer Faculty Fellowships by NASA, the Air Force, and the Army; and this, combined with his practical and industrial experience has allowed him the unique opportunity to mentor students interested in all areas of aerodynamics; from light planes, to parachutes, to rotary wing, and finally in supersonic aerodynamics. He has made contributions to the understanding of rotor blade flapping behavior of gyroplanes experiencing zero-g flight, as well as the effects of canopy stiffness on parachute opening time and shock.

He has served on the Council of the New England Section of AIAA for several years and is currently the editor of their bimonthly newsletter, Aerospace New England.

Dr. Niemi is a Registered Professional Engineer and holds a commercial pilot’s license with an instrument rating, and certified in single engine land and sea.
Course Schedules

You are reminded that the best place to obtain the latest class schedule (all departments) is at
http://www.uml.edu/registrar/schedules/class schedules/spring_courses.html

Graduation list

The following students are on the graduation list

Dec 2010
William Abrams, David Carter, Evan Gauthier, Stephen Lahti, Khiem Le, Alex Muenzer, Ezekiel Radik, James Soteropolous, Steven Toomey, Ian Wa, Deanna Walentuk.

May 2011

If you think your name should be on this list, and it isn’t, see Prof. McKelliget immediately.

Research Notes

Joseph Sargent, first year MS Student, will give an oral presentation on his research at the upcoming MRS Meeting. His talk is entitled "Study of Selectively Permeable Coatings to Textiles".

Prof. Reynaud recently organized the NSF sponsored student poster symposium at the ASME IMECE 2010 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The symposium hosted 40 awardees from all over the country, covering a wide range of fields in mechanical engineering.

The Structural Dynamics and Acoustic Systems Laboratory received several new research contracts this Fall.

Eglin Air Force Research Laboratory
Title: Development of Dynamic Response Modeling Techniques for Linear Modal Components Interconnected with Non-linear Connection Elements
Phase 1 - June 2010 to December 2011
$208,711.
Phase 2 - January 2012 to May 2013
$170,370

Pratt & Whitney
Title: Small Integrally Bladed Rotors Mistuning Rig Support Effort
Phase 1 - October 2010 to December 2010 $37,776
Phase 2 - January 2011 to December 2011 $110,176

Naval Underwater Warfare Center
Title: Passive Noise Reduction using the Modal Enhanced Dynamic Absorber
October 2010 to September 2012
$138,819

Seminar
Wed, Dec. 8, 2010 Falmouth 300
The next UML/DWC Student Branch meeting will be held as part of the UMass Lowell ME Dept. Seminar Series on Weds, Dec. 8, 2010, from 11 am—12 noon, in Falmouth 300. A presentation entitled “Aviation, What’s It ALL About” will be given by Joel Godston. During the seminar Joel will cover:
o Aviation issues and events from history
o Experiences in space
o Insight on technology challenges from history and ‘today’