

the ME Pipeline

Department of Mechanical Engineering Newsletter

FROM THE CHAIR - **PLAGIARISM!**

Three cases of suspected plagiarism were brought to my attention this term. This is a **serious problem** and will not be tolerated by the department, college or the university. In these instances, the instructors decided to resolve the issues by themselves. However, every faculty member does have the option to pursue a case of plagiarism with significant disciplinary action taken by the Vice President of Student Affairs, up to and including dismissal from the university and/or identification on electronic transcripts of plagiarism violation.

Personally, I consider plagiarism a serious case of THEFT – yes stealing the Intellectual Property of another’s work, ideas, words, research, etc. I will not hesitate to take this issue to Student Affairs in order to protect the integrity of the author/researcher’s work and to maintain the integrity of the academic standards for Mechanical Engineering students at FAU. Look it up, read the **Honor Code, Irregularities, and Student’s Academic Grievances**. Would you want someone to steal your work?



On a more somber note, please join me and the ME faculty and staff in sending deepest sympathies to the family and friends of the victims of April 16, 2007 at Virginia Tech.

KC’S CAREER LINE

I attended a Society of Human Resource Managers (SHRM) conference with the national employment law firm Proskauer and Rose. What a lively discussion on recruiting and background searches for prospective employees – including college hires. Do you have a site in *MySpace* or *Facebook*? What does it say about you?

Did you know a prospective employer can search your profile without permission? If you chose to put personal information in the electronic universe then they can. As a result, an employer may stop the employment process or rescind an offer based on what you disclosed on your website!



Example: A student posted pictures of himself guzzling alcohol, passed-out on the floor, and indicated that his top three priorities in life were to “get drunk, sleep late, and chase woman.” Do you want this person to represent your company? Yes this is an extreme case, but not unfamiliar for college students who like to highlight their play time vs. academic time.

As graduation is nearing you are considered a prospective employee. Would a company recruiter want you in their organization? Before you begin your career search, check your personal page, *Google* yourself, what does cyberspace say about you?

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL with . . .

Dr. C. T. Tsai, Professor



Where did you attend college? My B.S. degree is from the National Central University in Taiwan, my M.S. is from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York and my Ph.D. is from the University of Kentucky.

What course did you struggle with and how did you get through it? German, I studied all summer. What type of music do you like and who is your favorite musician? Country music is my preference and I like the Beatles. What are the best and worst jobs you've had? Best job is here, teaching and doing research at FAU. I have not had a "worst job" yet. Your favorite non-academic books are fiction books about Kung Fu. What makes you laugh? When the Kentucky Wildcats basketball team wins, especially when it's a close game. What are some favorite movies? The Star Wars series. Favorite actor? Ashley Judd. What profession would you most like to attempt? College basketball coach. What profession do you *not* want to attempt? Medical doctor. If you won the lottery, what three things would you do with the money? Hire a post-doctoral researcher; buy a new car, and vacation, vacation, vacation!

THE FEBRUARY PUZZLE AND SOLUTION

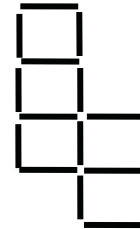
Any power of a number that ends with the digits 1, 5 or 6 will end with the same digit. [$(...1)^N = \dots1$, $(...5)^N = \dots5$ and $(...6)^N = \dots6$ where N is an appositive non-zero integer]. Therefore the proposed equation is not valid. Congratulations to **William Nitsch** who solved this puzzle. Please collect your book from Trudy.

SOLUTION FOR THE MARCH CHESS PUZZLE

Initial Position	Step 1	Step 2																		
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THE APRIL PUZZLE

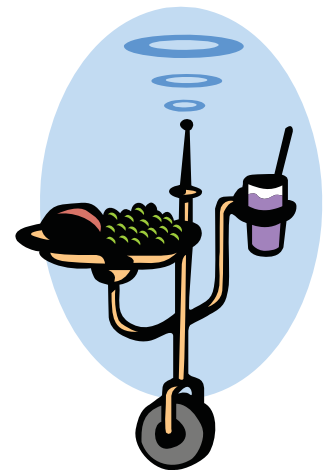
The following shape is constructed of wood sticks. Move TWO sticks to a different location to make four squares.



TRUDY'S CORNER

ED-II Presentations!

As the end of the semester draws near once again, I would like to remind everyone that the senior class will be presenting their Engineering Design II projects on Thursday, April 26 from 9:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the University Center, Majestic Palm room. Please come show your support and learn something from the upperclassmen. Hear their presentations and see the interesting designs and creative projects that they have developed and built. It is quite informative and will help you see what to expect in your senior year.



Hope to see you there!

ED-II Presentation Schedule

- 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. - Automatic Speed Bump
- 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. - Automatic Balancing of a Platform
- 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. - "Follow Me" Cart
- 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. - Automatic Traffic Cone Dispenser
- 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. - Orange Juice Mixer
- 11:30 - 12:00 p.m. - Automatic Parking Garage
- 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. - Automatic Shoe Store
- 12:30 - 1:00 p.m. - Lunch**
- 1:00 - 1:30 p.m. - Mine Robot
- 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. - Automatic Flow Rate Measurement