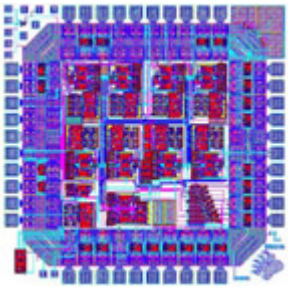
January 2002

Microelectronics Scholarships



The Microelectronics Scholarship Consortium has announced its upper-class UM awardees for the academic year, 2002/03 and will hold information meetings for current high school students interested in receiving scholarships for next year:

Representatives from Fairchild Semiconductor, National Semiconductor, Tundra Semiconductor, and Analog Devices will be talking about the semiconductor industry and the Microelectronics Scholarship Consortium at two meetings:

January 19 - Barrows Hall, University of Maine 11:30 to 2:30
January 26 - Fairchild Semiconductor, 82 Running Hill Rd., South Portland 11:30 to 2:30

High school sophomores, juniors and seniors, including parents and teachers, are encouraged to attend. If you plan to attend please contact Dr. Mohamad Musavi at the University of Maine, 207/581-2223, or via e-mail: musavi@eece.maine.edu.

For more information, see the UMaine Microelectronics Scholarship Consortium web page at www.eece.maine.edu/micro.

The following students received MSC upper class awards this year.

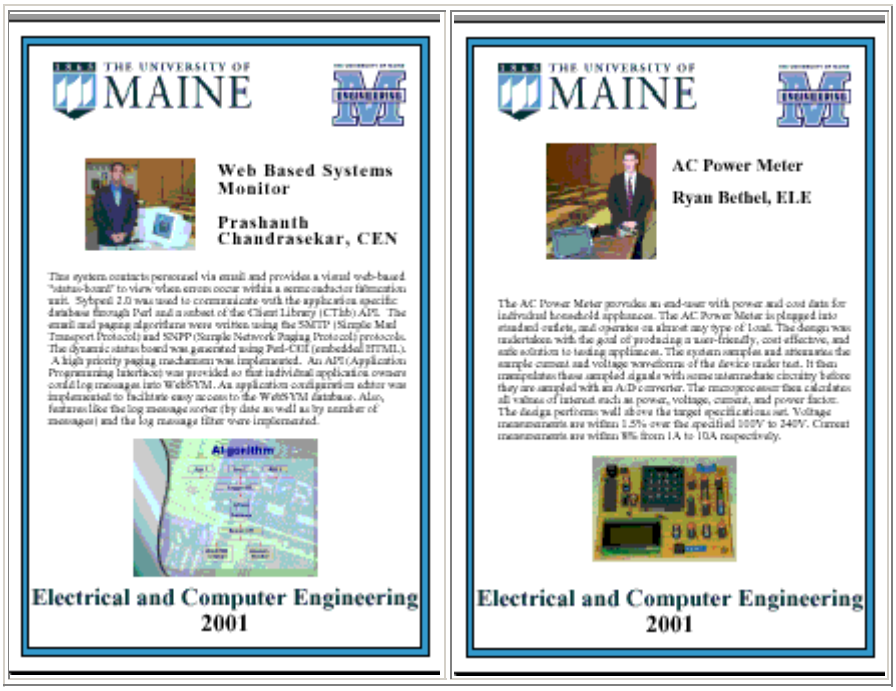
Microelectronics Scholarship Consortium
Upper Class UM Awards

Analog Devices	Sanjeev Manandhar Joshua Cincotta
Fairchild Semiconductor	Jon Dunn Janice Duy Ian Hunt Roxie Paine Matthew Rodrigue Greg Sinnett
National Semiconductor	Michael Lewark Lisa Moores

Texas Instruments	Tim Monk
Tundra Semiconductor	Jason Cookson Scott McGregor Kirill Tsybin

Senior Projects Hall of Fame

Over the last few years, we have begun mounting posters of outstanding ECE Senior Projects in the electronics lab. This fall, we selected projects by Ryan Bethel and Prashanth Chandrasekar. (Click on the posters to see full size pdf versions).



Update on new Engineering and Science Building ...

Demolition will begin on the southwestern section of Barrows Hall this summer (the infamous Barrows 153 auditorium), and some students have suggested we have sledge-hammer party to vent all those pent-up "finals frustration furies". In its place will be a brand new addition that will "connect" Barrows Hall in a loop. The latest drawings consist of a site plan, floor plan, and elevation

drawing. (Note: these pdf links are fairly high resolution - you can "zoom in" pretty effectively.) The Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology will share the new space with ECE. We're now in the process of assigning lab space and offices. The addition, which will include a 2700 square foot clean room, is scheduled to be complete in early '04.

Alumni Profile - Hank Marcy '84

Hank Marcy '84 was recently promoted to Vice President, Corporate Technology and Engineering Development, Whirlpool Corporation. Hank will be responsible for developing advanced product concepts. He also will manage corporate electronics development and continue to support Integrated Home Solutions activity.

Marcy joins Whirlpool from Rockwell Scientific Company in California where he served in a number of roles with increasing complexity and depth. Most recently, he held the position of executive director, Electronics, where he led the areas of Product Development and Advanced Research and Development.

"We're extremely pleased Hank is joining our team," says Mike Thieneman, executive vice president and chief technology officer.. "He brings an extensive background in electronics, wireless integrated networked sensors, and customer alliances. That, along with his strong business management experience and educational background, positions him to lead CTED with the vision and technical skills critical to this function."

Hank writes: **"Send me your ideas for new home appliances :-) I would be especially interested in any thoughts you have for how internet-accessible home appliances might help improve your life. Also, if you or your company already has a relationship with Whirlpool or if you think your business might benefit from some kind of interaction, I would love to hear about it."**

Tidbits ...

We've posted pictures and memories of the Mac Libbey celebration we held last fall. All who attended had a great time - especially Mac!

National Engineers Week will be celebrated this year in Orono on March 1 and 2.

Electronics Research Leads to Patents

And finally ...

Sometimes I wonder what we've come to ...

Tech: What's the problem?
User: There is smoke coming out of the power supply.
Tech: You'll need a new power supply.
User: No, I don't! I just need to change the startup files.
Tech: Sir, the power supply is faulty. You'll need to replace it.
User: No way! Someone told me that I just needed to change the startup files and it will fix the problem! All I need is for you to tell me the command.

10 minutes later, the user is still adamant. The tech is frustrated and fed up.

Tech: Sorry, Sir. We don't normally tell our customers this, but there is an undocumented DOS command that will fix the problem.
User: I knew it!
Tech: Just add the line LOAD NOSMOKE.COM at the end of the CONFIG.SYS. Let me know how it goes.

10 minutes later.

User: It didn't work. The power supply is still smoking.
Tech: Well, what version of DOS are you using?
User: MS-DOS 6.22.
Tech: That's your problem there. That version of DOS didn't come with NOSMOKE. Contact Microsoft and ask them for a patch that will give you the file. Let me know how it goes.

An hour later.

User: I need a new power supply.
Tech: How did you come to that conclusion?
User: Well, I rang Microsoft and told the rep what you said. He started asking questions about the make of power supply.
Tech: Then what did he say?
User: He told me that my power supply isn't compatible with NOSMOKE.