



## Department of Automotive Technology News

Winter/Fall Edition 2018

Pittsburg State University

### WorldSkills USA Automotive Team Participates in the WorldSkills Asia Competition



PSU Assistant Professor, Mike Elder and Paul Dannenberg, the United States WorldSkills automotive competitor were invited to participate in the first ever WorldSkills Asia competition event held November 26-30, 2018 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. They were one of eight countries participating in the new international automotive competition. Paul is currently working as a technician for Dennis Dillion GMC in Boise Idaho and will represent the United States in the WorldSkills International Automotive Technology contest in Kazan, Russia in August of 2019. As

the WorldSkills USA Automotive expert, Mr. Elder is responsible for facilitating the training of the US automotive competitor. "This was a great training experience for our competitor. We are fortunate that SkillsUSA and the 3M Corporation have graciously provided support to the US WorldSkills team for this type of training experience," states Elder. Mr. Elder was responsible for facilitating the Engine Performance competition station during the three-day WorldSkills Asia event. Other contest stations included, Engine Measurement, Body Electrical, Braking Systems and Suspension, Steering & Wheel Alignment. Preparing students to compete at an international level is a monumental task that requires a great team effort and industry support. Special thanks goes out to Greg Ebbs of Nissan North America and ConuLab for providing needed service information and to all the PSU Automotive Department, especially professor Scott Norman, graduate assistant Matt Fay & lab assistants Rodney May & Nick Carman who stepped up to cover classes for Mike while he was gone.



# Professor Lindbloom Seeks Assistance From Alumni Who Participate in SAE BAJA

Will you please help with my dissertation research?

“The Perceived Occupational Benefits of Competing in the Society of Automotive Engineers Collegiate Design Series Baja Competition”

## Purpose Statement

The purpose of this study was to identify the perceived occupational benefits of competing in technical collegiate competitions. Specifically, to examine the perceived benefits to graduates that participated in the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Collegiate Design Series (CDS), in relation to employment opportunities and career advancement. The specific CDS event used for this study is the Baja SAE competition.

## Survey Instrument

This will be a quantitative study and email will be used to contact the participants. The instrument will be delivered online via Survey Monkey. The survey will be 15 questions and take approximately 10 minutes to complete. If you are a graduate that participated in Baja during your college experience and would be willing to participate in this anonymous research project, please send an email to [tlindbloom@pittstate.edu](mailto:tlindbloom@pittstate.edu). Thank you so much for your help with this project. It is my hope that this project may assist other schools with their Baja programs as well as SAE in terms of recruiting sponsorship for future Baja events.

Sincerely,  
Trent Lindbloom  
Pittsburg State University  
Automotive Technology  
Pittsburg, Kansas  
[tlindbloom@pittstate.edu](mailto:tlindbloom@pittstate.edu)  
620-249-9547



## CNH, Ford and Toyota Make Donations

**CNH** has been making major contributions to the DHE program at Pitt State. In 2018 CNH has donated a C232 rubber track loader and a CX17C mini-excavator. CNH is also in the process of donating a 521F wheel loader that is Tier 4 emission compliant. This brings Pitt States fleet of CNH equipment up to 8 different machines. Thank you CNH for your generosity.

**Ford** and **Toyota** have made recent donations in 2018. Ford has donated a 10R80 10-speed automatic transmission and six 6R80 6-speed automatic transmissions. Toyota has donated eight AGAO 10AT 10-speed automatic transmissions. Thank you Ford and Toyota for your generosity.

## Automotive Service Technology Receives Donations

The AST Department recently received a new tire machine and tire balancer. Both units are John Bean units. These units are being used to replace aging Hunter and Coats equipment that have become cost prohibitive to repair. They provide the ability to “road force” and mount thin side walled tires that are common on today's vehicles. They were purchased by KCCTE and will allow KCCTE to offer certifications to other high school and college instructors throughout the State of Kansas and the 4 state region. These certifications will be offered by PSU automotive faculty and are offered in conjunction with NC3 (National Coalition of Certification).

## Advanced Hydraulics Class Tours B&B



The AT 654 Advanced Hydraulics class took a tour of B&B Hydraulics in Hutchinson, KS on November 30, 2018. Students learned about Lincoln automated lubrication systems, hydraulic diagnostics, hydrostatic transmission rebuilding and testing, hose manufacturing and cleaning, rotating group machining and lapping, cylinder rebuilding and manufacturing, hose burst testing, and testing pressure gauges. Thank you B&B for the instruction.



## Annual Phonathon Pledge-drive



The annual Alumni Phonathon Pledge Drive is underway. Some of our automotive faculty have already been in contact with alumni who want to give a gift again this year. And this year, the staff of the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations will be joining us to contact our Gorilla alumni. If you prefer a specific faculty member to call you, just let us know at [autotech@pittstate.edu](mailto:autotech@pittstate.edu). As we make this transition, we want to thank everyone who has given in the past and we appreciate your continued level of support. Your gifts have a HUGE impact on our program through scholarships funds, purchasing tools and equipment, recruiting, and more. Thank you!



## Freshman Scholarship Initiative



The Department of Automotive Technology has begun a new initiative to help incoming freshman with more scholarship opportunities. In the past, we awarded scholarships to primarily sophomores, juniors, and seniors because incoming freshman are unknown so we were reluctant to offer them many scholarships. However, we also recognize that one of the biggest barriers to attending the Pittsburg State University is financial

constraints so in order to help support our incoming freshman, we want to begin offering them more scholarships. These scholarships would be used to target the very best and brightest of applicants to PSU. Kelly Burgess, a Manufacturing Quality Manager with CNH Industrial in Grand Island, Nebraska and 2002 Automotive Technology graduate, has recently pledged \$500 to help kick off the program stating, "I chose to donate to this specific area because you and your team made a convincing argument that Freshman scholarships will attract new talent to PSU!" Burgess said. If you would also like to support this initiative, please contact us at [autotech@pittstate.edu](mailto:autotech@pittstate.edu).

## Stay In Contact With Us



Pittsburg State University Automotive has now entered the social media era. We now have a Facebook page, Snapchat account, Instagram and in the works YouTube channel. The social media outlets will be used to help keeping the public and alumni informed of what is happening in the department. The other idea is to help in recruiting new students to the program. You can find them by searching **@psuautotech**.



## 2018 KCCTE Fall Automotive Conference

The PSU Automotive Department's Dr. Richard Weathers Seminar continues now as part of the annual KCCTE (Kansas Center for Career and Technical Education) Fall Conference. This year's training event occurred on November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. Automotive faculty members Steve Polley and Mike Elder co-presented the NC3 certification training for the Verus Edge Scan Tool, utilizing equipment provided by the KCCTE. Additional training also occurs during the breaks as instructors informally share teaching strategies and classroom management techniques, gaining new ideas and possible activities to improve instruction for their students. Participating instructors included Ray Casey from Lawrence, Lee Garrett from Andover, Tony Maurer from Tonganoxie, Adam Nunn from Pittsburg, Clint Ruttgen from Labette County, Jack Simmons from Erie and Perry Cummins & Chauncey Pennington from Pitt State.



## AT 642 Agriculture Powertrain Class

For the third year in a row AT 642 Agriculture Powertrains class has been taught by Chauncey Pennington as part of our Diesel and Heavy Equipment emphasis. The class was split off from the AT640 Off-highway powertrains system course, with AT641 Construction System Powertrains class being taught by Dr. Tim Dell.

Students in this class not only received classroom instruction on various transmission topics but had opportunities to go out into the field and get more acquainted with what the ag equipment industry has to offer. Trips this year included touring the local Heritage Tractor dealership, tours to Fort Scott Community College John Deere Tech to learn about GPS farming and then the last trip included a tour to Hesston Kansas of the AGCO combine and hay equipment manufacturing facility as well as the John Deere training center in Wichita Kansas to learn about different formats technicians are trained across the country.

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## BAJA UPDATE

For the fall semester 2018 the Baja team found themselves charging forward for the year. The team has a new main adviser with Chauncey Pennington taking the lead with Trent Lindbloom and Nico Prelogar acting as co-advisers. Lindbloom has been on sabbatical this semester working on finishing his doctorate this fall 2018 semester

The team has already competed in one competition in Louisville Kentucky at the Midnight Mayhem race on October 12-13<sup>th</sup> 2018. The main SAE event they will be headed to on April 11-14<sup>th</sup> 2019 will be in Cookeville TN. Construction of a new car has begun with it being constructed out of chromoly tubing for the first time. This effort has been done to reduce weight and has added a new level of difficulty to the project. The students in Automotive have been working hand in hand with Engineering Tech students.



The students every year are required to raise the funds in order to build and race the car. This adds a considerable amount of stress to the project with students needing to raise approximately \$1200 each. How can you help? Different levels of sponsorship are available. Please visit <https://www.pittstate.edu/automotive/baja-team.html> or contact Chauncey Pennington at [cpennington@pittstate.edu](mailto:cpennington@pittstate.edu) to find out different ways you or your company can donate to continue to make this organization successful.

Also make sure to check out <https://www.facebook.com/pittstatebaja/> for up to date posts about what the team is up to.

## AMP Students Tour Coffeyville Refinery



On November 15, the Automotive Mentorship Program (AMP) students traveled to Coffeyville, KS to tour the 100 year old refinery, one of the 3 main refineries in the state of Kansas. These PSU automotive technology students were able to see first-hand how complex an oil refinery can



be. The highlight for Prof. Norman was visiting their Fuels Lab and watch the RON Octane test run on some 87 octane gasoline produced by the refinery.

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**Save the Date!**  
**AOD March 5-6, 2019**  
Visit [www.pittstate.edu/autotech](http://www.pittstate.edu/autotech)

*We're on the web!*

<http://www.pittstate.edu/autotech>

**Department of Automotive Technology Contacts**

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**Spring/Summer 2019 PSU  
Automotive & Diesel Calendar**

January 14	Spring Semester Begins
January 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
February 21	Company Day
February 25	Career Services Spring Career Day
February 28	VISION runs through March 3
March 01	College of Technology Open House
March 05	Spring Advisory Council Meeting
March 05	AOD Sponsors Recognition Dinner
March 06	Automotive Orientation Day (AOD)
April 11	SAE Baja Tennessee runs through April 14
April 17	Construction Expo
May 03,	Four State Farm Show runs through May 5
May 06	Finals Week Begins
May 10	Commencement