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SUMMARY: WAYNE COLLEGE ENGINEERING PROFESSOR ADVISING ON CAPITOL HILL

Orrville, Ohio, July 6, 2007 – Dr. Daniel Deckler, engineering professor at The University of Akron Wayne College, was selected to be an American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Congressional fellow for the 2007-08 academic year.

Deckler will spend the year on faculty improvement leave in Washington, D.C., where he will be advising a senator or representative and his or her staff on issues relating to science, technology and engineering. In addition, he will speak before Congressional committees about these topics.

Deckler says he applied for the Congressional fellowship because he feels engineers need to remain involved with a project beyond the design and creation stages.

“In our technological society, engineers have a responsibility to help shape public policy regarding the things we are creating,” says Deckler. “We can no longer step back after the creation and expect others to deal with the ramifications of what has been built. Most technology has good and bad aspects, and engineers are the best people to explain all the possible scenarios to policymakers.”

Deckler helped create a “smart” bearing as part of his doctoral research. His paper, titled “Simulation and Control of an Active Tilting-Pad Journal Bearing” and co-authored with University of Akron engineering faculty members Dr. R.J. Veillette, Dr. M.J. Braun and Dr. F.K. Choy, was published in the third-quarter issue of *Tribology Transactions* (Vol. 47, Issue 3). Deckler presented his first paper on the smart bearing project, “Modeling and Control Design for a Controllable Bearing System,” at engineering conferences in Sydney, Australia, and in Hawaii.

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In 2005, Deckler wrote *Six-Minute Solutions for Mechanical PE Exam Thermal and Fluids Systems Problems* (Professional Publications Inc., 2005), a practice manual for engineering graduates preparing for the mechanical engineering PE exam.

Deckler joined Wayne College in September 1991. He teaches the first two years of the engineering curriculum, which includes courses such as statics, dynamics, mechanics of solids and circuits. Deckler received his bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering with a computer science option from Ohio Northern University in 1985. He earned his master of science degree in mechanical engineering in 1990 and his doctorate in engineering in 2002, both from The University of Akron.



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