Faculty News

Monika Ivantysynova has been awarded the Joseph Bramah Medal 2009. This medal is awarded by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers' (UK) - Mechatronics Informatics and Control Group. The medal has been awarded for her outstanding commitment to international fluid power research and education, particularly in the field of hydrostatic pumps and motors.

Monika Ivantysynova will receive a /Doctor Honoris Causa/ degree from her Alma mater, the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava on Oct. 20, 2010. The degree is being awarded for her outstanding lifetime achievements in fluid power and her dedication to the university.


Global Engineering Program: The Mexico initiative just concluded the first year of activity. Rabi H. Mohtar led a team that included ABE faculty Keith Cherkauer and Indrajeet Chaubey on a visit during Fall Break. The team met with scientists and administrators from Universidad Autonoma Chapingo, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM), Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana (UAM) and Collegio de Postgraduados de Chapingo. In addition to initiating opportunities for undergraduate student exchange, grad student exchange and faculty exchange, the team also identified three primary areas for focus of research: Sustainable Energy, Risk Management of Natural and Man-Made Disasters, Food-Water-Energy Security. UNAM and GEP have established modest seed funding opportunities. More information can be found at https://globalhub.org/groups/purduemexicoworkshop/overview.

Global Design Teams were announced in October, with 11 options for the coming year. Cameroon remains a popular destination, in addition, Colombia, Lebanon, Palestine, India, Kenya and Jordan will host teams comprising students across the College of Engineering. For details, visit the website: https://engineering.purdue.edu/GEP/Programs/GDT/


Student News

Maha Fluid Power Lab:

- **Chris Williamson** successfully defended his PhD thesis after five years at Purdue. We are sad to see Chris go, but offer our congratulations and wish him best of luck in the future!
- **Rajneesh Kumar** successfully defended his PhD thesis after four years at Purdue. It's hard to say goodbye to such a valuable member of the team, but we give our congratulations and wish him best of luck in the future!
• Dat Le (PhD Student), Michael Sprengel (Master’s Student), and Minming Zhao (Master’s Student) are new researchers at Maha Lab. Dat will focus on displacement controlled hydraulic excavators, Mike will be investigating methods to improve the efficiency of axial piston pumps using CASPAR, and Minming will work on noise reduction of hydraulic systems. Welcome aboard!

Alumni News

Robert O. Martin, ’57 - died suddenly on September 12, 2010. He served for two years with the 101st Airborne. Bob retired from Firestone after 42 years of service in 2000. He was involved with numerous volunteer organizations and served on several boards in the Nashville community where he has lived since 1992.

Richard L. Johnson, ’56 - died Tuesday, September 21, 2010. Mr. Johnson worked as the head of production engineering at the Rock Island Arsenal for 31 years, retiring in 1987. He was also a farmer. While at Purdue he was a member of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and Rochdale Co-Op House. His advanced degrees are from the University of Iowa in industrial management. Richard was a U.S. Army veteran who was proud to have served in ROTC, the 3rd Army Air Corp and the 5th Army.

Betsy Willis, BS ’96, PhD ’01) and David Willis (ME) Welcomed David Alan Willis, Jr. in July. Congratulations!

The ABe-Notes is undergoing some significant changes! Please be patient with me as I work the kinks out. Please feel free to send me any information you would like published at sikler@purdue.edu. The monthly deadline for submission will be the 10th of each month.

Carol