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3-21-2011

## CEAS e-news 03.21.2011

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

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March 21, 2011

Anita Ludwig, Editor  
anita.ludwig@wmich.edu

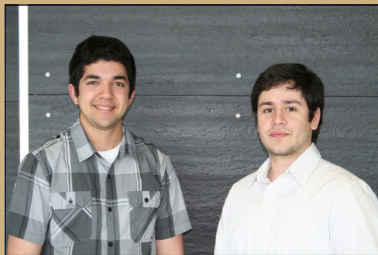
“One man's magic is another man's engineering.”  
~Robert A. Heinlein



## CEAS News

### CEAS Undergraduates Receive Research Excellence Award

**Alejandro Carrasco** and **Francisco Yapor** were selected as recipients of the Office of the Vice President for Research Undergraduate Research Excellence Award for spring 2011. Alejandro and Francisco are students from the Dominican Republic who are on a scholarship here at Western Michigan University. Francisco is studying Aeronautical Engineering and Alejandro is studying Mechanical Engineering. They are conducting their research with their mentor Dr. Pnina Ari-Gur, on Titania Catalyst. Their project, “*Synthesis and Characterization of Photocatalyst for Environmental Clean Up*”, earned them the award. Congratulations!



L to R: Alejandro Carrasco and Francisco Yapor

### “Where in the World is this CEAS Bronco” Challenge

**Below:** Here is the challenge, can you guess where this Bronco is? Can you name the building next to the CEAS Challenge Coin? If you would like to participate, please send your guess to anita.ludwig@wmich.edu and we will publish the winner of the challenge along with the Bronco, location, and building. Good luck!



### Perennial BioEnergy Team Takes 4th Place at 2011 Clean Energy Prize



Above L to R: Steven Kumar Srivastava, Sean Derrick, Gov. Rick Snyder, and Gerry Anderson, President & CEO of DTE Energy.

Perennial BioEnergy lead by **Steven Kumar Srivastava** and assisted by **Sean Derrick**, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences graduate students, finished fourth and received \$7,000 at the 2011 Clean Energy Prize (CEP) competition

### 48th Senior Engineering Design Conference Presentations are set for April 19th

The forty-eighth Senior Engineering Design Conference is planned for Tuesday, April 19th, 2011 from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences on the Parkview Campus of Western Michigan University (times to be announced later). The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences sponsors the conference to showcase the work of its graduating seniors, who are required to complete a capstone project that puts into practice what they have learned. Many of the projects are sponsored by business and industry. The conference is free and open to the public. You are welcome to attend all or part of the day's events. Reservations are not necessary. The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences sponsors the conference to showcase the work of its graduating seniors, who are required to complete a capstone project that puts into practice what they have learned.

For Additional Information please visit:

<http://www.wmich.edu/engineer/pdf/SEDP%2048%20Spring%202011.pdf>



on February 18<sup>th</sup> at the University of Michigan Alumni Center. The CEP, sponsored by DTE Energy and U of M, is a third-year annual student-based competition designed to engage the next generation of leaders in developing clean energy solutions.

**Perennial BioEnergy LLC** is creating a pennycress seed grower's cooperative to develop a reliable and affordable bio-oil supply for the biodiesel industry. USDA research has proven pennycress to be a viable non-food winter oilseed which can be integrated with summer cash crops such as corn and soybeans.

Steven and Sean are Masters Students in the Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering department majoring in Manufacturing Engineering. Both students work in the Green Manufacturing Initiative under the direction of Dr. John Patten P.E., Chairman of Manufacturing Engineering. Both students completed their undergraduate studies at Western Michigan University. Sean is expected to graduate in August 2011 and Steven in Spring 2012. Congratulations!



### Finite Element Basics & Refined Bridge Structural Analysis Workshop Group

The Department of Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE) conducted a two-day national workshop on *Finite Element Basics & Refined Bridge Structural Analysis* for 10 bridge engineers and consultants at the state and county level. **Dr. Upul Attanayake**, CCE assistant professor, **Dr. Yufeng Hu**, CCE assistant professor, and **Dr. Haluk Aktan**, CCE chair and professor, directed the event held at the Parkview Campus computer center on March 2 & 3.

The purpose of the workshop was to train bridge engineers on fundamentals of finite element analysis and provide the opportunity for hands on experience to gain knowledge in analyzing complex bridge structural systems. Workshop co-sponsors were the Michigan's Local Technical Assistance Program, National Association of County Engineers, American Council of Engineering Companies of Michigan, and Western Michigan University.