

Premier international engineering conference held at UB

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How can engineering and technology address the demands of online learning and distance research? What's new for tomorrow's virtual laboratories? How can remote engineering be used by researchers, academics, and professionals working oceans apart from one another?

Those challenges drew more than 100 engineers from around the world to the University of Bridgeport from June 22 to 25 for the Sixth Annual International Conference on Remote Engineering, the world's premier consortium on distance technology.

Known as the REV Conference (for Remote Engineering and Virtual instrumentation), the four-day meeting brought together engineering researchers, educators, and professionals to explore the fundamentals, future, and application of remote engineering in both industry and academia. Participants delivered papers, presented demonstrations and research posters, and shared experiences in virtual engineering.



Michael Auer, professor of electrical engineering at Carinthia Tech Institute in Vienna, Austria, and editor in chief of the Journal of Online Engineering, addresses a special session on distance learning at the REV Conference, held at UB from June 22 to 25.

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“These individuals are the leaders of the online community around the world,” said Dr. Tarek Sobh, dean of the School of Engineering and co-chairman of the scientific advisory board of the International Association of Online Engineering (IAOE), which sponsored the conference.

“One of the biggest paradigms now in virtual engineering is education. It's easy if we're talking about something like an online MBA program. But what if you teach robotics?” Sobh said. “One of the things that's happening — and we're doing it here at UB, too — is we're putting lots of our machinery online so students can move equipment and work with it and understand it from across the world. It's very cool.”

Based in Austria, the IAOE was founded to encourage the wider development, distribution, and application of online engineering technologies in education and research. The REV Conference is held annually, at different institutions around the world, and this year's meeting at the University of Bridgeport marks the first time it has been held in the United States.