February 1999

U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT LINKS TO ASEE WEB PAGE

U.S. News and World Report has linked to ASEE’s Home page from their Engineering home page. See: http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/beyond/bceng.htm. Along the left side of the home page under Web Links, ASEE is listed at the top. The USNWR engineering home page has articles, statistics, and tips about choosing and getting into engineering schools. One current article is about how engineers today need to have multiple talents and to succeed will have to be lifelong learners.

PRISM WINS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

United Litho, PRISM’s printer, reports that the December 1998 issue of PRISM has won an Award of Excellence. The judging panel was comprised of members of GATE, the Graphic Arts Technical Foundation of America, and PRISM will receive the framed award in March. Bob Black, editor of PRISM and manager of ASEE publications, says the PRISM December cover story on plagiarism has elicited great interest, and the department credits both the art and subject matter.

WHAT’S COMING IN FEBRUARY PRISM

In this third annual industry/education issue, PRISM looks at the links between engineering education and engineering practice. The cover story is about the growing trend of college-industry strategic partnerships and their effect on universities’ educational and research missions. Another story follows a tenure-track professor through two days of balancing the demands of teaching and industry consulting. There is also a profile of engineering powerhouse Anita Jones, a former high level Pentagon official currently teaching computer science at the University of Virginia. (Jones is married to William Wulf, President of the National Academy of Engineering).

PRO/CON AND WHAT DO YOU THINK?

PRISM’s Pro/Con feature debuts in the February issue and presents a debate on the use of student surveys as course assessment tools. PRISM is launching a reader’s forum, soliciting feedback on PRISM stories, as well as discussion of issues of common concern. Take this opportunity to let us and other members know what you’re thinking.

MEETING WITH MATHEMATICS GROUPS

Exxon awarded ASEE a travel grant to fund several members of ASEE’s Math Division to attend the Joint Mathematics Meeting held last month in San Antonio, TX. The idea being that engineers should see what is happening in mathematics teaching today. Selected mathematics colleagues served as mentors to the ASEE contingent, and the group met
ASEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET AT CIEC MEETING.

The ASEE Board of Directors will meet January 31, 1999. This Board meeting is held in conjunction with the '99 Conference for Industry and Education Collaboration (CIEC) meeting, which is scheduled for February 1-5, 1999, in Palm Springs, CA.

BOARD APPROVES NEW MATH DIVISION AWARD.

A proposal was submitted by the Mathematics Division to establish the Distinguished Educator and Service Award. The proposal was approved by the Awards Policy Committee and the ASEE Board of Directors. The new award is included in the ASEE Awards information on our Web site. See http://www.asee.org/awards/newawards.cfm.

DEADLINE EXTENDED.

The NASA Summer Faculty Fellowship application deadline has been extended to February 1, 1999. For more information and application materials for this program of summer faculty fellowships for full-time engineering and science educators at U.S. colleges, go to http://www.asee.org/fellowship/nasa.

ENGINEER NAMED RECIPIENT OF NATIONAL MEDAL OF SCIENCE.

Eli Ruckenstein, Ph.D., SUNY Distinguished Professor, in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of New York at Buffalo, has been awarded the National Medal of Science, the highest honor given in the U.S. for scientific achievement. Ruckenstein and eight other recipients will receive medals at a White House ceremony. The National Medal of Science, established by Congress in 1959 as a Presidential award, has recognized 362 of America's leading scientists and engineers.

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK.

In recognition of National Engineers Week, President Clinton praised the nation's engineers and their "everyday successes...vital to human progress and the quality of our lives." Clinton commended the promotion of the engineering profession and said "American engineers have made numerous contributions to our society....Yet, for all of its influence on our modern world, the engineering profession remains a mystery to many Americans." NSPE founded National Engineers Week in 1951, and this year, the dates are February 21-27.
NSPE SELECTS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

Patrick Natale, P.E., has been named Executive Director of the National Society of Professional Engineers. Previously, Natale was employed by the Public Service Electric and Gas Company of New Jersey, but assumed the NSPE position in January. Natale has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Newark College of Engineering and an M.S. in engineering management from the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

The President's Council on Sustainable Development has agreed to the participation of the ASEE/AAES Engineers' Forum on Sustainable Development as an associated event in the May 3, 1999 National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America.

FELLOW OPPORTUNITY.

The National Institute for Science Education (NISE) has openings for two or three one-year Fellows for the 1999-2000 College Level One Institute. This Institute will address the use of technology in introductory undergraduate science, math, engineering and technology courses. A doctorate is required, residence at UW-Madison preferred, and review of applications begins January 31, 1999. For further information and application instructions, see http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/nise/nise_fellows/cl1_team_fellows.html. NISE is funded by the National Science Foundation and is based at the University of Wisconsin - Madison.

GREAT MOON BUGGY RACE 5.

Your students can test their engineering skills in the upcoming fifth Great Moon Buggy Race, sponsored by the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, to be held April 17 on the grounds of the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL. Students are required to design a vehicle that addresses a series of engineering problems that are similar to problems faced by the original Moonbuggy team. Deadline is February 1, 1999, and details can be found on NASA's web page at http://www1.msfc.nasa.gov/education/moonbuggy/.

NEW LOOK TO ASEE WEB SITE.

Have you visited our Web site lately? It's been redesigned and reorganized for improved navigation and a contemporary look. Go to: http://www.asee.org.