



Minal Bhadane, a fourth-year doctoral student in the Biomedical Engineering Program at The University of Toledo, was recognized for her work in shape memory alloys.

Minal was selected as finalist in Best Student Hardware Competition organized at SMASIS 2011 conference. She received cash prize of \$250 along with a certificate of participation in this competition.

The ASME 2011 Conference on Smart Materials, Adaptive Structures and Intelligent Systems was held in September, 2011 at Scottsdale, Arizona. The purpose of this conference is to assemble world experts across engineering and scientific disciplines to actively discuss the latest breakthroughs in smart materials, the cutting edge in adaptive structure applications and the recent advances in both new device technologies and basic engineering research exploration. As being a finalist Minal participated in a special exhibit session in the conference to demonstrate hardware operation and a presented a poster explaining the nature of the project.

Minal is advised by Dr. Mohammad Elahinia. The research topic of her dissertation is focused on development of active ankle foot orthosis by using shape memory alloys. This work in Dynamic and Smart Systems Lab is supported by National Science Foundation to improve walking pattern of drop foot patients.

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