

AY 2016-17 College of Sciences & Arts Accomplishments

as of February 3, 2017

Biological Sciences

Assistant professor Ebenezer Tumban received his first NIH-R15 grant with \$457,197 for developing a new vaccine to enhance protection against oral HPV infections in HIV patients.

Assistant professor Steven Techtmann is receiving a young faculty DARPA grant for his 3-year grant proposal which totals a little over \$1 million with \$883 K in actual funding from DARPA and the rest is an internal match.

Medical Lab Sciences student Sarah Westdorp, who interned at Hurley Medical Center, at the end of the internship received an academic award for having the highest GPA and a bench tech award (voted by the techs) for the student who shows good technical skills and who they believe is ready for work on the bench.

Chemistry

NSF CAREER proposal entitled “Engineering Bimetallic Nanostructures as Peroxidase Mimics for Diagnostic Applications” has been awarded to assistant professor Xiaohu Xia.

GIAN workshop – Hisar – Loredana Valenzano, assistant professor, gave impressive lectures on modeling and fundamentals of electronic structure theory in collaboration with Ravi Pandey, Physics chair and professor.

U.S. Army Research Laboratory chemist and postdoctoral research fellow Dr. Sasha Teymorian (Chemistry '15) works to further knowledge and technology, while helping to protect soldiers on the battlefield – US Army Lab news: https://www.army.mil/article/169315/Army_researcher_uses_gold_to_help_identify_injuries/

Chemistry graduate student, Melanie Talaga and associate professor Tarun Dam, wins Bhakta Rath Research Award. Their research specifically looks at the molecular behavior of glycoproteins.

Cary Chabalowski, department chair, Chemistry, is coauthor on one of 25 most cited papers in JPC. The American Chemical Society publications link is below:

http://axial.acs.org/2016/12/15/physical-chemistry-most-cited/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email0117&utm_campaign=Axial

Cognitive and Learning Sciences

Associate professor, Myounghoon “Philart” Jeon, received a FRSW-Federal Railroad Administration (US DOT) research grant – “Driver Behavior at Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Using NDS and Driving Simulators.” Total project value is \$383,000.

Tech Today 10-31-16 Successful travel to AutoUI at University of Michigan by Myounghoon “Philart” Jeon and his students. The tutorial his students and he hosted “in-vehicle auditory interactions: Design and application of auditory displays, speech, sonification, and music” very successful. Professor Jeon was asked to give a talk to a product design company in the UK because the tutorial was so inspirational. A chief researcher of Hyundai Motors, Doyoung Park, will come and stay at MTU for six months.

Myounghoon “Philart” Jeon’s lab has been featured in ACM Magazine, “interactions” in the Jan-Feb issue. Interactions is a flagship magazine, which all of HCI, UX, Interaction researchers and designers from all over the world read and cite. <http://interactions.acm.org/enter/view/mind-music-machine-lab-michigan-tech>

Computer Science

Tech Today 12-8-16 – Computer Science Faculty, Students Teach Kids to Code

Professor Soner Onder – REU award in the amount of \$15,876. Is a supplemental award to \$560,000. Received in 2015. Project title “Sphinx: Combining Data and Instruction Level Parallelism through Demand Driven Execution of Imperative Programs.”

Associate professor Chuck Wallace and David Watkins (Civil and Environmental Engineering) NSF funding through a 5-year project that has a total budget of \$2,983,358. Chuck’s share is \$126,680. Title of project, “Climate Change Mitigation via Reducing Household Food, Energy and Water Consumption: A Quantitative Analysis of Interventions and Impacts of Conservation.”

Professor Zhenlin Wang received a NSF research award with a total budget of \$375,000 for a project titled “CSR:Small: Effective Sampling-Based Miss Ratio Curves: Theory and Practice”

Associate professor Tim Haven (ECE/CS) received a DoD Army Research award with a total budget of \$1,066,799. for a project titled “Multisensor Analysis and Algorithm Development for Detection and Classification of Buried and Obscured Targets”

Associate professor (CLS/CS) Myounghoon “Philart” Jeon received a research award from Hyundai Motor Company in the amount of \$130,236 for a project entitled “Novel In-vehicle Interaction Design and Evaluation”.

Humanities

NPR article 1-4-17 Roxane Gay MTU ’09 PhD in Rhetoric and Technical Communication graduate
<http://www.npr.org/2017/01/04/508200086/roxane-gay-on-good-men-bad-men-and-difficult-women>

As of January 26, 2017 – Roxane Gay pulls her book deal, read more at:
<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/01/26/511767380/roxane-gay-pulls-book-protesting-breitbart-editors-egregious-book-deal>

Jan Miner, STC 1988, was elected to probate judge, for Bay County, MI.

Kinesiology and Integrative Physiology

Tech Today 12-16-16 KIP Engages Local Schools in Physiology Outreach

Assistant professor Jenny Shan, received an NIH R15 award for \$433,814 entitled “Brain (Pro)renin Receptor and Sympathetic Activation in Salt Sensitive Hypertension” which will run for the next three years (2016-19).

Assistant professor Steve Elmer and his research team were recently awarded a \$50,000 research grant from the NSF for their project entitled “I-Corps: A New Assistive Device for Wheelchair Users”.

Doctoral students Matthew Kilgas and Kevin Phillips both received \$3,000 awards for their research through the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation Student Award Program.

Department chair and professor, Jason Carter, has been elected the new President of the American Kinesiology Association.

Mathematical Sciences

Head of the Class – Top Textbooks in Applied Mathematics, Computational Science, and related subjects. Chair and professor Mark Gockenbach had two books published – *Partial Differential Equations: Analytical and Numerical Methods, Second Edition* and *Understanding and Implementing the Finite Element Method*

Professor Jiguang Sun was on the organizing committee for the second annual Kliakhandler Conference – International Conference on Comp. Math. And Inverse Problems, which was held during the second week of August 2016.

Physics

Tech Today 11-1-16 Close Up of the New Mineral Merelaniite, professor John Jaszczak and professor Stephen Hackney (MSE) and other team members.

Tech Today 12-16-16 New mineral, jaszczakite, named in honor of professor John Jaszczak.

Tech Today 12-2-16 Cloud in a Box: Mixing Aerosols and Turbulence, professors Will Cantrell and Raymond Shaw and graduate student Kamal Kant Chandrakar and colleagues.

Professor Raymond Shaw wins 2016 MTU Research Award for his cloud research.

Alexander Kostinski, professor, Physics, has received good news from the National Science Foundation regarding his newest research grant which marks 30 years of continuous support as a sole PI by the NSF Atmospheric Sciences Division.

Social Sciences

10-13-16 Michigan Tech Research Forum Distinguished Lecture –“Making Research Matter: Democratizing Science and other Lofty Goals” associate professor Richelle Winkler was the honored speaker.

Visual and Performing Arts

Tech Today 12-14-16 A play written by Sarah Jo Martens, environmental engineering major with a minor in theatre, has advanced to the regional finals of the Region III Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival held in Indianapolis, IN

Rozsa Center featured artist, Sarah Hewitt, reflects on her time spent in the UP in her most recent newsletter. Read more:

<http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=3ce650ea422da10610461043f&id=3a90aefd3e>

Air Force ROTC

Tech Today 12-8-16 Tech Honored with Military Friendly Schools Silver Award

Army ROTC

Tech Today 8-18-16 Six Army ROTC Cadets Learn about Foreign Cultures, Military when they were chosen to participate in a unique internship program overseas this summer