

MAE Department welcomes associate professor Dr. Ke-Gang Wang

Dr. Ke-Gang Wang, Associate Professor, joined the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department in Spring of 2012.

He received his Ph.D. from Chinese Academy of Sciences in China. From 2006 to 2011, he was Associate Professor at Florida Tech's Physics and Space Sciences Department. Before he moved to Florida Institute of Technology, he was Research Assistant Professor/Visiting Scholar, Department of Materials Science and Engineering at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York from 1999-2006. He also held an Associate Professor posi-

tion at Beijing Institute of Technology in China.

Professor Wang's research covers materials science and engineering and non-equilibrium statistical mechanics. He developed several fundamental theories and computer simulations in materials science, e.g., diffusion screening, stochastic theories, and multi-particle diffusion for phase coarsening in materials with his collabora-



Dr. Ke-Gang Wang

tors. This research is funded by the National Science Foundation, and is cited worldwide.

In the field of statistical mechanics, he developed the generalized Langevin method, the generalized Fokker-Planck method, and the method of continuous time random walk for anomalous diffusion. His theory in anomalous diffusion is widely applied to explain experimental results of dynamics of single protein molecules and to other complex systems. He has authored two book chapters, 54 refereed journal papers, and has participated in more than 42 colloquia and invited conference presentations and contributed 50 conference talks.



Members of the Florida Tech ASHRAE chapter and Dr. Pei-feng Hsu congratulate Swapnil Kumar as the recipient of the Yarosh-Wiles Scholarship.

Student awarded ASHRAE scholarship

Members of the Florida Tech student chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) joined Spacecoast ASHRAE to congratulate Swapnil Kumar, the recipient of the 2011-12 Yarosh-Wiles Scholarship, on April 19 at its monthly meeting.

Named for mechanical engineering pioneers Marvin Yarosh, founding member of Spacecoast ASHRAE, and Jack Wiles, one of the earliest members of the Canaveral Section of ASME and the Cape Canaveral Technical Society, the endowed scholarship was created through a joint effort from Spacecoast ASHRAE and the Canaveral Section of ASME.

ASHRAE president Kevin Messer, President-Elect Jean Duncce, and MAE Department Head Dr. Pei-feng Hsu congratulated Swapnil and pledged to continue the support of the endowment. Swapnil, who is also president of the ASHRAE student chapter and an ME Sophomore, along with Matt Walsh, also ME sophomore, outlined the ambitious plans of the coming year's activities. For more information about ASHRAE activities, or joining the local chapter, please contact Swapnil Kumar at skumar2010@my.fit.edu.

Engineers

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The competition took place on February 24. This year, each team had to design and build a small sailboat from the materials provided. The boats were then raced in a rain gutter. Two teams from Florida Tech participated in the competition. The Flying Dutchman, built by one of the FIT teams, easily beat the qualifying times and breezed through the bottom end of the bracket, winning by several boat lengths in each race.

The final was between the Flying Dutchman and the One by Siemens. The race was so exciting and close one that the first round resulted in a tie and a rematch. Eventually, the Flying Dutchman beat the One. The victory was unprecedented because although teams from FIT have performed well in past

years, always scoring first place in the student competition and normally within the top 10 overall, **this year, the MAE's Flying Dutchman was the first student team to win the entire competition.**

The winning team members were Alex Trainer, Curtiss West, Stephen Cross, Rhys Lyle Fernandez and Yethiraj Chamarthi. The members of the other team were Hunter Garrett, Michael Mooty, Michael Smith, Scott Record and Drew Partynski.

Both of the FIT teams worked closely together on the competition this year, researching, designing and fabricating in tandem.

One of the biggest boons to both teams was the construction of a test rig at team member Michael Mooty's house, allowing the team to test their designs in conditions identical to those of the competition.