Record Breaking Presence at National Conferences

Northeastern has vastly increased its activity at national and international conferences over the past 2 years. The combined number of talks and posters conducted by both faculty and students (mostly in Chemical Engineering) at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Fall Meeting, the Materials Research Society (MRS) Fall Meeting, the Society for Biomaterials (SFB) Annual Meeting, and the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) Annual Meeting has increased 4, 2, 3, and 3 times, respectively, since 2012.

Lucas Landherr Combines Comedy and Engineering

Academic Specialist Dr. Lucas Landherr participated at Story Collider on Tuesday, December 9 in Cambridge, MA. Story Collider describes its shows like this: “At the Story Collider, we believe that everyone has a story about science—a story about how science made a difference, affected them, or changed them on a personal and emotional level. We find those stories and share them in live shows and on our podcast. Sometimes, it’s even funny.” This offer was extended to Dr. Landherr based on other creative work he has been doing to combine science and humor for a wide audience through his creative pseudonym, Dante Shepherd.

Webster a 1-percenter in Cited Research

Professor and Zafiropoulo Endowed Chair Thomas Webster was named to Thomson Reuters’ Highly Cited Researchers 2014 list. According to Reuters, “Over three thousand researchers earned the distinction by writing the greatest numbers of reports officially designated by Essential Science Indicators™ as Highly Cited Papers—ranking among the top 1% most cited for their subject field and year of publication.” Dr. Webster is an expert in the field of nanomaterials for medical applications, and his work can be found at websternano.org.

Three Faculty to Host Major Conferences in the Spring

Chemical Engineering faculty members Courtney Pfluger, Carolyn Lee-Parsons and Katherine Ziemer will all be hosting prominent conferences during the Spring semester: Dr. Pfluger, in conjunction with the Massachusetts of Technology (MIT) is chairing the 2015 AICHe Northeast Student Regional Conference on March 7-8 at MIT. Dr. Lee-Parsons is chairing the American Society of Plant Biologists Northeast Sectional Society Meeting on April 11-12 at Northeastern University. Dr. Ziemer is chairing the American Society for Engineering Education Northeast Section Conference on Apr 30-May 2, also at Northeastern University.

Save the Date! ChE Capstone Design and Awards Banquet to be held April 22

The undergraduate ChE curriculum culminates with Process Design, where senior students work together on a capstone project of their choosing. Final presentations of their work will be held on April 22. Later that evening, our faculty and staff will be honoring the year-long accomplishments of our graduating seniors, graduate students, faculty, staff and alumni at our annual year-end Awards Banquet. Stay tuned to our web site for more information!

Letter from the Chair

A warm greeting from cold Boston for our next Chemical Engineering Winter Newsletter! As you can see, we have numerous activities to keep us warm during these cold Boston winter months. From pushing the boundaries in our state-of-the-art materials and bio-related chemical engineering research to organizing conferences focused on undergraduate chemical engineering education, we do not have time to get cold! Also keeping us warm is our increased department size with unprecedented growth in faculty, staff, and student size. Please mark your calendar so that you can come and visit the many new faces in Chemical Engineering during our Annual Chemical Engineering Awards Banquet on April 22nd at Northeastern. We look forward to seeing you! And stay warm!

Thomas J. Webster
Professor and Chair

For more information on these and other stories, visit our Department news blotter at che.neu.edu/che/news-events