Mihnea Anghelescu, a doctoral candidate in mechanical engineering, co-authored, with Professor of Mechanical Engineering Khairul Alam, the first analytical paper to be published about the use of carbon foam as a new tooling material. The paper was presented and then published in the Jan./Feb. 2008 SAMPE journal, which also featured a figure from the paper as the cover illustration.

Civil engineering students won the Intercollegiate Asphalt Mix and Design Competition in February for the second year in a row. Prior to submission, seniors Eric Biehl and Jared Perry, B.S.C.E. ’08, created and tested three different asphalts; the one that proved to be the most economical and rut-resistant was submitted to be judged. Asphalt specimens were sent to Ohio Department of Transportation for rut testing, and Flexible Pavements of Ohio reviewed the written reports. A panel of industry experts judged the mixture, report, and presentation.

Nichole Blackmore, a senior mechanical engineering major, was awarded a nationally competitive, GEICO-sponsored Tau Beta Pi scholarship worth $2,000. Sponsored by the nation’s second-oldest honor society, the scholarship is awarded based on academic achievement, campus leadership, service, and promise of future contributions to the engineering professions.

Hiep Dinh, B.S.C.S. ’05, a computer science master’s degree candidate, out-programmed more than 11,000 competitors from across the globe in Google’s Code Jam, a computer coding competition in which professional and student programmers are asked to solve complex algorithmic challenges in a limited amount of time. Google treated Dinh and the other top 500 North and South America finishers to an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City to compete for the top 100 spots. Dinh won $500 for his 57th-place finish.
Carlos Espinoza, a junior computer science major, received a nationally competitive Microsoft scholarship worth $4,500. The annual merit-based undergraduate scholarship requires enrollment in a full-time, computer-science-related bachelor’s degree program and a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade-point average.

Seth Hostetler, an industrial and systems engineering master’s degree candidate, received a $3,000 Material Handling Education Foundation Storage Equipment Manufacturers Association Honor Scholarship. For his master’s thesis, Hostetler, who hopes to become a professor, is researching packing boxes into a delivery truck in a given sequence.

Dan Leach, B.S.E.E. ’08, received a Fulbright Scholarship to study brain-computer interfacing in Japan.

Michael Marion, a senior computer science major, was awarded a $4,000 U.S.-Japan Bridging Foundation Scholarship for study in Japan, as well as a $5,000 Gilman International Scholarship. Marion is spending fall and winter quarters studying Japanese language and culture at Chubu University near Nagoya, Japan. Pursuing a career as a computer software designer, Marion hopes his Japanese minor will complement his computer engineering skills.

Four graduate students, Yanhui Fang, Jourdan Siemer, En Ye, and Ying Zhong, were awarded a $10,000 grant by the Environmental Protection Agency to compete in the National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity, & the Planet (P3). The team designed a video game to increase public awareness of everyday chemical exposures. The project was awarded an honorable mention from the EPA.

Vanktesh Shirure, a doctoral candidate in chemical and biomolecular engineering, received an honorable mention for a Nancy R. Gelman Foundation Grant, which is awarded to individuals planning projects to improve outcomes for women with breast cancer. Shirure proposed to study the role of adhesion molecules in the aggressive bone metastasis of breast cancer. He argued that understanding the role of adhesion molecules could lead to new ways to not only diagnose, but also treat, late stages of breast cancer.

Hiep Dinh, B.S.C.S. ’05, programs in the lab.