



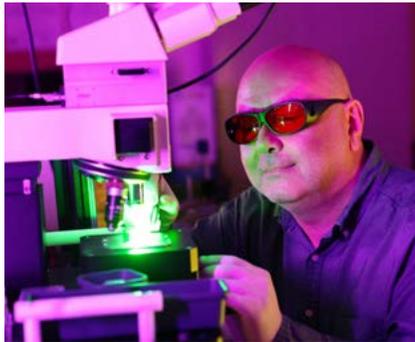
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Partnership between SafeLand USA, OSU to benefit the next generation of Oklahoma’s workforce

CEAT has earned a strong reputation for its commitment to the next generation of workers in Oklahoma and the United States. From ensuring tomorrow’s engineers have the skills and knowledge to succeed, to providing training for those already in the workforce, CEAT’s leadership in training and outreach helps transform the world. A new collaboration will expand that reputation as OSU Fire Service Training has partnered with SafeLand USA to offer courses on work site safety, chiefly in the oil and gas industry.

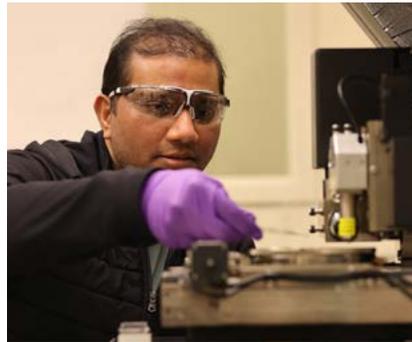
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MAE researcher explores novel carbon material with energy potential

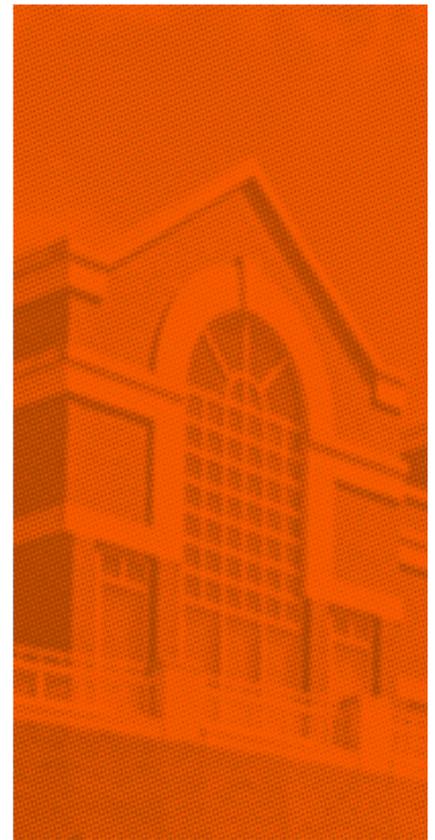
Dr. Kaan Kalkan, associate professor for the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, is an expert in nanostructured materials. With support from a new research grant from Phillips 66, Kalkan is now characterizing a carbon allotrope synthesized from a petroleum-based precursor using a proprietary process.

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MAE’s Sachan leads efforts to research new materials that withstand extreme radiation

Researchers are testing a newly discovered class of advanced ceramics to see how well the material withstands extreme radiation, a key step in safer nuclear energy and more durable materials. Dr. Ritesh Sachan in the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering is involved in research to discover new materials that perform better under these conditions



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CIVE researchers develop new tools to protect Oklahoma’s power grid from flooding

As extreme weather events become more frequent across the United States, researchers from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering are working to make the state’s power grid more resilient against one of its most damaging threats — flooding. A new study led by Dr. Maha Kenawy, assistant professor, is developing a computational tool to assess the vulnerability of electric transmission infrastructure during severe rainfall events. Funded by the Hamm Institute for American Energy, the project aims to help utilities, emergency managers and policymakers plan and prevent large-scale power disruptions caused by flooding.



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U.S. News & World Report ranks CEAT among 2026 Best Online Engineering Graduate Programs

OSU has been ranked No. 24 among the 2026 Best Online Master's in Engineering Programs by U.S. News & World Report. This continues to place CEAT at the No. 1 spot in the state of Oklahoma. Additionally, OSU was ranked No. 15 among the 2026 Best Online Master's in Engineering Programs for Veterans, also placing CEAT in the No. 1 spot in Oklahoma in this category.



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Regents Professor Weili Zhang establishes new field in terahertz chirality sensing

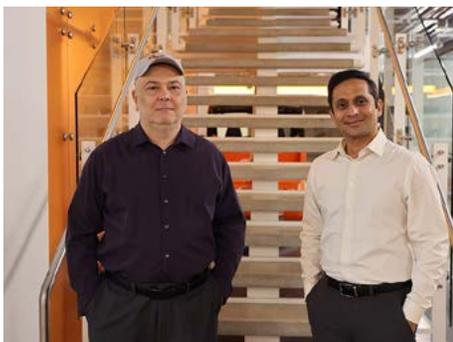
Regents Professor Weili Zhang, a global leader in photonics research, has received a prestigious National Science Foundation award to establish a brand-new field: terahertz chirality sensing. Since joining the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at OSU in 2002, Zhang has pushed the boundaries of terahertz plasmonics, metamaterials and ultrafast photonics.

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Kara Lab develops new method to improve spacecraft landing safety

Space missions hinge on stability, and researchers from the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering are reshaping how engineers predict it. Dr. Kursat Kara, associate professor, and Ph.D. candidates Shafi Al Salman Romeo and Ashraf Kassem have developed a method to accurately predict the behavior of a space capsule during atmospheric entry. This advance supports safe landings on Earth and other worlds with atmospheres.



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CEAT disciplines combine to develop ways to separate nitrogen from natural gas

Interdisciplinary engineering research is pushing the boundaries of engineering through a grand challenge: separating nitrogen from natural gas. Separating nitrogen has been an issue plaguing the natural gas industry for decades, and the researchers are meeting this challenge head-on. This research is in collaboration with SK E&S Americas, Inc., through a \$165,529 grant.



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Researchers advance NASA-aligned multiscale modeling to design next-gen aerospace materials

Researchers are taking a significant step toward accelerating design and certification of advanced aerospace materials through a new multiscale modeling initiative, supported by a three-year grant from NASA. The project is led by OSU and includes investigators from the University of Oklahoma.

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From pasture to production - a solution made in Oklahoma

When an Oklahoma rancher found his cattle overturning protein tubs for the third time in a week, he didn't just fix the problem — he invented a solution. With help from OSU's New Product Development Center, Bill Seitter turned frustration into innovation, creating a product that transforms how ranchers manage livestock nutrition

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CEAT Professional Development helps student discover career

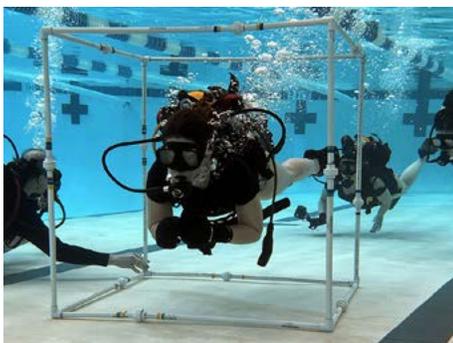
What began as a search for a campus job turned into a career-defining experience for OSU student Elaina Hinkle. Hinkle, a computer science major, recently accepted a position with a fire prevention company near Atlanta, where she will develop programs that process inspection data and support fire protection analysis

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Alumni Highlight - Doug White

When Doug White entered OSU in 1971, he wasn't exactly sure what engineering was — only that he wanted to be an engineer. The world needed engineers, and Doug wanted to be a part of something that contributed to society.



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Grant allows STEM teachers to learn directly from NASA personnel

For more than 30 years, the NASA Oklahoma Space Grant Consortium has passionately worked to support educators who inspire their students to shoot for the stars, literally. The OSGC is a collaboration between universities in Oklahoma and NASA to elevate science, technology, engineering and mathematics in Oklahoma. CEAT houses OSGC's Educator Resource Center on the OSU campus



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Oklahoma researchers turn electric school buses into tools for grid resilience

As extreme weather increasingly threatens power systems across the country, Oklahoma researchers are developing new strategies to use electric school buses as flexible energy assets that support communities during grid disruptions. This research is a statewide collaboration led by the University of Oklahoma that includes researchers from OSU CEAT and more.

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Riata Center distributes more than \$10K in scholarships to Student Innovation Expo winners

The Riata Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship had no tricks and more than \$10,000 worth of treats for Student Innovation Expo winners on Oct. 31. Student entrepreneurs from CEAT and across OSU gathered in the Business Building to present their original business ideas and receive constructive feedback from judges. With 21 total entries, the Riata Center awarded more than \$10,500 in scholarships to winners across multiple categories.

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Dr. Rasim Guldiken named National Academy of Inventors Fellow

Dr. Rasim Guldiken, John Brammer Endowed Professor and school head for the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, has been elected to the National Academy of Inventors as a member of the 2025 class of Fellows — the highest professional distinction awarded to academic inventors in the United States. As the holder of 10 U.S. patents, Guldiken is honored for his record of innovation, his impact on technology and education, and his long-standing commitment to mentoring the next generation of inventors.

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Dr. Hitesh Vora named AEE Regional VP for Central and South U.S.

The Association of Energy Engineers is a worldwide community dedicated to the energy industry through top-of-the-line certifications, cutting-edge technology and a global network of professionals dedicated to the future of the energy industry. Dr. Hitesh Vora, a Jim and Lynne Williams Endowed Associate Professor in the School of Materials, Mechatronics and Manufacturing Engineering was recently named the AEE Regional Vice President for Central and South US region spanning 13 states.

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An OSU alumnus' mission to help families rest easy

CEAT alumnus Doug Nickols launched Bed Start with the same resolve, humility and sense of responsibility that define all OSU graduates. Determined to serve, the 1983 School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering graduate built the nonprofit to provide beds and essential furniture to families who otherwise may go without, living out the character that OSU instills in its students — the kind of character shaped by dreaming big, standing for what matters and giving total effort even with hard work.



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Jai Simpson's path toward architecture at OSU was shaped by adversity

Jai Simpson's path through the School of Architecture has been shaped by both personal loss and a sense of purpose. A senior from Tulsa, Oklahoma, Simpson lost his mother, Rahsha, to cancer on Oct. 2, 2021. Her diagnosis coincided with the start of his path in architecture, reshaping how he viewed his future, while his mother, even as her health worsened, urged him to remain committed to his dreams.



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Engineering South renovation wins prestigious national award for architecture

The sweeping renovation of OSU's Engineering South earned national recognition, winning first in the Whole Building category of Retrofit Magazine's 2025 Metamorphosis Awards. This was a collaboration between Rand Elliott Architects - an Oklahoma City-based nationally recognized firm by OSU alumnus Rand Elliott, FAIA - and OSU CEAT

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Dr. Sundar Madihally's impact on CEAT recognized with AIChE Fellow designation

Dr. Sundar Madihally, professor, undergraduate program director and ABET coordinator for the School of Chemical Engineering, is a faculty member who goes above and beyond to ensure his students have success. In recognition of this passion, Madihally was named a Fellow by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

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Dr. Virginia Charter elected to 2026 SFPE Board of Directors

The Society of Fire Protection Engineers has elected Dr. Virginia Charter, PE, FSFPE, to serve on its 2026 Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for guiding the strategic vision and governance of the Society on behalf of its global membership. Charter brings extensive expertise in fire protection engineering education, research and professional leadership. Her election reflects distinguished contributions to the profession and a commitment to advancing fire safety engineering standards, technical knowledge and professional practice.



SEMINAR SPEAKERS

FEBRUARY 2026



CEAT
SEMINAR SERIES

Feb. 10 (EN 450)

Baojun Bai

Head of Petroleum Engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology

Development and Application of Re-crosslinkable Preformed Particle Gels for Preferential Fluid Flow Control in Subsurface Reservoirs

Feb. 10 (Zink Center)

Hart Brown

Futurist

Future Point of View, Technology Disruptions That Will Change the World

Feb. 17 (EN 450)

Vivek Bajpai

Professor in the School of Sustainable Chemical, Biological and Materials Engineering at OU
Integrating CRISPR and Stem Cell Models for Engineering Human Pigmentation

Feb. 24 (Zink Center)

Sankar Nair

Professor in the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Georgia Tech
Advanced Separations and Conversions for Integration in Biorefining Processes

[Check out the upcoming scheduled speakers!](#)

March 10 (ES 140)

Justin Wilson

President and Managing Director at Plains Ventures

Understanding Venture Capital as a Fuel for Innovation

March 24 (450 EN)

Simona Liguori

Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Clarkson University

Inorganic Membranes: An Intensified Approach to Transforming Chemicals Separations

March 31 (140 ES)

Darton Zink

Expanding on a Legacy: The Challenges of a Young President and CEO

[Check out the upcoming scheduled speakers!](#)

April 14 (Tulsa Helmrich Research Center Atrium)

Jamey Jacob

OSU MAE Professor

The Universe Wants You Dead

[Check out the upcoming scheduled speakers!](#)