You’re Invited as University Updates Strategic Plan Feb. 21

A university-wide planning session will be held Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 12:30 p.m. as part of the process for updating the Lawrence Tech’s Strategic Plan 2007.

President Lewis N. Walker and Howard Padgham, chair of the Strategic Plan Committee of the Board of Trustees, will co-chair the event. The entire Lawrence Tech community is invited to attend and participate in this important planning session.

The university’s strategic plan will be updated a year earlier than scheduled at the urging of Walker, who is sharing his vision and aspirations for the University at the start of his presidency. A timeline has been developed that recognizes the need to coordinate the update with other major and critical initiatives under way at Lawrence Tech, including the update of the Campus Master Plan and preparations for a possible new fund-raising campaign.

The current plan can be viewed at www.ltu.edu/pdf/strategicplan.pdf. A Core Leadership Team has been organized to lead and champion the planning process. The university’s leadership is responsible for setting forth the vision and strategic direction for the University, to share and seek input to that vision, and engage the members of the Lawrence Tech community in the development of a plan to guide the University over the next few years.

A draft of the Strategic Plan 2007 will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval at its June meeting.

The purpose of the Feb. 21 session is to share the results of the initial planning to date and to solicit feedback on the vision and direction that is emerging. University community members will be invited to participate further as the planning process progresses.

The location of the Feb. 21 forum will be determined by the anticipated attendance. Everyone interested in attending is urged to RSVP as soon as possible to Louise Garrett at louise@ltu.edu.

Lunch Can Be Educational

Lawrence Tech students are learning about the history of Lawrence Tech when they peruse the sandwich selections at Café Lawrence. In the fall, eleven items on the menu were renamed for individuals who have played significant roles in the university’s history.

Chicken tenders, the most popular item at the Grill Station Diner, is now called the Ridler, in honor of Donald G. Ridler, a member of the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame who coached many Lawrence Tech athletic teams. The Buell Burger, named for Lawrence Tech’s third president, is the second most popular Grill Station item.

Biographical information about the 11 Lawrence Tech standouts with namesakes on the menu will be posted at the entrance of Café Lawrence.

Psychology major Mike Dalesandro set the process in the motion last summer with President Emeritus Richard Marburger because he felt there weren’t enough plaques around the campus to commemorate people who played important roles in the university’s history.

“I thought this would be a good way for students to learn about Lawrence Tech’s history,” he said.

Dalesandro also is an active member of Sigma Pi, and the project fits in the with national fraternity’s Altruistic Campus Experience (ACE) competition that challenges local chapters to do something positive for their colleges.

Dean of Students Jerome Webster endorsed the idea. It also was received

Student Affairs Staff Expands Responsibilities

During the spring semester the Division of Student Affairs is adding new and expanded services for international students, commuter students, disabled students and academically and economically disadvantaged students.

Dean of Students Jerome Webster announced the changes in January.

International student affairs, which has been under the direction of the Provost’s office, has become part of international programs in the Division of Student Affairs.

Providing services to international students has become part of the mission of what used to be the Office of Career Services. That has been renamed the Office of Career Services and International Programs, and Kevin Finn has been promoted to executive director of the expanded office.

Over the next six months, staff members previously in career services and international student affairs will receive cross-training.

Frank de Hesselle, who has worked in international student affairs for many years, has been named program coordinator for multicultural support services.

He works closely with Leslie Wilson in student activities and provides support for international programs and conference services.

“We are excited to use Frank’s rich knowledge of various cultures to fulfill programmatic and service initiatives in meeting learning outcomes related to multiculturalism, globalization, and leadership,” Webster said.

Laura Affer, who has been working half-time at the DTE Energy One-Stop Center and half-time with international programs, will transition to a full-time position in the Office of Career Services and International Programs by July. She will maintain a presence in the Office of Enrollment Services until the end of June.

During the six-month transition period, (continued on page 8)
Menu Magnificents: Sandwiches Named for LTU Luminaries (continued from page 1)

warmly by Minnesota-based Taher Inc., which operates dining facilities on campus.

“We had thought about this before, but it took the right person to get it going,” said Brent Bishop, dining services director at Lawrence Tech.

Bishop said the new names have generated a lot of questions about the Lawrence Tech icons, so he welcomes the opportunity to post biographical information inside the front door.

Bruce Annett, executive director of marketing and public affairs, compiled the following biographical sketches of Lawrence Tech luminaries who are honored on the Café Lawrence menu:

Wayne H. Buell, BSCE'36, (1913-81) was a professor, trustee, and industry executive before serving as Lawrence Tech president 1964-77 and CEO until 1981. The Science Building and Housing-South were built and the College of Arts & Sciences established during his presidency. He stressed that Lawrence Tech was a private university serving public purposes.

Randall “Chappy” Chapman, BSAr'38, (1916-45) was a student and faculty member who helped lead Lawrence Tech's national championship glider program in the 1930s. Working with other alumni in a secret World War II effort to develop huge cargo gliders expected to aid Allied victory in the Pacific, Chapman was killed during a flying exhibition. The Spirit of Lawrence Tech airplane, a later student project, was nicknamed in his memory.

John Z. DeLorean, BSIE'48, (1925-2005) advanced to executive vice president of General Motors, developed the first muscle car (the Pontiac GTO), and was one of the few people in recent years to launch his own car company.

It produced the famed gull-wing-door DeLorean, star of the Back-to-the-Future movie trilogy.

Hans G. Erneman (1908-78), joined Lawrence Tech's engineering faculty in 1941, served as ME chair 1953-62, and dean of engineering 1962-73. Erneman advocated hands-on student projects that enhanced the educational process. Under his leadership, students built and competed with a hydroplane racing boat, the Hansmobile auto, and the Spirit of Lawrence Tech airplane.

Edwin O. “Doc” Graeffe (1900-72) joined the Lawrence Tech faculty in 1932 and served as first dean of management 1949-54 and 1965-70, and what is today known as provost 1956-64. A popular lecturer and counselor, he coached fencing and used his broad international experiences to expose students to global culture and business practices.

Russell E. Lawrence (1889-1934) and E. George Lawrence (1908-74) were Lawrence Tech's founders and its first two presidents. At the depth of the Great Depression, Russell, an engineering educator, predicted that technology would be the key to America's economic growth and advancement, and he pioneered some of the nation's first evening and co-op programs. Upon his death just two years later, his brother, George, assured that Russell's dreams for an innovative, tech-based university would come true, and during his 30 years as president led the acquisition of the Southfield campus and construction of the Engineering and Architecture Buildings.

Richard E. Marburger, a former General Motors researcher, has served over 42 years in Lawrence Tech teaching and administrative roles, including president 1977-93. He was an early proponent of computers in aiding the educational process, and led the large scale computerization of the campus. He initiated a return to graduate programs and led Lawrence Tech's change of status from an institute of technology to university. He continues to serve students as a volunteer academic advisor and tutor.

Richard S. “Mas” Maslowki served Lawrence Tech over 41 years as a professor, chair of the Department of Electrical Engineering, and associate dean of engineering. The popular former professor continues to serve students as a volunteer academic advisor and tutor.

Earl W. Pellerin (1905-94) joined Lawrence Tech in 1932 as the first faculty member in architecture and served until 1974 as the first dean of architecture. He developed the inaugural master building plan for the Southfield campus and designed the Engineering, Science, and Architecture buildings, as well as Housing-South.

Donald G. Rider (1911-63) joined Lawrence Tech in 1938 as coach of varsity football, baseball, basketball, swimming, golf, tennis, cross country, and track! Lawrence Tech basketball teams represented Michigan at the NAIB tournaments in 1942, '43, '47, '48, '49, '52, and '54. In 1951, the Blue Devils competed at the National Invitational Tournament (NIT). In 1981, Rider was elected to the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame.

Lewis C. Veraldi, BSME'68 (1930-90) attended Lawrence Tech as an evening student and advanced to some of Ford Motor Co's top management positions. He is known as the father of the Ford Taurus, which was key to the company's survival in the 1980s, and pioneered multi-disciplinary product development techniques that vastly improved American manufacturing processes.

Lawrence Tech Hosts AIA Neighborhood Initiative

As part of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the American Institute of Architecture, Lawrence Tech and the University of Detroit Mercy (UDM) are hosting the “Neighborhoods by Design Program” that will identify projects that can contribute to neighborhood sustainability in southeastern Michigan. The initial session was hosted by Lawrence Tech on Jan. 26, and the results will be presented here on March 23. The speakers at the kick-off session were (L-R) Victor Saroki, BSAr'79, BAr'80, who is leading AIA Detroit's 150th anniversary project; Glen LeRoy, dean of the College of Architecture and Design; Stephen Vogel, architecture dean at UDM; and Dennis King, CEO of Harley Ellis Deveraux in Southfield and president of AIA Michigan.

Kim Wins Two Awards for Detroit Studio

Professor Joongsuk Kim will receive the Collaborative Design Practice Award from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture at its national conference in March.

Kim’s award is based on the multi-semester project where children play an active role in community revitalization through the means of architecture, urban design, social science, video, and art. Specifically, the project aims to promote education of youth in architecture and urban design, sustainable development, healthy food and lifestyle in impoverished urban areas. This project was conducted by Kim and his undergraduate students at the Detroit Studio Community Outreach Program, http://www.ltue.edu/architecture_and_design/detroitstudio_projects.asp.

In addition, The American Architectural Foundation in Washington, D.C., will give Kim an architectural education award and $2,000 grant to develop sustainable community design guidelines.

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Deadline for next issue is Wednesday, March 7, at 5 p.m.

Lawrence Technological University
Graduate Students from India Help Local High School Students

By Eric Pope  
Tech News Editor

Lawrence Tech engineering graduate students from India are making a big difference at University High School (UHS) in Ferndale.

Seventeen graduate students regularly staff the UHS academic support program from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and another eight students fill in when needed. They tutor high school students in biology, chemistry, physics, math, history, civics and Spanish and also oversee the computer lab.

Lawrence Tech is providing the tutoring program as part of its ongoing partnership with Ferndale Public Schools in developing this unique high school. UHS opened in 2005 as a tuition-free school of choice for students living in Oakland County and adjacent counties.

Lawrence Tech educators helped develop a pre-professional and college-preparatory curriculum designed to put students on track for leadership careers in global automotive and related high-tech industries. Lawrence Tech’s involvement is partially funded by a grant from Michigan Future Inc.

UHS tenth-grader Christian Patterson gets tutoring help from the Indian students in Algebra II. “I like them because they break it down so that I can understand it,” she said. “If I don’t get it, they come at it from a different angle.”

After the tutor explains the concepts involved and gives examples, Patterson is able to do her homework assignments on her own.

Brandon Thompson said he is getting more out of his American history class after working with the tutors. “They explain the impact of an event, which helps me understand why history is important,” he said.

These Indian students have learned English in addition to their regional language and the Indian national language of Hindi. But it doesn’t bother tenth-grader Allan’te Lamb that they speak English with an unfamiliar accent and come from halfway around the globe.

“They are fun people to talk to and easy to understand,” Lamb said.

Ravi Girijala, a construction management graduate student at Lawrence Tech, said he enjoys the personal relationships he develops with the high school students.

“The kids are like friends, and we are sharing our knowledge with them,” Girijala said.

Ramesh Ganaraju, who is working on a master’s degree in automotive engineering, said he likes tutoring because it improves his communication skills while putting his own education to work for other people.

“Sometimes it is a joy [when a student learns something], and you can feel proud,” he said.

The program administrator is Nancy Kimmel, an adjunct professor in mechanical engineering at Lawrence Tech for the past five years who also has taught at the high school level. She said the tutors have treated the students with respect and kindness, which she believes is the key to the program’s success.

“Their rich cultural and social skills, along with their vast knowledge of math and the sciences, make them excellent tutors and role models for the students,” Kimmel said. “The students respond in kind and have shown marked improvement in their understanding of the subjects.”

According to UHS Principal George Tomey, classroom teachers responsible for 20 to 30 students can’t provide enough individualized attention that some students need, and working parents often don’t have the time, the energy or the specific knowledge to help their children with homework. The Lawrence Tech tutors are bridging the gap for some students.

“Research shows that a one-on-one relationship in education is the most beneficial,” Tomey said. “This gives a chance to kids who would otherwise languish in the classroom.”

Other students earn extra credit in their classes by going to the academic support center for enrichment activities. Tomey believes a key to academic achievement is the amount of work students put in. “This is getting kids to spend more time on studying,” he said.

Robofest: Volunteers Needed

Lawrence Tech students, faculty, staff, and alumni are needed for the Robofest 2007 competition season. Robofest has 20 competition sites this season, and many located in Southeast Michigan need volunteer assistance.

Volunteers are needed for set-up, registration, judging, proctoring, etc., in time blocks of approximately three to four hours. If you have an interest in robotics, and/or enjoy working with students in grades 5-12, please consider being a Robofest volunteer.

You can sign up as a Robofest 2007 volunteer at the Robofest Volunteer web site, http://admin.robofest.org. Just click on the location and date you are interested in and sign up for the volunteer positions listed for each competition site. For more information on volunteering, please contact Lori Birman at lbirman@ltu.edu.

Robofest is an annual autonomous robotics competition for students in grades 5-12 that CJ Chung, associate professor of computer science, started in 2000. This year more than 230 student teams will compete in venues around southeast Michigan, in Texas, California, Washington, Florida, Canada, Korea and Singapore. The top teams from each local competition will qualify for the World Robofest 2007 Championship April 28 at Lawrence Tech.

To view the rules and register, go to www.robofest.net.

Robofest encourages young students to have fun while learning computer programming and engineering, math and science technology. Students are required to do all of the design, construction and programming of the robots, and adult coaches are not allowed to assist during the competition.

Finding and rescuing trapped coal miners is the simulated mission that student programmers will tackle at Robofest 2007. The Miner Rescue competition requires robots to locate and rescue trapped miners in a simulated mine environment. The robots must be fully programmed to perform without remote controls.

Robofest 2007 also provides several other opportunities for students to compete: Exhibition, VEX Pentathlon, RoboSumo, RoboFashionShow and the new Robofest Collegiate Mini Urban Challenge.

Qualifying rounds of Robofest 2007 will be held in southeast Michigan in March and April at the following locations:

- Ann Arbor Trail Magnet Middle School, Detroit
- Canton Charter Academy, Canton
- Carman-Ainsworth High School, Flint
- Cheryl Stockwell Academy, Howell
- Delta College, University Center
- Hillside Middle School, Northville
- Macomb Christian Schools, Warren
- Macomb Intermediate School District, Clinton Township
- St. Clair County RESA, Marysville
- University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy, Detroit
- Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor
Faculty & Staff Campaign Goes over the Top

By Dino Hernandez
Assistant Vice President
For Major Gifts/Campaign Director

The 2006-2007 Lawrence Tech Faculty & Staff Campaign raised $139,141 in new pledges, cash and renewals -- 103 percent of the $135,000 goal -- and participation grew to 273 faculty and staff.

This year’s new pledges totaled $82,155, cash gifts totaled $35,059, and renewals totaled $21,916. The annual campaign supports capital projects, academic programs, student scholarships, faculty initiatives, and general unrestricted spending. Participation Steve Brown, vice president for university advancement, noted that the annual campaign exceeded both its formal goals and expectations for an employee campaign.

“Besides a record final tally, we are very pleased to report a wonderful 46 percent participation overall and 70 percent full-time employee participation in this year’s Faculty & Staff Campaign,” Brown said. “This level of generosity shows that members of the faculty, staff, and administration at Lawrence Tech know firsthand that the University’s greatest assets are its students and employees.”

“This campaign was an opportunity for us to make a difference where we work and live. We believe in supporting faculty, staff, and student programs and projects,” stated the campaign co-chairs, Lewis Frasch, associate dean of the College of Engineering; Al Turfe, lecturer in mathematics and computer science; and Diane Sobania, undergraduate applications specialist.

In celebration of the conclusion of the campaign, President Lewis N. Walker will host a Faculty & Staff Campaign coffee-and-dessert “wrap-up” party for all university employee donors on Thursday, Feb. 22, at 3 p.m. in the UTLC Gallery.

Prizes for the top team leaders include a 15-inch LCD television; a digital music player. In addition, a portable DVD player will be awarded to new donors of $75 or more in honor of the upcoming 75th anniversary of the founding of Lawrence Tech.

The campaign co-chairs also will confer the fifth annual “Division Cup” trophy to the college with the highest faculty and staff participation, as well as a third annual “Division Cup” trophy to the division with highest administrator and staff participation.

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Undergraduate Pledges $20,000 for New Scholarship Fund

By Eric Pope
Tech News Editor

Sean Simpson won’t receive his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering until May, but he is already giving back to Lawrence Tech for the financial assistance and quality education he received.

He has made the first payment on a $20,000 pledge to create a scholarship fund in his name that will provide merit-based tuition grants to incoming freshmen.

At 22, Simpson is the youngest person known to have established an endowed scholarship fund at Lawrence Tech, and he’s also the first undergraduate to do so.

He said he has an obligation to help other Lawrence Tech students because all of his tuition bills were paid by an LTU Scholarship in his freshman year and then a Buell Scholarship the rest of the way.

“If someone hadn’t given me this opportunity, I’d be $80,000 in debt,” Simpson said. “I really appreciate the opportunity I was given, and I wanted to give someone else an opportunity.”

He wanted his scholarship fund to be merit-based because students from middle-class families often have a very hard time paying for college, but don’t qualify for need-based scholarships.

Simpson focused his studies on automotive engineering because of his love for drag racing. With help from his father, Simpson modified a 1994 Camaro and rebuilt an engine with more than 1,000 horse power. He’s driven in races around the country, and reached a top speed of 161 m.p.h. while running the quarter-mile in 8.7 seconds.

After completing his degree requirements in December — in just three and a half years — he found that his Lawrence Tech education opened up many employment opportunities. He had more interview opportunities than he could handle, and turned down job offers in Indiana and Louisiana before accepting an offer from General Motors close to home.

On Jan. 2, he started as an associate engineer on a new transmission project at the GM research facility in Ypsilanti, where his Lawrence Tech education is already paying off.

Veteran engineers prefer to have him do work in areas where he is well-versed in current practices, such as vibration, heat transfer and fluid flow.

Simpson could have attended a big-name university himself because he graduated second in the class of 2003 at Warren’s Cousino High School and had very high standardized test scores. He was attracted to Lawrence Tech by the full scholarship offer and then realized it was a “better fit” for him because of the small class sizes and the faculty with broad experience in the professional world.

“Lawrence Tech turned out to be more than I had hoped for,” he said. “I wasn’t expecting my professors to be so hands-on.”

Simpson appreciated the personal attention that he got from professors. He found that both faculty and administrators are willing to make adjustments for students who have to fit their education around work schedules. He had a full-time job every semester as a test technician for Nisshinbo in Sterling Heights.

Simpson plans to take advantage of GM’s technical education program that covers tuition costs for employees. He probably will get a master’s degree in mechanical engineering and would like to add an MBA.

“I want to know both the technical and the business side. That would be an unbeatable combination,” he said.

Another goal is to keep adding to his Lawrence Tech scholarship fund as his career progresses.

Howie and Hernandez Named to Advancement Positions

Dennis J. Howie has been named associate vice president for advancement and chief development officer and Dino M. Hernandez has been named assistant vice president for major gifts and campaign director at Lawrence Technological University.

The appointments were made by Stephen Brown, Lawrence Tech’s new vice president for university advancement.

“Dennis Howie and Dino Hernandez can take a lot of the credit for Lawrence Tech’s unprecedented fund-raising success in the past few years,” Brown said. “I know they will play key roles in the university’s future growth.”

Howie joined Lawrence Tech in 1999 as director of major gifts, after holding development positions at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Eastern Michigan University and the Detroit office of the Boy Scouts of America. Promoted to assistant vice president in 2004, Howie also served as interim vice president for university advancement in 2006.

In that role, he oversaw the completion of the five-year Campaign for Lawrence Technological University that raised $46.6 million, far exceeding the initial goal of $20 million.

Hernandez joined Lawrence Tech in 1999 as director of alumni relations and annual giving. He had previously worked in development at the University of Michigan-Flint and Oakland University. In 2002, he was promoted to executive director of individual giving and alumni relations. In 2004, he was promoted to executive director of both major gifts and the capital campaign.

In 2004, Lawrence Tech was among just 37 of 3,200 colleges and universities nationwide to win a Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)/Wealth ID Award for Educational Fund Raising. The award honors exemplary development operations across the country and overall improvement in fund-raising over a three-year period.
Expanded Automotive Curriculum Builds on Dynamometer Capabilities

By Eric Pope
Tech News Editor

The master of science degree program in automotive engineering at Lawrence Tech is providing a springboard for new courses in vehicle dynamics and automotive control systems that give students experience with cutting-edge automotive research.

Suresh Bansal, director of the master of science degree program in automotive engineering (MSAE) and the Automotive Engineering Institute at Lawrence Tech, teaches a project-based course on automotive vehicle control systems. Recent examples of student projects are a turbo-charger actuated boost control system, an electric vehicle dynamics performance model, a vehicle launch assist traction control system, and a four-wheel steering control system. Students use Matlab®, Simulink® and dSPACE tools for developing these control systems.

Bansal also teaches a vehicle dynamics course that attracts about 120 students every year.

Advanced courses in both areas are now being developed take advantage of the research capabilities of Lawrence Tech’s four-wheel-drive (4WD) vehicle chassis dynamometer. Classes start in May for the second course on vehicle dynamics and in August for the second course in automotive controls.

“Now these students will have the opportunity to get in-depth, cutting-edge technology in the classroom and then practice it as they work on a project using Lawrence Tech’s dynamometer,” Bansal said.

The 4WD vehicle chassis dynamometer is equipped with individual wheel torque electronic controls. This unique feature enables power distribution to be applied independently to each wheel, which in turn makes it possible to incorporate a much broader and diverse range of testing scenarios.

The dynamometer is used to conduct industry research in areas such as vehicle traction control, turnability and ride stability, acceleration and braking, AWD driveline system performance, diagnostic testing, safety systems, fuel efficiency improvement, and emissions testing.

The MSAE degree program also benefits from Lawrence Tech’s partnerships with industry leaders. These partnerships give students first-hand insight into the latest solutions that are being embraced by manufacturers industries around the globe.

“Partnering with industry leaders brings a whole new element to the learning experience,” Bansal said. “This is an important concept for American academic institutions and the educational possibilities are invaluable.”

For example, Don Saldano, a senior applications engineer at Novi-based dSPACE Inc., volunteers his time as a field instructor at Lawrence Tech and participates in the automotive control systems courses on a regular basis.

“We’re exposing students to the technical solutions of the future,” Saldano said. “We’re letting them know what’s out there in terms of new capabilities.”

Bansal said his students are incorporating modeling, rapid prototyping, hardware-in-the-loop simulation and other advanced concepts to design control systems for dynamic vehicle behaviors, such as traction control, stability control, steering, driveline systems and intelligent cruise control.

All classes are scheduled during evening hours to accommodate working professionals. Working professionals who are not pursuing the MSAE degree are encouraged to enroll in these courses as guest students.

For more information about the master’s degree program in automotive engineering and the Automotive Engineering Institute, contact Bansal at bansal@ltu.edu or (248) 204-2563. The Internet link is http://www.ltu.edu/engineering/aei.asp.

Larry Joe Donors Recognized

The Larry Joe Coffee Bar in the Buell Building atrium recently celebrated its second anniversary. A sign has been placed on the front of the counter to recognize eight donors who paid for the initial set-up costs and additional furniture. One of those donors, Gary Mann (R) of Independent Carpet One in Westland, joined Brent Bishop, Taher Inc.’s dining services director at Lawrence Tech, in placing the sign. The other donors recognized on the sign are the Lawrence Tech senior classes of 2000, 2004, and 2005, the Lawrence Tech Alumni Association, JPRA Architects, Smith Brothers Electrical, and Aramark Corp.

Yee Wins SAE Faculty Advisor Award

Kingman Yee, associate professor of mechanical engineering, has received the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) faculty advisor award for 2006. He was nominated by Lawrence Tech students.

This award recognizes Yee’s dedication and contributions to SAE and its chapter at Lawrence Tech.

In the fall semester, Yee was appointed director of the master of engineering in manufacturing systems program.

Scholarships Available for Women in IT

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology (MCWT) Foundation will award over $59,000 in renewable scholarships and one-time technology grants to Michigan women who are pursuing degrees in information technology. The application deadline is Feb. 28.

The awards include:
- $5,000 per year annual scholarship for a college freshman going into sophomore year, with a renewable value of up to $15,000.
- $5,000 per year annual scholarship for a graduate student pursuing a master’s or doctoral program, with a renewable value of up to $15,000.
- $3,000 one-time grant for an IT-related research project.

University students and high school seniors also are eligible to apply for three one-time $2,000 laptop grants.

Applications can be downloaded at www.mcwtf.org.

Winners will be notified by early April and honored at the May MCWT corporate partner recognition event.

Learn How to Dodge the Lodge

Due to a major construction project on M-10 (Lodge Freeway/Northwestern Highway) from February to November, accessibility to M-10 and some bridges is affected. For complete, up-to-date information on detours, visit www.michigan.gov/mdot.
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Students Affairs: Added Responsibilities

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international students needing assistance should be referred to the Office of Career Services and International Programs (C-404) in the Taubman Center (ext. 3140).

By July, services for students with disabilities also will be provided by the Office of Career Services and International Programs, where the staff will undergo additional training. “Many of the disabilities students face directly impact their career planning and preparation,” Webster said.

Diana Richardson will transition out of her responsibilities as coordinator for disability services in order to devote more time to her growing responsibilities as coordinator for conference services. She will continue to work with students with disabilities during a six-month transition period. She has moved to the Office of University Housing (C-205) in the Taubman Center, although her phone number remains ext. 4110.

New services for commuter students are now the responsibility of Maureen Linnell, who has joined the Division of Student Affairs as student activities assistant for commuter services.

Lawrence Tech has also increased the services provided to academically and economically disadvantaged students through its King-Chavez-Parks (KCP) Initiative, which is partially funded by Michigan’s Department of Labor and Economic Growth. Linnell and de Hesselle will join Melissa Buffen, who has been hired as a college activities assistant in the College of Arts and Sciences, in meeting the goals established under the state KCP grant.

“The intent is to create a broader sense of welcome and belonging for all students at Lawrence Tech,” Webster said.

Baja SAE Team Prepares for Big Test in June

By Steven Lenisa
Baja SAE team member

Lawrence Tech’s Baja SAE team must be prepared for a rough course and tough opposition at the regional competition at the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York June 7-10.

The Baja competition is one of nine engineering education activities in the Collegiate Design Series sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). Lawrence Tech was one of the first universities to participate in these competitions, and the Baja SAE is an engineering senior project.

Last year’s team placed 46th out of 139 teams and took second place in the acceleration competition. The real test is surviving the endurance test on a course that seems to be designed to destroy the vehicle. About a third of last year’s entrants made it to the end.

This year’s Baja SAE team at Lawrence Tech consists of seven future mechanical engineers and a student from the College of Management. The team must design, fabricate, and race a single-seat, off-road vehicle in an SAE-sanctioned event in order to graduate. Fundraising is an important part of the project.

The team members hope to continue gaining valuable practical experience from this project such as: team work, communication, leadership, logistics planning, organization, decision-making, and engineering.

Chris Jagalla is the team leader and front suspension designer. He understands that a good leader is a good worker and he often leads by example. His “hands on” management style results in the team accomplishing attainable targets together despite the difficulty of conflicting schedules.

Steven Lenisa is the front sub team leader and fund-raising chairperson. He volunteers to do tasks necessary to move the project forward.

Ben Pew is the team’s frame designer. He has spent many hours at the computer with a tape measure in front of the frame mock-up, making every effort to minimize the tubing in the frame.

Dan Sanderson, the team’s power train designer, can create a quick drawing to convey an idea, which has helped eliminate lengthy and confusing descriptions during meetings.

Aaron Bauer is employed by Denso and is in charge of steering knuckle design. The in-house fabrication of the steering knuckle is a big improvement.

The team’s newest member is Matt O’Connor of the College of Management, who has taken over Mike Stewart’s former role as organizer of the popular Shield’s Pizza fund-raising nights.

Stewart graduated last term and selected O’Connor for the Baja team.

Completing the team are Brandon Prendergast (rear suspension) and Bernard Nike (braking).

Professor Chris H. Riedel is the faculty advisor. Chris Olsen, a member of the 2003 Baja team, and 2006 team member Matt Morad are the graduate advisors. All three are a source of support and often attend team meetings.

The team would like to thank Dadco Corporation, Elmhurst Industries, Metal Supermarkets (Troy), Hilton Garden Inn (Southfield), Sebastian Karwaczynski, and Lee Keshishian for their generous support.

For details or fund-raising suggestions, contact O’Connor at mo000217033@ltu.edu or 248.921.0844.

For more information, see the Baja SAE team page at http://www.ltu.edu/engineering/2006_baja.asp and the website for the RIT competition at http://students.sae.org/competitions/bajasae/rit/.

Blue Devil Update

By Scott Trudeau
Assistant Director, Student Recreation

The 4-on-4 basketball league began Feb. 6 and will run beyond spring break. Games are played on both Tuesday and Thursday nights at 8, 9, and 10 p.m. at the Ridler Field House. We have 10 teams signed up for the league consisting of current students and alumni.

New this semester, students will referee the games and be paid for their services. Hopefully this will be an improvement to our popular league and help our students gain some leadership opportunities.

Jordan Whitten was this semester’s T-shirt design winner. His design will be worn by all the teams in our league this semester.

Basketball All-Stars

The Blue Devil Basketball All-Stars are playing some exciting games this semester. Come out and see some of Lawrence Tech’s most promising players battle it out against the UDM All-Stars on Friday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Don Ridler Field House.

On Saturday, Feb. 24, the Lawrence Tech All-Stars will travel to Flint to play the Kettering All-Stars. The Lawrence Tech All-Stars also will compete in the Midwest Shootout Tournament hosted by Oakland University March 3-4. Up to 20 teams from the Midwest will compete to get an automatic bid the national tournament.

Snowboarding/Ski Outing

A group of Lawrence Tech students, faculty, and staff will go to Alpine Valley in White Lake to take on the February cold on Sunday, Feb. 18. The first 20 people to sign up will get deeply discounted lift tickets.

LTU Hockey

The Blue Devils will wrap up their season in this month. Their record was 9-13 as of Feb. 5. They look to gain momentum going into a couple of tournaments at the end of the season.

The Michigan College Hockey Conference league tournament begins Thursday, Feb. 15, in Midland, where six teams will battle to see who will be the MCHC champion. The Blue Devils also will attend the second annual Lumberjack Classic in Alpena the following weekend, Feb. 23-25.