**PhD Student Position in Mechanical Engineering: Missouri University of Science and Technology, USA, 2012**

There is an immediate opening for a Ph.D. student in Dr. Xiaoping Du’s group in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly University of Missouri-Rolla). The Ph.D. student is expected to participate in a newly funded research project sponsored by the National Science Foundation. The topic is to quantify the effect of time-dependent uncertainty on reliability of multidisciplinary engineering systems. Potential applications include wind/hydrokinetic turbines, vehicle systems, and structural systems.

The student will obtain rigorous training and intensive interactions with his/her academic advisor. The estimated annual stipend is approximately $22,000 with the out-of-state tuition waived. The annual in-state tuition, approximately $6,000, for fall and spring semesters, maybe partially or completely waived based on quality and performance. (The living expenses in Rolla are relatively low.) The financial support may be in the form of GRA or the combination of GRA and GTA.

The minimal requirements are as follows:
- Self-motivated, independent, responsible, and hard working
- A master's degree in mechanical or aerospace engineering
- Strong background in calculus and numerical methods
- Satisfaction of minimal requirements for standard tests
  (http://mae.mst.edu/graduateprograms/gradphdproceduresadmsreq)

The following skills are a definite plus:
- Skills in using probability, statistics, and optimization
- Publication writing experience
- Familiarity with Matlab and CAD/CAE software

If you are interested in this position, please send your CV and/or other materials to Dr. Du at dux@mst.edu. For more information, please visit http://web.mst.edu/~dux/. If you would like to know how a PhD student in the research group would be, contact Dr. Du’s current student, Mr. Zhen Hu, at zh4hd@mst.edu.