**ACCOLADES**

**Forman to Deliver Keynote to Free Radical Researchers in Israel**

Professor Henry Jay Forman of the School of Natural Sciences will travel to Jerusalem to deliver the keynote lecture at the 23rd annual meeting of the Israel Society for Oxygen and Free Radical Research at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His lecture, “Chemical mechanisms underlying redox and electrophysiological signaling,” will be delivered Dec. 9.

**Newsam Wins Presidential Early Career Award**

Professor Shawn Newsam of the School of Engineering traveled to Washington, D.C., to accept the Presidential Early Career Award in Science and Engineering at the White House on Nov. 1. Newsam was nominated for the award by the United States Department of Energy in recognition of his research work and his efforts in helping to found UC Merced. The award carries a $250,000 research stipend to be delivered over the next five years.

**Computer Science and Engineering Researchers Receive Robotics Funding**

Two members of the Computer Science and Engineering faculty, professors Stefano Carpin and Marcelo Kallman, recently received $75,000 in funding from the California Institute for Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS) for their project, “Robotics and Virtual Assistive Agents for Establishing the Center on Autonomous and Interactive Systems, at UC Merced.” They are working on how to make robots move more like real humans and how teams of robots can cooperate with each other in complex situations like urban search and rescue.

**EVENTS**

**Wyan’s Portraits of UC Merced Students on Display Through Dec. 22**

An exhibition of photography by Roger J. Wyan is on display at the Merced Multicultural Arts Center through Dec. 22.

**Advertisements**

- **Human Resources**

  - **Benefits Open Enrollment Nov. 1-27**
    - Open Enrollment for UC health and wellness benefits plans runs from Nov. 1 to 27. Visit At Your Service online and select the “Open Enrollment 2008” icon. Once there, you’ll be able to review your enrollments; read about plan benefits, services and changes for 2008; see what the medical plan rates for 2008 will be; and use some helpful planning tools.
    - UC has restructured medical plan options for 2008. There will be release and photographs from that day... [more]

- **Human Resources**

  - **If you have questions about any of the below information, please contact the Office of Human Resources at (209) 228-8247.**

  - **November Frontiers Lecture on Computer Simulations vs. Reality**
    - The next installment in the Frontiers of Science and Engineering Lecture Series will be delivered by Professor Mike Sprague of the School of Natural Sciences on Saturday, Nov. 17. His talk, “Computer Simulations vs. Reality,” will address the basic ideas behind the use of computers to solve mathematical models of real-world problems in engineering, physics, weather, and biology — including questions such as, “Why can’t they predict the weather better?” Sprague said he will explain the need for both computer simulations and physical observations to help us understand the world we live in.
    - The lecture will be at 10 a.m. in the Challenger Learning Center, 3460 Challenger Way, in Awarita. It is free and open to the public. [more]

- **MTS Lecture Series Continues Through the Semester**

  - The Mind, Technology, and Society Talk lecture series will continue at 6 p.m. Thursdays in COB 116. Topics to be covered include motion perception, motor control, motion path planning, navigation, hand movement, motion sensing, and the groundbreaking for the UC Merced campus Nov. 3 for the first-ever UnityFest. UnityFest is a joint university-community festival that aims to celebrate the diverse cultures of the Merced area with a full day of ethnic cuisine, performances, educational presentations and kid-friendly activities... [more]

- **UC Merced Panorama newsletter**

  - The photographs depict many members of UC Merced’s inaugural class. The text accompanying each photo includes responses from the subjects about their dreams for the future.
    - Visit the exhibit at 646 W. Main St., in downtown Merced. It is free and open to the public. [more]