EXPLORING NEW TERRITORY

ane Martin (B.S. 2003) is in the midst of significant life changes — both personal and professional. In July 2012, he and his wife Sophi welcomed their son Stanley. Last December, Martin won the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), the highest honor bestowed by the US government on young science and engineering professionals. This July, Martin will assume a new position as Associate Professor in Materials Science and Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, with a co-appointment as a Faculty Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Martin, currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, is

> used to entering unfamiliar territory. His leading-edge research focuses on creating new knowledge of materials behavior, as he

works to enhance natural materials properties for specific applications. "I find my work very exciting," says Martin. "I look at where people have been before, then try to get to a new place. Every day, I work with a team of young people who are also excited and willing to push the boundaries of materials knowledge."

According to Martin, his relationship with his students echoes his own work with **Professor Paul Salvador** as a student at MSE. "I was fortunate that Professor Salvador welcomed me to his team, though I was an undergrad with no research experience," says Martin. "The work I did at MSE on functional oxide thin films still informs my research today."

Martin has received a number of awards for his advanced research, which focuses on the design, synthesis, and study of advanced functional materials — and includes work on controlling and utilizing thermal effects for electronic applications. In addition to the PECASE, which he will receive from President Barack Obama this Spring, Martin has also won the *National Science Foundation CAREER Award* (2012) and the *Army Research Office Young Investigator Program Award* (2010).

In addition to his B.S. degree from CMU, Martin earned an M.S. (2006) and a Ph.D. (2008) in Materials Science and Engineering, both from the University of California, Berkeley.

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