



Weber

Jessica Weber Awarded Prestigious ASEE/NSF Postdoctoral Fellowship

Tampa, Fla. (September 1, 2010) –Jessica Weber, PhD, a recent graduate in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, is the recipient of a prestigious American Society of Engineering Education/National Science Foundation (ASEE/NSF) postdoctoral fellowship at the General Motors Global Research and Development Center in Warren, Michigan.

Weber's research centers on battery chemistry and testing of anode/cathode materials, including those at the nanoscale. At the General Motors Global Research and Development Center, she is collaborating with individual researchers as well as with teams from diverse backgrounds and disciplines. GM has the largest, most comprehensive battery test and assembly laboratory in North America.

Her dissertation research focused on electrochemistry of 1D nanostructures for energy and biological sensing applications and was supervised by Ashok Kumar, professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and director of the Nanotechnology Research and Education Center (NREC). Her PhD was supported by the National Science Foundation's GK-12 and IGERT projects at USF.

The goal of the nationally competitive program is to foster a pipeline of creative and highly trained domestic (U.S. citizens and permanent residents) engineers who will contribute to areas of great interest and relevance to the nation.

The ASEE/NSF Corporate Research Fellowship Program provides recent engineering PhD recipients with opportunities to conduct postdoctoral research in a corporate setting. Each research fellow receives a stipend of at least \$75,000 plus health insurance benefits. The host company provides a minimum of \$27,500 and other non-cash support. Additional financial support is provided by NSF and the program is administered by ASEE.

ASEE/NSF Corporate Research Fellowship Program Link (<https://aseensfip.asee.org/>)

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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