

Keynote Speaker

Lealon L. Martin, PhD.: "Clean Energy, Clean Water, Clean Medicine: Technological Challenges and Opportunities in a 21st Century Green Economy"



Dr. Lealon L. Martin is an Assistant Professor in the Howard P. Iserman Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. He also holds an affiliate faculty appointment in the Department of Decision Science and Engineering Systems at the same institution. Dr. Martin is the principal investigator of the Martin Research Group which develops and applies mathematical modeling techniques toward the optimal design of renewable energy systems, biological processes, and advanced nanocomposite materials with enhanced functionality. His research lies at the interface of advancing fundamental systems engineering, innovating novel nature-inspired technologies, and identifying alternative and renewable solutions to critical issues of human need - energy, clean water, and social harmony.

Born in South Carolina, Dr. Martin received his B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from Tuskegee University, graduating magna cum laude and at the top of his Chemical engineering class. He received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from UCLA with a dissertation entitled "Global Optimization of Chemical Processes for Cost Effective Resource Recovery and Power Generation". Upon the completion of his degree, Dr. Martin worked as a post-doctoral research associate in the Pitzer Center for Theoretical Chemistry with Dr. Arup Chakraborty in the Department of Chemical Engineering at UC-Berkeley. He then joined the faculty at RPI as an Assistant Professor.

His honors and awards include the 2007 Lambda Upsilon Lambda Outstanding Faculty Award, 2006 MLK Outstanding Faculty Award at Rensselaer, 2002 Outstanding PhD in Chemical Engineering Award, The Henry Samuelli School of Engineering and Applied Science Engineering Achievement for Student Welfare Award, Project '88 Fellow, Emcom Scholar, Gluck Fellow, and multiple Leadership and Service awards from UCLA Center for Excellence in Engineering Diversity.

Dr. Martin also served as Faculty Advisor of the NSBE Chapter at Rensselaer until 2008 and is the current Chair (2009) of the Minority Affairs Committee of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Dr. Mo Hunsen: Green Chemistry Plenary Session



Professor Mo Hunsen was born in Ethiopia, in 1971. He received his B.S., M.S. degrees (1994) from Addis Ababa University, and his Ph.D. degree (2001, with Professor R. I. Hollingsworth) from Michigan State University. In 2001, he joined the Chemistry Department of Kenyon College, as an Assistant Professor and was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 2006. He was a Visiting Scientist at Polytechnic Institute of New York University (2005) and was a Visiting Scientist at CASE Comprehensive Cancer Center, Case Western Reserve University (2006 - 2008). He was a DAAD Fellow (1990-1993) and has won the Robert J. Tomsich Science Award (2005) and the Henry Dreyfus Award (2007). His research interests are chemical and enzymatic catalysis in carbohydrate and polymer chemistry and in cancer prevention and therapeutics.

Dr. Thomas Marrero: Green Energy Plenary Session



Dr. Thomas R. Marrero is a professor in the Chemical Engineering Department at the University of Missouri. He teaches various courses in the undergraduate and graduate program of chemical engineering. He researches alternative energy including acetylene fuel the "sleeping giant". A fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Marrero worked for the nuclear division of Martin-Marietta Corp., W.R. Grace Co., Babcock & Wilcox Co. and the nuclear division of the General Electric Co. before joining the Missouri faculty. His research has been funded by the National Science Foundation and NASA. He is a registered professional engineer in Missouri. His research interests include sustainability in chemical manufacture, acetylene for fuel and mass transport in environment.

Dr. Foster Agblevor: Green Engineering Plenary Session



Dr. Foster Agblevor, is an Associate Professor at Virginia Tech where he teaches Bioprocess Engineering fundamentals. Dr. Agblevor received his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana (1979). He obtained his MS and PhD in Chemical Engineering University of Toronto, Canada (1984 and 1988 respectively). He received the Dean's Award for Excellence in Research, from the Virginia Tech College of Engineering (2008) and Dean's Award for Excellence in Basic Research, from College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (2008). He has over 10 patents in biomass conversion related research. His research interests are thermochemical and biochemical conversion of biomass to fuels and chemicals.

Undergraduate Track

Ashish Dasgupta, Ph.D.: How to Begin Undergraduate Research



Ashish Dasgupta is a Project Manager at Focus: HOPE and holds a doctoral degree in manufacturing from the University of Michigan. Ashish has several years of experience in laser materials processing applications like laser welding and direct metal deposition (DMD, a major part of Focus: HOPE's current research and development initiative). He has published several research articles on the science and engineering of laser materials processing applications. He holds a U.S Patent covering a novel finding from his doctoral research on laser welding of galvanized steel. He has significant experience in metallurgical analysis, process diagnostics and research commercialization as well. At Focus: HOPE, Ashish is managing several research and development programs for the Department of Defense. He has been involved in courses at the University of Michigan both at the College of Engineering and the Ross School of Business.

Korine Steinke Wawrzynski: How to Begin Undergraduate Research



Korine Steinke Wawrzynski is the Director for Undergraduate Research in the Provost's Office at Michigan State University and an adjunct faculty member in the Student Affairs Administration master's degree program at MSU. Her research interests include innovative learning opportunities for undergraduate students, the experiences of women leaders in higher education, and collaborative partnerships between academic and student affairs. For the past five years, she has worked in academic affairs administration and she brings 12 years of student affairs administrative experience in the areas of residence life, judicial affairs, peer education, leadership development, and academic advising. Korine has earned a master's degree in College Student Personnel and a doctorate in Higher Education Administration

Chris Saffron, Ph.D. : How to Begin Undergraduate Research



Christopher Saffron received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering in 2005 from Michigan State University. He joined MSU as an assistant professor in 2007, He has a joint appointment with BAE and the Department of Forestry. Previously, Dr. Saffron was an engineer and project manager with Michigan Biotechnology Institute (MBI) in Lansing. His research interest is the thermochemical conversion of biomass to fuels and chemicals and economic model development for combined thermochemical and biochemical refineries.

Undergraduate Track

Brad Rowe, Ph.D.: Fastest Growing Jobs in the Midwest



Brad Rowe received his Ph.D. in Horticultural Science from North Carolina State University and joined the faculty at Michigan State University in 1997. He has directed the MSU green roof research program since its inception in 2000, was the founding chair of the Green Roofs for Healthy Cities Research Committee, was involved in the design and implementation of Ford Motor company's 10.4 acre green roof in Dearborn, and was the recipient of the GRHC Excellence in Research Award in 2008. The MSU research group is conducting research on plant selection, stormwater runoff, energy conservation, carbon sequestration, and most recently on roof vegetable production. Brad also teaches courses in plant propagation, landscape construction, landscape contract management, and sustainable landscape practices at MSU.

Brian Telfor: Fastest Growing Jobs in the Midwest



Brian has been active in individual, family, and group counseling for over 20 years as a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW). For the past seven years, his focus has been on Career Development and Employment. He is also certified as a Global Career Development Facilitator (GCFD). He works at Michigan State University as a Field Career Consultant, where he states that he greatly enjoys helping students and graduates with assessing and developing their own personalized career development and job search strategies for success.

Graduate Student Track

Dr. Lydia M. Contreras: Balancing Life and Research Career



Dr. Lydia M. Contreras was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic and arrived in New York City in October of 1991. She graduated from Riverdale Country School, a well-respected private high school in NYC in 1999 and obtained a B.S.E. in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University in 2003. Lydia completed her PhD in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University in 2008, focusing on engineering bacterial cells for improved production of therapeutic proteins. Lydia is currently a post-doctoral fellow at the Belfort Lab, at the Wadsworth Center (New York State Department of Health), where she is working on understanding mechanisms of infection in pathogenic bacteria. In 2008, she successfully interviewed at several top 30 chemical engineering departments and ultimately chose to begin her academic career as a tenure-track assistant professor at the University of Texas-Austin in 2010, where she will build a research program in protein engineering to study new classes of biomolecules.

Lydia has received several academic and service awards including the Dr. Charmatz recognition for scientific scholarship, the New York City's Mayor Award for community service, and an Amoco Dealers College Scholarship, an NSF IGERT Fellowship in nonlinear mathematics, an NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship, the Cornell Hooley Fellowship Award for outstanding independent research and a 1st Place Oral Presentation award at the Georgia Tech Black Graduate Student Symposium. Most recently, she is the recipient of a 2009 FASEB Postdoctoral Award. She has also interned at Catalyst for Women, General Motors Truck Group, and at Merck's Biocatalysis Research Labs, after receiving the Merck & Co. Technology Fellowship Award.

Beronda Montgomery: Balancing Life and Research Career



Beronda Montgomery, Ph.D. is an assistant professor in the Department of Energy - Plant Research Lab and the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Michigan State University. She received a Ph.D. in Plant Biology in 2001 from the University of California at Davis. Dr. Montgomery was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) Postdoctoral Fellowship for her postdoctoral studies at Indiana University and recently was awarded an NSF CAREER Award. THE NSF CAREER program was established to support junior faculty within the context of their overall career development and is the highest award given by the foundation. Dr Montgomery's long-term research interest is to understand the dynamic molecular processes utilized by photosynthetic organisms for adapting to changes in their photoenvironment.

Basia Owczarek: Financing Graduate School



Basia Owczarek has a Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems from Wayne State University. She has worked in Higher Education for 11 years. The first nine years of her career were in various offices across Wayne State University's campus. Basia began her financial aid career five years ago. She has spent the last 2 at Michigan State University. Basia is also a member of the Michigan Student Financial Aid Executive Board.

Professional Track

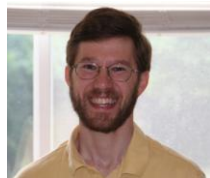
John Hill: How to Stay Mobile in a Changing Economy



John Hill, Director of Alumni Career Services, is charged with providing career services to all 420,000 MSU alumni. He also conducts career/professional/corporate development events on various topics including: "Taking Your Online Connections Offline For Career Success", "How Gen Y Fits In With Gen X and Boomers in the Workforce" and "Developing Your Career Search Strategy". He also runs the 10th largest official LinkedIn alumni group with nearly 15,000 members. Hill came to MSUAA from the MSU Career Service Network where he was the internship developer for the university working with business, public sector and non-profit entities

to set up internship and experiential opportunities for MSU students. He helped develop a unique public sector/university partnership with the City of Lansing in an effort to retain talented MSU students within mid-Michigan along with alumni-student mentor programs, job shadow and networking programs, and unique on-campus interactions between employers and students. Previously, Hill was the *Lansing State Journal* market development manager, with a primary emphasis on brand management, business development, market research, partnerships and promotions. Prior to that he was an editor and new media manager for Athlon Sports Communications, a national sports magazine publisher, in Nashville, Tenn. Hill is a graduate of Michigan State University.

Dr. Jake S. Yeston: Tips on Technical Writing from Science Magazine



Dr. Jake S. Yeston obtained his Bachelors in chemistry from Harvard University in 1996 and his PhD in chemistry from the University of California-Berkeley in 2001. After postdoctoral research at the Max Planck Institute for Quantum Optics (Garching, Germany) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (Gaithersburg, MD), he joined the staff at Science in 2004, where he is now a Senior Editor, handling peer review for original research manuscripts submitted in chemistry and overlapping segments of biochemistry and applied

physics. He also edits the physical sciences portion of Science's Editors' Choice section, which comprises weekly highlights of research published in more discipline-specific journals, and helps to coordinate chemistry-related review features (which in the past several years have highlighted theoretical chemistry, attosecond spectroscopy, and water purification).

Roundtable Discussion

Dr. Soji Adelaja: Green Technologies: The Obstacles The Solutions



Soji Adelaja, Ph.D. is the John A. Hannah Distinguished Professor in Land Policy and Director of the Land Policy Institute at Michigan State University. He also directs the Michigan Higher Education Land Policy (MIHELP) Consortium, a network of university researchers involved in metropolitan policy research and outreach, and he co-directs the Michigan People and Land (PAL) Initiative, focused on regional prosperity in the state of Michigan. Dr. Adelaja holds joint faculty appointments as Professor in the departments of Agricultural Food Resource Economics, Geography, and Community, Agricultural and Recreational Resource Studies. Among the recognitions he has received for his work and impact are the Outstanding Alumni Award from Penn State's College of Agriculture, the Person of the Year Award from the National Prepared Foods Association, New Jersey Governor's Recognition for Outstanding Contributions to New Jersey.

Lynda Boomer: Green Technologies: The Obstacles The Solutions



Lynda Boomer has worked for Michigan State University for 23 years in Engineering & Architectural Services (EAS) as project manager for renovation projects and new construction. She graduated from MSU with a degree in electrical engineering and started in Physical Plant in 1985. Her initial responsibilities in EAS included designing controls for heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment and electrical design for renovation projects. In more recent years she moved to project management and oversaw the design of the Chemistry Building addition project that is registered with the United States Green Building Council Leadership In Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). Lynda is a registered professional engineer and an accredited LEED professional. Her new position as Energy and Environmental Engineer for campus involves a wide variety of duties including; participating on the Environmental Stewardship Systems Team; leading several sub-teams regarding Energy Conservation; involved in a utility metering upgrade project for campus, working with a building Retro-Commissioning Team to identify energy savings. Another accomplishment was developing the baseline CO2 emissions inventory for campus for the Chicago Climate Exchange which is a market based greenhouse gas reduction trading platform. Her husband and daughter are also MSU graduates.

Dana Sevakis: Green Technologies: The Obstacles The Solutions



A Michigan native, Dana began her organizing career while attending the University of Colorado at Boulder where she helped direct the local chapter of the Rainforest Action Network. During that time she worked on a campaign to convince Home Depot and other major home improvement retailers to not sell products made from old-growth and rainforest timber. After graduating in 2000 with a B.A. degree in environmental studies, Dana joined the Chicago Recycling Coalition to improve the city's "Blue Bag" recycling program. She also worked for Chicago Jobs with Justice, a labor-community coalition engaged in strengthening worker's rights. In 2004, Dana returned to the Detroit area as a member of the political and communications staff for SEIU Local 3, a Midwest regional "Justice for Janitors" local. During the 2008 national election, she was a consultant for Michigan Voice, a state group that coordinated civic engagement organizations, and America Votes, a national organization focused on mobilizing voters.