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CEAS Students Win the Stryker Challenge

L to R: Dr. Miller, Luke Burkey, Colin Haire, Wei Chiu, Kevin Thompson, Fred Sitkins

Congratulations to the CEAS engineering team that won the first annual Stryker challenge. They include: ECE student Wei Chiu, MAE students Luke Burley, Kevin Thompson and, Colin Haire. Their faculty adviser is Dr. Damon Miller and Professor Fred Sitkins is their team organizer. The CEAS team coming in at first place beat the University of Michigan, Michigan State, Notre Dame and, Purdue University. Each team had to construct a vehicle and run it on a timed course. WMU performed flawlessly achieving the best time. Stryker Corporation used this event to narrow down the field of engineering schools that it will be recruiting from. This will be an annual event with a different competition each year.

Jim Evans, Stryker Vice President of Product Development & Engineering ’80 WMU BSME, congratulated the team. Jim said he will share his WMU pride with all of his engineering friends from the other schools involved in the competition at every opportunity.

“Where in the World is this CEAS Bronco” Challenge

Answer: Holding the Challenge Coin is WMU alumni Kurt Hayden. A correct response was received from WMU CEAS associate professor Zijang James Yang. The location is Taipei, Taiwan and the building is called Taipei 101. To participate just send your Challenge Coin pictures to anita.ludwig@wmich.edu.

U.S. Senator Stabenow and President Dunn Unveil Charging Station

WMU alumni Todd Bannon, owner of the first Chevy Volt sold in Michigan.

The Parkview Campus charging station is one of four, the other three are located on main campus. One is in front of the Selbert Administration Building and two are located off of Stadium Drive by the Physical Plant building. Anyone may plug into chargers for free. A wind turbine on the Parkview Campus and a solar array on top of Wood Hall on the main campus will be used to offset the cost of the electrical use.

WMU may be the first organization in southwest Michigan to make charging stations available to the public and possibly the only one in the state to install its charging stations near public transit bus stops. The University received its four stations at no cost through an equipment grant from Coulomb Technologies, a company that manufactures electric-vehicle charging stations. Coulomb provided the stations as part of its $37 million ChargePoint America program. The program was made possible by a $15 million grant funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through the Transportation Electrification Initiative administered by the U.S. Department of Energy.

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow attended the unveiling ceremony at the charging station in front of the Engineering and Applied Sciences Building. The event introduced the charging station to the campus and local communities where several gathered to see President Dunn and Senator Stabenow plug in the electric Chevy Volt to our charging station.

2011 KAMSC Science Fair

This annual regional science fair, was hosted at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences on Friday March 25th, 2011. Dr. Osama Abudeyyah oversees the competition and it is sponsored by CEAS. Some competitors are mentored by CEAS faculty and several judges are also CEAS faculty. The 1st place individual winner and 1st place team winners earned the right to move on to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair 2011 to be held in the Los Angeles Convention Center on Los Angeles from May 8th-13, 2011.

1st Place Individual: Fatima Mirza, Senior
Characterization of the Symbiotic Relationship Between Sinorhizobium melloti and Alfalfa Plants
Kalamazoo Area Mathematics & Science Center

1st Place Team: Mallory Busso and Lauren Raycraft, Seniors' Potential Viable Ethanol Production from Panicum virgatum L. and Proposal Use of its Biorefinery
Kalamazoo Area Mathematics & Science Center

Dr. John Goudie the fair director, said that the projects were very outstanding this year and judges labored a long time with much discussion to determine this year’s winners. The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF), the world’s largest international pre-college science competition, provides an annual forum for over 1,600 high school students from nearly 60 countries, regions, and territories to showcase their independent research. The Intel ISEF is the premier global science competition for grades 9–12. For more information visit: http://www.societyforscience.org/isef

Senior Engineering Design Presentations!

Don’t forget, to save the date: Tuesday, April 19th, 2011 for the 48th Senior Engineering Design Conference Presentation! At the Parkview campus.