Ohio Coal Research Center
The Ohio Coal Research Center has continued to develop carbon recycling technologies through the use of photosynthetic microorganisms. Working with the Biofuels Research Laboratory, a fellow unit in the Russ College's Institute for Sustainable Energy and the Environment, researchers are transforming micro-algae into a biomass feedstock for biodiesel. The result may significantly influence the supply of biodiesel fuel as a replacement for petroleum diesel. Several industrial partners are interested in extending the technology to address other feedstock concerns, such as the production of bio-polymers as a sustainable material in the plastics industry.

Center for Intelligent, Distributed, and Dependable Systems
On behalf of Ohio University, the Center for Intelligent, Distributed, and Dependable Systems is collaborating with 11 other colleges and universities—and industry leaders—on a multi-million-dollar, state-funded project to recruit students in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical (STEM) fields. 

Avionics Engineering Center
The Avionics Engineering Center is helping the Federal Aviation Administration produce a new distance measuring equipment (DME) specification. Approximately 1,000 DME stations across the U.S. support a complex, on-demand navigation system that helps pilots fly airplanes to specific destinations. The new specification will enable more friendly and efficient use of airspace.

Ohio Research Institute for Transportation and the Environment (ORITE)
The Ohio Department of Transportation has asked ORITE to assess approaches to clean up pollutants from highway runoff. One approach is the exfiltration trench, where water is strained through a layer of coarse, pervious concrete—then through one or more layers of fine filter material before running into a storm sewer or other drainage system. The other approach is a vegetated biofilter, which consists of a grassy slope leading to a grass-lined ditch. The vegetation retards the flow of water, traps suspended solids, and absorbs the metals. ©

Graduate assistants Ryan Young and John Dowler discuss CASSI's cost-estimation project for General Electric.

Ben Stuart, director of the Institute for Sustainable Energy and the Environment, readies his BIOD 4 ME-tagged Ford Excursion, which can be fueled with biodiesel, for the Homecoming parade.

The Latest on Russ College Research