



It may be dreary out today, but the content in our issue today will bring some sunshine to your day, including the news that, according to a new poll, you are living in THE best place to live in the ENTIRE country AND attending a 'dream school.' (Yep, you're livin' the dream!) We also have some exciting student news (including a profile on senior Virgil Watkins), research highlights, and, as always, must-attend events for you.

The next issue of TeamMSE will be published Monday, April 10. If you have anything you'd like to submit, please send it to Kristen Freshley at krisfres@umich.edu by Sunday, April 9.

Events Recap

Whew! March was a busy month for events! Here we take a quick look back in photos...

March 10 & 17: Graduate Recruiting Visits



A total of forty-six students visited campus over two weekends, where they toured buildings, took in poster presentations (like Victor Vogt, above, describing research in the Dasgupta lab), visited one-on-one with faculty, and dined at Pizza House. "Once again, the feedback about our visits was overwhelmingly positive," said graduate program advisor Renee Hilgendorf. Click [here](#) to see more photos from the poster presentations.

March 14: Pi(e) Day!



Our first Pi(e) Day was a huge success with more than 150 yummy treats distributed in a little under three hours. THANK YOU to Tim Chambers and Emmanuelle Marquis for their homemade goodies and Tina Longenbarger and Renee Hilgendorf for donating pies. (Thank you, too, Tim, for bringing up your MSE365 class to grab a slice.) We can't wait for 3.14.24!!

March 16: Wil Bigelow's 'unprecedented' 100th bday party



On March 16, alums from across the country joined the department in celebrating a department first: Professor Emeritus Wil Bigelow's 100th birthday. A reporter from the Novi Note was on hand and [wrote an article](#) about Professor Bigelow and the event. Click [here](#) to view photos from the event.

March 20: TMS U-M/OSU Alumni Mixer in San Diego



A record 170 people attended our annual Alumni & Friends Reception at TMS last week in San Diego. Despite threatening skies, the rain held off for the event, which was held at an open rooftop venue. (Pictured above: Professor Katsuyo Thornton, David Montiel, Kate Moo, Daniele Offidani, and Thomas Valenza.) Click [here](#) to see more photos.

Special Announcements

ANN ARBOR #1 PLACE TO LIVE IN THE COUNTRY

That's right - Ann Arbor is THE best place to live according to Studyfinds.org. Researchers based the list on 10 different rankings compiled by Business Insider, Travel + Leisure, Bankrate, and other sources. The report cited: "Ann Arbor boasts excellent public schools, an increasingly diverse job market, a culturally diverse community, a robust public park system, and low crime rates."

U-M MAKES TOP 10 'DREAM SCHOOL' LIST

While we're talking desirable rankings, U-M made a survey list conducted by The Princeton Review and reported by CNBC that asked college-bound students which schools they considered to be their dream schools. U-M came in at #9 behind MIT, Stanford, Harvard, NYU, UCLA, Princeton, Penn, and Columbia. University of Texas rounded out the Top 10.

CoE DEAN ALEC GALLIMORE TAKES NEW ROLE AT DUKE

Last week Alec Gallimore announced that after serving seven years as Dean of the College of Engineering, he will be leaving to become the Provost at Duke University, effective July 1. U-M said an interim dean will be appointed in the coming weeks, who will lead the College until a new dean is appointed.

NORTH CAMPUS GETTING TWO NEW ATHLETIC FIELDS

Two 125-yard, artificial-turf fields will be installed off Hubbard Rd., near the North Campus Recreation Building. The fields are being relocated from Elbel Field, which is being converted to student housing. Construction on the fields is expected to be completed for use in the fall. [Read more](#).

Upcoming Events

MMRI Symposium "Materials for a New Mobility" March 29-30

When: Wednesday, March 29, 5-9:00 p.m. and Thursday, March 30, 8:30-4:30 p.m.

Where: Dining Hall, NCRC

What: The 2nd annual MMRI Symposium will explore state-of-the-art materials research at U-M, with attention on researchers who are transforming the face of materials science and blazing the trail for future generations of materials scientists and engineers for a new mobility. Poster presentations and a dinner will be held March 29; speaker sessions will take place on March 30. Click [here](#) to see the speaker schedule. Last-minute registration for either or both days is still possible. Please contact **Ellen Kampf** at ekampf@umich.edu.

Pehlke Lecture with MIT's Yoel Fink April 7



ROBERT D. PEHLKE
LECTURESHIP
IN MATERIALS PROCESSING

“Computing Fabrics”

with special guest

Yoel Fink

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Friday, April 7

10:15 a.m. • 1013 H.H. Dow

Join us for this exciting lecture with MIT professor Yoel Fink, whose fascinating research with fibers is attempting to answer the questions: "Can fibers become highly functional devices? Can they see, hear, sense and communicate?"

MSE Graduation Awards Dinner April 27



You are invited to our

2023
MSE Graduation
Awards Dinner

Thursday, April 27
6-8 p.m.

Ford Robotics Building
2505 Hayward St.

RSVP by April 14

When: Thursday, April 27, 6-8:00 p.m.

Where: Ford Robotics Building

What: Join us for our fun annual event to celebrate the Class of 2023! All 2023 graduates (BSE, MSE and PhD), as well as all MSE faculty and staff are invited.

[PLEASE RSVP](#) by April 14.

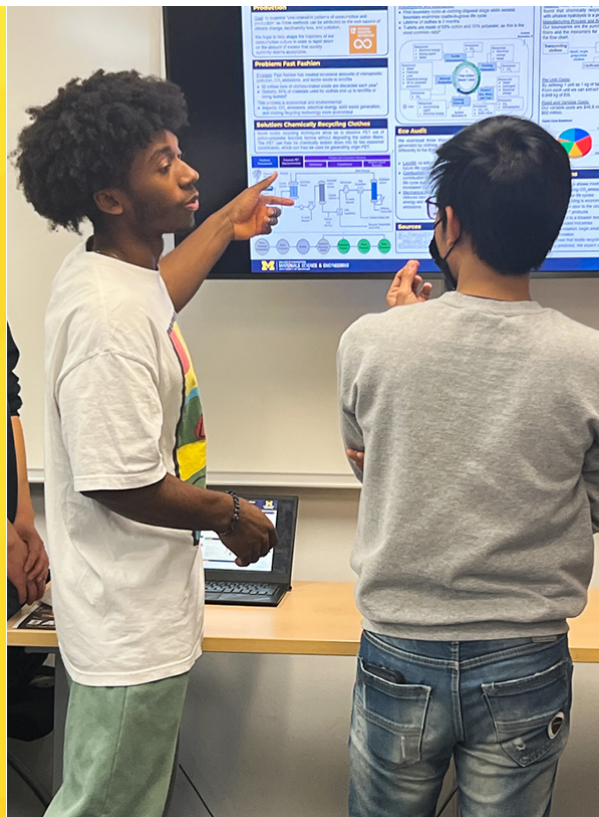
Student News

Kyle Bushick honored with two Towner Prizes



Congratulations to **Kyle Bushick**, who recently earned the College of Engineering's Richard R. and Eleanor A. Towner Prize for Distinguished Academic Achievement and the Richard **and** the Richard and Eleanor Towner Prize for Outstanding PhD Research. It is the first time in recent memory that an MSE student has won both prestigious awards in the same year. [Read more.](#)

Special MSE Student Profile: Virgil Watkins



A rare engineering student athlete, MSE senior and varsity gymnast **Virgil Watkins** is an all-around success story. [Read more.](#)

Falon Fletcher attends NSBE Conference



MSE senior Falon Fletcher was part of a Michigan Engineering contingent that

attended the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) 49th Annual Convention, held March 22-26 in Kansas City. [Read more.](#)

Faculty News

Four MSE faculty recognized with awards at TMS



Four MSE faculty members were honored with awards last week at the TMS Annual Meeting in San Diego: **John Allison** (AIME Honorary Member Award), **Liz Holm** (SMD Distinguished Service Award), **Emmanuelle Marquis** (Brimacombe Medalist), and **Ashwin Shahani** (Frontiers of Materials Award). Congratulations to all! [Read more.](#)

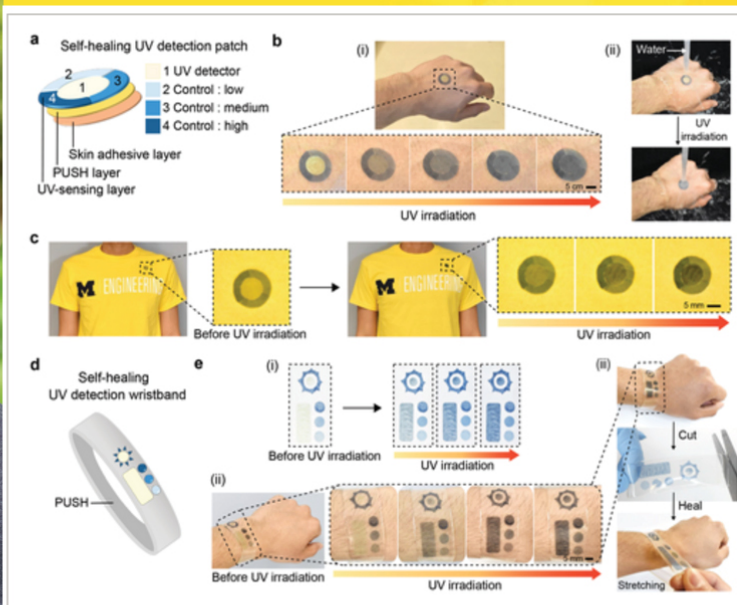
Research highlights

Anti-frost coatings project to receive CNAP funding



Professor Anish Tuteja's anti-frost coatings research was one of six U-M projects selected to receive funding from the Carbon Neutrality Acceleration Project (CNAP). [Read more.](#)

Pena-Francesch team publishes research for wearable UV-detection sensors



Assistant Professor Abdon Pena-Francesch recently had a paper published in ***Advanced Functional Materials***. The team has designed photochromic self-healing elastomers that change color with UV light for personalized wearable sensors. [Read more.](#)

Heron team receives Bold Challenges grant



A team led by Associate Professor John Heron was one of three research projects recently selected to receive a Bold Challenges Initiative grant from the U-M Office of the Vice President of Research. Heron's team will use a co-design approach to address the rise in demand for microelectronics innovation and global energy consumption. [Read more.](#)



Our mailing address is:

2300 Hayward St.
3062 H.H. Dow Building
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.