

Acceleration

James Worth Bagley College of Engineering Student Newsletter

College of Engineering Homecoming Float First Place, Overall

The College of Engineering Homecoming Float complete with rocket ship cowbell, Bullytron, and Star Trek engines demolished the competition and won Best Overall Float in last week's Homecoming float competition. Students from all engineering majors contributed to the project, which was sponsored by the Engineering



Student Council. Float riders were decked out with everything from aluminum foil wristbands and foil antennas to stainless steel colanders as headgear. We can all be proud of our float and the proof it provides for what we knew already: engineers truly are the best!

Special points of interest:

- Bagley College of Engineering wins First Place Overall for their "state of the Future" Homecoming float.
- New Interim Dean of Engineering
- Six Sigma Certificate Program
- Tours of MSU's Engineering Research facilities
- Omega Chi Epsilon to induct new members
- ASME helps out Habitat for Humanity in Jackson, MS
- AIAA to host 2nd Annual Sky Dawgs RC Airshow



New Student Convocation

This event educates new engineering students, both freshman and transfers, about the opportunities in the Bagley College of Engineering. In the auditorium, students listen to such speakers as Interim Dean Taylor and representatives from Cooperative Education, Career Services, Entrepreneurship Program, and Study Abroad. Then the students divide by major into classrooms where they attend an info session from their departmental student organization (ex: IEEE, ASME). Lastly, the students visit non-departmental organization booths, such as the Engineering Stu-

dent Council, Society of Women Engineers, etc. Pizza and drinks are served afterwards!!!



Go Tour MSU's Research Facilities!

CAVS and the ERC are giving tours to Engineering students in October. Watch for information regarding specific dates and times!

The Engineering Student Council has coordinated with CAVS, DIAL, and the ERC to allow students the chance to check out what is going on at Mississippi State's nationally ranked research facilities. In early November (the date has not yet been set), from 1:30-4:30 in the afternoon, students will be able to take thirty minute tours of any or all of the facilities.

CAVS is the Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems and is teamed up with Nissan to develop means for improving production of vehicles and the vehicles themselves. DIAL, or the Diagnostic Instrumentation and Analysis Laboratory, is a facility that researches how to monitor, control, and optimize processes re-

lated to environmental, heating, chemical and petroleum industries. The ERC (Engineering Research Center) is a computing research facility and features the COVE, a room-sized, multi-person, high-resolution, three-dimensional video and audio theater.

These research facilities are helping MSU become the State of the Future. Check it out and learn what is being developed at our university. The Research Park is located across Highway 82 from the Sanderson Center. Parking is available at each of the facilities, or students can ride the Blue Route shuttle, which runs every fifteen minutes.

New Interim Dean for the College of Engineering – Brendan Flynn

Interim Dean of the Bagley College of Engineering Robert Taylor stepped down and Glenn Steele took over the position effective October 1.

Taylor took the position of Interim Dean when Dean Wayne Bennett retired June 30 of this year.

Taylor asked that his replacement be brought in before he left to allow for a smooth transition. Taylor is retiring from MSU. He is going to be on the faculty at the University of Alabama as a mechanical engineering professor.

MSU has been searching for a dean for the Bagley College of Engineering with the aid of a search firm since Dean Bennett left.

Glenn Steele graduated from MSU in 1968 and has served on the faculty since 1979. He served as interim dean for the 95-96 school term and he has been the

head of the Mechanical Engineering Department since 1990.

"I'm pleased to be able to serve the college. I'm a Mississippi State University graduate and I've been on the faculty for 25 years. I'm very committed to the Mississippi State University College of Engineering and I'm willing to serve as the interim dean," Steele said, "The search for a permanent dean is still underway and I will serve until we have a new permanent dean."

Endowed Faculty Chairs - Brendan Flynn

Two new faculty position endowments were created recently in the Bagley College of Engineering.

The Earnest W. and Mary Ann Deavenport Jr. Chair was established to support the position of Dean of Engineering. The pledge was \$2 million and the Deavenports provided the money to ensure the university can recruit outstanding deans in the future. The endowment also provides the dean with discretionary funds.

Earnest Deavenport is a 1960 Chemical Engineering alum and he and his wife also set up a scholarship en-

dowment at MSU several years ago.

The Bill and Corolyn Cobb Chair was also established recently with a pledge of \$1.5million. Bill Cobb was a faculty member in the 70s. The chair is set up for either mechanical or chemical engineering. The decision will be made by the dean once the endowment reaches its full size, which usually takes a few years. As with the dean chair, the faculty chair will provide the position with discretionary funds.

Endowed chairs enable MSU to recruit and retain outstanding faculty members.

Six Sigma Certificates - Brendan Flynn

The College of Engineering is currently working to put together a Six Sigma Certification program for students. The Six Sigma program, which includes certification levels Green Belt, Black Belt and Master Black Belt, is based on streamlining business and working toward ultimate efficiency. Larry Dalton is the director of the six sigma program which is housed in Industrial Engineering.

The creation of the Six Sigma program being put together at MSU is the product of a relationship between MSU Industrial Engineering alumnus Henry (Buddy) Faulkner and Division Vice President for 3M specialty film and media products, Larry Thomason. Thomason and Faulkner, who worked together at 3M over 30 years ago as statistician and quality engineer, respectively, thought MSU would be able to produce more marketable graduates with a Six Sigma program.

The program is funded by a two year grant of \$504,000 from three divi-

sions of 3M: Thomason's division, the 3M automotive division, and the 3M foundation.

The money goes towards the creation of a director position for the program, scholarships to support students in the program, to train our faculty in Six Sigma techniques for improvements on campus, and to send students out to businesses to complete program projects. A big portion of Six Sigma is for students to go out to industry and implement their efficiency projects.

The certification program is proposed to require engineering statistics 1 and 2, quality engineering, process improvement and yet undefined project course for a total of 15 hours Dalton said.

The program will be open to all engineering majors and possibly some business majors.

On average a Six Sigma certified Black Belt enjoys a 5-10% increase in starting income..

Big thanks to the Deavenports and Cobbs for their generous contributions to the Bagley College of Engineering!

Theta Tau News—Rod Fleming, Regent

Theta Tau is a professional engineering fraternity that combines the social and professional aspects of engineering. This year the fraternity is celebrating its 100th anniversary and our local chapter, Kappa Beta, is celebrating its 40th anniversary at Mississippi State University. Over the summer, four members attended our National Convention in Minneapolis, MN. Once again, we took home the hardware. For the seventh time in our history, we won the Erich J. Schrader Award for the best Theta Tau chapter. This award is given to the best chapter in the nation every biennium, based on the previous two years. Kappa Beta is home to more Schrader awards than any other chapter. We are very proud of this achievement. In addition, J. Mike Nossler, program coordinator for the ECE Department, won the award for best chapter advisor. This was the first time this award was given.

Last spring, we celebrated our 40th anniversary by hosting an alumni reunion in New Orleans, LA. The reunion was aboard the John James Audubon Steamboat, which cruised the Mississippi River for 3 hours. Fifty alumni attended this event along with the en-

tire active chapter. The event was a great success and we would like to thank all of our alumni who attended. They are the reason why Kappa Beta chapter is so successful.

This semester, we have many events planned. Our biggest event occurred Homecoming weekend with our 16th annual Pig Pickin'. Approximately 200 people attended among which included 30 alumni and 50 members from various chapters. The event featured a pig roast, bonfire, and a live band (The Stage Bandits). Thus far this semester, we have completed a service project and a professional development dinner. The group conducted an Adopt-A-Mile cleanup of two miles of Hwy 182 early in September and hosted Dr. Jefcoat, professor in the Chemical Engineering Department, at Bulldog Deli for a professional development dinner.

Theta Tau is co-ed and open to any declared engineering major. Rush events are held at the beginning of each fall and spring semester. If you are interested in joining our organization or just want more information, please contact Rod Fleming (rjf24@msstate.edu).

Theta Tau celebrates 40 years at Mississippi State and receives the Erich J. Schrader Award for Best Chapter.

Omega Chi Epsilon—Britton Eyles, President

OCE is the Chemical Engineering honor society. We are having induction next Wednesday October 20, at Harvey's at 6:00 pm. ChevronTexaco is sponsoring the event. They will send a few reps to eat with us as we recognize our newest members of OCE, Omega Chi Epsilon. We will induct 7 new

members. The guest speaker for the event is Coach Ron Polk. OCE has been tutoring mass & energy balances so far this year (a CHE course) twice a week. We look forward to a great year of service.

Society of Plastics Engineers—Ernest

On Tuesday, October 12, the MSU chapter of Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) traveled to Jackson to meet with the Mississippi Section 88 chapter. The state section actively promotes the MSU chapter and invites the chapter to their meeting every second Tuesday in the month. Dinner was served at the meeting, which was held at Dennery's restaurant. While enjoying some great food, the state section presented two videos on injection modeling and quality assurance.

The first video showcased the main component in the injection molding process and the functionalities of its parts. The second video emphasized some problems that might occur in the injection molding equipment and some troubleshooting solutions. Both videos proved to be informative and useful for polymer industry appli-

cations. Following the videos, there was an open discussion between the MSU chapter and state session about some polymer applications, equipment investment and polymer and composite plants in the state. The MSU chapter walked away with a valuable resource and numerous contacts.

The goal of the state session is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics. The mission of the MSU chapter is to help increase the knowledge and understanding of the plastics and polymer industries in interesting ways.

The MSU chapter of SPE will hold its next meeting on October 28, at Swalm 110. If you would like to be put on the mailing list for notification of future events, please contact Ernest (edr3@msstate.edu) or Laura (law128@msstate.edu).



MSU SPE section visited with professionals in Jackson, MS, and enjoyed videos and a Q & A session.

AICHE News—Harris Nelson

The American Institute of Chemical Engineers is having a cookout Wednesday October 20th (the day after fall break).. We have cookouts alternating Wednesdays. Come out and join us!

We are having a meeting with Exxon-Mobil on October 27th.

We will be attending the National conference in Austin, TX on November 4th -9th.

AMSE News—Brandi DeLee, ASME Newsletter Editor

ASME has started off on a busy semester, and our new Chair, Matt Jones has been doing a great job. Two drill-field cookouts have already been held and the next one is scheduled for next Thursday, October 15.

Our students recently traveled to Jackson to participate in Habitat for Humanity, in partnership with Eaton Aerospace. The trip included a tour of the Eaton facility, and was a great success.

Bi-weekly meetings are proceeding as planned with the next one being a joint meeting with the American Foundry Society on Thursday, October 14. The students and faculty alike are gearing up for our annual Student-Faculty Softball game at the end of October.

Be on the lookout for more ASME news and activities, and we look forward to a great rest-of-the-semester!



AIAA News—Angela Spence

AIAA started the semester with our annual trip to the Superman RC Jet Rally in Metropolis, IL. We had six members attend the jet rally, and one member participate as a pilot.

AIAA will host the 2nd Annual Sky Dawgs RC Airshow at Bryan Airfield in Starkville on November 12-14, 2004. This event is AMA sanctioned and all RC pilots are encouraged to join us for a weekend of flying fun. Friday 6 pm—until will be set-up and a cookout. Saturday we will be flying all day (9 am—dark) with the pilot's meeting starting at 8:30 am. On Sunday, we will fly from noon—dark. Pre-registration on our website (<http://www.ae.msstate.edu/~aiaa>) is \$10, or its \$15 for day of the event. Spectator entry fee is \$2. Any

interested vendors should check out our website for information. Concessions will be available at the field, so bring your lawn chair and watch helicopters, propeller and jet radio-controlled aircraft sport their stuff. Any questions should be directed to Christopher Eigenheer (Event Coordinator) at cje18@msstate.edu.

We are also proud to announce three design teams this year in our department, AIAA's Design/Build Fly team, AUVSI's AUV team, and SAE's Heavy Lift team. We look forward to keeping you updated on the progress of these teams.

IIE News—Sarah Allen, President

IIE's in General

Industrial Engineering focuses on the design and improvement of integrated systems of information, materials, and people. The Industrial Engineer is concerned with the whole system and strives for quality improvement and increased productivity. As a member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers, you would enjoy a monthly magazine and a trip to the next IIE convention. Last semester the IIE Convention was held at the University of Florida and it was very fun and entertaining.

IE's at MSU

In the past, we took an IIE trip to Disney World to see what IE's do and then we

“tested” out the designs. Also, 14 IE's were involved in the first Coed basketball league last semester, of which, we went undefeated and all were given the champion 2004 T-shirts. This year we are planning a trip to Canton, MS, which is the new Nissan plant. The trip will be on Friday, October 29, 2004 and we will leave at noon. Also, our next IIE meeting will be on Wednesday, October 27, 2004 at 12! We will have free food and potential a speaker.

IE's want YOU

We would love for you to check out our website at www.ie.msstate.edu. Come Join Our Team!

Society of Automotive Engineers—Sarah Allen, Treasurer

SAE is a society for all engineering majors to work as a team to design and build a formula car to race in Michigan against other SAE teams. SAE has already begun the design phase for the 2005 competition, but interested parties are still welcome to join in on the excitement. We plan to start building the car soon and need all the ideas and manpower available. If you are interested, our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 20, 2004 or you are welcome to contact Kenny, the SAE president, for more information: keb9@msstate.edu

SAE May 2004 Event Recap

On May 20th – 23rd several SAE members went to Pontiac, Michigan to check out the competition. The member that went on the trip include: Kenny Brister, Brian Whitmire, RC, Jonathan Price, Michael Ishee, Brad Warner, and Sarah Allen. We spoke with other SAE teams who told us what they should have done differently in the design phase and what they liked the most about their cars design. The trip was a wonderful experience, because most of our SAE members are new and this trip helped to show what kind of tests the car will have to endure. The competitions were intense and we need to be prepared for this kind of competition.

Entrepreneurship Club—Byron J, Williams, President

The Engineering Entrepreneurship Club (E-Club) has two meetings remaining for the Fall 2004 semester. On Tuesday, November 2, our lunch speaker will be Doug Marchant, CEO and General Manager of Unified Health Services. We will also host Virginia Carron, Partner in Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP, in Atlanta, GA on No-

vember 19. She will talk to us about intellectual property/patent law. Both meetings will take place in McCain Room 205 at 12:00 pm on their respective dates.

Lunches will be provided, so if you want to attend, please email me @ bjw1@cse.msstate.edu.

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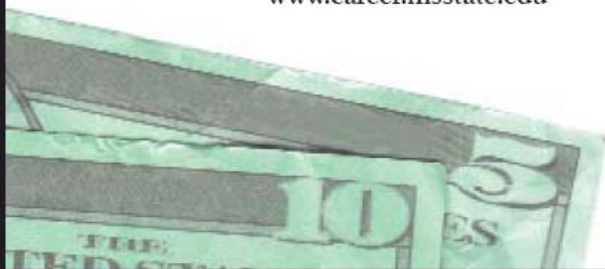
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