

Mechanical Engineering Professor Kaw Receives Outstanding Teaching Award



Tampa, Fla. (March 22, 2010) – Dr. Autar Kaw, professor of mechanical engineering, will receive the 2010 Outstanding Teaching Award from the Southeastern Section of the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) at the 2010 Annual ASEE-SE Conference in Blacksburg, VA on April 19.

According to ASEE Southeastern Section, the Outstanding Teaching Award is intended to recognize faculty members who have demonstrated exceptional contributions to engineering or engineering technology education through outstanding classroom performance.

As a principal developer, Kaw and his colleagues at several universities including ASU, ODU, FAMU, MVSU, and MSOE have developed multiple grant and award-winning web-based resources for a course in Numerical Methods (<http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu>). With more than 30,000 visits per month, and an equal number of video views on YouTube (<http://youtube.com/numericalmethodsguy>), the website consistently ranks among the top five in searches for “numerical methods.”

Kaw currently teaches courses in Numerical Methods, Composite Materials, Elasticity, and Programming Concepts for Engineers. He has written more than 80 technical papers, 20 opinion editorials in various newspapers, and textbooks on subjects such as mechanics of composite materials, matrix algebra, numerical methods, and the fundamentals of engineering examination. He is the author of *Mechanics of Composite Materials*, a textbook used in more than 50 universities worldwide.

His current research interests include educational research methods, open courseware, biomechanics for the disabled, bridge design, and body armor design. His research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, and Florida Department of Transportation.

A Fellow of ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers), Kaw received his doctoral degree in Engineering Mechanics from Clemson University. He came to USF in 1987.

The University of South Florida is one of the nation's top 63 public research universities and one of only 25 public research universities nationwide with very high research activity that is designated as community engaged by the

Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. USF was awarded \$380.4 million in research contracts and grants in FY 2008/2009. The university offers 232 degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, specialist and doctoral levels, including the doctor of medicine. The USF System has a \$1.8 billion annual budget, an annual economic impact of \$3.2 billion, and serves more than 47,000 students on institutions/campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee and Lakeland. USF is a member of the Big East Athletic Conference.

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