



Chicago Teacher Resource Fair

The Society of Automotive Engineers' Chicago Section hosted a booth for the fifth year at the Teacher Resource Fair on Friday, August 5th in Chicago, Illinois. The purpose of the booth is to generate interest among the Chicago educational community in the *SAE A World In Motion* program.

The Chicago Section provided a strong support base with lifetime SAE member Gene Wallace spearheading the effort. Wallace, a retired mechanical engineer with CASE International Harvester (CASE IH), has been an SAE member since 1963 and has been actively involved in AWIM since its inception in 1990. SAE Chicago Section President Mary Jacque and members Rob Prasse and Ed Widder also volunteered their time along with Sharon Stevenson, a teacher from New Lenox, Illinois.

"Teachers are drawn to the AWIM display when they see the balloon-powered cars because they know this would interest students," Stevenson said. "My students love it. It is by far their favorite unit in science."

Nearly 900 teachers attended this year's fair, which is hosted annually by Chicago Tribune News in Education. The program includes free monthly student materials, teacher guides, workshops and web lessons that integrate the newspaper into the classroom environment and encourage learning.

AWIM, now in its 16th academic year of distribution, has introduced more than two million elementary and middle school students to science, technology and the basics of engineering.

The following are *A World In Motion* workshops/conferences scheduled for September and October:

September 2, 2005
CAL U OF PA
California, PA
Teacher Workshop

September 8, 2005
Union County, S.C.
Teacher Workshop

October 6, 2005
HENAAC
Los Angeles, CA
Teacher Workshop

October 14, 2005
Georgia ITEA
Georgia
Teacher Workshop

October 27, 2005
GM Training
Detroit, MI
Teacher/Volunteer Workshop

October 27-29, 2005
Houston, Texas
CAST (Conference
for Advancement of
Science Teaching)
Contact:
<http://stateweb.org/exhibits>



Ypsilanti, Michigan

Dr. James Hawkins, Superintendent of the Ypsilanti School District, invited SAE to present the A World In Motion curriculum to 12 administrators representing elementary, middle and high school. The meeting took place on August 24th at Ypsilanti High School in Ypsilanti, Michigan. The AWIM staff is looking forward to working with the district.

AWIM Volunteer Recognition Event



The 4th Annual General Motors AWIM Volunteer Recognition event was a great success. The event gave the opportunity to thank employees who have volunteered their time and talents to the A World In Motion program during the past school year. Nearly 400 volunteers from SE Michigan attended representing 8 different companies: Army TACOM, Bosch, Delphi, Digital Image Studios, General Motors, Material Science Corporation, MGI Coutier, and TRW.

The Volunteers were addressed by AWIM leaders Rick Wagoner, Kevin W. Williams, Ed Koerner, representing SAE's AWIM Executive and Advisory Committees, and Dr. Juanita Clay Chambers, representing Detroit Public Schools. Kevin joined the group via

video from Mexico. Dr. Juanita Clay Chambers is the Chief Academic Officer of Detroit Public Schools. Lloyd Reuss, former General Motors President and initial AWIM Executive Committee Chairman, was also in attendance. An award honoring the work of Lloyd Reuss's support of AWIM is given annually by SAE to an elementary teacher who has made exemplary use of AWIM.

The AWIM program, sponsored by SAE, is designed to promote math and science literacy to students through hands-on physical science. But the success of the program is largely due to the commitment of volunteers from industry.

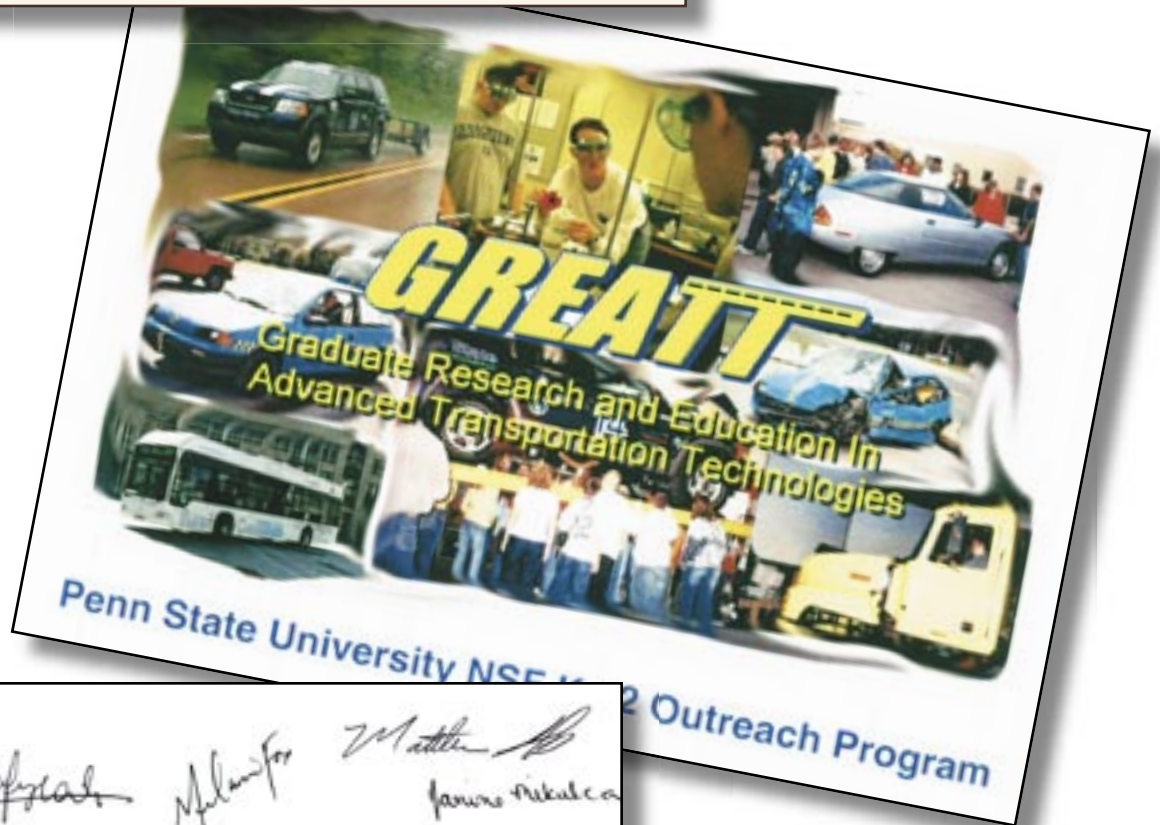


Kathleen,

We wanted to take a minute to thank you for helping us at our Summer Teacher Workshop. The teachers were very interested in learning about automotive technology as well as resources available through SAE. You and your staff were instrumental in both of these things. Thanks for all your help and support with brochures for the workshops. It made our event this year very successful.

Thanks,

The members of the Penn State NSF K-12
Advanced Transportation Technology Program



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Awim Evaluation: Summary of Retrospective Study Findings

SAE International has contracted with the Goodman Research Group, Inc., (GRG) a research firm that specializes in evaluation of educational programs, materials, and services to conduct a longitudinal external evaluation of the A World In Motion (AWIM) program.

First, Goodman conducted a retrospective study of past AWIM participants to examine their satisfaction with the program and perceptions of its effectiveness in achieving its stated goals. During the winter of 2004-2005, GRG conducted one-time post-only surveys with college students participating in SAE's Collegiate Design Series (CDS), industry volunteers who have been involved with AWIM teachers and classrooms, and teachers who have used AWIM in the past five years.

Next, a four-year experimental study will be conducted specifically on the short and long-term effects of AWIM use on students and teachers.

Some key findings of the retrospective study were as follows:

Summary of AWIM Volunteers Experience

Volunteers believed the students enjoyed working on AWIM and believed they had a positive impact on student interest in the activities as well as interest in learning more about STEM topics. Most volunteers considered their own experience with AWIM to be successful, and personally rewarding.

Summary of Collegiate Design Series (CDS)

Most students participated in the Collegiate Design Series (CDS) for two or three years, primarily during their Junior and Senior years of college. Interest, abilities, and job prospects in engineering had the greatest influence on students' choice of major. No students recalled using AWIM in elementary, middle or junior high school.

Summary of Teachers Experience

Three quarters of teachers believe using AWIM has influenced how prepared they feel to teach science. In particular, the materials provided in the kits make it easy to incorporate the activities into their classroom, and they feel more prepared to use hands-on science with their students. They perceived that students responded quite positively both to AWIM in general, and to the involvement of an industry volunteer. In addition, they appreciated the extra technical support provided by having an industry volunteer in their classroom.

To receive access to the Executive Summary please contact dgeweth@sae.org.

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