Sunseeker Earns Second Place Starting Spot & is Stopping at the Parkview Campus July 17th

The Sunseeker is participating in the American Solar Challenge, a cross-country solar competition that will pass through the heart of Kalamazoo. The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Parkview campus will serve as a mid-day checkpoint Tuesday, July 17.

The WMU Office of Development and Alumni Relations is inviting the public to join us to celebrate their stop with refreshments and the opportunity to see the Sunseeker and talk with student engineers. Teams are expected to begin arriving at the College around noon and stay for at least an hour before departing. The event is open to the public and free of charge, and free parking will be available behind the College. For more information, please visit MyWMU.com.

Michigan GEAR UP Events at CEAS

The Michigan GEAR UP program brings middle school students to college campuses for a one week summer program to learn about topics of interest to the middle school students. At WMU, MI GEAR UP is organized by the Division of Multicultural Affairs. As a part of MI GEAR UP, the middle school students work with faculty and students on a variety of small projects, as well as visiting local industrial companies, working on teamwork skills, attending presentations, and participating in social events such as bowling, movies, using the Student Recreation Center, and a field day competition.

During the week of June 18, both the MI GEAR UP Engineering Academy and the MI GEAR UP Aviation Academy visited the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences (CEAS) at the Parkview Campus. Events for the Engineering Academy were organized by the CEAS GEAR UP Coordinator, Dr. Andrew Kline and were spread over four days.

More than twenty middle school students enrolled in the MI GEAR UP Aviation Academy visited the Parkview Campus for one day and worked on aerospace and aeronautical engineering topics, including model airplane wing design, and rocket launching and momentum. These activities were carried out under the guidance of a number of undergraduate or graduate students, including CEAS students Cameron Segard, Alex Quinlan, Casey Kick, and Natasha Wadhwa a biomedical science student.

Twenty seven middle school students participated in the MI GEAR UP Engineering Academy events including chemistry experiments and engineering vocabulary with Dr. Kline. These CEAS activities included paper making with Matthew Stoops, lemon cell batteries with Dr. Damon Miller, a lecture on aeronautical engineering with Dr. Javier Montefort-Sanchez, ergonomics explorations with Drs. Steve Butt and Tycho Fredericks, engineering and technology careers with Dr. Said AbuBakr, screen and offset printing with Larry Ahlemann, and a building tour with Scot Conant of the CEAS Advising Office.

The Engineering Academy also involved students to help carry out events, including Tyree Grasty, Natasha Wadhwa, Hannah Brown, Kaylin Nicholas, Anna Damelio, and Courtney Curry. The middle school students were engaged with a variety of hands-on activities to illustrate how things they are learning in school can connect them to the world outside their classroom, and also what they will need to do to get ready for pursuing a STEM related degree in college. For more information visit: WMU GEAR UP

Dr. Andrew Kline, contributor.