

## **Autar Kaw Visits University of Applied Sciences in Frankfurt, Germany**

*He taught a special topics course and developed inter-university ties.*

**TAMPA, Fla (March 25, 2013)** From March 11 to March 20, 2013, Autar Kaw, professor of mechanical engineering, taught a special topics course in numerical methods for engineers at the University of Applied Sciences in Frankfurt, Germany. The course was a two-credit hour semester course and involved a total of 32 hours of contact time followed by a final examination.



Eighteen undergraduates participated in the course, most of them belonging to the Process Engineering major. The students in the course were a mix of freshmen and seniors, which created a unique challenge of making the course comprehensible to all. Professor Kaw found the students to be highly attentive in an intensive setting where the classes met anywhere from four to six hours per day.



The course was well-received as Professor Kaw involved open courseware resources, personal response systems (clickers), hands-on computer programming, real-world applications, interpretation of experimental data, peer-to-peer learning, and social media components. Many of the lectures were appropriately intermingled with short evidence-based research narratives on how students learn.

While in the university, Professor Kaw also met the head of the Process Engineering Department as well as their international faculty exchange coordinator. They are highly interested in developing a partnership with USF in co-directing a few of their students for the required bachelor's project

component of their degree program as well as inviting USF faculty to teach special topics courses in engineering.

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