Happy Groundhog Day

Even though the pandemic and stay at home orders make it SEEM like every day is Groundhog Day, today is the real deal. Apparently Puxsutawney Phil did see his shadow earlier today, which means - sigh - six more weeks of winter.:-(
This week we have some new events to announce, including an MSE Undergraduate Open House on Monday, February 15 - so, if you know anyone who's thinking about majoring in MSE or who would like to learn more about all the cool things materials engineers do, please spread the word!

Questions, comments or ideas for TeamMSE? Contact Kristen at kristres@umich.edu.

We'd love to hear from you!



Stay-in-place order continues through Sunday

The Washtenaw County Health Department's <u>stay in place recommendation</u> for all U-M students (undergraduate, graduate and professional) on and off campus remains in place through 11:59 p.m., **Sunday, Feb. 7**.

Testing, testing...

The university offers <u>asymptomatic testing</u> six days a week for those with no exposure, including undergraduates doing mandatory testing. The <u>University Health Service (UHS)</u> offers testing seven days a week for students with symptoms, close contacts and exposures. Appointments can be self-scheduled for both. Positive results from tests obtained through U-M will be tested for COVID-19 variants. Students who test positive for COVID-19 off campus should <u>report their test results</u> to the university, in order to help

protect the community. A summary of testing options is posted here.

Just a reminder that testing is available at **Pierpont Commons**, Boulevard Room (1st floor Mezzanine behind Fireside Cafe) **Monday-Friday, 9:00** a.m.-4:30 p.m.

New strains explained

As if the COVID-19 virus wasn't nuisance enough, three even more highly transmissible variants originating in different parts of the world have recently been detected in the U.S.:

- **B.1.1.7., also called the U.K. variant:** This is the variant currently in our community as well as 30 other states. Because it is hyper contagious (more than 50 percent more transmissible), many health experts expect it to be the dominant strain by this spring. The good news is, the current vaccines are effective against this strain.
- **B.1.135, also called the South African variant:** To date this strain has been detected in South Carolina and Maryland. Unfortunately, the current vaccines are less effective against this strain.
- **P.1, also called the Brazilian variant:** So far this strain has been discovered only in Minnesota. Vaccine efficacy against this strain is also not great.

So, bottom line is that extra vigilance with mask wearing, hand washing and social distancing in the coming weeks is imperative to mitigate the spread of these dangerous new strains.

Vaccination update

Michigan Medicine is continuing to vaccinate patients age 65 and older, while also providing vaccines to U-M community members in:

- Phase 1A: Includes paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and are unable to work from home, as well as residents of longterm care facilities. Phase 1A also was recently expanded to include all Michigan Medicine employees.
- **Phase 1B:** Includes people age 65 and older, as well as frontline essential workers including first responders, Pre K-12 education, food and agriculture, manufacturing, corrections, postal service, public transit, and

grocery store workers.

Vaccine supply remains very limited. Vaccines are available by invited appointment only at community vaccination clinic sites. For a list of vaccine FAQs, click here.

Click here for U-M's COVID-19 Dashboard



Free Coffee and Donuts every Wednesday!

Starting tomorrow, Feb. 3, CoE will be providing free coffee and donuts every Wednesday morning outside the Duderstadt Connector from 10-11:00 a.m. All students who are currently on campus and using the ResponsiBLUE app are invited to stop by and grab a juice/coffee and/or donut to go!





MMS Luncheon guest this Friday: Tesla

This Friday, we will have Tesla speaking! We will also be raffling off \$15 Grubhub coupons! Here is the Zoom link:

https://umich.zoom.us/j/963339948 59

2021 Virtual Engineering Research Symposium this Friday, February 5



The Office of Student Affairs invites all members of the College of Engineering to attend the annual **Engineering Research Symposium (ERS)** on **Friday, February 5**. See the full schedule **here**.

MSE Undergraduate Open House February 15



MSE will host a virtual Undergraduate Open House on **Monday, February 15** at **5:00 p.m**. Spread the word!

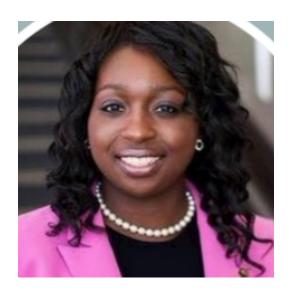
TMS2021 March 15-18



The TMS 2021 Annual Meeting & Exhibition (TMS2021) will be held as a fully virtual event on March 15-18, 2021. <u>Registration</u> for the conference is now open. <u>Visit the TMS2021 Virtual website</u> for a listing of planned speakers and events.



In honor of Black History Month, we are proud this first week to feature MSE alumna Clinique Brundidge, who broke barriers and built bridges.



Now a materials engineer with the Naval Surface Warfare Center in San Diego, **Clinique Brundidge** was the first African American female to earn a Ph.D. in MSE in 2011. "Because of Clinique's dedication to the field and participation in outreach, several other black women ended up joining MSE and following in her footsteps," says MSE graduate program adviser



Announcing MSE DEI Tea Time Tangents

Led by MSE DEI Undergraduate representative Angelica Rose Gavan, this biweekly event will be a virtual gathering space for MSE students, faculty and staff to come together and get to know each other through storytelling and active listening in guided one-on-one conversations. The first Tea Time Tangent will be **Friday**, **Feb. 5** from **2:00-3:00 p.m**. Sign up here.



DEI Student Allies Mailbox

Share your feedback on the DEI program and/or ask the DEI student allies questions: https://forms.gle/98uKGHPbcAMzCF3B7

Internship/Job Opportunities



Sanda National Labs announces a full-time postdoctoral position for in-situ Microscopy in Extreme Environments. Location is Albuquerque, NM; job posting closes February 18. Learn more here.



Summer internships are now being posted on a regular basis on the **Corning website** (go to "search jobs" in upper right-hand corner and type in "intern"). Students who have at least completed their sophomore year are encouraged to apply.

