Many of the unique strengths of behavior analysis will be emphasized regarding safety improvement in the dynamic flight crew environment.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

The Department of Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE) recently held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of its new Geotechnical Lab facility in Room G-205 at the CEAS Parkview Campus. Dr. Upul Attanayake, CCE assistant professor, is the faculty in-charge of the new facility, which houses state-of-the-art geotechnical testing equipment to evaluate the entire spectrum of soil properties, such as direct shear, consolidation, tri-axial, permeability, CBR, etc. It also includes a classroom with 18 seats and 4 cubicles for graduate students and teaching assistants. “The department’s mission is to provide state-of-the-art engineering knowledge and skills to our students,” he said. “Being the third largest civil engineering program of the state, having such a facility will help accomplishing the department’s mission while producing practice ready graduates who can meet the challenges of the modern world.” He said that in addition to training WMU undergraduate and graduate students, supporting current and future needs of the industry and the profession had been considered during facility planning and equipment selection process.

Student and Alumni Accolades

The winners of the Spring 2010 AutoCAD competition were honored at a ceremony before an audience of students who were eligible to compete in the Fall 2010 competition. Slobodan Urdarevik, lead lecturer for IME 1420 Engineering Graphics, presented the awards. He said that this is the first time that all three winners are now teaching assistants (TAs) for the course. Winning first place was Jacob Williams, from Monroe, Mich. He’s a junior in engineering design technology whose goal is to go into product development. He presently works at Total Tech in the Bernhard Center. Samuel Sheets, a transfer student from Midland, MI, is a junior civil engineering major. He had two years of CAD and solid modeling in high school and plans to pursue a career in structural engineering. He is presently interning at Mossberg Labs in Kalamazoo. The third-place winner was Christian Appold, a sophomore transfer student in mechanical engineering whose wife and two children – son Shenden, 3, and daughter Kerrington, 1, attended the ceremony. The former roofing company employee said he had “never touched AutoCAD or anything similar” before taking the engineering graphics class. Urdarevik said that Appold is the first prize winner who had had no experience in either drafting or AutoCAD before taking the class. “This is unique because so many of the students come here with a lot of experience before coming into the class,” he said. The AutoCAD competition is held at the end of each semester for the 300 plus students enrolled in IME 1420. All winners received engraved plaques donated by Dr. Hooks, Inc., a Kalamazoo-based business, and gift certificates from Best Buy. For the competition, students create a two-dimensional AutoCAD drawing and a 3D-solid model of a complicated part and show all dimensions and symbols needed for manufacturing.

Sean Derrick, a manufacturing engineering graduate student, was honored with the Paul Carey Memorial Scholarship at the 62nd Annual Foundry Educational Foundation (FEF) College Industry Conference (CIC) held in Chicago late last fall. Derrick is a graduate teaching assistant for the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME) Department and helps instruct courses on CAD, CAM, and other related subjects. He is also a graduate researcher for WMU’s Green Manufacturing Initiative (GMI). This program was established through WMU’s manufacturing

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