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WMU TAGA members honored for journal and paper

WMU's student chapter of Technical Association of the Graphic Arts (TAGA) was honored with two awards at the 2007 Annual Technical Conference (ATC) held last month in Pittsburgh.



WMU faculty and students at the TAGA Conference where they presented the WMU's TAGA Journal "Impressions". Seated (left to right): **Dr. Paul Fleming**, **Yu-Ju Wu**, **Erika Hrehorova**, and **Dr. Alexandra Pekarovicova**. Standing (left to right): **Sujay Pandkar**, **Nathan Schmucker**, **Garrett Tucker**, and **Omkar Chandorkar**

The WMU chapter received a Special Recognition award for Technical Writing and Non-print/New Media Design for "Impressions," the WMU TAGA student journal 2007 entry. In addition, **Erika Hrehorova**, a PCI Ph.D. candidate, won TAGA's Dusty Rhodes/TAGA Graduate Student Paper Award.

The students' winning journal entry includes research papers written by WMU TAGA student chapter members on topics such as printing of electronics, color management and spot color proofing, printing inks for conventional printing, and conductive inks.

Writers for the winning journal include **Hrehorova**, the TAGA student chapter president; **Yu-Ju Wu**, a PCI Ph.D. student; and **Miles Haney**, **Garrett Tucker**, and **Nathan Schmucker**, all PCI undergraduate students majoring in imaging. The journal design was created by **Sean Sanders**, a PCI undergraduate student majoring in imaging, and the page layout by **Sujay Pandkar**, who is enrolled in a PCI master's program.

Printing and binding of the publication were donated by North American Colors, Inc., Portage, MI.

Hrehorova's winning paper, "Evaluation of Gravure Print Form for Printed Electronics," focuses on the evaluation of gravure print form quality and the capability of available methods to engrave uniform

grooves for printing very fine lines. The paper is based on her research focus on the suitability of gravure printing in electronics manufacture and the development of new functional materials based on conductive and semi-conductive polymers for printed organic electronics.

Originally from Slovakia, Hrehorova came to WMU in the fall 2003 after earning a BS in chemical engineering and a MS in polymer materials at Slovak University. She has also earned a MS in paper and imaging science and engineering at WMU. She will present her paper at 2008 TAGA Annual Technical Conference in San Francisco, CA.

Also attending this year's conference were **Omkar Chandorkar**, a PCI master's student, and PCI faculty members **Dr. Paul Fleming** and **Dr. Alexandra (Sasha) Pekarovicova**, who serve as advisors to the WMU chapter. Pekarovicova is also one of 12 directors on the TAGA Board of Directors.

According to its Web site, TAGA is "the only global technical association for the graphic arts industries." It shares and disseminates information on current and new processes and products in the graphics industry to its 15 active chapters around the world. Its annual conference offers competitions, scholarships, fellowships, and networking opportunities.

Send your thoughts or suggestions for future topics to the editor at jerrie.fiala@wmich.edu. Thank you.