



Biomedical Engineering Division

Fall 2002

A Message from the Chair

GERARD COTÉ, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor
Texas A&M University



Hello, or as we say at Texas A&M, Howdy to all ASEE BED members. In this edition of the newsletter I would like to let you know some of the highlights going on within ASEE BED this year and to give some perspective on what I would like to see accomplished before I step down as Chair this summer.

At the business meeting last summer in Montreal, in addition to the usual division business, we discussed the need for more vision within the ASEE BED organization and the need to have more time for discussion within the BED sessions. As a part of this, as we voted in a new slate of officers, I vowed to develop a task list for each of them before the end of the year that would include visionary activities. We also passed a resolution to encourage the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) to consider establishment of a publication venue for research in biomedical engineering education through the Annals of Biomedical Engineering or some other organ and forwarded this resolution to BMES for their consideration. We also considered meeting as a group outside of the ASEE meeting at the joint BMES/EMBS meeting in October. Lastly, we welcomed and encouraged all of our junior faculty Whitaker travel award recipients to continue to actively participate in the BED division.

Chair continued on page 3

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Call for Papers

2003 ASEE Annual Conference & Exposition
"Staying in Tune with Engineering Education"

Nashville, Tennessee
June 22-25, 2003

ASEE is heading back towards the middle of the U.S. for its 2003 Annual Conference to Music City USA, Nashville! Also nicknamed the Athens of the South for its dedication to Fine Arts and Higher Education, Nashville boasts a diverse and growing economy while also being rated a Fortune top 25 city for work and family. Get more details at:

<http://www.asee.org/conferences/annual2003/>

The Biomedical Engineering Division (BED) has solicited Biomedical Engineers in academia and industry from across the world to consider submitting a paper that focuses on education for the annual 2003 ASEE Conference and Exposition in Nashville, Tennessee on June 22-25. Abstract submission closed on November 1, 2002. The topics listed below will be included in the BED portion of the 2003 conference program:

- Ethical issues in biomedical engineering education.
- Textbooks and teaching strategies in biomedical engineering.
- Simulation courses and biomedical engineering laboratories.
- Education for emerging areas in biomedical engineering.
- Industrial interactions in biomedical engineering education.

For those of you who submitted abstracts, the final paper, if accepted, will be due by January 15th. Abstracts will be judged based on the level of innovation, technical merit, demonstrated outcomes, and relevance to biomedical engineering, science and technology education.

All papers must be submitted electronically via the WEB through the main ASEE site at <http://www.asee.org>

2002 Pilkington Award

Contributed by John D. Enderle
BED 2002 Awards Chair

The Theo C. Pilkington Outstanding Educator Award recognizes the contribution of Theo C. Pilkington as a true pioneer in Biomedical Engineering who contributed significantly to the advancement of Biomedical Engineering Education. The Theo C. Pilkington Outstanding Educator Award is conferred by the Biomedical Engineering Division (BED) for significant contributions not only to ASEE, but also to biomedical engineering and education profession as evidenced by the development of successful graduate level programs, curricula, textbooks and professional papers and by membership and activity in ASEE BED and other biomedical engineering organizations. The award consists of \$300 and a commemorative plaque.

The 2002 Theo C. Pilkington Outstanding Educator Award from the ASEE Biomedical Engineering Division was awarded to Dr. Robert Plonsey of Duke University. Dr. Plonsey was nominated for this award by Dr. Olaf von Ramm for his outstanding contributions in education, leadership and research in biomedical engineering. He is an author of over 150 publications, and a past president of the BMES, IEEE-EMBS and ASEE Biomedical Engineering Division Chair.

This year's recipient was honored with a commemorative plaque and a check for \$300.00 at The Biomedical Engineering Division's annual Awards dinner during the ASEE Meeting in Montreal, Canada on June 18, 2002.

Congratulations Bob on your outstanding accomplishments!



The 2002 Theo C. Pilkington Outstanding Educator Award was awarded to Bob Plonsey from Duke University, pictured above with his wife Viv.

ASEE BED 2002–2003 Officers

CHAIR (2003): Gerard Coté, Biomedical Engineering Program, Texas A&M University, 233 Zachry Engineering Center, Mail Stop 3120, College Station TX 77843, 979-845-4196, fax 979-847-9005; cote@tamu.edu

CHAIR-ELECT and PROGRAM CHAIR (2003): Mary Verstraete, Department of Biomedical Engineering, 301-M Olson Research Center, The University of Akron, Akron OH 44325-0302, 330-972-7691, fax 330-374-8834; mary@biomed.uakron.edu

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MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Term Ends 2003): Michele Grimm, Wayne State University, Bioengineering Center, 818 W. Hancock, Detroit MI 48202, 313-577-8395, fax 313-577-8333; grimm@rbf.eng.wayne.edu

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Term Ends 2004): Paul H. King, Vanderbilt University, VU Station B 351631, Nashville TN 37235-1631, 615-322-2201, fax 615-343-7919; Paul.H.King@Vanderbilt.edu

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PAST CHAIR & CHAIR OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE: John D. Gassert, Biomedical Engineering Program, Milwaukee School of Engineering, 1025 N. Broadway St., Milwaukee WI 53202-3109, 414-277-7167, fax 414-277-7465; gassert@msoe.edu

Indeed a small group of us were able to find time to meet in Houston at the BMES/EMBS conference and had the opportunity to brainstorm about the future role of ASEE BED. The following is a brief list of items we felt were important that we might want to pursue.

- Provide for longer talks at the ASEE BED meeting with time for discussion.
- Request the BMENet site to post undergraduate summer research opportunities on their site and determine who will run/fund the site beyond Whitaker.
- Try to get Industry input to ASEE BED
- Have ASEE BED explore developing an undergraduate design competition for its annual meeting
- Explore the possibility of procuring endowment funding for future young faculty travel to ASEE or other uses such as a young educator award

Putting all of this information together, my view of the Society is that we could use more active participation from a wider audience including research faculty, industry, and young as well as experienced faculty. I think we are moving in that direction and have had good support from a number of long standing and a few new faculty. Specifically, before the end of the year I would like to:

- develop an officer task list letting officers know what we expect them to accomplish in their one year term
- continue to look for support from Whitaker and others to support our BED efforts, in particular for young faculty
- try to hold meetings apart from the annual meeting to do some planning and visionary work.

In closing, I want to strongly encourage all of you to consider nominating someone for the Theo Pilkington award this year and to consider being more active in ASEE BED as well as attending this year's meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.

Gerard L. Coté
ASEE-BED Chair

Call for Nominations

The Theo C. Pilkington Outstanding Educator Award is given each year in recognition of exceptional contribution to biomedical engineering education and teaching. Nominations are due by December 1, and should include a cover letter from the nominator that outlines the nominee's contribution, the nominee's CV, and three letters of support (to be collected by the nominator and attached to the nomination materials). The award is presented during the ASEE-BED annual Awards Banquet during the June conference.

Send nominations to the 2003 Awards Chairman:
Steve Schreiner, Chair, Biomedical Engineering
Department, Western New England College, Box 5226,
1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, MA 01119;
sschrein@wnec.edu.

Newsletter

If you have suggestions or submissions for the ASEE Biomedical Engineering Division newsletter, please submit them to:

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Thanks to everyone who had contributions and suggestions on content for this issue.