



**Institute of Industrial Engineers
Chapter 47, Greater Detroit Area, Michigan**

NEWSLETTER

Mission: It is the mission of the Greater Detroit Chapter to promote the advancement of Industrial Engineering by providing professional development information and resources to our members and the community.

**June 2011
Volume 55, No. 2**

2011 Officers

President

John Preston, Dura Automotive Systems
(989) 225-9965, president@iiedetroit.org

Executive V.P

Lanie Dixon, Henry Ford Health System
(313) 874-8391, exec_vp@iiedetroit.org

V.P Administration

David Stajninger, Plastipak Holdings Inc.
administration@iiedetroit.org

V.P Communications & Web Development

Alex Bohn, William Beaumont Hospital
(248) 597-2742, newsletter@iiedetroit.org

V.P Programs

Vanda Ametlli
programs@iiedetroit.org

V.P Finance

Kerry Coran, Crittenton Hospital
(248) 404-7933, kerry.raschke@gmail.com

V.P Membership

Danielle Hunter
membership@iiedetroit.org

ESD Affiliate Council Rep

Dave Cottrill
(248) 635-8152, programs@iiedetroit.org

Regional V.P

Vanda Ametlli

GDC President's Message

Our Greater Detroit Chapter President John Preston would like to take a moment to reflect on the first half of 2011, as well as give some insight into what the GDC has planned for the upcoming months.

See page 2 for more from John.....

2011 IIE National Conference Review

May 21 - 25th marked the 61st annual IIE National Conference, held in Reno, NV. Our VP of Communications, Alex Bohn, attended and presented at the conference. In addition, the GDC donated money to help sponsor a few Wayne State IIE students. Both Alex and the WSU IE Kristen Jordan provide insight into the event in this newsletter.

Details and pictures on page 4.....

HFHS Lean Pathology Lab Tour

Henry Ford Health Systems has been making some major recent improvements to their Pathology Lab, using Lean principles and methodologies. HFHS invited the GDC to tour the lab facilities and learn about their operations.

Details on page 3.....

2011 Programs

Upcoming Programs

- **Fri, July 15th** GDC Social Event - Tigers Game
- **Thurs, Sept 29th** Harbour Report Presentation
- **Nov TBD** GDC Sponsored Event
- **Wed, Dec 14th** Holiday Party

Check out details at the Greater Detroit Chapter Website:

www.iiedetroit.org

GDC President's Message

2011 Program Updates

2011 Natl Confer-
ence Overview

Page 2

Page 3

Page 4



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John Preston

Greater Detroit Chapter President's Message

Fellow IIE Greater Detroit Members,

Spring flew by quickly with our local chapter busy planning and participating in events. The Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) hosted the GDC in early May showing us how they have applied lean methods to improve their business model. The HFHS event received rave reviews from the lucky participants. Our Vice President, Alex Bohn, attended the IIE Annual Conference in Reno and graciously accepted the 2010 Gold Chapter Recognition Award for the GDC. While at the conference, Alex unveiled his educational simulation on project management to great reviews. Our Board member, Vanda Ametlli, has been elected as the IIE Regional Vice President. Vanda has served in leadership positions in both the Wayne State chapter and the GDC professional chapter. Her leadership and experience will prove valuable to international organization of IIE. In June, under the guidance of Victor Lloyd, the chapter hosted our annual Community Service Day. Chapter members worked hard to beautify the Case Corridor in inner city Detroit by trimming hedges, planting flowers, and spreading mulch.

The second half of 2011 includes more networking and educational events. We are planning a summer outing, a demo of a surgical robot, the annual Harbour Report meeting, an executive round table and much more.

Our board of directors is working hard to meet your needs. If you have comments or suggestions, please feel free to write me at president@iiedetroit.org.

Best regards,
John Preston
President - Institute of Industrial Engineers, Greater Detroit Chapter

Membership Info

Total Members: 165

New Members: 1

Members Reinstated: 2

Over 15 memberships expire in the next 2 months!
Please check your membership status and renew if needed.

We have a lot of great programs coming in 2011 and you need to be a member to take advantage of discounted pricing!
Visit <http://www.iienet2.org> and go to the "Membership" section to renew.

The IIE Detroit Chapter #047 has 168 members in the greater Detroit metropolitan area. See our website at <http://www.iiedetroit.org/>.

You may contact the following local Greater Detroit IIE Chapter Officer for additional info:
John Preston, President president@iiedetroit.org



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2011 Program Updates

HFHS Lean Pathology Lab Tour

The IIE Greater Detroit Chapter was honored to be hosted by the Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) Pathology Department on a tour of their processes and to participate in a candid discussion on their lean journey. HFHS's leadership, Dr. Richard Zarbo (Senior Vice-President and Chair of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine) and Rita D'Angelo (Quality Manager in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine) talked to the chapter about the remarkable improvements made in their hospital by employing the principles of lean into their everyday work. The hospital's department has dramatically reduced its defect percentage and shortened its turnaround time for laboratory tests. Most importantly, all of the lab employees are involved in the effort. The leadership has instilled ownership and pride in its workforce. This is evident in the positive results of employee surveys and the low turnover within the department. The IIE group was able to meet the team members in the labs and hear the pride in their voices earned through their efforts. HFHS's success is so remarkable that a chapter has been dedicated to their journey in Liker and Franz's recently published book, *The Toyota Way to Continuous Improvement: Linking Strategy and Operational Excellence to Achieve Superior Performance*. Visit <http://www.henryford.com/pathology> to learn more about the lean efforts in the HFHS Pathology Department.

The attendees to the event generously donated a total of \$200 to Forgotten Harvest (<http://www.forgottenharvest.org/>), a local "lean" charity. The charity's mission is to relieve hunger in the Detroit metropolitan community by rescuing surplus, prepared and perishable food and donating it to emergency food providers. The IIE chapter toured Forgotten Harvest in 2009 and was impressed by their efficiency in rescuing food for the hungry.

2011 Irv Otis Scholarship

The purpose of this scholarship is to recognize outstanding Industrial Engineering students within the IIE Greater Detroit Chapter #47 area. Students are individually evaluated on GPA, IIE student chapter participation, miscellaneous school service activities, and assistance to the senior IIE Detroit Chapter. After careful consideration, the board of directors of the GDC awarded **Aishwarya Sankar** (BSIE '11) with this year's Irv Otis Scholarship. Over the past year, Aishwarya has demonstrated superior leadership in both her academic program at Wayne State University and in the local IIE chapter.

During the HFHS Lab Tour, Dr. Zarbo speaks on the importance of engaging and empowering employees



The IIE Greater Detroit Chapter recognized Gary Altman with the Distinguished Service Award at the 2011 ESD Gold Award Banquet.





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Student Review of 2011 Natl. Conference By: Kristen Jordan

My experience at the Reno conference was an extremely rewarding one. Not only did I get the chance to learn about the many facets of Industrial Engineering and how it can be applied to a variety of subject matters, but I also got the chance to meet and network with students, professors, and professionals from all over the world. Being able to witness firsthand the exciting opportunities and experiences that Industrial Engineering has to offer was very motivating for me as a new graduate.

The conference hotel was second to none and provided many socially intriguing activities to go along with the many beneficial aspects of the conference itself. I enjoyed the learning and social aspects of the conference immensely and I look forward to possibly making the conference an annual excursion.

Editor's Note: Kristen Jordan is a 2011 graduate from Wayne State University's IE program.



Visit us on the web at
www.iiedetroit.org

Newsletter questions:
communications
@iiedetroit.org

Insights from Reno By: Alex Bohn

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the 2011 IIE National Conference this year in Reno NV. As my first trip to the annual event, I gained a lot of insight into the benefits of the national conference. Before I go into too much detail, I must stress how much I recommend to every IE, either a student or professional, entry level or Senior VP, to make it a priority to attend one of the National IIE Conferences. It is an unforgettable experience.

The most remarkable aspect of the conference which made an impact struck me during a networking event. It is surreal to be surrounded by Industrial Engineers from around the world and from all spectrums of industry. I've never quite had such a strong connection with a group of people. Anyone that you introduce yourself to has an immediate appreciation for the academic or professional work that you are committed to.

The conference is also a great way to experience the broad range of applications of IE in the world. I attended a fascinating series of presentations about a statistical analysis of the fairness of college football and basketball rankings and playoff systems. I saw presentations on project management in the military, supply chains of healthcare v. manufacturing systems and why natural disaster response plans sometimes turn out to be disasters themselves. Five days in these presentations gave me a huge appreciation for the versatility and usefulness of my chosen field.



The Greater Detroit Chapter was also one of only five regional chapters to win the prestigious IIE Gold Award for chapter excellence in 2010. I accepted the award on the chapter's behalf but it was the hard work of the entire Board of Directors that allowed us to be recognized.

As I mentioned before, I highly recommend that all IEs go to a national conference. It is an amazing experience and excellent place to submit to be a presenter on a project or simply network with other fascinating and successful Industrial Engineers.

At left: GDC VP of Programs Vanda Ametlli and GDC VP of Communications and Website Alex Bohn, proudly display the 2010 Chapter Gold Award