We are very proud to announce that the Faculty's World Champion racing car has won an Engineers Australia Excellence Award, Sydney Division and is now a finalist in the National Excellence Awards.

The Engineers Australia Excellence Awards are an opportunity to encourage excellence through the identification, recognition, rewarding and promoting of outstanding achievements in the advancement of the science and practice of engineering.

The Excellence Awards are the highlight of the Engineers Australia professional calendar because they recognize the commitment that the engineering profession makes to the wellbeing of the community.

Almost 500 entries were received Australia wide for these awards, so it is a fantastic achievement by the racing car team. The team is made up of students, technical and academic staff members and sponsors and the Faculty is very fortunate to have such passionate and committed people involved. The racing car is now on display at the Power House Museum in Sydney for all of 2006.

Also, because of the success of the car in the Excellence Awards, the Faculty has been given two Engineers Australia Excellence Awards logos to use. The Divisional Winner logo will be used for two years and the National Finalist Awards logo will be used for one year.
Artistic Merit

Dr. Ajit Godbole, Research Fellow in the School of Mechanical, Materials and Mechatronics in our Faculty is a man of many talents. Not only does he have a Masters Degree in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from the University of Tennessee, USA and a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from UOW—he is also a wonderful artist.

Ajit currently has his collection of fifty brush and ink drawings exhibited in the Long Gallery at the Faculty of Creative Arts, UOW.

Originally from Pune, India, Ajit has a great interest in temple art and his exhibition shows the evolution of temple art in Southern India from 400AD to 1500AD. The exhibition runs from 16 February to 15 March.

Discovery Days

Discovery Days are the major undergraduate recruitment activity organised by UOW each year. It is an opportunity for high school students in Year 12 to experience a taste of university life. Over a four day period in February approximately 5,000 students from 125 high schools from various parts of NSW spend one day on campus.

The Faculty had 550 students taking part in activities, such as photonics experiments run by Dr. David Martin, medical radiation physics run by Prof. Anatoly Rozenfeld and the ‘Art of Engineering’ run by A/Profs. Peter Wypych and Bob Wheway and technical staff.

Brain Storming

Staff and students from our Materials Process Engineering Group recently attended the ACMM (19) Microscopy Solutions conference held in Sydney from 6-9 February. In the final session of one day, dubbed “the Wollongong session”, presentations were made by Dr. Dominic Phelan, Mr. Mark Reid, Ms. Wanda Melfo and Mr. Daniel Blundell. Prof. Rian Dippenaar, who co-authored the papers was also present to lend support. Dr. Kristin Carpenter and Ms. Sima Aminorroaya also made poster presentations.

The latest research and developments in a range of fields such as, metals, ceramics, thin films, polymers, biological materials and nanomaterials were discussed at the conference. It was a wonderful opportunity for our staff and postgraduate research students to interact with many of the world’s leading researchers in their respective fields of expertise.
Staff News

We congratulate Dr. Prabuono Buyung Kosasih on his new appointment as Lecturer in the School of Mechanical, Materials & Mechatronics. Buyung completed his PhD in Mechanical Engineering at UOW in 1993 and has worked with Prof. Kiet Tieu as Research Fellow since 2000. Prior to that, Buyung worked in academia and industry in Indonesia. He brings vast industry and research experience to the Faculty for the benefit of our students and future research activities.

The research capability of CMRP has been greatly strengthened by the recent appointment of Professor Peter Metcalfe to a Chair funded by the NSW Cancer Institute. Peter has a distinguished career as a practicing radiation physicist in Australia’s major hospitals and brings a wealth of practical industrial experience to the Faculty and the University. We warmly welcome Peter to the Faculty and the CMRP team.

We also welcome Dr. Long Duc Nghiem back to the Faculty as a Lecturer in the School of Civil, Mining and Environmental Engineering. Long completed his PhD at UOW and has extensive research experience in the field of chemical and physical processes for water quality, particularly advanced water and wastewater treatments. During his studies, Long spent one year at Yale University as a graduate exchange student. Long has an impressive publications list for a young academic and this, combined with his industry experience, will be a real asset to our students and the Faculty.

Faculty Visitors

Currently visiting the Faculty is Associate Professor Jilt Sietsma and Mr. Thim Zuidwijk from the Technical University Delft, The Netherlands. Their visits are a continuation of four years of research collaboration with Prof. Rian Dippenaar and Dr. Dominic Phelan. Jilt heads a research group at TU Delft concerned primarily with the experimental and mathematical modeling of phase transformations in metals. Jilt is visiting until the end of March and will conduct research using our high temperature confocal microscope and will also present lectures to undergraduate students in Materials Engineering. Thim is an expert in the use of the Gleeble thermomechanical processing unit and is here for two weeks to continue development work on the simulation of the strip casting process. This work builds on a short visit by Dominic Phelan to Delft in 2005 to assess the feasibility of the experiment.

Student Profile

Saurabh Soni is from Mumbai, India and has already graduated from UOW with a Master of Engineering Practice (Mechanical) and is now studying a Master of Engineering Management. He completed his undergraduate degree at VCET, Mumbai and went on to work in the air conditioning industry.

Saurabh explained that he methodically researched all Australian universities before choosing the University of Wollongong. UOW was the only university to offer the course he wanted, which was “hard core” mechanical engineering. His wife is also here and they are extremely happy living in Wollongong. Saurabh’s career plan after graduation is to work as a mechanical engineering designer.

Diary Dates

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<td>7 March</td>
<td>Physics School Committee</td>
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<td>MMM School Committee</td>
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<td>14 March</td>
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