ICES MECHANICAL LUNG DISPLAYED AT ASTHMA FAIR

The American Respiratory Alliance (ARA) of Western Pennsylvania hosted an Asthma Fair on October 12, 2002 at the UPMC Sports Performance Complex. Local medical professionals, including doctors, nurses and respiratory therapists, were on hand to explain the current treatments and management strategies available for people suffering from asthma. Many children attended with their parents and Olympic Gold Medalist Jackie Joyner Kersey spoke about the effects the disease has had on her career as a runner.

Displayed at the event was the prototype lung developed by Carnegie Mellon students in the PITA course 39-605/606 - Multi-disciplinary Product Design Projects. Christine Weaver, Executive Director of the ARA, sponsored the project to create a model that simulates the constriction that occurs in the airways during an asthma attack. An inhaler can be placed in the mouthpiece of the model to counteract the asthmatic spasms, and mechanical engineering student Peter Castelli was on hand to demonstrate how this works. The ARA is currently investigating the patentability of the device, and the possibility exists that a commercial version will be produced to use as a teaching aid for future asthma educational programs. For more information on the lung, please contact Mechanical Engineering Senior Lecturer John Wesner at jwesner@andrew.cmu.edu.

FENVES AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 25

ICES is proud to announce its annual call for Fenves Award nominations. The deadline for nominations for the 2002 Steven J. Fenves Award for Systems Research is November 25. The award is presented each year to one or more individuals within Carnegie Mellon who have made significant contributions to Systems Research in areas relevant to ICES, such as furthering the goal of interconnecting people, physical and information spaces or developing and demonstrating an engineered system. All teaching and research faculty, as well as research staff who have at least a courtesy appointment in CIT and who are involved in a CIT related research agenda are eligible for the award. Nominations should be sent to 1201 Hamburg Hall to the attention of Cristina Amon, Director of ICES, and should include a citation of less than 100 words, a one page justification of the nomination, a current copy of the nominee’s resume, at least two letters of support, and any other optional material the nominator considers appropriate. The award of a plaque and a gold medal, or $1500, will be presented during the CIT annual awards dinner. Past awardees include Art Westerberg (1998), Dan Siewiorek (1999), Ignacio Grossman (2000), Chris Hendrickson (2001), and Ulrich Flemming (2001).

ICES TO HOST HOLIDAY PARTY ON DECEMBER 13

Once again, ICES will be hosting its annual holiday party at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association (PAA) located on Fifth Avenue in Oakland. The event will start at 6:00 p.m. with hors d’oeuvres, and dinner will be served around 7:00 p.m. All ICES faculty, staff, students and their families are welcome to attend. Invitations and further details will be available shortly, but please mark your calendars now for a night of fun and celebration!
NOMINATE AN ICES STAFF MEMBER FOR A CIT AWARD!

The College of Engineering is currently seeking nominations for its annual Staff Recognition Award. This award was created to honor CIT staff members whose job performance and dedication to the operations of CIT merit special recognition. The College of Engineering has also established the Burritt Education Award in memory of Timothy J. Burritt. Any CIT staff member who is currently enrolled as a continuing education student at any degree level for the calendar year 2002 is eligible. Last year, ICES’ own Rhonda Moyer was the first recipient to receive the newly established Burritt Award.

Nomination packets for these awards have been distributed through campus mail. If you did not receive a packet and would like one, please send email to this year’s Award Committee Chair, Dana Hilinski, at hilinski@andrew.cmu.edu. The deadline for submission is November 27, 2002. Completed nomination packets should be sent to: CIT Staff Recognition Award, Scaife Hall, Room 110.

ICES CONTRIBUTES TO FOOD DRIVE SUCCESS

The 9th Annual Staff Council Food Drive recently wrapped up after two weeks of collecting items that will be donated to the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank, a non-profit organization that distributes food and household products to charitable agencies in the area, including soup kitchens, shelters, and day care centers for low-income people. The need for donations is especially critical this year due to increased unemployment in the region, and we are proud to announce that the ICES community responded generously to this need by donating over 125 items! ICES also sponsored a raffle to encourage faculty, staff and students to contribute to the drive; participants received one raffle entry per item of food donated. The drawing was held on November 18, and Christina Cowan won the grand prize of 2 tickets to Loews Cinema and a $15 gift certificate to the snack bar. Maria Manautou won the second prize of a $15 gift certificate to Kiva Han. Congratulations, Christina and Maria, and thank you to everyone who helped this year’s food drive make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate.

BROWN, MUIR, RIZZI, SENSI, HOLLIS WIN BEST PAPER AWARD

Left to right: Robotics Project Scientist Ben Brown, Robotics Principle Research Scientist Ralph Hollis, Robotics Research Scientist Al Rizzi

Ben Brown (Project Scientist, Robotics Institute), Pat Muir (former Robotics Institute Project Scientist), Al Rizzi (Research Scientist, Robotics Institute), Maria Sensi (graduate student, Mechanical Engineering), and Ralph Hollis (Principal Research Scientist, Robotics Institute) were awarded the Nakamura Prize for Best Paper in the 2001 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems held in Hawaii in October 2001. The paper, entitled “A Precision Manipulator Module for Assembly in a Minifactory Environment,” describes some of the work of the Agile Assembly Architecture project in the Microdynamic Systems Laboratory. The award was announced this past October at the 2002 conference held in Lausanne, Switzerland.

WANG, AILAMAKI, FALOUTSOS WIN BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Left to right: Computer Science Graduate Student Mengzhi Wang, CSD Assistant Professor Anastassia Ailamaki, CSD Professor Christos Faloutsos

Mengzhi Wang (graduate student, Computer Science), Anastassia Ailamaki (Assistant Professor, CSD Education) and Christos Faloutsos (Professor, CSD Education) won the best student paper award for their paper entitled “Capturing the Spatio-Temporal Behavior of Real Traffic Data Performance 2002,” at the IFIP International Symposium on Computer Performance Modeling, Measurement and Evaluation held in Rome this past September. The paper can be viewed at www.cs.cmu.edu/~christos/PUBLICATIONS/performance02.ps.gz
MARRA DEPARTS ICES FOR POSITION AT PITT

ICES Research Scientist Kacey Marra left Carnegie Mellon on November 15. Kacey began her career at Carnegie Mellon in 1997 as a post-doctoral fellow and has since held appointments as an affiliated faculty member in both Biomedical Engineering and Materials Science and Engineering. She was also a faculty member in the Bone Tissue Engineering Center. During her time here, Kacey performed research in a number of areas, including tissue engineering, biomaterials, polymer chemistry, surface science, polymer/ceramic composites, drug delivery, inflammatory response to biomaterials and growth factor delivery. She also taught a new Biomedical Engineering course called Biomaterials I.

Kacey began her new appointment as Assistant Professor and Lab Director of the new Tissue Engineering/Transplantation Laboratory in the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh on November 15. A goodbye gathering was held on November 13 to thank Kacey for all of her contributions to ICES and the university. Kacey said she is grateful for the opportunity to have worked with all of ICES’s faculty, staff and students. While she will be thoroughly missed, we know she will continue to pursue groundbreaking research and we wish her the best of luck in her endeavors.

NEW GRAPHIC DESIGNER AT ICES

Maria Manautou joined ICES this past September in the position of graphic designer, where she is responsible for a variety of design projects, including all ICES publications, brochures, announcements and posters. Maria graduated from Carnegie Mellon in 2001 and holds a Bachelor’s of Fine Arts in Graphic Design, with minors in Fine Arts and Photography. Before joining ICES, she worked as a graphic designer in the Software Engineering Institute. Originally from Puerto Rico, Maria enjoys cooking, dancing and learning about people from different cultures. She was also recently married to Gonzalo Fernandez, whom she met while attending Carnegie Mellon. Congratulations, Maria!

EDESIGN, SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2002

Spot, the latest collaborative project between the Wearable Computers Lab and the Industrial Design Studio, is featured in an article about Carnegie Mellon’s School of Design. The article, entitled “Dear Old Tech,” discusses the interdisciplinary nature of the design program and the technological advances being made by its researchers and students.

CARNEGIE MELLON ENGINEERING, FALL 2002

ICES’s annual spring outreach event, “Moving 4th into Engineering,” is featured in the fall 2002 edition of the Carnegie Mellon Engineering magazine. The article, entitled “It May Look Like Fun and Games,” highlights the different hands-on engineering activities the fourth grade students participated in during their day at Carnegie Mellon University.

Visit ICES on the Web at www.ices.cmu.edu