



## Spotlight on . . . Renewable Energy



Dave Kennell,  
Coordinator  
Renewable Energy

The Renewable Energy degree program received final approval in October 2007. The renewable energy undergraduate major is a broad-based program addressing the social, economic, and technical issues that graduates will encounter in the emerging field of renewable energy. Students will be able to choose between two tracks – a technology track or an economics/public policy track. Graduates will be prepared for jobs in the fields of biofuels, wind and solar energy, or regulatory and governmental agencies. The Renewable Energy Major is housed in the Department of Technology.

Students will be able to choose between two tracks – a technology track or an economics / public policy track. Graduates are expected to be conversant in diverse disciplines, including technical, managerial, political, and economic issues important to renewable energy. To achieve the objectives outlined above, students will take a diverse set of courses in such areas as physical sciences, mathematics, technology, economics, safety and management. A required capstone course is designed to help students synthesize their learning experiences in these diverse subjects.

The curriculum was reviewed by renewable energy experts and potential employers who comprise the program advisory committee to ensure that its scope and depth will result in graduates that are highly trained and knowledgeable.

This program is designed to prepare students for employment opportunities across a variety of industries including biofuels, solar, wind, as well as jobs in regulatory

and government agencies. Students are encouraged to complete two internships in their field of study. These experiences are great resume builders and often lead to jobs in the industry.

Transfer is possible from accredited 2-year community college programs. Before enrolling in any 2-year program please check with both the ISU Technology Department Advisor and your community college advisor to maximize credit hour transfer.



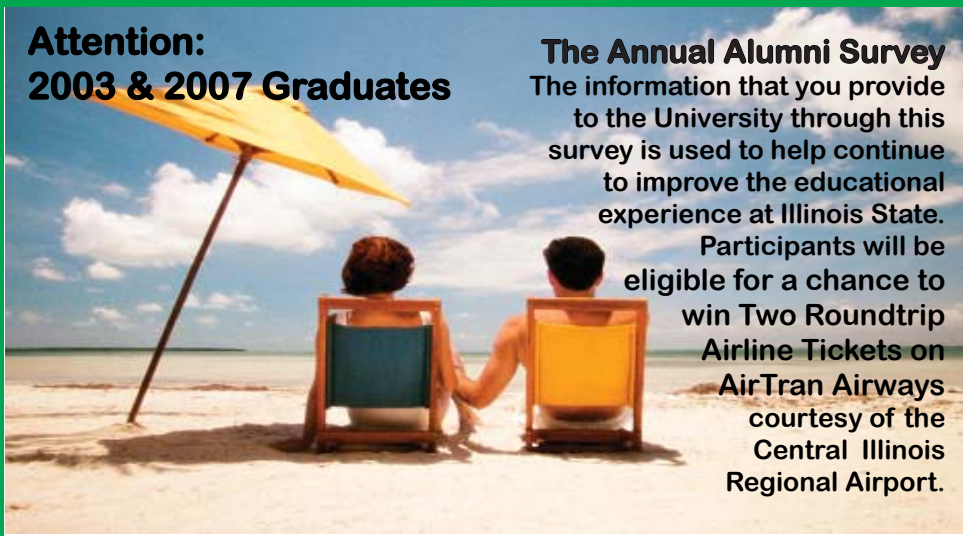
Wind Turbines

## Attention: 2003 & 2007 Graduates

**The Annual Alumni Survey**  
The information that you provide to the University through this survey is used to help continue to improve the educational experience at Illinois State. Participants will be eligible for a chance to win Two Roundtrip Airline Tickets on AirTran Airways courtesy of the Central Illinois Regional Airport.

### Inside This Issue

- Spotlight on Renewable Energy ..... 1
- 03 & 07 Alumni Survey ..... 1
- Department Faculty Awards ..... 2
- Alumni Awards ..... 3
- Faculty Update ..... 4
- Career Day 2008 ..... 4
- TEC Students in the News ..... 6
- Career Day 2008 ..... 6
- CAST Golf Scramble ..... 7



## Department Faculty Awards

At the annual holiday party, three members of the faculty were honored by the department for the exemplary quality of their work. Awarded each year since 1989, the awards recognize scholarly productivity, teaching, and service. The selection committee, comprised of faculty members who have received the awards during the previous year, made their choices based on the significance of their contribution in these settings. This year's winners were: Dave Kennell - Service, Borinara Park - Teaching, and Chris Merrill - Research.

Dave Kennell  
Service Award  
2007



Borinara Park  
Teaching Award  
2007



Chris Merrill  
Research Award  
2007



## Chris Merrill CAST Outstanding Researcher



Chris Merrill

CAST Research Committee members are pleased to announce Dr. Chris Merrill, Department of Technology, has been selected as the recipient of the 2007-2008 CAST Outstanding Researcher Award. In recognition of his exemplary work, he will be awarded \$500 and a plaque for his office wall. Additionally, his name will be added to a plaque dedicated to this award that hangs in the reception area of the CAST Dean's Office. He presented highlights of his research efforts at the CAST Spring Faculty Meeting in April 2008.

## Keith Rahn Named MCAA Educator of the Year

The Mechanical Contractors Association of America, Inc. (MCAA) presented its 2007 Educator of the Year Award to Professor Keith Rahn during the MCAA AwardsCenter Breakfast at the association's annual convention in Palm Desert, California. Rahn was selected for the award because he demonstrated superior performance as a leader, mentor, educator, and advisor to student members of the ISU Mechanical and Electrical Contractors Association. He has been an effective liaison between students and mechanical contractors, helpful advisor to the chapter officers and members on special projects, and helped students to locate summer internships and full-time positions within the industry.



Keith Rahn and David Kruse,  
MCAA President

## Gokhale Named CeMaST Fellow



Anu Gokhale

On March 17, 2008, Anu Gokhale was honored as a CeMaST Fellow at a reception held in the University Galleries. A CeMaST Fellow is an individual who has closely partnered with CeMaST on grant and research efforts in mathematics, science, technology, and other disciplines. Dr. Gokhale has a strong history of successful grantmanship. Her latest NSF Grant is investigating ways to recruit greater numbers of women, African-Americans, and Hispanics into an IT-related major.

# Alumni Recognition Awards

## Douglas Strand Distinguished Alum 2007

Douglas Strand ('90) was the 2007 Department of Technology Distinguished Alumnus. Doug graduated from the Department of Industrial Technology with a focus in Integrated Manufacturing Systems. In attendance at his presentation were his parents, David and Trudy Strand, wife Sheryl, children Ashley, Zachary, and David, as well as, his future son-in-law, Cody Guest. The presentation of his career highlights included the intricacies of planning, designing and managing a meat processing facility. Currently, Doug Strand is the owner of Strand Management and Consulting Services in Oklahoma.



Rear L-R: David Strand, Cody Guest, Doug Strand, Sheryl, Trudy, David, Zachary and Ashley Strand

## CAST Associates Award

Mr Jeff Hill of Kennametal, Inc. was the recipient of the 2008 CAST Associates Award. He was nominated by Dr. Ken Stier of the Department of Technology for the Jeff Hill and Ken Stier met through the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) organization in 1987, and Jeff has been a member of the Integrated Manufacturing Systems Advisory Board and a strong supporter of the manufacturing students. During his tenure as the regional officer in the SME professional organization, Jeff was instrumental in providing opportunities for our students to attend and participate in the chapter officer training conference held each year.

## TEC Alums Awarded 2007 NAIT Industry Awards

Mr. Randy R. Brown ('88) was awarded the 2007 NAIT Industry Division Outstanding Industrial Technologist Award. Randy is the Managing Director, UK, Northern Europe, Middle East & South Africa, Kennametal UK Limited. Graduating in 1988 from Illinois State University with a B.S. in Industrial Technology, Mr. Randy Brown started his career at Kennametal Inc. as a Manufacturing Engineer. While pursuing his Masters in Technology at Kent State University, Mr. Brown combined technology and business curriculum to assist him in managing critical projects. His passion for applying technology as an enabler to make step-change process enhancements has resulted in the development and application of several innovative business management approaches. Mr. Brown has held a variety of positions with increasing responsibility over the past eighteen years in Manufacturing, Continuous Improvement, Project Management, Sales, Marketing, Strategy and General Management. Mr. Brown is an active member in MAPI (Manufacturers Alliance), AMT (Association for Manufacturing Technology), AMA (American Marketing Association), ISBM (Institute for the Study of Business Markets) and a new member of NAIT.



Randy Brown, Shane Tredup, and Ken Stier

Mr. Shane Tredup ('01) was awarded the 2007 NAIT Industry Division Outstanding Early Achievement Award. Shane is V.P. Engineering, Custom Aluminum Products. While attending Illinois State University, Shane worked for the university as assistant to the lab maintenance manager. He also served two years as the student chapter president of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. Upon graduation in 2001 from Illinois State University with his Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Technology, Shane started his career as a Sales Engineer with Custom Aluminum Products. Custom Aluminum Products is a aluminum extrusion facility that also fabricates and paints 25 million pounds of aluminum per year. In 2005, Shane was promoted to Vice President of Engineering and now manages the engineering department, the tool room, and the quality department. Along with his daily duties as a manager Shane has supervised capital investment projects such as installation of the company's newest quarter mile long horizontal paint line, acquisition of the company's new 320,000 square foot facility and the expansion of their CNC machining department to over 20 CNC mills.

### Technology Alums:

Please help us to keep in touch with you by updating your email and other contact information at:

<http://www.alumni.ilstu.edu/myinfo/>

# Faculty Update

**Richard Boser** serves as Department Chair. Rick currently has a research project involving recycling of residential construction site waste.

**Dan Brown** continues to serve as the Graduate Coordinator and as a mentor to new faculty members.

**Ryan Brown** served as President for the Graphics Division of NAIT and was Chair of the NAIT Research Task Force.

**Adam Burke** is teaching in the Graphic Communications Sequence.

**Mark Comerford** is an instructor in the Construction Management Sequence and a local architect.

**Kevin Devine** teaches in the Integrated Manufacturing Sequence. Kevin designed, fabricated, and integrated the new Caterpillar IML lab with Dave Kennell.

**Terry Foster** continues as a Industrial Computer Systems Instructor. Under his guidance and encouragement, more ICS students are taking the certification exams.

**Anu Gokhale** continues to teach in the Industrial Computer Systems Sequence and to work on grants involving STEM and women students.

**Dave Kennell** continues as an instructor in the Integrated Manufacturing Sequence. He is the Program Coordinator for the new Renewable Energy major..

**Ed Livingston** continues as a Technology Education instructor. He is active with SkillsUSA.

**Cathy McKay** continues as the Undergraduate Advisor and Professional Practice Coordinator. Cathy participates in the Departmental Curriculum Committee, Family Weekend, Open Houses and Transfer Days. She revised and taught the TEC 100 course in Spring 2008.

**Ron Meier** has taken over teaching the TEC 497 Introduction to Research Methodology graduate course. He has actively pursued graduate internship opportunities, as well as, Project Management Seminars for local businesses.

**Chris Merrill** continues as the Technology Education Sequence Coordinator. Chris was awarded the ITEA Research Award for 2007 in San Antonio, TX and was named CAST Outstanding Researcher. He will present at the CAST Spring Lunch.

**Bo Park** continues work on the use of 3-D Virtual Construction Environments to help in cost savings on construction projects. He is the faculty advisor for the new LEED Student Organization.

**Keith Rahn** is coordinator for the Construction Management Sequence. He is also faculty advisor for several of the student organization. He has been instrumental in the success of the annual CMSA Golf Outing.

**Lou Reifschneider** receive an Society of Manufacturing Engineers Matching Funds Grant to be used for the new robotics lab.

**Klaus Schmidt** has been on sabbatical. He is teaching in France and planning a summer grant program in Argentina.

**Ken Stier** continues as the Integrated Manufacturing Sequence Coordinator and the Chair of the Departmental Curriculum Committee.

**Dan Wilson** continues as the Graphic Communications Sequence Coordinator. He sits on the board of the Accrediting Council for Collegiate Graphic Communications (ACCGC) and is revitalizing the ISU degree program through new visioning and industry support.

# Faculty Grant Activity

Chris Merrill and Kevin Devine were awarded a \$1200 by the National Science Foundation for “Information Technology in Advanced Manufacturing: Robotics and PLC Programming. Chris Merrill has also partnered with faculty members from other departments for three Federal Department of Education grants. The grants are: STEM Education and Leadership: Elementary Mathematics and Science; STEM Education and Leadership: Chemistry; and STEM Education and Leadership: Middle School Mathematics.

Anu Gokhale's NSF Grant is a demonstration project to recruit a greater number of women, African-Americans, and Hispanics into an IT-related major. There are six such majors at ISU: Information Systems, Telecommunications Management, Computer Science, Industrial Computer Systems, Business Information Systems, and Accounting Information Systems. It aims to target students who have proven mathematical ability but are not enrolled in a computing course. The project will highlight the opportunities in, and diversity of computing careers, provide role models from on and off campus who will humanize the field, and motivate students to explore careers in computing, using tech-enabled popular venues like blogs.

Dave Kennell and the Renewable Energy Program received a matching funds grant from the Clean Energy Commission to help purchase equipment for the Renewable Energy Program.

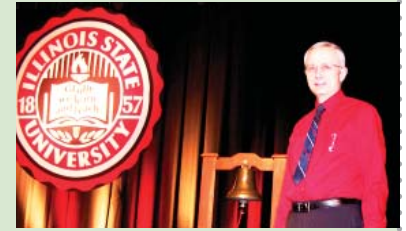
Lou Reifschneider received a matching funds grant from the Society of Plastics Engineers. Equipment is being purchased to complement the equipment in the Caterpillar Integrated Manufacturing Lab.

## CM Sculpture Dedicated

Keith Rahn presented plaques of appreciation to Greg Maloney, of the Iron Workers Local 112, Joe Hart of P.J. Hoerr and Nancy Crain representing the Great Peoria Suppliers and Contractors Association for their joint efforts to make and bring the sculpture to the Department of Technology. The redbird red steel sculpture is now located outside the northwest corner of Turner Hall. The sculpture demonstrates various types of shapes and connections. The sculpture has enhanced instruction for our construction management students and the gift to our program is greatly appreciated.

## Ringling The Old Main Bell

FoundersDay 2008 marked the end of ISU's Sesquicentennial celebrations. This year, Dr. Ken Stier represented the Department of Technology's history of commitment to Leadership in computer applications. Jim Evens and Lori Fox were recognized for 20 years and 10 years of service respectively to ISU.



Ken Stier represents the Department of Technology's commitment to Leadership in Computer Application

Prof. Willard McCarthy introduced students and faculty to computer numerically controlled (CNC) machining in 1967. He was an excellent teacher who conveyed the importance of being a thorough, disciplined student. When students left his class they were well versed in contemporary CNC methods. The following year, 1968, Dr. Joe Talkington received a federal grant to provide the first instruction in Computer Graphics outside of experimental applications at institutions such as MIT. (IBM 1130 with punchcards!). The tradition of TEC leadership in computing continued with Dr. Charles (Chuck) Porter who had a strong interest from the onset of computing and had the persistence it takes to keep up with emerging, fast changing technology. Dr. Wayne Nelson and Dr. Wayne Lockwood were also responsible for writing a grant proposal that provided a variety of computer equipment, such as a VAX mini-mainframe, Campbell CNC mill, and data acquisition equipment that moved the department from Industrial Arts to contemporary Industrial Technology.



Nancy Crain-Brown, Greater Peoria Contractors and Suppliers Association and Keith Rahn,



Greg Maloney, Ironworkers Local 112 and Keith Rahn,



Joe Hart, P.J. Hoerr and Keith Rahn

## Tech Students in the News

### Technology Career Day 2008

On Friday, February 15, 2008, the Department of Technology hosted the 18th Annual Technology Career Day. This year the department also hosted a Meet and Greet the Employers on Thursday, February 14th. The Meet and Greet had a great turnout! We only had one open table. Student traffic started at about 6:45 and didn't start to ease up until after 8:00 pm.

22 companies signed up for our Meet and Greet and/or Career Day Interviews.. Nine companies and one manufacturing professional organization (American Mold Builders Assoc.) attended the Meet and Greet on Thursday night. In the future, AMBA may be able to help promote Career Day to its members. On Friday Career Day, thirteen companies interviewed students. Next year's Technology Career Events are scheduled for February 19-20, 2009. If you are interested in participating, please contact Elizabeth Gerrard at (309) 438-2103 or [elgerra@ilstu.edu](mailto:elgerra@ilstu.edu).

### TECA Competes in Midwest Regional Competition



The Illinois State University Technology Education Collegiate Association (TECA) competed at the TECA Midwest Regional October 19-20 in Peoria, Illinois against other technology education universities in the Midwest. The ISU-TECA team earned first place awards in the teaching lesson and communications contests, second place finishes in the technology challenge, manufacturing, and transportation contests, and a third place finish in the problem solving contest. John Barber, Izz Matariyeh, Mark Stoch, Chris Gunsteen, Luke Sikora, Jason Winter, Joe Manola, Robert Schultz, Wade Gadberry, Shane Chandler, Barry Hartman, Peter Goss, and Andrew Hughes were the students involved. The picture shows TECA students working on the manufacturing contest at the TECA Midwest Regional that occurred in Peoria.

### TECA Places First

The members of ISU-TECA competed at the International TECA Competition February 20-22, 2008 as part of the International Technology Education Association Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. ISU-TECA members earned first place in the TECA Challenge and Transportation Technology competitions.

### First Prize Homecoming Float 2008

This was the fourth straight year to participate in the Homecoming Parade. Our float was awarded a first place ribbon. Over past four years we have been awarded two first, one second, and one third place recognition. This year the International Interior Design Association in Family and Consumer Sciences and the Habitat for Humanity Student Association joined up with the Construction Management Student Association to create and build the winning float.



### Graphic Communications Students Attend Graph Expo

Over twenty Graphic Communications students attended the 2007 Graph Expo at McCormick Place in Chicago on September 9 - 13 2007. The Graph Expo is the premier event for printing and graphic communication industry and is a great place for students and faculty to learn about cutting edge technologies in the Graphic Communications field.

## Construction Management Competitions

The Illinois State University student chapter of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) competed in the national residential construction management competition in Orlando Florida during the International Builders Show (IBS) from February 13 – 16, 2008. The NAHB student chapter consisted of six dedicated students from ISU's Construction Management program: Adam Hebert, Nate McClintick, Alex Sherfy, Dustin Reynolds, and Sydney Hickey; who were lead by returning competition team member Daniel Battist.



The team was coached by Dr. Richard Boser and assisted by Rick Fields from Trunk Bay Construction, Jim O'Neal from O'Neal Builders, and Frank Powell from ISU's Communication Department. Other members of the builder community in Bloomington-Normal attended and critiqued materials and practice presentations. The 2008 NAHB Team was financially supported by the Bloomington-Normal Area Home Builders Association, the Residential Construction Employers Council of Chicago, Pulte Homes Chicago Division, and scholarships from the National Housing Endowment. We sincerely thank each of our sponsors for their financial support and time commitment to the student team.

The project for this year's competition was Pulte Homes' Berkshire Park just 18 miles from downtown Orlando. Working from plans, specifications, and information gathered from various sources, each team compiles and submits a written proposal prior to the IBS and then give a 15-minute oral presentation followed by 10-minutes of questions and answers to a panel of experts in Orlando. The written proposal documents the feasibility study and includes management practices, marketing analysis, value engineering, detailed estimates per plan, land development, detailed home and project schedules, and full financial analysis. This year our written proposal was nearly 200 pages. Illinois State's NAHB team has been preparing for and working on this project since mid September. It would not be a stretch to say that each team member has dedicated over 100 hours of personal free time to this project. In this year's challenging competition ISU placed 12th of the 30 competing universities. The ISU team was complimented by current and previous judges for their professional presentation in Orlando.

## Construction Students Attend MCAA Convention and Student Competition

Six Construction Management students attended the 2008 Mechanical Contractors Association of America national convention in Desert Palm, CA from March 1st through the 6th, 2008. This was the fifth year for us to attend the national convention. MCA of Chicago sponsors the trip for our students. They attended daily educational sessions, student activities and saw many great speakers such as Madeline Albright, Jim Abbott, and Dick Vitale. The students also participated in the student competition.

Photo 012: Our students at the college showplace event for employers to meet students and find out more about our program. Mr. David Kruse (2007 National President) poses with the students. Names left to right: TiAkka Johnson (Sr), David Rose (Sr), Kevin Current (Sr), MCAA President David Kruse, Tyler Holman (Jr), Brian Fonte (Sr) and Joe Murray (Sr).



## Celebrate CAST Golf Outing

The Celebrate CAST Golf Outing will be held on Friday, May 16th. Revenue generated by this event from sponsorships will be used to fund student scholarships in CAST as well as in all departments and schools. This year, CAST has lowered the entry fee to \$55, which includes green fees, cart, tee gifts, lunch, dinner, beverages, and free raffle items. The registration form can be found at: <http://celebratecast.golfreg.com/>



This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting the editor,  
Elizabeth Gerrard  
Department of Technology  
at (309) 438-2103 or [elgerra@ilstu.edu](mailto:elgerra@ilstu.edu)

### **Giving to the Department of Technology**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please visit your personnel or benefits office for possible matching gift information and procedures. My/my spouse's company \_\_\_\_\_ will match my gift with \$\_\_\_\_\_).

Giving Opportunities:  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

To give by credit card, please go to the TEC Home Page ([www.tec.ilstu.edu](http://www.tec.ilstu.edu)) and click "Giving to Illinois State".

Please return your completed form and contribution to: Illinois State University Foundation  
Campus Box 8000  
Normal, IL 61790-5100  
(309) 438-2294

New Perspectives  
Dr. Richard A. Boser, Executive Editor  
Editor: Elizabeth Gerrard  
Campus Box 5100

An equal opportunity/ affirmative  
action university encouraging diversity

Perspectives is published for  
Department of Technology  
alumni through the support of the  
Illinois State University  
Foundation