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## Mechanical Engineering News

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# ME Students Win EPA National Competition

*June 24, 2013*

A team of students from Georgia Southern University surpassed teams from top-tier universities across the US by tying for first place (with the Johns Hopkins University team) in the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual EPA National P3 (People, Prosperity and the Planet) Student Design Competition for Sustainability. In the first phase of the competition, the GSU P3 team competed for and won a grant to develop their prototype. In April 2013, they took their design to the National Sustainable Design Expo on the Mall in Washington, DC and won the prestigious American Institute of Chemical Engineers/Youth Council on Sustainable Science and Technology Award. The GSU P3 project is: “Low Temperature Combustion with Reduced PM and NOx Emissions, Achieved by n-Butanol in-Port Injected in an Omnivorous Diesel Engine.”

The GSU P3 team is mentored by Associate Professor of ME and Allen E. Paulson Chair of Renewable Energy Dr. Valentin Soloiu, and Spencer Harp. The team members are: Marvin Duggan, Alejandro Rivero-Castillo, Brian Wolfe, Henry Ochieng, Jabeous Weaver, Julia Christian, Sherwin Davoud and Daniel Olender.

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# Dr. Soloiu awarded \$360,000 National Science Foundation Grant

*June 24, 2013*

STATESBORO, Ga. – June 18, 2013 – The Allen E. Paulson Chair of Renewable Energy at Georgia Southern University – Dr. Valentin Soloiu, has been awarded a \$360,000 Research for Undergraduates (REU) grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The University program, under his direction, will start next summer and be available to students across the country to explore solutions to energy problems.

“This puts us in an extraordinary position to reach out to undergraduate engineering students nationally and help boost their interest in research with hands-on learning,” said Soloiu. “The program that I have designed will allow students to perform research on our campus, and they will work on formulating new biofuels, hybrid combustion technologies, renewable energy, automotive engineering and many other areas.”

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