

News From the Dean

We are coming to the end of another year of successful research activity for every department in the Faculty. iMPACT has identified some of this international and Canadian acclaim and funding awarded to our faculty members and with this last issue of 2009 -10, I want to add my sincere congratulations to all FEAS faculty, students and staff for their contributions to Ryerson's research excellence. I look forward to the collaborations and partnerships which will define our ongoing activities for 2010 – 2011.

With best wishes for the summer.



Dr. Mohamed Lachemi, PEng
Dean, FEAS

FACULTY NEWS

New Appointments and Awards

Dr. Chris Evans has been appointed to the position of Vice Provost, Academic for a five-year term beginning June 1, 2010. This is a new position created last year to provide a lead role in planning and implementing

key academic initiatives, strategic advice and recommendations on academic issues affecting the University.

The VPA chairs the academic standards committee and oversees the Office of Academic Integrity and the Experiential Learning Office.

Dr. Darrick Heyd has been appointed Interim Associate Dean, Undergraduate Science Programs and Student Affairs for a one year period in effect from June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011.

Dr. Anastasios (Tas) Venetsanopoulos will step down as Vice President, Research and Innovation on June 30, 2010 and will be returning to research and teaching in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Dr. Sri Krishnan will commence his research leave effective July 1, 2010 and **Dr. Ali Lohi** will be appointed Interim Associate Dean for Research, Development and Graduate Programs for a one year period in effect from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

Dr. Mehrab Mehrvar has been appointed Interim Chair in the Department of Chemical Engineering for a one year period in effect from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

Dr. Stephen Wylie has been appointed Interim Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biology for a one year period in effect from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

Dr. Hadi Mahabadi, a member of the Dean's Advisory Council, has been named one of the Top 25 Canadian Immigrants of the Year by *Canadian Immigrant* magazine. Dr. Mahabadi is Vice President and Center Manager of the Xerox Research Centre of Canada (XRCC) and is a renowned scientist who holds more than 70 U.S. patents.

NSERC News

NSERC Chair in Design Engineering

Ryerson has been awarded the NSERC/Ryerson Design Chair in Engineering Design and Innovation: Dr. Kamran Behdinan, Aerospace Engineering is the Senior Design Chair and Dr. Dimitri Androustos of Electrical Engineering is Associate Chair.

Bombardier Aerospace and Pratt & Whitney Canada, Inc. are the industrial partners for this five year award.

New Appointment as NSERC University Representative

Dr. Sri Krishnan has been appointed as Ryerson's NSERC University Representative (formerly Dr. Mohamed Lachemi).

RYERSON AWARDS

2010 Sarwan Sahota – Ryerson Distinguished Scholar Award has been awarded to **Dr. Gideon Wolfaardt**, Department of Chemistry and Biology.

Dr. Wolfaardt is a leading researcher in the field of microbiology specifically in the study of physical and community structure of biofilms.

FACULTY AWARDS

Recipients of the Dean's Research Fund

The first annual DRF competition announced the grants to the following faculty members:

Dr. Anthony Botelho, Chemistry and Biology
Dr. Sebastian Ferrando, Mathematics
Dr. Kim Gilbride, Chemistry and Biology
Dr. Jane Hao, Architectural Science
Dr. Marie Killeen, Chemistry and Biology
Dr. Michael Kolios, Physics
Dr. Jelena Mistic, Computer Science
Dr. Voja Mistic, Computer Science
Dr. Ana Pejovic-Milic, Physics
Dr. Vera Straka, Architectural Science
Dr. Vladislav Toronov, Physics
Dr. Russell Viirre, Chemistry and Biology
Dr. Isaac Woungang, Computer Science

Dr. Joon Chung, Aerospace Engineering
Dr. Bo Tan, Aerospace Engineering
Dr. Yasser Dahman, Chemical Engineering
Dr. Songnian Li, Civil Engineering
Dr. Dimitri Androustos, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Dr. Alagan Anpalagan, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Dr. Gul N. Khan, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Dr. Kamran Raahemifar, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Dr. James Smith, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Dr. Andy Ye, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Dr. Fei Yuan, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Dr. Vincent Chan, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering
Dr. Jacob Friedman, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering
Dr. Ravi Ravindran, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering
Dr. Fil Salustri, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering
Dr. Ahmad Varvani, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering

Brief Report on the DRF Process from Dr. Sri Krishnan

This is the inaugural DRF competition and we had a very good response as a result of the NSERC DG outcomes.

The 46 applications were split into two panels: Science/Architecture and Engineering. The reviewers were chosen with experience on external granting agency selection panels. The reviewers looked at two main aspects of the applications (1) Need-based and (2) Potential to succeed in external competitions. The applications were distributed into four categories with equal numbers of applications and were ranked as 4 Definitely fundable; 3 Fundable; 2 May be fundable, and 1 Not fundable. The average reviewer scores were used to determine the final rank. In the case of a tie or conflict of interest, the Chair (Professor Sri Krishnan) ranked; otherwise the Chair was nonvoting.

Applications receiving an average score of 3 and above were awarded \$7,500 (20 awards) and applications receiving 2.5 and above were awarded \$5,000 (11 awards). The total allocation for the 2010 Competition was \$205,000.

STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to **Alex Hoang**, Civil Engineering, the first place winner for undergraduate student paper at the June 2010 CSCE Annual Conference for “Multi-Phase Traffic Study: Wasaga Beach Mixed Development Project”.

Members of the Working Group are **Alex Hoang, Paul Loughton, Joseph McClm, Mahsa Rashidissian and Bogoja Trajceski**. Their Advisor is Dr. Said Easa.

Congratulations to three FEAS PDFs who were awarded MITACS Strategic Fellowship Grants:

Can Ozgur Colpan (Supervisor Dr. Alan Fung), Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, for the development of a model to simulate integrated solid oxide fuel cell and biomass gasification systems.

Shengkun Xie (Supervisor Dr. Sri Krishnan), Electrical and Computer Engineering, who will develop and investigate new feature extraction methods for large health data sets and apply these methods in a novel way to the data.

Adrian Mariampillai (Supervisor Dr. Victor Yang), Electrical and Computer Engineering, for a project to develop an optical imaging device capable of capturing topographical images of exposed anatomical structures within the surgical field.

Electrical Engineering PhD student **Raymond Phan** (Supervisor Dr. Dimitri Androutsos) has been awarded a Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, Canada’s most prestigious scholarship for doctoral students. Phan earned both his undergraduate degree in computer engineering and his master’s in electrical engineering at Ryerson.

Paris commuters are now using a Mobile Transit Companion application developed at Ryerson’s Digital Media Zone (DMZ) in partnership with Sweden’s Appear Networks.

Hossein Rahnama, the project leader, is a graduate of the Computer Science program and received his Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He is also a steering committee member of DMZ.

MUSIC was part of a European research consortium developing an open-source middleware platform and the success of the project has inspired further joint European ventures to begin in fall 2010.

STAFF NEWS

FEAS Staff Recognition Award, May 2010

Congratulations to Mr. Alan Machin, recipient of the May FEAS Staff Recognition Award. Alan, who is a technical officer in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to Service within his department and well beyond.

In addition to his myriad regular duties, Alan provides outstanding support for experiential learning as well as an uncompromising dedication to safety which reaches throughout the entire university in his role as co-chair of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

To quote from one of the nomination letters, Alan “epitomizes knowledge, experience, interpersonal skills, commitment and leadership as a service provider”. Alan’s achievements will be recognized at the June FEAS Chairs’ Council Meeting.

Congratulations also to all the nominees, your dedication to the service role is essential to making FEAS the strong team that it is.

Submissions to iMPACT

Please send grant, award and competition notices to feasnews@ryerson.ca. The next publication will be out in October 2010.