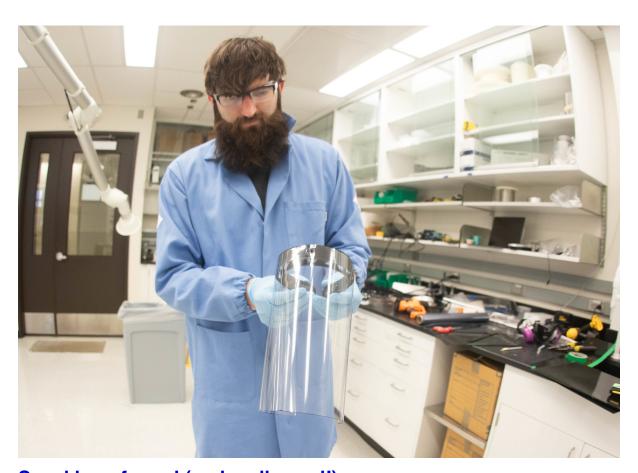


And now for some good news!

Well, we've made it through another week of our "new normal," but that doesn't mean it has been easy. It's an undeniably strange and scary time, so the goal of this issue of *MSE Quaranteam* is to provide a momentary distraction from the onslaught of negative news. We have several MSE members and achievements to celebrate, plus we're launching a pets photo contest (*yesss*!), so let's get to some positive news, shall we...?



Speaking of good (and really cool!) news, members of MSE are stepping up to take on the current medical PPE crisis. Ph.D. candidate **Brian lezzi** of the Shtein group is using a laser cutter to make desperately needed face shields, while **Professor Brian Love** is looking into improving materials for face masks. "It's McGyverism at its core

A message from the Chair

As I write this note to you on April Fools' Day, I realize that historians differ on the exact origins of this day. Nevertheless, it is a tradition ongoing for centuries in many different cultures to joyfully welcome spring after months of cold winter. The current outbreak has forced us indoors and to change our daily routines and adapt quickly to ensure that we are all healthy and safe; however, we must continue our professional work and personal lives with the same *Go Blue* joyful Michigan spirit.

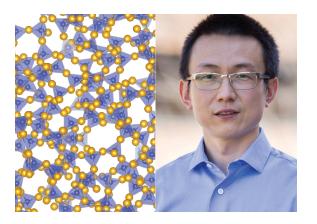
Looking around us, we see numerous examples of the human spirit, courage and professionalism. In France, a 32-year old restaurant worker, quarantined in his apartment, ran a marathon (26.2 miles) in under 7 hours on his 23-feet long balcony. Meanwhile, closer to home, two of our assistant professors, Ashwin Shahani and Liang Qi, virtually hosted the PhD defenses of their first students to graduate from their respective groups, Saman Moniri (ChE) and Chaoming Yang (MSE). A PhD defense is a once-in-a-lifetime event for the student and the graduation of the first PhD student is a particularly special milestone in the career of an assistant professor. I applaud the spirit of these faculty, committee members and students who are conducting these dissertation defenses virtually, and thank all those who are connecting remotely to show support to the students who are defending. We shall continue cheering and celebrating the academic and scholarly achievements of our students and faculty, and thank the staff who are working remotely to support us.

To continue our learning experience, note that University of Michigan has a number of <u>online courses</u> that are free to the U-M community on a range of topics, including health, arts and culture. Also, Yale University's popular course that teaches "Don't worry, be happy," titled <u>The Science of Well-Being</u>, is available for free.

I encourage you all to continue learning and teaching, and (as academics do), when you have findings (scientific or non-scientific) you wish to share with the MSE community, please e-mail <u>Kristen</u>.

Be healthy and safe! Amit

MSE Virtual Events



Coming soon: Lecture on ski waxes from Professor

Streaming now: Computational lecture by Professor Liang Qi

Assistant Professor Liang Qi recently recorded "Computational Designs of Materials: Machine Learning vs. Human Learning." Watch now.

Brian Love

Take a fun run with Professor Brian Love as he explores the history and evolution of ski waxes. Stay tuned for more details.







Student defenses mark career milestones for Asst. Profs. Shahani and Qi

This was an important week for not only defending students Saman Moniri and Chaoming Yang, but also for their advisors. Read more.

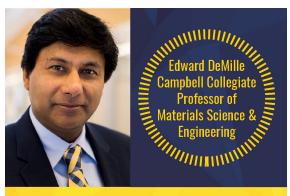
Misra honored with

prestigious professorship

approved a professorship appointment of Professor and Department Chair Amit

The U-M Board of Regents recently

Awards and Recognition



Misra as the Edward DeMille Campbell Collegiate Professor of Materials Science and Engineering. Read more.

Three earn Rackham **Predoctoral Awards**

Ph.D. candidates Wonjin Choi, Peter Meisenheimer, and Mohsen Taheri all received Rackham Predoctoral Fellowships for the 2020-21 academic year. The Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship is one of the most prestigious awards granted by the Rackham Graduate School. Read more.



2020-21 National Science



MSE Alum Paul Krajewski elected to NAE

Paul E. Krajewski (BSE '89, MSE '91, PHD '94), a globally recognized expert in automobile lightweighting, has been elected to the National Academy of Engineering, the nation's most prestigious engineering association. Read more.

Foundation Awards

Congratulations to Sahil Dagli '19, Luis Rangel DaCosta '19, Evan Raeker '20 (honorable mention), Noah Schnitzer '18 and Reed Yalisove '20 for receiving NSF Graduate Research Fellowships.



This week's food for thought:

"If the current status is a metastable state, then the BlueJeans meetings are tie lines on the Gibbs free energy curve."

—Max Powers (PhD candidate, Misra group)

Stay Connected



Feeling helpless about the coronavirus crisis?

The University Record today provided a lengthy list of ways to help in your local community. Learn more.

As always, stay up to date with the latest COVID-19 news from <u>U-M</u> and the <u>College of Engineering</u>.

Announcing our MSE pet photo contest!



ATTENTION, MSE STUDENTS, FACULTY & STAFF: We want to see your pets! Here's how the contest will work: Email your cute, funny, or quarantine-themed pet photo to Kristen at krisfres@umich.edu by Monday, April 6. We will then send out a poll to have everyone pick their favorites, and then the winners will be announced in the next issue of MSE Quaranteam. Depending on the number of submissions, up to three winners will receive Amazon gift cards. Enter today!

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