

Division newsletter



American Society for Engineering Education

DIVISION: Civil Engineering

EDITOR: Thomas Mulinazzi
The University of Kansas

DATE: January 1989

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The theme for the upcoming Annual Conference to be held at Lincoln, Nebraska, is "Engineering Excellence: People make the Difference." The emphasis on "People" signifies the increasing need for engineers to be proficient in both written and oral communication. The time has arrived (in fact, it is late) for engineering educators to examine their academic programs to see if adequate attention is being directed to provide the marketplace with graduates who can function in our current "Information Age."

Engineering schools have long emphasized analytical capabilities and should continue to do so, but analytical skills without commensurate communication skills is a sure career "round trip ticket" for the graduating engineer. (After several years of professional effort, the engineer is right back where he or she started, carrying out primarily technical assignments with someone else coordinating the projects.)

Surveys among engineering employers have indicated proficiency in communication is one of the most important assets of engineering graduates. A review of the Engineering Marketplace advertisements in Civil Engineering also indicates the growing emphasis on communications by employers. In 1978, advertisements for employment had specific references to communication qualifications in 8 percent of the ads. A decade later

in 1988, this reference to communication requirements had more than tripled to 25 percent. Furthermore, as one would expect, the intensity (as distinguished from frequency) of the communication requirement in advertisements had increased; recent ads contained such statements as: "Excellent written and oral communication skills a must." Pure economics dictates that few firms can afford to employ "non-writing" engineers.

Pressures external to engineering programs will continue to demand improvements in communication capabilities of our graduates. Accreditation agencies will increasingly examine engineering programs for communication content. Current ABET general criteria states: "Competency in written communication in the English language is essential for the engineering graduate." There are also references to oral skills and educating for continued professional growth. Lack of attention to developing communication skills in our students could easily become the next accreditation "crisis" in engineering education. ABET visitors have already stated concerns about the lack of communication content in some programs.

Referring once again to our 1989 Annual Conference theme that suggests for engineering excellence, people make the difference, we should add that engineers with both "technical skills" and "communication skills" make the real difference.

Noel Tolbert, Ph.D., P.E.
Tennessee Technological University

The George K. Wadlin Distinguished Service award

was presented to

Peter G. Hoadley, Vanderbilt University

By his friends and Co-workers in the Civil Engineering Division
American Society for Engineering Education in June, 1988.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETS IN PORTLAND

The meeting of the American Society for Engineering Education Civil Engineering Division Executive Board was called to order by Chairperson Mardy Thomas at 8:30 a.m. on June 20, 1988, in Room 102 of the Buckley Center on the University of Portland Campus in Portland, Oregon. Eleven division members were present:

Mardy Thomas, Iowa State University;
Noel Tolbert, Tennessee Technological University;
Bill Highter, University of Massachusetts;
Tom Mulinazzi, University of Kansas;
Colby Ardis, University of Toledo;
Robert Henry, University of New Hampshire;
Gerald Seeley, Valparaiso University;
Marvin Criswell, Colorado State University;
Dean Parsons, CH2M HILL;
Edward Reitz, City College of CUNY;
George Wadlin, Retired.

Items added to the agenda included Centennial - History Committee, Flier for C.E. Technology, and Software Review.

The minutes of the Civil Engineering Division Executive Committee Meeting on June 22, 1987, were approved as distributed.

Reports from committees:

- The financial report stated that there was approximately \$8,500 in the BASS account.
- Gerald Seeley gave a report on *Civil Engineering Education*. The committee agreed that the quality of this Division publication has been improving.
- Two issues of the Division *Newsletter* were prepared this year. It was suggested that each session moderator be asked to prepare a summary of their session. Noel Tolbert, incoming Chairperson, said he would write an incoming chairperson's letter.
- Colby Ardis gave the report on the activities of the Awards Committee. The Division currently presents two types of awards. Paper awards are given for the best papers published in the proceedings or in recent issues of *Civil Engineering Education*. The Distinguished Service Award - the Wadlin Award - is the most prestigious award presented by the Division. This year's winner was to be announced on Tuesday night, June 21. Several excellent candidates were nominated. It is also important to remember that this award does not have to be given each year.
- The report from the Membership Committee was given by Ed Reitz. He noted that many new ASEE members do not designate a particular division. The membership committee will be trying to contact all potential Civil Engineering Division members. The following values are the

number of ASEE members who list our Division as one of their six choices for affiliation:

First - 589; Second - 139; Third - 49; Fourth - 20; Fifth - 12; Sixth - 0, for a total of 769.

Currently there is no directory of CE Division members. The Executive Committee feels that a membership directory is a good idea.

- The election results for Civil Engineering Division officers were presented.

Vice Chairperson Noel Tolbert, who was the Program Chairperson for the Portland meeting, gave a review of the 1988 Conference sessions.

Old Business:

- Colby Ardis, Chairperson of the History Committee, said that the ASEE Centennial will be celebrated in 1993. He asked all past chairmen to send news articles for the newsletter.
- The members discussed whether the Civil Engineering Division should help subsidize the flier for the Civil Engineering Technology Division. They decided to help cover the cost of the flier; but in the future, the Civil Engineering Division will not help fund Civil Engineering Technology publications.

New Business:

- Bill Highter was selected to represent the Civil Engineering Division at the Fall Planning Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska.
- The Committee on Curriculum and Accreditation (CC&A) fall meeting was scheduled for Vail Colorado, and its spring meeting was scheduled for New Orleans. Highter was urged to attend these meetings. The Civil Engineering Division has set aside \$500 to cover the costs of attending these meetings. The CC&A has asked the Division to host an annual civil engineering accreditation training session on Sunday afternoon before the Lincoln meeting in 1989. The Division will make a proposal to CC&A for them to fund one meeting, with the Division providing funding for the other.
- Chairperson Thomas gave a report on the EDEX meeting. She said it is important that the

chairperson of the Civil Engineering Division attend this meeting every year. Mardy reported that 67 percent of the Civil Engineers passed the EIT in 1986, but only 60 percent passed in 1987.

- The PIC I report was not presented because Ron Eck was absent.
- The nominating committee for 1989-1990 consists of Mardy Thomas, Gerald Seeley, and Colby Ardis.
- Several possible topics for the evening rap session were discussed, including: EIT Exam results for Civil Engineers; interaction with other Divisions; elimination of *Proceedings* from the annual meeting; and the 1990 Civil engineering Education meeting in Las Vegas in April.
- Future goals for the Division were presented. Improving the newsletter, Civil Engineering education, and the organization of Division activities at the annual meeting are continual goals. Increasing the number of awards presented by the Division is a future goal. The Division should let the membership know what it does (CC&A, EDEX, Awards, Program Experience, etc.).
- Chairperson Thomas requested \$800 for the Division's 1988-1989 budget from National. The Division received \$700.
- The agenda for the Division business meeting was reviewed.
- Interest was expressed within ASEE for software review by the membership. Bob Henry, from the University of New Hampshire, was selected as the Division's contact person. Liability seems to be a problem. Bob said he would try to organize a software session in Lincoln.

The Civil Engineering Division's Executive Committee Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Thomas E. Mulinazzi
Secretary/Treasurer
The University of Kansas

CE DIVISION BUSINESS LUNCHEON MINUTES

The meeting of the ASEE Civil Engineering Business Luncheon was called to order by Chairperson Mardith B. Thomas at 1:15 p.m. on June 20, 1988, in the Pettygrove Room of the Red Lion at the Jantzen Beach Hotel in Portland, Oregon. Thirty-four people were present.

Ronald W. Eck presented the minutes of last year's business meeting in Reno, Nevada, and the minutes were approved as presented. He then gave a financial report for the Division and it was approved.

Eck also reported that two issues of the Newsletter were mailed to the Division membership. He announced that Tom Mulinazzi would be assuming responsibility for the Newsletter.

Gerald R. Seeley, the editor of the *Civil Engineering Education Journal*, gave a brief report on the Journal. He needs more editors if anyone is interested.

Marvin Criswell reported for the awards committee. The Division has two awards, the "Best Paper Award," and the "Civil engineering Division Distinguished Service Award," named in honor of George K. Wadlin. The awards committee chairperson is Colby Ardis, with Mardy Thomas, Marvin Criswell and Gerald Seeley on the committee.

Ed Reitz gave the report for the Membership Committee. There were twenty new members this past year. The committee is preparing a membership directory.

Noel Tolbert reviewed the 1988 Annual Conference Activities for the Division. He noted that this year's meeting would be busy for the CE Division. The social highlight would be the trip on Tuesday evening to the Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood.

Old Business:

- Colby Ardis talked about the upcoming centennial. He suggested that a Newsletter library be established and that a list of past Chairmen be finalized.

- A list of the past Chairpersons was passed around and corrections were made to the list. The updated list follows this article.
- The membership discussed a Civil Engineering Technology Flyer. About 11 percent of this Division belongs to Engineering Technology. Three hundred dollars was being requested from this Division to help pay for this flyer. It was decided to pay this cost this time and to handle each future request on a per request basis.

New Business:

- Bill Highter, Program Chairperson for the 1989 Annual Meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, asked members to attend the planning luncheon on Tuesday to discuss several possible topics for the meeting.
- Noel Tolbert gave a report on the Committee on Curriculum & Accreditation meeting. CC&A is trying to develop a closer relationship with ASEE. There will be a training session for CE accreditation on Sunday before the Annual Meeting in Lincoln.
- A review of the EDEX meeting was given by Mardy Thomas, who is a member of EDEX because of her position as Chairperson of the Civil Engineering Division.
- R. Eck gave a review of the PIC I meeting. There are two hot issues at this meeting: to eliminate the proceedings and to reorganize ASEE by sunseting committee and/or divisions. Dan Turner, Texas A&M, is the new PIC I chairperson.
- The nominating committee for this year will be Mardy Thomas, Gerald Seeley, and Colby Ardis.
- Noel Tolbert spoke of the future goals of the Division. He has set as goals the enhancement of our publications, development of historical data, and more awards from the Division.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Thomas E. Mulinazzi
Secretary/Treasurer
The University of Kansas

ASEE CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION CHAIRPERSONS

1935-36	F.L. Plummer, Case School of Applied Science	1965-66	C.E. Cutts, Michigan State University
1936-37	L.E. Grinther, A&M College of Texas	1966-67	G. Reed Shaw, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
1937-38	Harold C. Bird, Duke University	1967-68	Donald R. Lamb, University of Wyoming
1938-39	F.T. Mavis, University of Iowa	1968-69	R.D. Turpin, Texas A&M University
1939-40	M.W. Furr, Kansas State College	1969-70	Martin G. Abegg, Bradley University
1940-41	L.G. Straub, University of Minnesota	1970-71	Carl E. Ekberg, Iowa State University
1941-42	J.S. Dodd, Iowa State College	1971-72	George K. Wadlin, Jr., Michigan Technological University
1942-43	L.S. LeTellier, The Citadel	1972-73	Leon D. Luck, Washington State University
1943-44	D.S. Trowbridge, New York University	1973-74	Fred W. Schutz, Jr., Georgia Institute of Technology
1944-46	H.E. Pulber, University of Wisconsin	1974-75	Olin K. Dart, Jr., Louisiana State University
1946-47	W.S. Evans, University of Maine	1975-76	Edward T. Misiaszek, Clarkson College
1947-48	Samuel T. Carpenter, Swarthmore College	1976-77	Peter G. Hoadley, Vanderbilt University
1948-49	L.O. Steward, Iowa State University	1977-78	William J. Wilhelm, West Virginia University
1949-50	W.M. Lansford, University of Illinois	1978-79	Donald L. Bender, Washington State University
1950-51	Harry Rubey, University of Missouri	1979-80	Eugene E. Chesson, University of Delaware
1951-52	E.H. Gaylord, Ohio University	1980-81	Gordon Batson, Clarkson College
1952-53	F.W. Stubbs, Jr., Purdue University	1981-82	Marvin Criswell, Colorado State University
1953-54	A.J. McNair, Cornell University	1982-83	James F. McDonough, University of Cincinnati
1954-55	J.W. Hubler, Washington University	1983-84	Ronald W. Eck, West Virginia University
1955-56	R.L. Peurifoy, A&M College of Texas	1984-85	Roger R. Seals, Louisiana State University
1956-57	D.F. Peterson, Jr., Colorado A&M College	1985-86	Colby V. Ardis, Jr., University of Toledo
1957-58	Benjamin A. Whisler, Pennsylvania State University	1986-87	Gerald R. Seeley, Valparaiso University
1958-59	Russell Brinker, Texas Western College	1987-88	Mardith B. Thomas, Iowa State University
1959-60	L.K. Downing, Howard University	1988-89	R. Noel Tolbert, Tennessee Technological University.
1960-61	F.B. Farquharson, University of Washington		
1961-62	E.E. Johnson, South Dakota State College		
1962-63	W.S. La Londe, Jr., Newark College of Engineering		
1963-64	O.C. French, Cornell University		
1964-65	Frank Bromilow, New Mexico State University		

The ASCC Best Paper Award for 1988

was presented to

Wayne S. Smith, University of Pacific

Based on papers in two issues of the *Civil Engineering Division Journal* and the *Proceedings* of the Annual Meeting

ASEE CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION PLANNING LUNCHEON

Bill Highter, the Civil Engineering Division's program chairperson for the 1989 annual meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, conducted the planning session for the luncheon on June 21, 1988 in Portland, Oregon. Those in attendance were divided into groups to discuss possible topics for the program.

Topics recommended included:

1. Performance of Civil Engineering graduates on the fundamentals exam (EIT), including the form of the exam, changes in the Civil Engineering curriculum which might have been a cause for the seemingly poor performance of Civil Engineers on the EIT, and a search for solutions;
2. Experiences with software and a software exchange;
3. Integration of design with construction, operation and maintenance;
4. Civil Engineering through the turn of the century.

Some individuals were identified as possible session leaders or at least interested persons for the topics:

1. Carl Ho, Washington State University;
2. Prahlad Pant, University of Cincinnati;
3. David Morris and Roger Seals, Louisiana State University;

4. Marvin Criswell, Colorado State University.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

Two issues of the CE Division Newsletter (November and April) were prepared and mailed to the membership. Approximately 800 copies were sent out each time.

The status of the ASEE representative to ASCE-EDEX was changed from corresponding member to full member, i.e., the individual can vote and receive travel funding. Since the EDEX representative had been receiving \$250 per year to support travel to the EDEX meetings, a motion was passed unanimously by the members present at the Business Meeting in Reno, that the money be transferred to the CC&A representative. Thus, the CC&A representative is eligible for \$500 in travel support to attend CC&A meetings.

Officers were elected for 1988-89 (ballots were included in the April issue of the Newsletter). The Division officers for next year are:

Chairperson:	Noel Tolbert, Tennessee Tech University
Program Chairperson:	Bill Highter, University of Massachusetts
Secretary/Treasurer:	Tom Mulinazzi, University of Kansas
Directors: 1991	Bob Henry, University of New Hampshire.
1990	Dean Parsons, CH2M Hill, Inc.

1989

Edward Reitz, City
University of New York

The Executive Board of the Civil Engineering Division will consist of these officers plus the past chair, Mardith Thomas, and the chairs of the four standing committees.

The CE Division budget allocation for 1987-88 was \$700, up from \$600 the preceding year.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald W. Eck
Secretary/Treasurer
CE Division

ASEE CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION STATEMENT OF MISSION

Mission

The mission of the Civil Engineering Division of the American Society for Engineering Education shall be the development and presentation of programs and activities directed toward the improvement of civil engineering undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education programs.

Activities/Programs in Support of Mission

1. Maintenance of the following Division Standing Committees:
 - Educational Policy
 - Teaching Methodology
 - Professional Methodology
 - Computer Applications (new)
2. Sponsorship of sessions at the Annual SEE Conference.
3. Liaison with the Committee on Curricula and Accreditation and the Executive Committee of the Education Division of the American Society of Civil Engineers.
4. Implementation of a Division goal to increase membership and participation of civil engineering practitioners.
5. Publication of the *CE Education* Journal and the Division *Newsletter* twice a year.
6. Development of joint sponsorship of ASEE Annu-

al Conference sessions with other Divisions.

7. Promotion of publication of ASEE Annual Conference presentations in Conference *Proceedings*.
8. Initiation of Division awards for -- Outstanding CE Educator and Best Division Paper Published in the ASEE Annual *Proceedings* or *CE Education*.
9. Maintenance of Division Bylaws consistent with current activities.
10. Encouragement of membership to actively participate in the programs and leadership of the Division and the Society.

NOTES FROM THE NEW SECRETARY/TREASURER AND NEWSLETTER EDITOR

After going through the files forwarded to me by Ron Eck, the previous Secretary/Treasurer and *Newsletter* Editor, I put together a file of past *Newsletters*. I have a copy of every semi-annual *Newsletter* since the spring of 1976, except for the April 1985 edition. If anyone has a copy of that *Newsletter*, I would appreciate a copy to complete my set.

Since the spring of 1976, I am the fifth *Newsletter* Editor. The record shows the following people were *Newsletter* Editors:

Spring 1976	Gordon Batson, Clarkson College
Fall 1976-Spring 1979	Dexter Jamison, University of Tennessee
Fall 1979-Fall 1984	Fred Beaufait, West Virginia University
Fall 1985-Spring 1988	Ron Eck, West Virginia University
January 1989	Tom Mulinazzi, University of Kansas

I apologize for the tardiness of this *Newsletter*. It should have been distributed in November of 1988. The April edition will be on time.

Thomas E. Mulinazzi
Secretary/Treasurer and *Newsletter* Editor
The University of Kansas

CALL FOR PAPERS

JOURNAL OF PROFESSIONAL ISSUES IN ENGINEERING
ASCE

You are invited to submit an article or paper to ASCE's *Journal of Professional Issues in Engineering*. Papers on any and all aspects of Civil Engineering Education are welcome. Policy and position papers on accreditation, registration, professionalism, ethics, tenure, curriculum, professional development, faculty unions, and universities are ideal professional issues in engineering.

Information for Authors

Submit four double spaced copies. Maximum length for papers is 10,000 words; for notes, 2,500; and for discussions, 1,250. Illustrations should be submitted as black and white glossy photos or ink-lined drawings. Illustrations may be reduced at least one-half. Direct questions to:

Dr. Peter G. Hoadley, Department of Civil and
Environmental Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville,
TN, 37235 or call (615) 322-3396.

Mail articles to:
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