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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
MATERIALS SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



WINTER 2025 - March 13 (Issue #5)

NEW MURAL INSTALLED OVER BREAK



A second mural exhibiting a colorful variety of your cool materials research images (many from our most recent calendar submissions) is now up in the southwest hallway (near the Sun lab). If you haven't seen it yet, be sure to check it out!

Upcoming Events

HOLI AND PI DAY CELEBRATIONS TOMORROW!

All are welcome to celebrate Holi and Pi Day tomorrow! Stop by #3074 Dow to grab samosas and mango lassis from **12:00-1:00 p.m.** and a slice of pie from **2:00-3:14!**

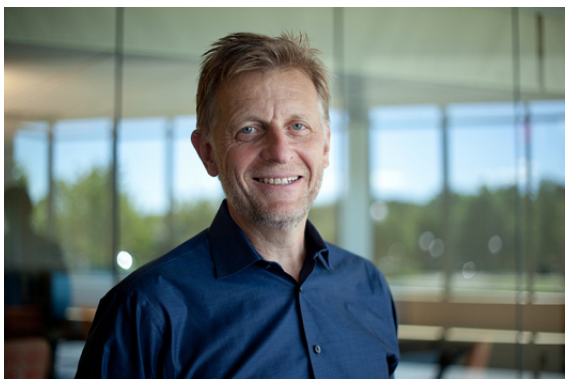
HOLI
celebration

12:00-1:00 p.m.



2:00-3:14 p.m.

NEXT GRADUATE TOOLKIT SESSION MARCH 17

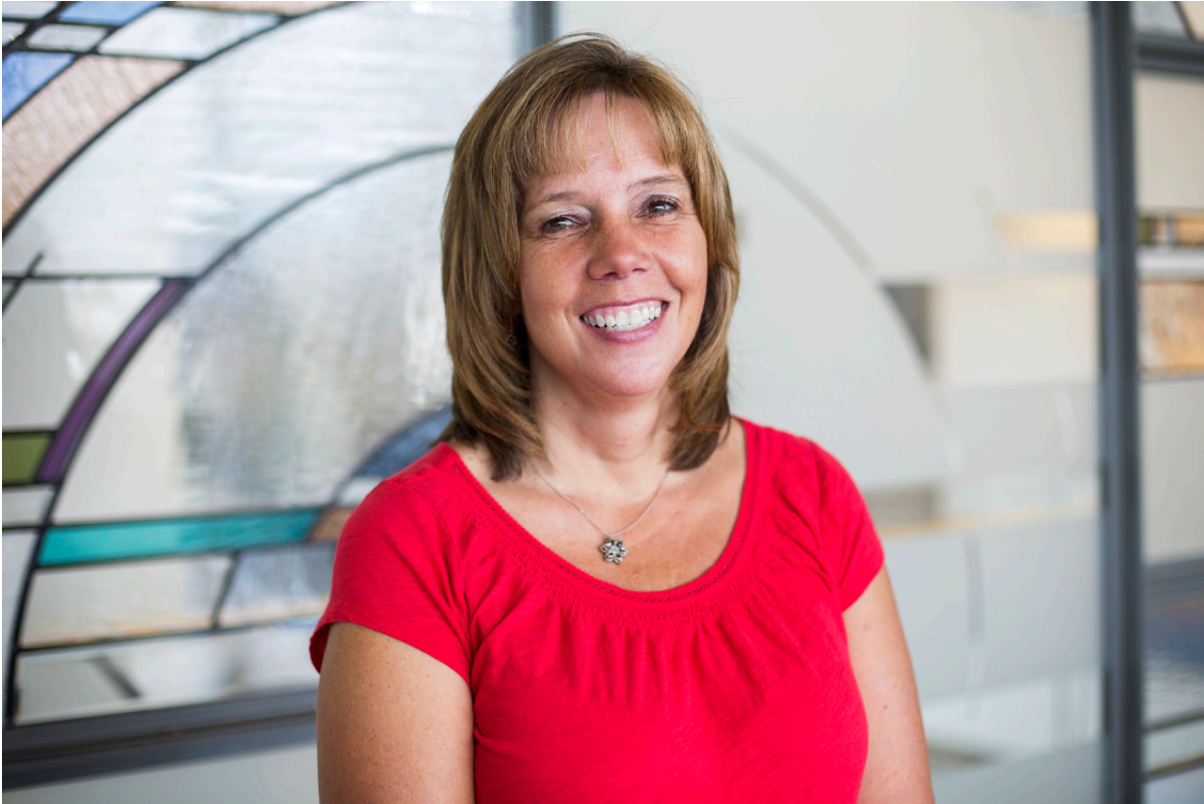


**"How to keep your lab notebook"
with Professor John Kieffer**

**Monday, March 17
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
1018 Dow**

Lunch provided for all registrants.
[Register here.](#)
Both graduate and undergraduate
students are welcome to attend!

PATTI VOGEL RETIREMENT PARTY APRIL 16



All good things must come to an end. After 18 years of serving as the MSE undergraduate program advisor, Patti Vogel is retiring. Join us on **Wednesday, April 16, 2:00-3:30 p.m.** in the Blue Lounge for a casual celebration and send-off.

MSE ALUM JIM YURKO HEADLINES PEHLKE LECTURESHIP APRIL 18



We're beyond excited to host MSE alum **Jim Yurko (BSE '97)**, distinguished materials engineer at Apple, as our 2025 Pehlke Lecturer on April 18, 10:30 a.m. in 1018 Dow. More details coming soon!

MSE 2025 GRADUATION AWARDS DINNER APRIL 24

All **MSE SENIORS AND MASTER'S/PHD GRADUATES, FACULTY & STAFF** are invited to attend our 2025 Graduation Awards Dinner on **Thursday, April 24**, 6-8:00 p.m. at the Robotics Building. [Register here](#) by April 10. ***Note that this event is open only to undergraduate and graduate students earning degrees in 2025.***



Special Announcements

Graduate Student Offices Redesign - We want your input!

As part of the *Dow Right Now!* campaign, the department plans to enhance the Graduate

Student Office space. 🎨 To help with the process, we're asking grad students to vote on three potential designs that are **currently on display in the Grad Student Lounge**. Please look them over and register your top choice(s) via the QR code by **Friday, March 28**. If you have any questions about the designs, please see Keith McIntyre in #2231A Dow (near the casting furnace in the Van Vlack Lab) or email him at khm@umich.edu. Thanks in advance for your invaluable input; we're eager to move forward with this exciting project!

Faculty News

AMIT MISRA NAMED EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF MRS BULLETIN



Amit Misra has been named editor-in-chief of The Materials Research Society's MRS Bulletin. *Congratulations, Amit!* [Read more.](#)

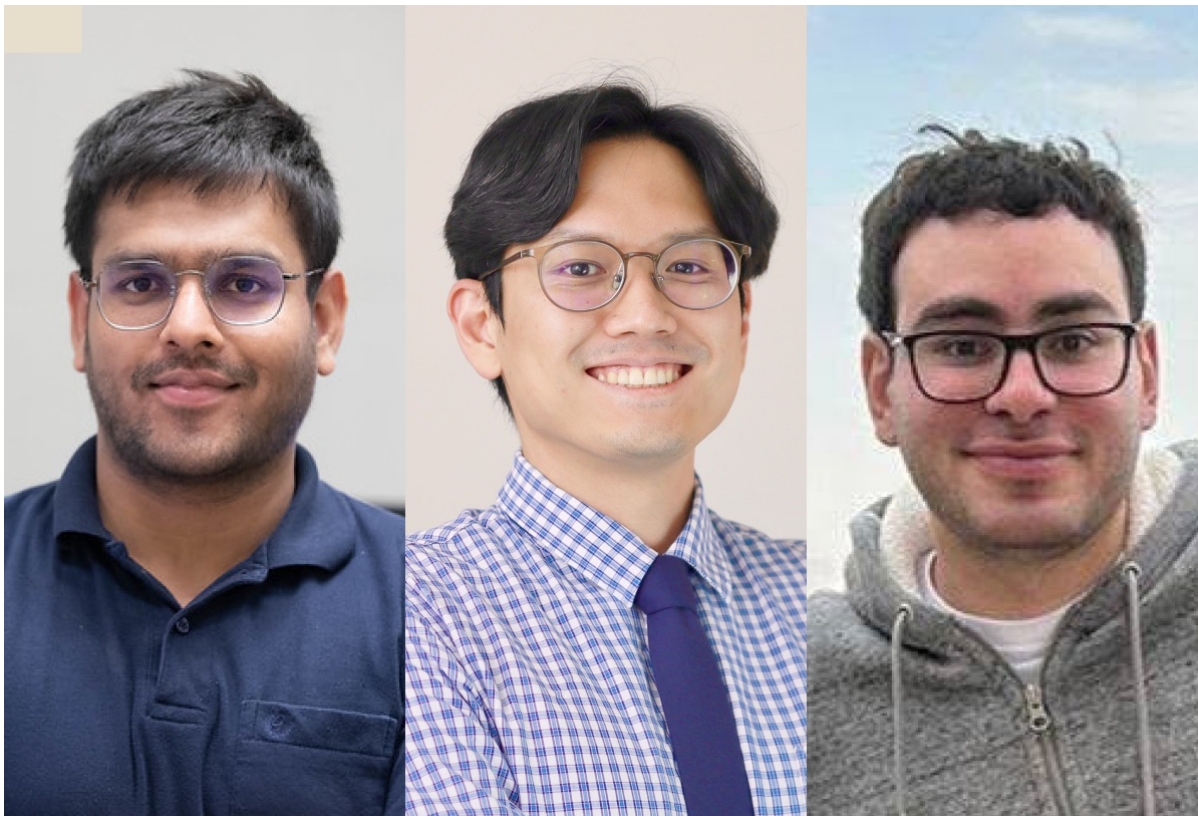
MSE FACULTY EMERITUS WIL BIGELOW, 101, LEAVES BEHIND 'WORLD CLASS' LEGACY



We were saddened to learn that Professor Emeritus Wil Bigelow passed away last week, 11 days shy of his 102nd birthday. "[Professor Bigelow] was a pillar of the U-M MSE community for decades, and his legacy lives on through generations of students, not to mention the world-class microscopy capabilities that continue to distinguish Michigan MSE," said MSE chair Liz Holm, who had a class with Professor Bigelow as a U-M undergraduate. Click [here](#) to read his obituary.

Student News

THREE STUDENTS WIN RACKHAM PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS



Rackham announced this week that **Nishkarsh Agarwal** (Hovden group), **Dongjae Shin** (Li group), and **Mustafa Tobah** (Misra group) have each received a prestigious Predoctoral Fellowship for 2025-26. *Congratulations, Nishkarsh, Dongjae and Mustafa!* [Read more.](#)

Education Highlights

NEWEST 'UNDERCOOLED' PODCAST: WENHAO SUN TEACHES STUDENTS TO USE CHAT GPT FOR HIGHER-LEVEL THINKING

Wenhao Sun, Dow Corning Assistant Professor

In the latest episode of "Undercooled: A Materials Education" podcast, Tim and Steve talk with our own **Wenhao Sun** about the way he is using Chat GPT in his thermodynamics and kinetics classes. Wenhao demonstrates how he teaches students to use Chat GPT as a collaborator to solve much harder



problems than are usually given to students. [Click here](#) to watch a video of the podcast.



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Facebook: [facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567999670902](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567999670902)



LinkedIn (note this is a new site, in addition to our alumni page):
linkedin.com/company/michigan-materials-science-and-engineering

X (formerly twitter): x.com/ummse



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