



TOYOTA Production Systems Laboratory

Industrial and Systems
Engineering

Spring 2010.

Lab Exposure Continues to Grow

This 4th edition of our newsletter summarizes activities from the winter and spring quarters of 2009-10. Highlights of the past 6 months include new staff members, a new course, few improvement projects, and an award.

Curriculum

We launched a new lab-only course called "Production Systems Practicum". The intent of this course is to expose engineers from different disciplines to the concepts of lean. The course was a success as we had a nice mix of graduate and undergraduate students from 4 programs.

Award

The Lean Division of the Institute of Industrial Engineers presented their 3rd annual award for Excellence in the Teaching of Lean Concepts to RIT faculty members Andres Carrano, John Kaemmerlen, and Jacquie Mozrall. The ca-



pabilities of the lab and how they are integrated into the curriculum were key elements for this award. Jacquie Mozrall accepted the award and delivered a presentation of our activities at the Annual IIE Conference in Cancun, Mexico.

Industry Visits

Andres Carrano visited the Tsutsumi plant in Japan this past November, where he interacted with team members

from the Motomachi plant. He also had the opportunity to review Toyota's vehicle dismantling and recycling operations.

Improvement Projects

We completed more improvements in the lab. One project was planned using an A3 and resulted in freeing up 25 sq. ft. of space in the lab (target was 20) which we needed to accommodate new activities.

Imagine RIT Festival

RIT held its 3rd annual "Imagine RIT" festival on Saturday, May 1. Some 28,000 people visited the RIT campus this year, a significant increase from last year. In 2009, we **estimated** that 450 people visited the TPS lab. This year we actually **counted** our visitors to the lab, and there were **830!** We added a "lego chal-

lenge" game for younger people to build a lego car and be timed. The instructions for assembly were completely visual (see picture above) so participants experienced the value of that type of standard work instruction format. We also created posters that explained pull, heijunka, 5S, A3, and other elements of lean

that are taught in the lab. We wrote 17 comments about how we performed during the festival and will use these to make improvements next year.

Staffing

The festival is one of several recent activities that took advantage of our staff of graduate students which was in-

creased in spring quarter to five, the most we have had so far, due to our busy course schedule. Ainoa Mazeika, Manny Sosa, Lauren Farnsworth, Anuj Datar, and Vignesh Aswaran supported this and other efforts throughout the two quarters.

NEWS

- LAB STAFF HAS STARTED DEVELOPMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS IN NTID (MORE INFO IN THE NEXT ISSUE)
- DR. ANDRES CARRANO RETURNED FROM HIS 7 MONTH SABBATICAL IN JAPAN IN EARLY MARCH.
- WEBSITE
www.rit.edu/kgcoe/ise/facilities/ToyotaLab

QUICK FACTS

NUMBER OF DESIGNED LAB EXERCISES IN TOTAL (NOTE: BASELINE WAS 9 IN FALL OF 2007)	36
NUMBER OF STUDENTS DURING THE PAST ACADEMIC YEAR THAT PARTICIPATED IN EXPERIENCES IN THE LAB	177
NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE LAB DURING IMAGINE RIT FESTIVAL	830