MichiganTech
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News

Dan Schmitt Retirement Get-together

There will be a retirement gathering for Dan Schmitt, of marketing and communications, from 2 to 4 p.m., Thursday, July 26, in Admin G13. Dan worked in computer technology services (now IT) for three years and in mail services since 1993.

Michigan Corporate Relations Network Announces New Program

The ability for businesses to take advantage of the technical expertise and resources at six state universities, including Michigan Tech, has gotten easier.

The Michigan Corporate Relations Network, a collaboration among public universities, connects businesses with university resources that will help to drive innovation and commercialization

To facilitate that effort, MCRN announces its Instant Innovation Program--a brainstorming session in which a company works with technical experts from at least two MCRN partners to investigate the company's challenges and identify solutions. The goal: generate new ideas; solve problems; reduce costs--all of it leading to the potential for commercial offerings.

"The MCRN represents a depth and breadth of technical expertise that is of significant potential value to businesses but can be difficult to engage," said Mike Finney, CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp., who oversees the initiative. "The Instant Innovation Program takes all of the guesswork out of the process and ensures that the best talent and resources are assigned from across the network to help develop solutions."

Following receipt of a company's application, a MCRN representative will identify technical experts from within the network and develop a budget, including a company match to cover program costs.

The program will help generate new research and development that may be incorporated into existing operations, as well as target funding sources.

Applicants are encouraged to contact any of the representatives from the MCRN universities to discuss a potential program prior to submitting a proposal application. Programs selected may have a broad impact within companies and across the industrial sector.

In addition to Michigan Tech, MCRN institutions include: Wayne State University, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, University of Michigan-Dearborn, and Western Michigan University.

Funding is provided by MEDC. Each member maintains an office that connects businesses to university resources and faculty.

Beyond the Instant Innovation Program, MCRN provides resources to Michigan companies that promote commercial innovation and growth.

For more information, contact Brent Burns, director of corporate partners, at bburns@mtu.edu . or see Innovation.

Andrew Burton Appointed Director of Ford Center, Research Forest
Dean Terry Sharik, of the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science, has appointed Professor Andrew Burton as director of the Ford Center and Research Forest in Alberta. The two comprise a field station for the School and incorporate teaching, research and outreach.

Burton heads Tech's Ecosystem Science Center and the Midwestern Regional Center of the US Department of Energy's National Institute for Climatic Change Research. His research focuses on forest ecosystems, including responses to global change factors, underground processes, carbon and nutrient cycling and the ways tree roots respond to their environment.

Burton worked as a research scientist at Michigan Tech from 1994 to 2001, when he became a research assistant professor in the School of Forestry and Wood Products, as SFRES was then called.

"I'm looking forward to working with the staff at the Ford Center and with the faculty and students in the School to help the Ford Center and Research Forest achieve their full potential," Burton said. "The forests and wetlands at Ford encompass the full range of terrestrial ecosystems common to the upper lake states, and I'm excited by the challenge of developing facilities and management plans that take full advantage of the research, education and outreach potential created by these wonderful natural resources."

In the past, the teaching, research and outreach missions of the Ford Center and the Research Forest were managed more or less separately, Dean Sharik explained.

"As director of the Ecosystem Science Center and the Midwestern Center for the DOE Climate Change Research Institute, Dr. Burton understands what it takes to bring people with various backgrounds together to work on common problems," Sharik added. "He has been an active contributor to programs at the Ford Center and forest for a number of years and has directed several of them. He is deeply committed to the notion of integrating the teaching, research and outreach missions of the center and forest in ways that fully capitalize on their cultural heritage and their potential as a model for sustainable land use, underpinned by sound ecological and social science. I am excited about the possibilities for realizing this potential under Andy's leadership."

Rozsa Gallery Hours Changed
The Rozsa Gallery hours have been temporarily changed. It will be closing at 5 p.m. until further notice.

Sports News

Women's Basketball Team Scores National Academic Honor
The women's basketball team finished 10th in the WBCA Top-25 Team Academic Honor Roll for the 2011-12 season. The Huskies posted a cumulative team grade point average of 3.547. The team had eight members post a grade point average of 3.5 or higher and six with a grade point average of 3.0 to 3.49.

"I am so proud of every player we have for individually doing their part to earn this team award," said head coach Kim Cameron. "The ability to succeed at balancing the demands of their academic and athletic schedules is truly remarkable. We are fortunate to have such great student-athletes here."

The 2011-12 season marks the sixth straight year that the team has earned the award. The team's finishes for the previous five seasons were: 2010-11 (20th), 2009-10 (1st), 2008-09 (4th), 2007-08 (2nd) and 2006-07 (4th).

Other GLIAC schools receiving the award were Lake Erie (third) and Ashland (18).

Nathan Saliga Earns GLIAC Commissioner's Award
Track and field standout Nathan Saliga was recently honored with the GLIAC Commissioner's Award for the spring season.

The awards, sponsored by Meijer Inc., are presented after the fall, winter and spring athletic seasons to six female and six male student-athletes who excel both in the classroom and on the fields of play. All grade point averages are based on a 4.0 scale.

Saliga, a junior, won the GLIAC Championship in the decathlon with a school record of 5,999 points. He also set the school record in the 400-meter hurdles (54.27). He holds the top-three performances in school history in both competitions.

The Leonard native also earned Capital One Academic All-American Second Team honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America.

Saliga holds a 3.9 cumulative grade point average in mechanical engineering.

PLGC Junior Tourney Results
The recent Portage Lake Golf Course Junior Tournament featured a three-way tie in the 17-and-Under Division. Brett Hauswirth won the play-off with a par on the tenth hole. Stephen Butina and Tony Stein tied after regulation with a pair of 78s and finished second and third, respectively.

In the 14-and-Under Boys Division, Austin Mikesch took first with a 72, with Wyatt Liston finishing second with a 78 and Gunnar Stein third with a 79.

Kaitlyn McKay won the 14-and-Under Girls Division with a 54.

In the 12-and-Under Division, Wyatt Touriniemi was first with a 43, Cameron Mason second with a 44 and Dawson McKay third with a 46.

In the 10-and-Under Division, Colin Bjorne was first with a 46, followed by Jiseung Choi with a 47 and Payton Dube with a 57.

Closest to the pin on number 14 was Tanner Kearly (5’10”), and closest to the pin on number 15 was Connor Hannon (6’3”).

Regular Features

In Print
Alumnus Edward Leonard Jr. '12, physics, wrote an article about Mind Trekkers for Radiations, the newsletter of Sigma Pi Sigma, the physics honor society.

Leonard is an associate engineer at Signature Research Inc. He will start graduate study at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

He worked with Mind Trekkers, Tech's on-the-road science show, since its inception in 2010.

To read the story, see Mind Trekkers.

In the News
Associate Professor Casey Huckins (Biological Sciences) is quoted in a story about fly-fishing in the UP, published in the May 2012 issue of Fly Rod and Reel magazine. See Fish Story.

Job Postings
Staff job descriptions are available in Human Resources or at http://www.admin.mtu.edu/hro/postings . For more information regarding staff positions, call 487-2280 or email jobs@mtu.edu .

Faculty job descriptions can be found at www.admin.mtu.edu/hro/facpers/facvac.htm . For more information regarding faculty positions, contact the academic department in which the position is posted.

Staff Job Postings 07/19/2012

Office and Account Assistant
UAW internal only posting
MTTI/CTT

Information Specialist
Office of Development
Apply online at http://jobs.mtu.edu .

Please note: Human Resources is transitioning to an online application process for the job posting above. To read the notice to applicants, please go to Posting.

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