MSU professor receives outstanding teaching award from American Society of Engineering Education
April 04, 2013 — Sepp Jannotta, MSU News Service

BOZEMAN - Brock LaMeres, an associate professor of electrical and computer engineering in the Montana State University College of Engineering, recently received the outstanding teaching award from the Pacific Northwest section of the American Society of Engineering Education.

LaMeres said the award is an honor because it comes from an organization that has influenced his approach to being a professor by reminding him the impact that teaching can have on students.

"As professors, we get to teach and do research, but sometimes it is easy to get consumed with one or the other," LaMeres said. "For me, I feel like I have the most impact when I'm able to balance the time commitments of both. An award from ASEE is a nice reminder of the importance of the teaching side of this profession."

The award from ASEE adds to recognition LaMeres has received for his teaching ability in recent years from MSU. Those awards include a College of Engineering Teaching Excellence Award in 2010, the President's Excellence in Teaching Award in 2011 and the Teaching Innovation Award in 2013.

Rob Maher, professor and head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, drew particular attention to the Teaching Innovation Award in his letter nominating LaMeres for the ASEE award. Maher wrote that the award stemmed from "important and innovative work in developing and assessing online laboratory education in our digital electronic circuits and software courses."

In addition to heading research funded by NASA and the National Science Foundation, LaMeres is also known for his work with undergraduate student design teams.

He served as the primary adviser for MSU's NASA Lunabotics team from 2010 to 2012. The team won the systems engineering paper category in 2012 and won the national championship for mining in 2010.

ASEE applauded LaMeres’s "superior accomplishments as a classroom instructor, curriculum innovator, scholar of pedagogy, and mentor of students."

The award continues: "He has distinguished himself through demonstrated effectiveness in teaching, through development of new and compelling courses, by performing NSF and NASA funded research and development in both on-line and hands-on education, and by successfully inspiring and mentoring numerous student projects and design teams."


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