



Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Department Head Update – June, 2015

Paul Heinemann, Head of the Department

Greetings from the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering! With all of the activities going on here in the department this Spring, I got a little behind on the duty of providing the updates. Here is the latest news.

Building project

The building project continues with rigorous planning activity over the past several months. The integrated project delivery (IPD) team is complete and we are engaged in building design (interior and exterior), site issues, and costing analysis of everything. One of the benefits (and challenges) of IPD is having all parties looking at the plan from the early stages. This means everyone – even asking the Office of Physical Plant how many recycling bins we need and where they should be placed! This all helps to cut down on later surprises (which translates to additional costs) so it is fully worth the effort.

Most of you probably have received information about opportunities to donate to the project, and of course we welcome all contributions. When we have the building design nailed down, we will be able to publish the naming opportunities. In the meantime, if you wish to donate, have questions about the project, or just want to see the latest updates, go to: abe.psu.edu and select “Agricultural Engineering Building Project” on the right side.

Join us for the ASABE Penn State breakfast

If you are planning to be at the ASABE meeting in New Orleans, please register for the Penn State breakfast to be held on Tuesday morning, July 28, at 7 AM.

Here are recent highlights from our department:

Penn State Pullers take 4th place in ASABE national competition

Congratulations to our Penn State Pullers team as they placed 4th Overall in the 2015 ASABE International ¼ Scale Tractor Student Design Competition. This represents the highest placement of a Penn State team thus far. Additional Awards: Best Appearance Award, Maneuverability Award, Most Improved Award (16th to 4th).

The 2015 Pullers team. Left to right: Randall Bock, Lizz Wagner, Bre Curry, Sam Descutner, Dalton Wilson, John Petricca, Jake Colega



Lynn Dietrich (AG E '73) named University Distinguished Alumnus



We are very pleased that one of our alums was given the university's highest alumni honor. Lynn Dietrich was awarded the honor of University Distinguished Alumni for 2015. Lynn is director of global engineering and the Engineering Centers of Excellence for Manitowoc Cranes. He earned his bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering in 1973. Lynn also received the outstanding alumnus award in the College of Agricultural Sciences in 2010.

Chris Daubert named ABE College of Engineering Outstanding Alumnus



We are also pleased to have honored Dr. Chris Daubert as the 2015 ABE Outstanding Engineering Alumnus. He is head of the Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences at NC State University, where he has been a faculty member since 1997. He received his bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering from Penn State in 1991.

Kelsey Czyzyk wins ASABE Pharos of Alexandria Global Learning Award



Kelsey will be awarded the ASABE Pharos of Alexandria Global Learning Award at the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers 2015 Annual International Meeting in New Orleans, LA in July. Kelsey graduated in Spring 2015 with her degree in Biological Engineering. She is being honored for her many international activities, particularly in areas of sustainability in which she engaged throughout her college career.

Congratulations to the 2015 ASABE Educational Aids winners

Two department-related entries submitted to the annual ASABE Educational Aids contest won the blue ribbon award for 2015:

- "Technology Tuesday-Dairy Webinar Series (online course)" in the Electronic Delivery category, authored by Dan McFarland, John Tyson, and Matthew Haan.
- "Safety and Health Management Planning for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers" in the Publications-Comprehensive category, authored by J. Samuel Steel and Dennis Murphy.

Paul Smith and Dan Ciolkosz win Gamma Sigma Delta awards

The department is very pleased to announce that Paul Smith won the GSD Faculty Award for Research, and Dan Ciolkosz won the GSD Extension award for 2015.

For more on these stories and the latest news, please visit our website: abe.psu.edu
or join our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/PennStateABE



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