

# News•Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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- **Summer Honors Institute June 20-24**
- **Washington lab donates relays to EET programs**
- **Faculty/staff honors, presentations, publications**

## Calendar

**Friday, June 17, 3 p.m.** YSU Board of Trustees meets in the Trustees Meeting Room on the first floor of Tod Hall.

## **Summer Honors Institute will be June 20-24 at YSU**

Youngstown State University will host the 2011 Summer Honors Institute June 20 to 24.

The Institute is designed to provide gifted and talented high school students hands-on learning experiences with university faculty. Students attend classes taught by YSU faculty and spanning disciplines that include business, engineering, science, social sciences and the arts.

To participate, students must be formally identified as gifted and talented and must have completed either the 10th or 11th grade by June 2011. The fee is \$35 to cover the cost of student lunches. Parking is available in YSU lots for \$5 a day. Space in some courses is limited.



From work in a crime lab, above, to learning about international business, high school students will participate in an array of classes and activities at the 2011 Summer Honors Institute June 20 to 24 on the YSU campus. Read more in this week's YSU News Briefs.

Application packets are due no later than June 15. The application and course descriptions are available at [www.ysu.edu/honors/summer](http://www.ysu.edu/honors/summer).

Among the most popular courses are the Potato Cannon, Entrepreneurship, Rapid Prototyping, Crime Scene Analysis, International Business, Harry Potter, Geocaching and Portrait Drawing. New courses this year are Electronic Music and Crimes of the Century.

Students spend Monday through Thursday in two classes. Participants will be engaged in hands-on, active learning experiences that will expose them to concepts and ideas not available in high school. On Friday, students participate in learning activities in the morning and are exposed to majors offered and services provided at YSU. The week will conclude Friday afternoon with a program where participants will demonstrate what they learned in their courses to friends, family members and guests.

Donations can be made to help fund future Summer Honors Institutes by contacting the YSU Office of Development at 330-941-3119. For more information, contact Institute Director Amy Cossentino at [alcossentino@ysu.edu](mailto:alcossentino@ysu.edu) or Program Assistant Sharyn Fees at [sefees@ysu.edu](mailto:sefees@ysu.edu).

## Washington lab donates relays to EET program

Schweitzer Engineering Labs Inc. in Pullman, Wash., has donated state-of-the-art microprocessor-based power system relays to Youngstown State University's School of Engineering Technology.

The equipment is valued at nearly \$60,000, said Ted Bosela, professor in the electrical engineering technology program.



Ted Bosela

The equipment will be used to provide students enrolled in the EET program with experiences in the application of smart grid technologies in the power generation, transmission and distribution areas. The relays, which form the building blocks of smart grid technology, have enhanced communications capabilities that can be used for real-time monitoring, protection and control of the power system, Bosela said.

“Having this equipment means that we will be able to provide our students with instruction using real-world equipment,” he said. “This will help them in the field, since this is the same equipment used by the electric utility companies and large industrial plants to protect, control and monitor their power systems.”

Bosela said he anticipates that graduates trained in these “smart” technologies will be in demand as the electric grid is modernized and updated.

“Since our graduates will already be familiar with the equipment when they graduate, they should have an edge over graduates from other programs,” he added.

Bosela said he attended an SEL Technical seminar in Columbus last spring when the regional business manager from SEL told him about the company's program to donate equipment to universities.

“She told me to look through their catalog and see what I wanted,” he said. “So, working together with the SEL application engineers, I submitted to design and construct power system training equipment that incorporated the SEL relays and sent it to her. Several weeks later, I received word that it had been approved. The SEL equipment arrived early last fall. Since then, we have been constructing the training equipment, and expect to have it fully operational for instruction this fall.”

Schweitzer Engineering Labs Inc. was founded in Pullman, Wash., in 1982 when Dr. Edmund O. Schweitzer III invented and marketed the first all-digital protective relay, reducing the cost and complexity of power protection. Today, the company is a leader in the power protection industry with a

presence in 137 countries worldwide. SEL provides products and services to the electrical utilities, government and military installations, heavy industries including petrochemical plants, pulp and paper and mining operations, pharmaceutical companies, and commercial operations such as hotels and shopping centers.

YSU's EET program, part of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, includes a two-year Associate in Applied Science EET degree and a Bachelor of Science in Applied Science EET degree. Both degree programs are the region's only EET programs that are accredited by the Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, TAC/ABET.

## **Faculty/staff honors, presentations, publications**

**Virgil C. Solomon**, assistant professor, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering, co-authored "Synthesis and Characterization of ZnO-In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Junction Structure," published in *Materials Letters*. Collaborators were Chunfei Li and Paul D. Duris from Clarion University and Lidong Wang and Limin Wang from Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Science, Changchun, China.

**Samuel Adu-Poku**, associate professor, Art, published an article entitled "(Poly)-centric Multiculturalism: A Path to Inclusive Art Curriculum and Pedagogy" in the *International Journal of the Arts in Society*. The article is based on his presentation at the Fifth International Conference of the Arts in Society in Sydney, Australia.

**Jacob W. Breland**, assistant professor, Management, published "Influence and Promotability: Importance of Female Political Skill" in the *Journal of Managerial Psychology*. Co-authors include colleagues at the University of Buffalo and Niagara University.

**Becky Geltz**, director, Institutional Research, presented her research on data mining, titled "Using Data Mining to Model Student Success," at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for the North East Association for Institutional Research in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

**Ewelina Boczkowska**, assistant professor, Music History, presented "Chopin's Ghosts" at the Chopin and Liszt International Conference, Centro Studi Opera Omnia Luigi Boccherini, in Lucca, Italy. In addition, she presented "Commemorating at Andrzej Wajda's Memorial to the Victims of Katyn" at the 35th European Studies Conference, University of Nebraska, Omaha, and "Polanski's Ballade for the Holocaust Survivor in The Pianist," at the XI International Congress on Musical Signification, Academy of Music in Cracow, Poland.

**Karen Becker**, coordinator, Reading and Study Skills Center, presented "Understanding and Serving Under-resourced College Students" at the 30th Annual Conference on the First-Year Experience in Atlanta, Ga. She was also invited by John Gardner, FYE founder, to participate in a luncheon during the conference to brainstorm uses for *The New York Times* in FYE seminars.

**Daniel H. Suchora**, professor and chair, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, attended the American Society of Mechanical Engineers International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition, Vancouver, British Columbia, to present his paper, "Experimental and Finite Element Analysis of Tong Load Slip versus Clamping Force." Co-authors include former students Chris Allen and Doug Verenski. The paper is published in the conference proceedings.

**Birsen Karpak**, professor, Management, presented a paper, “Exploring the Dynamics of Innovation in High Tech Industries: An Ecological Perspective,” at the International Academy of Business and Economics Conference, Las Vegas.

**J. Rajendran Pandian**, assistant professor, Management, presented a paper entitled “Corporate Social Responsibility within SMEs in the Mid-Atlantic Region: Impact of Firm Size and the Industry Sector” at the DSI Annual Conference in San Diego.

**Gang Peng**, assistant professor, Management, presented a paper entitled “Optimal Pricing Under Online Joint Service Provision Using Shared Facilities” at the E-Business 2010 Conference in St. Louis.

**Ronald Volpe**, professor, Finance, and **Kathleen Mumaw**, assistant professor, Accounting and Finance, published “Mortgage Meltdown Reveals Importance of Financial Literacy Education” in *Journal of Personal Finance*.

**Xiangjia “Jack” Min**, assistant professor of Biological Sciences, in collaboration with G. Sablok and P. K. Gupta of India, J. Baek of UC Davis and F. Vazquez of Switzerland, published a paper titled “Genome-wide survey of alternative splicing in the grass *Brachypodium distachyon*: An emerging model biosystem for plant functional genomics” in *Biotechnology Letters*.