VOTE BY MARCH 31ST
REGISTER BY MARCH 15TH FOR ASEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ASEE PARTNERS WITH USA TODAY
SHERRA KERNS QUOTED IN POST
ENGINEERING DEANS PUBLIC POLICY COLLOQUIUM
ERC WORKSHOP, SUMMIT, AND FORUM
HOUSE SCIENCE COMMITTEE HOLDS HEARING ON STUDENT VISAS
WINNERS OF NAE AWARDS
RITA COLWELL DEPARTS NSF
2004 TEAM AMERICA ROCKETRY CHALLENGE
ICEE 2004

ASEE Action Newsletter - April 2004

VOTE BY MARCH 31ST
Please remember to cast your ballot for the the 2004 ASEE National Elections. The ballot was included with your February 2004 issue of Prism Magazine. After you vote for the candidates you'd like to see lead ASEE, do not forget to sign your ballot envelope. If you do not sign your ballot envelope, your vote is not considered valid and will not be counted. All ballots must be returned to headquarters by March 31st.

REGISTER BY MARCH 15TH FOR ASEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
If you hurry, you can still register early for the 2004 ASEE Annual Conference and save money. This year's conference will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 20-23. For the best registration rates, register online before March 15, 2004. For questions, call ASEE's registrar, at 202-331-3517. For more information about this year's conference, go to: Conference Information.

ASEE PARTNERS WITH USA TODAY
USA Today's web site is helping promote ASEE's publication, “Engineering, Go For It” by featuring the guidebook on the site's K-12 Education Online page. See: http://usatoday.com/educate/mathscience/index.html. ASEE is developing a broader partnership with USA Today, whose education distribution arm reaches 30,000 classrooms daily with the newspaper and specially designed lesson plans.

SHERRA KERNS QUOTED IN POST
ASEE president elect Sherra Kerns was recently quote in an ExxonMobil oped saying "Engineering is creation and implementation. The oped appeared in the Feb. 19th Washington Post on the Federal Page, but according to Truman Bell, ExxonMobil's program office for education and diversity, also appeared also in the New York Times, National Journal, Congress Daily AM, and The Houston Chronicle. The oped pointed out the importance of engineering and the need to find and encourage people of all genders and ethnicities to become engineers.

ENGINEERING DEANS PUBLIC POLICY COLLOQUIUM
The 2004 Engineering Deans Council Public Policy Colloquium convened in Washington last week. Close to 120 deans of engineering from 35 states signed up for the Colloquium whose theme was "Securing the Nation's Future." Speakers included National Academy of Engineering President William A. Wulf, Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN), Marcus Peacock from the Office of Management and Budget, Kathie Olsen from the Office of Science and Technology, and David Kramer, the Editor of Science & Government Report. The 2004 EDC award went to Senator Pete Domenici (R-NM), the Chair of the Senate Energy Committee, for his contributions to national engineering and science policy, research, and education.

ERC WORKSHOP, SUMMIT, AND FORUM
Ted Okishi, ERC chair reports that attendees at the 2004 Engineering Research Council (ERC) Workshop, Summit, and Forum met earlier this week in Washington and heard from federal research funding and policy leaders (e.g. NSF, NIH, DOE, DOD, Congress, and AAAS). There were approximately 150 total participants at this year's meeting.

HOUSE SCIENCE COMMITTEE HOLDS HEARING ON STUDENT VISAS
Last month the House Science Committee held a hearing to review the impact of enhanced security measures on the entry of foreign students and scholars into the U.S. As part of the hearing, the General Accounting Office (GAO) released a new study on the extent of visa delays and what might be done to reduce them without compromising security. To read more about the Committee's hearing, visit: http://www.house.gov/science/press/108/108-193.htm.

WINNERS OF NAE AWARDS
Frank S. Barnes, a distinguished professor at the University of Colorado and the 1965 recipient of the ASEE Curtis McGraw Research Award, won the 2004 Bernard M. Gordon Prize from the National Academy of Engineering. The Charles Stark Draper Prize was presented to four engineers: Alan C. Kay, a senior fellow at Hewlett-
Packard Co. and an adjunct professor at UCLA; Butler W. Lampson, a distinguished engineer at Microsoft Corporation; Robert W. Taylor, the founder and manager of the Computer Science Laboratory at Xerox PARC; and Charles P. Thacker, a founder of the Systems Research Center at DEC. The awards serve to "salute leaders in engineering for their lifetime dedication to their field and their commitment to advancing the human condition through great engineering achievement and/or through innovation in engineering and technology education. See: [http://www.nae.edu/nae/awardscom.nsf?OpenDatabase](http://www.nae.edu/nae/awardscom.nsf?OpenDatabase).

**RITA COLWELL DEPARTS NSF**

Rita R. Colwell, director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the past five and a half years, resigned in February to join Canon U.S. Life Sciences. Arden L. Bement, Jr., previously director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) replaced Colwell on an interim basis. Bement has served in both government and academia during his career, holding senior positions at the Defense Department and heading the School of Nuclear Engineering at Purdue University. He joined NIST in December 2001.

**2004 TEAM AMERICA ROCKETRY CHALLENGE**

The Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) and National Association of Rocketry (NAR) are sponsoring the 2004 Team America Rocketry Challenge on May 22, 2004 at Great Meadow, The Plains, Virginia. Over 1000 top high school and middle school students will be competing in this national model rocket competition, with the top ten teams sharing a prize pool of over $50,000 in cash and savings bonds. If your school is interested in having a college recruiting display table at the event, please check [www.rocketcontest.org](http://www.rocketcontest.org) for more information.

**ICEE 2004**

Abstracts are being accepted through April 1 for ICEE 2004, the International Conference on Engineering Education, to be held at the University of Florida (Gainesville), October 16-21, 2004. The conference theme this year is "Teaching Engineering Design." For more information, go to the ICEE-2004 website: [http://succeednow.org/icee](http://succeednow.org/icee).

Marian Tatu, editor
m.tatu@asee.org