Lean Practicum will be open to the entire RIT community, and an advanced course ("Production Systems Management"), focused on Heijunka and Production Control, will be offered to graduate students. During the upcoming year, some of the efforts will be focused on developing Heijunka-based setups and exercises.

Finally, John Kaemmerlen joined the Toyota Lab staff after more than 30 years with Kodak. He brings extensive experience with TPS and lean. The current staff members are: Andres Carrano, Jacquie Mozrall, and John Kaemmerlen (faculty), as well as the following students: Ainoa Mazeika, Keshav Simhadri, and Rohita Kotagiri.

We hope that you find this biannual update useful and interesting. Please let us know your comments or questions by emailing us at the address below.

Since its inception in March 2007, there have been a number of developments in the lab. Some are summarized in this newsletter.

The staff of the Lab visited several Toyota plants in Kentucky and Indiana, as part of during two different trips. They also visited some suppliers and received training on TPS fundamentals and problem solving at TEMA.

Two new courses that make extensive use of the facilities were developed and offered in this year. The new “Design and Analysis of Production Systems” is mandatory for all undergraduate students, while “Contemporary Production Systems” is a graduate elective. Both of these courses emphasize TPS and Lean concepts, such as: line balancing, factory physics, problem solving, production leveling, jidoka, kanbans, pull, and standard work. In addition, two new courses are in the works. A 1-credit hour

First Anniversary of the Lab

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Questions or comments can be addressed to Prof. Andres Carrano (alceie@rit.edu)