



UB Highlights

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News & Events for July 2017

Information Session

Register online and find more information about the following in the Events section at www.bridgeport.edu:

Nursing, Bachelor of Science

Wahlstrom Library, 6th Floor: *Thursday, July 6, 3-4 p.m.*

INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY

Tuesday, July 4

No Classes, Offices Closed

Transfer Tuesdays

Tuesday, July 11, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Tuesday, July 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Students considering transferring to UB are invited to the 6th floor of Wahlstrom Library for an application workshop, including a fee-waived application and merit scholarship decision; on-the-spot credit evaluations for programs except Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Medical Laboratory Science; and campus tours. Register online and bring unofficial transcripts from each institution attended as well as proof of high school graduation.



You might have missed . . .

May 22: UB's School of Education hosted the Bridgeport Public Schools Excellence in Education Awards in the Mertens Theater of the Bernhard Center. The event was sponsored by the Bridgeport Higher Education Alliance, formed by UB, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield University, and Housatonic Community College to promote "education beyond high school for all Bridgeport youth." UB's School of Education Dean *Allen Cook* presented 98 awards to students, teachers, paraprofessionals, and parents from Bridgeport schools. Prof. *Linda Paslov* served as mistress of ceremonies. Students variously received the Peacemaker, Spirit, Most Improved, or Academic awards. Adults were eligible for the Mentoring and "Going the Extra Mile" awards on individual and whole school bases.

Engineering News

The first cohort of UB's Grand Challenges Scholars Program candidates has been announced by Engineering Dean *Tarek Sobh*. They are *Youssef Agiez* and *Subash Gautam* (Computer Engineering), *Tarunjit Kumar* and *Dat Tran* (Computer Science), and *Nicholas Cardenas Portaccio* and *Wayne Teto* (Electrical Engineering). Dean Sobh was one of 122 U.S. engineering school deans who committed themselves to President Obama's goal of preparing trained engineers to address the major global challenges of the 21st century. Over the next two years, UB's Grand Challenge students will be guided by School of Engineering faculty members.

"The Grand Challenges cannot be solved with just engineering and technology. The students' horizons must be expanded to encompass an innovative and global perspective and develop an appreciation of how engineering serves human welfare," according to Prof. *Khaled Elleithy*, Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research. Computer science student *Dat Tran* said, "One of my dreams is to build and maintain a technology infrastructure around the world to accommodate technical development and communication in developing countries."



UB students once again emerged big winners at the 2017 American Society for Engineering Education Northeast Section Conference in May, taking the top three prizes for graduate research. *Eugene Gerety* took first place, for his project "Data Extraction from Extreme High-Density 2D Printed Bit Field Images via Alias Disambiguation and Bit Modeling"; *Sheila Berna*, second place, for "Evaluation of PCL-Graphene Scaffold Properties for Use in Development of Tissues"; and *Peiqiao Wu*, third place, for "Biochip with Cu-Graphene Glassy Carbon Electrode for Glucose Sensing."

UB ACHIEVEMENTS & HONORS

UB/NASA PARTNERSHIP

UB faculty and students were awarded approximately \$40,000 this year by the Connecticut Space Grant College Consortium to further their work in support of NASA's mission.

Dr. Abdelshakour Abuzneid, associate professor of computer science and engineering, was awarded a Faculty Research Grant of \$10,000 for "Computer-Aided Simulator and Benchmark Testbed for the Internet of WSNs Using Satellite Link Communications."

Dr. Nancy DeJarnette, associate professor of teacher education, was awarded a \$4,000 STEM Education Research Grant for "Children's Engineering K-5 Initiative."

Dr. Ryan McCulloch, assistant professor of Mathematics, was awarded a \$10,000 STEM Education Programming Grant to develop and offer two Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) K-12 Engineering Design and Earth and Space Science Workshops.

Dr. Xingguo Xiong, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, was awarded a Faculty Research Grant of \$10,000 for "Balloon/Drone-Based Aerial Platforms for Remote Particulate Matter Pollutant Monitoring."

Ervin Lara, a freshman in electrical engineering, received a \$5,000 scholarship.

Gukyoung An, a junior in computer science, received a \$429 project grant for materials to build his School of Engineering team's payload as UB advances to its fourth international CanSat (small satellite) competition this summer in Texas.

For the first time in 99 years, on Monday, August 21, a total solar eclipse will cross the U.S., on a path from Oregon to South Carolina. Although the eclipse cannot be seen locally in Connecticut, a NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium team composed of students and faculty from UB and the University of Hartford will participate in bringing the experience to the nation. They will launch two high-altitude balloons to live-stream aerial video of the event, which may be viewed at <http://nasa.gov>.

FACULTY & STAFF

ARTS & SCIENCES

Joan Dahlen, adjunct professor of English, who has taught composition and rhetoric at UB for nearly ten years, has been appointed Director of Providers at NeedQuest.com, a website for parents of special needs children searching for resources.

ENGINEERING

Lawrence Hmurcik, professor of electrical engineering, and **Kris Seluga**, a mechanical engineer, recently investigated an accident in which a restaurant customer eating at a table on an outdoor patio had a string of lights fall on his head. The lights were regular, large outdoor lights, mounted temporarily in the fashion of Christmas tree lights on wooden posts above the patio. Hmurcik-Seluga found that the lights violated safety requirements of the National Electrical Code, since they were not properly mechanically supported for use as overhead lights.

Lesley D. Frame, associate professor of technology management, was given an ASTM Award of Appreciation in May by Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys, at the Spring Committee Week meeting in Toronto. The award was presented in recognition of her dedicated service and active participation in the work of the A01.22 Subcommittee on Steel Forgings and Wrought Fittings for Piping Applications and Bolting Materials for Piping and Special Purpose Applications. (For more about ASTM, visit www.astm.org.)

GLOBAL LEARNING INITIATIVES

Kris Bickell, director of online learning, co-presented a session at the NERCOMP Canvas Users Group 2017 with Kevin Corcoran, executive director of the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium (CTDLC). The session was titled "Online Tutoring in Canvas? Welcome to eTutoring!" and discussed UB's launch of a new eTutoring integration in Canvas for the Spring 2017 semester, developed through UB's partnership with the CTDLC.

Did we miss something? *UB Highlights* is published twice monthly during the academic year and monthly in January, June, and July to inform the University community about UB events and achievements. To comment or to list your event or award, e-mail Rebecca Salonen, UBHighlights@bridgeport.edu, or call x4988.