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"We shape our buildings, thereafter they shape us."
~ Winston Churchill



CEAS News

CAPE Recognized for Contributions to Innovation and More

The 2012 FLEXI Awards celebrate and recognize people, companies and organizations that are leading the development of this emerging industry with innovative and commercially viable technologies. Western Michigan University was one of four who were recognized for significant contributions to innovation, research and development, and leadership in education. The Center for the Advancement of Printed Electronics (CAPE) at Western Michigan University was the recipient of the FLEXI R&D Award. World-class research, technologically extraordinary and innovative product development, and new noteworthy commercial capacity for application into flexible or printed electronics were the basis for the entries for this award.

The entrants had the opportunity to show their ability to identify and solve a real problem, and their resolve to bring it to reality. CAPE is an application driven research group comprised of Ph.D.'s in chemical, electrical, mechanical, paper and material engineering. For printing and deposition, CAPE offers a variety of roll to roll and sheet techniques including: gravure, inkjet, screen, flexography, spin coating and various CVD techniques. Their research groups are also actively building analytic tools to model the printed electronics world. The award was accepted by Dr. Erika Rebrosova, assistant professor from the Department of Paper and Chemical Engineering and Imaging at Western Michigan University.

CCE Students Receive ITE of Michigan Scholarship Awards

Members of the Education Scholarship Committee at the Michigan Section of Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) selected two WMU students to receive a \$2,000 scholarship. There are four winners annually and CCE students **Chelsea Griffith** and **Omar Kanaan** were two of the four recipients.

Chelsea Griffith received her bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in civil engineering and is currently pursuing a master's degree in civil engineering specializing in transportation and structures. Chelsea is a member of WMU's traffic bowl team and competed in the district and international competitions last year.



Omar Kanaan is working on his master's degree specializing in transportation with a focus on bridge management. He received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering also from WMU. Omar is an active member of ITE. He participated in the traffic bowl competition, volunteered at last year's educational fund golf outing, and has attended various technical sessions and Great Lake meetings.



Harper Creek Takes on the Marble Siege

High school students from Harper Creek High School in Battle Creek recently participated in the "Marble Siege" competition at CEAS. The challenge was to build a structure that launched a marble off the table and into a cup located on the floor. The objective was to use only the materials provided to transport the marble from the table top as far as possible and land in the cup on the floor. Materials included were rubber bands, playing cards, pencils, tennis balls, string, duct tape, and clothes pins. Each team had 30 minutes to build their launcher and then three chances to launch the marble into the cup. The team with the farthest distance was the winner. According to the students the hardest part of the competition was getting a consistent launch of the marble so it could land in the same spot every time. The winning team had a distance of eleven feet and three inches.



TAPPI/PIMA Student Summit



The TAPPI/PIMA held a successful 2012 Student Summit with record numbers. The event was geared toward advanced undergraduate and graduate students and was designed to provide those interested in pulp, paper, packaging, and allied industries an opportunity for direct contact with industry leaders. Participants were given a chance to gain valuable information about employment and career development within the industry. The summit offered an excellent setting for students to learn about opportunities after graduation as well as some of the key challenges and prospects that are present in the industry. There were 23 students that represented WMU at the event. For more information visit: [2012 TAPPI/PIMA Student Summit](#)

CEAS Quarter Wars Event Proceeds to Help Kamaia Spencer's Family

During the 2012 Engineers Week of activities the CEAS departments will be kicking-off of the Quarter Wars competition for charity. This year all the proceeds will be donated to the family of Kamaia Spencer. Kamaia's family needs help, and we are hoping for a lot of support. Kamaia's story can be found here: [2 yr. old hit on Drake](#). The intention is to get students and anyone willing to support this cause involved from the entire WMU campus and the community. Students and community members that want to help can drop by any CEAS department and contribute to the Quarter Wars jar. The department collecting the most money will get the bragging rights for their efforts. Beginning Monday, Feb. 20, each department office will have an official container to collect quarters (or any amount) for this charity. The competition will run through Engineers Week, and containers will be picked up on Friday, Feb. 24.

Making Math Fun

CEAS Dean Anthony Vizzini spoke to a group of MATHCOUNTS competition students who gathered recently at the Bernhard Center. The program promotes mathematics achievement through a series of fun and engaging "bee" style contests. The program exists in all 50 states plus U.S. territories and the Department of Defense and State Department schools and is supported by the National Society of Professional Engineers at the state and local levels. Public, private, religious and home schools alike are eligible to participate, as long as students are in the sixth, seventh and/or eighth grade.



2012 Science Olympiad Regional Tournament Coming to WMU



Over 400 middle and high school students from Allegan, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, and Kalamazoo counties will gather for the Region 10 Science Olympiad competition Saturday, March 17, at Western Michigan University. The competition will run from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in various campus locations, with the awards ceremony from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Ballroom. Competitive events will take place in Wood Hall, Rood Hall, Chemistry Building, Dalton Center, Bernhard Center, and the Student Recreation Center. Approximately 150 WMU students, faculty and staff volunteers will be involved in some aspect of the Olympiad. There are 45 different events in the competition designed to test competitor's knowledge of physical, applied, and health science areas. Individuals and teams will compete in events such as: flight; tower building for efficiency; classical biology, physics and chemistry; technical writing; remote sensing and others. The Science Olympiad is a

national, nonprofit organization designed to promote scientific literacy among all students, a goal shared by education, business, industry and government. The Region 10 tournament directors are Marty Buehler of Hastings Area Schools and Scot Conant of WMU's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. For more information, contact Scot Conant at scot.conant@wmich.edu or (269) 276 - 3272. To learn more about Science Olympiad in Michigan, go to [Michigan Science Olympiad](#).

Matt Johnson

Matt Johnson a CEAS graduate in computer engineering, had been working as an engineer in Eaton Corporation's vehicle business unit in Galesburg since 2003. In January while on a business trip to Japan, Matt went missing while hiking alone on Mt. Fuji. After a long and very extensive search the Johnson family has accepted the heartbreaking fact that they will have to wait until spring to resume their search. Our thoughts are with Matt's family and we hope for future success in the search efforts for Matt.

For complete coverage of this story you can visit [Matt Johnson](#)