

A banner with a blue background featuring various virus particles. The text "TEAM M MSE" is centered, with "TEAM" and "MSE" in white and "M" in a large, bold yellow font.

TEAM M MSE

March madness

Time to get back on the Covid roller coaster. Sadly, cases cross the state are again rising at an alarming rate. Thankfully, campus cases are not following that trend. In this issue we address recent distressing events; namely, the rise in hate crimes against the Asian American community and deplorable public comments made last week by a U-M Regent.

As for happier "madness," best of luck to our Elite Eight Wolverines tonight against UCLA! Go Blue!

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

We'd love to hear from you!

A banner with a dark blue background featuring virus particles. The text "Campus COVID Status" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Campus COVID Status

U-M cases remain low despite alarming rise in state

As you've probably heard, the state of Michigan is experiencing a dramatic increase in Covid cases. In fact, it's currently considered a Covid "hot spot." The good news, though, is that cases on campus remain low and account for only 9% of all cases in the county. (It was 62% just a few weeks ago.) Yes, we sound like a broken record, but it's SO important to stay vigilant with all Covid safety precautions, including social distancing and mask wearing - even once you're vaccinated. Speaking of which...

All Michigan residents 16+ eligible for vaccine April 5

This coming Monday, April 5, all Michigan residents 16 and older are eligible to

get the vaccine. To help you find a vaccine appointment, U-M has created a [COVID-19 vaccine eligibility and availability page](#) with resources to help everyone get an appointment through a clinic, pharmacy, health department or Michigan Medicine. It can be a frustrating process, so, to increase your odds, be sure to sign up everywhere you can.

The Big House will be open to graduates on May 1

Because cases on campus are low, U-M announced last week that they will [open Michigan Stadium to graduates](#) during the May 1 virtual graduation ceremony. More details and a link to register for tickets will be available mid-April.

[Click here for U-M's COVID-19 Dashboard](#)



SAVE THE DATE

MSE Virtual Graduation Ceremony*
May 1, 2021 3:30 p.m.

MSE Reception immediately following on Spatial Chat

***Celebrating all undergraduate, master's & Ph.D. graduates from Fall 2020 & Spring 2021**

Upcoming Events



Seminar speaker this Friday: Izabela Szlufarska

Izabela Szlufarska, MSE chair at the University of Wisconsin, will present "The role of interfaces in mechanical response and radiation resistance of materials" this Friday, April 2 at 10:30 a.m. Zoom link:

umich.zoom.us/j/96436142558,
passcode: 339427

MMS Luncheon speaker this Friday: Chase Plastics

This Friday (4/2) at 12:30 p.m., Andrea Kendrick of Chase Plastics will be our featured speaker. Zoom link:

umich.zoom.us/j/96333994859



Upcoming Ph.D. dissertation defenses

Eleni Temeche PhD defense: Today, March 30

Eleni Temeche (Laine) will present "Solid electrolytes to enable the assembly of solid-state batteries" today, March 30, at 4:00 p.m. Zoom



link:

umich.zoom.us/j/97615166088

Best wishes, Eleni!

Assistant professors Hovden and Heron both recently marked special career milestones



Assistant Professor Robert Hovden's first Ph.D. student, Jiseok Gim (pictured above, right), defended his Ph.D. on March 10, while Assistant Professor John Heron's first student, Peter Meisenheimer (below, right), defended on March 24. Having one's first Ph.D. student graduate is a noteworthy event in an assistant professor's career. [Read more](#).



Student News

Congratulations to the newly elected 2021-22 MMS Officers!

President: Ella Leininger

Internal Vice President: Kate Moo

External Vice President: Carmen Giger

Secretary: Katie Wei

Treasurer: Katie Martin

Social Chair: Marisa Perez

Outreach Chair: Jenny Chong

Undergraduate Committee Representatives: Mackenzie Darling and Brodie Kieras

DEI News

Departmental response to rising hate crimes against the AAPI community

Over the past few years there has been an escalation in hate speech, hate crimes, and other forms of harassment against members of the Asian, Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in the United States, including the recent horrific attack in Atlanta that resulted in the death of eight people. These words and actions impact not only members of the Asian American community, but also have a profound impact on foreign nationals who are in the U.S. for work, study, and travel.

The Department of Materials Science & Engineering, College of Engineering, University of Michigan categorically condemn these acts of violence and incidents of hate speech. They have no place in our university and no place in our broader society. We are committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and supportive space for all members of the U-M Asian community, whether they be students, faculty, staff, and any other individual who steps onto the campus; we demand they be treated with respect, dignity, and be free from the threat of any and all hate speech and violence. Likewise, we stand in support of members of the Black and African American community, the Hispanic and Latin community, LGBTQ+ community, the Indigenous community, the Muslim community, Jewish community, and all others who have been targeted by hatred, slurs, violence and other forms of discrimination.

We affirm our commitment to working as an ally in building an inclusive culture in the society free of hatred, violence and discrimination.

If you or a loved one ever experience such acts—whether on Zoom classes/meetings, on campus, or in the community—do not hesitate to contact us:

[Kathy Sevener](#)

MSE DEI Lead

[Geeta Mehta](#)

MSE Faculty DEI Liaison

[Todd Richardson](#)

MSE Department Administrator

We also want to take this opportunity to remind you of the campus resources that are always available to you:

For students:

[Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#)

[Public Care Report](#)

For faculty and staff:

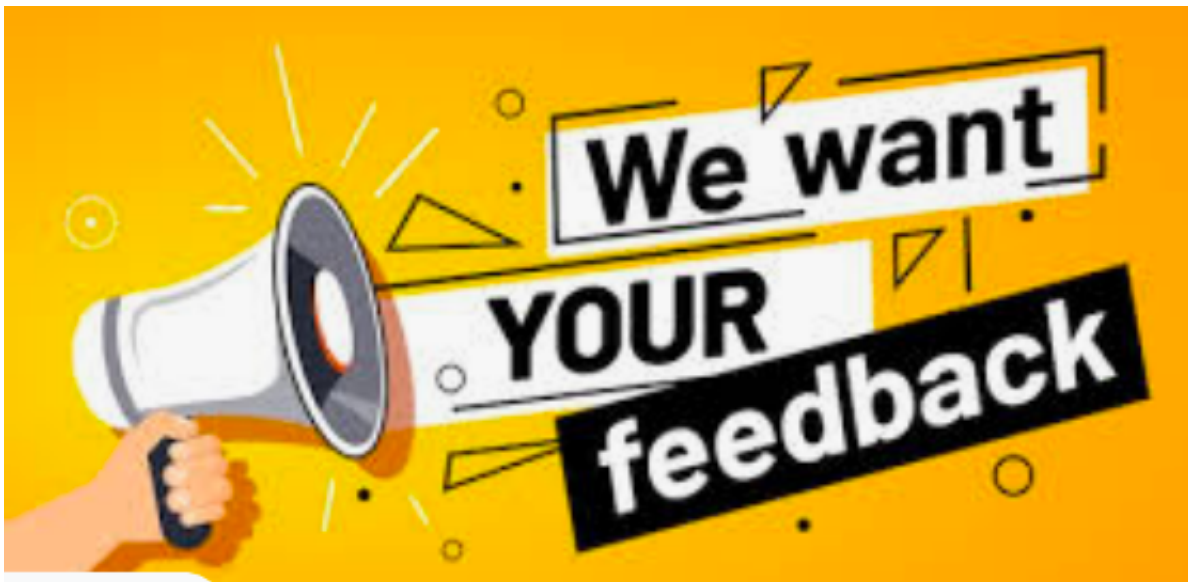
[Counseling and Consultation Office \(FASCCO\)](#)

MSE stands with College in condemning recent comments made by U-M Regent

As you're most likely aware, last week U-M Regent Ron Weiser made [abhorrent comments](#) that sparked widespread outrage and provoked loud calls for him to resign from the U-M board. [President Mark Schlissel released a statement Saturday](#). On Monday Michigan Engineering Dean Alec Gallimore issued a statement (excerpted below) that MSE strongly echoes:

"There is no place for such rhetoric in a civilized society. We must all be vigilant in not only calling out misogyny and the use of violence to settle disputes, but also proactively lifting up the voices of our female community members and providing a supportive environment where all can thrive.

"I fully support our female leaders, staffers, researchers and students, and acknowledge the responsibility we have as engineers to root out misogyny and hate in the University and in society. As Michigan Engineers, we must work together to confront and respond to inequities when we see them."



Please complete the MSE DEI Climate Survey by this Thursday, April 1

This is a reminder to complete the [MSE Department DEI Climate Survey](#) by **April**

1. Everyone who fills it out will be entered into a raffle to win one of twenty-five \$20 Mastercard gift cards.

GSC developed this survey with the DEI student allies and a number of faculty, along with the support of MMS, to assess the climate in the MSE department. As we continue to reflect on the challenges we faced this past year, our goal is to broadly gauge people's opinions and thoughts on topics including departmental DEI initiatives, mental health, workplace/student happiness, and more. **This survey is intended for everyone in the department: undergraduate students, graduate students, post-docs, faculty, staff, and anyone in-between.** The results of this survey will be shared with the entire department before the end of the semester. We hope this survey will foster continued discussions on the goals for DEI in our department as we collectively move into a better future.



ASM recently posted the following job opportunities:

[Staff Engineer - Coatings](#)

Performance Review Institute | Warrendale, Pa.

[Senior Materials Engineer - High Temperature Applications](#)

Chemours | Newark, Del.

[Sales Engineer - Southeast Territory](#)

LECO Corporation | St. Joseph, Mich.





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