

Mentor Graphics Collaborates with Budapest University of Technology and Economics to Open Integrated Circuit Design Laboratory

On the 20th of September 2006, Mentor Graphics Corporation has announced the opening of a new Mentor-sponsored electronic design laboratory at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME) in Budapest, Hungary. As part of a mutual agreement, Mentor has donated more than \$20M worth of EDA software and support to enable the students of BME to graduate with in-depth knowledge of leading edge IC design methodologies.

Over 4,000 freshmen start their engineering studies at BME each September, making it one of the leading Hungarian universities preparing specialists in electronic system design. "The support of Mentor Graphics is opening new avenues in the education of integrated circuit (IC) design for us," said Professor Márta Rencz, head of the Department of Electron Devices, BME. "Teaching students how to work most effectively with industry-leading electronic design tools ensures a workforce well-prepared to advance Hungary's growing electronic industry."

Under the auspices of the Mentor's Higher Education Program (HEP), our lab at BME is poised to become a center of excellence for future engineers in the region. In addition to the donation of software, Mentor is providing dedicated support, material and funds to quickly enable BME to develop a leading edge teaching and research program in the design of analog and mixed-signal custom ICs. Mentor is underwriting the cost of professors to develop and deliver these courses, and has also funded the upgrade of two laboratories to the latest facilities for the courses and research.



"Universities and educational establishments in Hungary and Eastern Europe are producing highly talented engineers," said Hanns Windele, Mentor Graphics vice president for Europe. "As an EDA technology leader, we are delighted with this collaboration with Budapest University of Technology, which will produce engineers with knowledge of state-of-the-art design methodologies ready to contribute to the emerging electronics market in Eastern Europe."

About Mentor's Higher Education Program: "Educate Tomorrow's Engineers and Technology Leaders"

Mentor Graphics' Higher Education Program provides leading edge design tools and support to universities and colleges for classroom instruction and academic research, to ensure that engineering graduates enter into the industry proficient in state-of-the-art tools and methodologies. Established in 1985, the Higher Education Program develops long term relationships with engineering colleges and universities around the world, and currently has more than 1,100 member colleges in 49 countries.

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International conference – school "Advanced materials and technologies" <http://www.fei.lt/en/index.htm>

The 8th international summer conference-school "Advanced materials and technologies" with support of the FP6 project MINAEAST-NET took place on **August 27-31, 2006** in Palanga (Lithuania).

Event was intended for young scientists and Ph.D. students from the Baltic States interested in Materials Science and Condensed Matter Physics.

This year the conference-school was devoted to advanced materials and technologies and included topics on XRD analysis techniques, physical processes in nanostructured materials, organic electroactive materials, electro-optical devices, self-assembly, nanostructures prepared by sol-gel and modeling of structure defects.

Organizers of the conference from Lithuania: Institute of Physical Electronics of Kaunas University of Technology, Institute of Theoretical Physics and Astronomy of Vilnius University, Kaunas University of Technology, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Semiconductor Physics Institute, Vilnius University, Lithuanian Energy Institute, Center of Semiconductor Optoelectronics. Institute of Solid State Physics at University of Latvia also took active part in the organizing of conference.

During the conference-school fundamental and applied aspects, problems and perspectives of materials engineering and chemistry were discussed with emphasis on importance of micro and nanotechnologies. Lectors from Lithuania and foreign research institutions gave 25 lectures. During the posters session 74 papers of young scientists and Ph.D. students were presented.

Event was attended by 129 scientists, including 35 guests from Latvia, Estonia, Germany, France, United States, Denmark, Poland, Czech Republic, Belgium, Belarus, Great Britain, Sweden and South Africa.

Book of abstracts was published and distributed during the conference. Materials of the lectures were sent to all participants of the conference-school in the form of CD.

There is a good practice to award best posters presented. *This year awards were handed to:*

1. **Larysa Ocheretna** from Technical University of Liberec, Czech Republic, for the poster "Lattice gas cellular automata in modelling of textile problems" (the best design of the poster).
 2. **Morten Madsen** from MCI, University of Southern Denmark, for the poster "Nano-sensors based on organic nanofibers" (the best poster and presentation of the foreign student).
 3. **Tomas Tamulevičius** from Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania, for the poster "Optical Evaluation of Geometrical Parameters of Micro-Relief Structures" (the best poster and presentation of the Lithuanian student).
- Participants of the conference-school had a possibility to make useful contacts and to discuss all questions of interest with the colleagues during conference dinner and basketball match.

The next conference – school is planned for August, 2007. For more information visit: <http://www.fei.lt/en/index.htm>.
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