July 1999

PRESIDENT ERNEST SMERDON REPRESENTS ASEE AT GENEVA MEETING.

ASEE President Ernest Smerdon addressed the general assembly of the Swiss Technical Society in Geneva, Switzerland, and spoke of the globalization of engineering activities. Swiss Technical Society President Madame Ruth Dreifuss made a presentation on global engineering issues, and other speakers included Bernard Laffite, Acting President of FEANI (the European Federation of Engineers involving 27 countries), and Walter Schaufelberger, President of SEFI (the European Society for Engineering Education). The Swiss Technical Society is the professional society for all engineers in Switzerland.

PROGRESS OF SECTION 127.

The Senate Finance Committee has marked up a package of education tax incentives that includes a provision on Section 127, which enables employees to receive up to $5250.00 in educational benefits each year from their employers tax-free. The Senate Committee bill would extend Section 127 for undergraduate courses until June 30, 2004. This bill would restart the graduate course program beginning January 1, 2000, and extend through June of 2004. The current undergraduate provision covered courses through May 2000. The graduate course provision expired in June 1996.

WEESE ATTENDS ABET WORKSHOP.

John Weese, ASEE President Elect, represented ASEE at the ABET Regional Faculty Workshop in Charlotte, NC. The workshop, led by M. Dayne Aldridge of Auburn, was attended by 60 faculty from 26 institutions. The series of ABET Regional Faculty Workshops has been planned so all institutions having EAC/ABET engineering programs can send representative faculty members to these meetings. This fall, 47 institutions encompassing over 200 programs have requested EC-2000 visits. Beginning with the 2001-2002 cycle, EC-2000 criteria are mandatory.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

The 1999 Annual Conference Proceedings can be viewed at http://www.asee.org/conferences (click on 1999 Proceedings). You will be prompted to search by author. This is the first time the Proceedings have been available prior to the Conference.

REASONABLE RATE AVAILABLE AT DOUBLE TREE.

There are still rooms available at the Double Tree Club Hotel at the ASEE-negotiated rate of $119 per night. This rate, substantially less than the standard rate, is available.
throughout the ASEE Annual Conference. If you need a room in Charlotte for Annual Conference, call the Double Tree at 704-347-0070.

ERC ELECTIONS.

A summary of the 1999 ERC Election results is as follows: John Gilligan was elected to a 1999-2002 term on the ERC board of directors; Ted Okiishi was elected to a 1999-2001 term on the ERC board of directors; John Owens was re-elected to a 1999-2002 term on the ERC board of directors; and Dave Woodall was re-elected to a 1999-2001 term as ERC secretary/treasurer.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MEETING

The ASEE/AAES Engineers Forum for Sustainable Development met at the National Academy of Engineering in Washington on June 4th. Presentations included Virginia Tech's "Green Engineering Program," Cooper Union's "Globetech Project," and the New Jersey Institute of Technology's "Multi-lifecycle Program." Engineering educators and practitioners interested in sustainable development and sustainable technologies are encouraged to attend the Forum's quarterly meetings. The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled for Friday, November 5, 1999 at the National Academy of Engineering in Washington.

CONFERENCE TO EXAMINE FUTURE OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION IN INFORMATION AGE.

"Engineering Education Unbounded: Lifelong Learning Any Time, Any Place" is the theme of a conference sponsored by the United Engineering Foundation, the ASEE Continuing Professional Development Division, Applied Materials, The Boeing Company, and Motorola University, July 10-13, in Santa Clara, CA. The conference will focus on strategic issues, policy and planning. Go to http://njcmr.org/~eeu/ for program and registration information.

ASEE HQ COMPUTERS HIT BY VIRUS.

A staff member received the ExploreZip Worm in an email and executed the attached file. The virus went to work effectively destroying a number of files on ASEE servers as well as the user's local machine. Fortunately we had full backup from the previous working day. Keith Mounts, MIS Manager, sent staff the following message which may be of interest. "It is very important not to double click on any files attached to your email unless you are absolutely sure you know what they are. This is especially true of files which end in .exe and especially if the file is named zipped_files.exe. The virus does not infect anything until you double click on its icon."
SAPERSTEIN TO ASSUME ABET PRESIDENCY.

Lee Saperstein, will become ABET president for 1999-2000 following ABET’s fall board meeting. Saperstein currently serves as Dean for the School of Mines and Metallurgy as well as Professor of Mining Engineering at the University of Missouri-Rolla. He earned his D.Phil. in engineering science from The Queen's College, Oxford University, England, and attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar.

AL INGRESOLL DIES.

Long-time ASEE Member Al Ingersoll died on May 6 of leukemia in Crescent City, California. Ingersoll was Director of UCLA Extension’s continuing engineering education program from 1969 to 1981 and also had an appointment in the UCLA School of Engineering & Applied Science following service from 1960 to 1969 as Dean of Engineering at USC. He was a supportive ASEE member and was always a strong presence at the ASEE Annual Conference. His many friends and associates will miss him this year in Charlotte.

ASEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE IS JUNE 20-23, 1999 IN CHARLOTTE, NC. Hope to see you there.

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