

UCF College of Engineering & Computer Science UPDATES

News and updates for the CECS Dean's Advisory Board, University of Central Florida

March 31, 2015

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Visits Engineering Maker Spaces to Announce Grants for UCF

<http://www.cecs.ucf.edu/u-s-secretary-of-commerce-visits-engineering-maker-spaces-to-announce-grants-for-ucf/>

This funding was leveraged in-part through generous contributions from our industry partners to support the Maker Space Lab Complex, including the Harris Gathering Lab and TI Innovation Lab. We are working with Harris Corporation to update branding in all of its named spaces, including the Harris Gathering Lab, Harris Corporation Engineering Center and Computer Lab.

The Idea Lab has been well-used since opening. Numbers are hard to track, because sign-up is generally an honors system. At least 1,000 unique students have made use of the TI Innovation Lab since its Sept. 2014 opening. Feedback from students is very positive and we've hosted numerous universities and industry partners to tour. The labs are setting the example for many similar efforts nationally.

UCF Engineers Study Ways to Keep Drivers Safe in Fog with \$2 Million Grant

<http://www.cecs.ucf.edu/ucf-engineers-study-ways-to-keep-drivers-safe-in-fog-with-2m-grant>

UCF Programming Team

Competing in May for the International Competition in Morocco. UCF is pursuing the hosting the World Finals in Orlando/UCF in 2020.

No. 1 in Nation: UCF Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition Team

UCF's Cyber Defense Team Starts New Year By Taking top National Prize - <http://today.ucf.edu/ucfs-cyber-defense-team-starts-new-year-taking-top-national-prize/>

UCF-Based Limbitless Solutions (Inexpensive 3D-Printed Prosthetic Limbs for Children)

Microsoft featured the team in a media campaign called the #Collective Project, which has garnered more than 40 million views on Facebook alone, with the help of world-famous actor Robert Downey Jr. A full report will be sent once Microsoft has finalized the campaign. See the videos here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEx5lmbCKtY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcLh-aSUdx0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxCDZquT2Yk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=640V0TTehjs>

Yoav Peles, new chair, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Story -- <http://today.ucf.edu/new-leader-mechanical-aerospace-engineering-announced/>

Other Updates

CECS is in the process of hiring 30 more faculty in its ranks. There is a possibility of 100 more hires next year. In response to an initiative by the Provost (a Faculty Cluster Initiative where some of these 100 hires will belong to clusters and expected to do research that spans multiple discipline) CECS has responded with more than 20 pre-proposals, a good number of which span strategic research areas within the College.

CECS is 62% of the way to our UCF Campaign funding goal of \$29 million. The Campaign ends December 2018. We anticipate this goal will be surpassed prior to the conclusion of the Campaign.