The Flying Bobcats flight team was named National Champions for Safety at the National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference (SAFECON) in May. At the regional competition in October, junior Travis Fisher and freshman Grant Rhue placed first in the “message drop,” in which they had to manually drop two message containers from 200 feet in the air. Fisher also came in second place in the “short field approach and landing,” in which students had to land on a short approach and touchdown on the runway in a 200-foot zone, similar to landing on an aircraft carrier.

A team of five senior mechanical engineering students won first place in the national 2011 Ability One Network Design Challenge. The second Ohio University team in three years to come in first, “Frapptastic Five” took home a prize of $10,000 to split and another $10,000 for their department, for their design to improve assembly of valves for McDonald’s frappe dispensers. Kyle Royer, Broc Pittenger, Logan Dobrovich, David Few, and Michael Koh, all of whom received their bachelor’s degrees in mechanical engineering in June, worked with Parkersburg, West Virginia, company SW Resources, which employs disabled workers. Work is now safer and easier for the disabled employees, and productivity has improved more than 100 percent.

Electrical engineering master’s degree candidate Joe Morris, B.S.E.E. ’11, was offered four of five fellowships he applied for, receiving an honorable mention for the fifth. He accepted the Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation Fellowship with the Department of Defense. Once he completes graduate studies in June 2012, Morris will begin a full-time position at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that he already has been guaranteed as part of the fellowship.

Chemical and biomolecular engineering doctoral student Dake Xu won second place for the best student poster in applied corrosion technology during the 2011 National Association of Corrosion Engineers Conference in Houston for the poster “Mitigation of souring and MIC due to SRB in the presence of sand using a triple biocide cocktail consisting of glutaraldehyde, EDDS (a biodegradable chelator), and methanol.” Xu received the Harvey Herro Prize, including a plaque and $1,000, as part of the honor.

Civil engineering master’s student Stephen Busam, M.S.C.E. ’11, was selected Outstanding Student of the Year and awarded a $1,000 prize by the Ohio Transportation Consortium.

Grace Sallar, a civil engineering major, received a $1,000 award as part of a case study competition at the 2010 Undergraduate Leadership and Creativity Symposium, a three-day intensive workshop held in November at Ohio State on leadership, creativity, product innovation, entrepreneurial thinking, and persuasive communication.
Electrical engineering seniors Matt Miltner, Derek Fulk, and Samantha Craig placed first in the Institute of Navigation’s first robotic snowplow competition held in January in St. Paul, Minnesota. The team received a $2,500 check for its first-place finish as well as $500 for the presentation, along with a “Golden Shovel” plaque.

A team of chemical and biomolecular engineering students won the Inherent Safety in Design Award at the 2010 National Chem-E-Car Competition hosted by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers in Salt Lake City, Utah. Abbey Hackenberg, Philip Palumbo, Marcie Howard, Ryan Lang, and Keeley Schneider, who organized the 2010 North Central Regional Chem-E-Car Conference, hosted by Ohio University earlier in fall 2010, also were invited to present at the conference on what made their regional conference so successful. All the students received their bachelor’s degrees in chemical engineering in June.

A team of civil engineering students participated in the spring 2011 Ohio Contractors Association’s Estimating Competition. Each team was given a set of plans for a road construction project, including labor and equipment rates, and then was required to complete an entire bid package within several hours and present it to a panel of judges.

Steven Slover, B.S.I.S.E. ’11, a senior industrial and systems engineering major, won best technical paper at the 2011 Regional Institute of Industrial Engineers Conference, which Ohio University hosted in February.

Two teams of chemical and biomolecular engineering students attended the 21st International Environmental Design Contest at the Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The design contest challenged students to solve technical problems ranging from CO₂ emissions to disinfecting rural water sources.

A group of undergraduate, graduate, and faculty women from the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science participated in the Ohio Celebration of Women in Computing at the Mohican Lodge and Conference Center, in Perrysville, Ohio, in February. One hundred and seventy-five women computer scientists gathered to explore career opportunities, share research and professional accomplishments, and network.