ASEE Action Newsletter - July 2003

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NASHVILLE

The ASEE Annual Conference is set to strike up the band in Nashville, TN, on June 22-25, 2003. Playing on Nashville's reputation as Music City USA, ASEE's conference theme is "Staying in Tune with Engineering Education." This year's attendance promises to be strong, and there will be approximately 1300 paper presentations. Duane Abata (recently named Dean of the College of Engineering and Technology at Northern Arizona University) will be inaugurated as ASEE's 110th President on Wednesday night at the Annual Awards Banquet. ASEE's annual conference is the largest gathering of engineering educators in the world. We hope you'll be there - it's where the band is playing.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Among the awards presented at the Awards Banquet will be the ASEE President's Award. The recipient of this year's President's Award is William S. Hammack, Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Hammack has a weekly public radio series "Engineering and Life," which is produced at WILL-AM 580 in Urbana, Illinois and distributed via satellite by Illinois Public Radio. Hammack, through his radio series, opens the world of engineering to the public by sharing a humanistic view of technology and engineering. Visit his web site at: http://www.engineerguy.com.

BEST PAPER AWARD

The best papers presented at the ASEE Annual Conference in 2002 will also receive awards at Wednesday's banquet. There is a Best Paper selected from each PIC, and a Best Paper Overall Award. The Best Paper for PIC I is "Project-Based Construction Education," and the authors are James Po, and Peter Ridilla. The Best Paper for PIC II is: "Herding Cats: A Case Study of Capstone Design Course," and authors are John Paul Gioi and Kevin Nickels. The Best Paper for PIC III is "A Remote Laboratory for Electrical Experiments," and the author is Ingvar Gustavson. The Best Paper for PIC V is "Instructional Technology, Learning Styles and Academic Achievement," and the author is Malgorzata Zywno. The Best Conference Paper Overall from the 2002 Annual Conference is a two-way tie: "Project-Based Construction Education," and "Instructional Technology, Learning Styles and Academic Achievement."

NEW ASEE BOARD MEMBERS

David Wormald, Pennsylvania State University, has been elected Chair of the Engineering Deans Council. Isadore Davis, Raytheon Missile Systems, was elected Chair of the Corporate Member Council. Both will serve on the ASEE Board of Directors for 2003-2005.

IACEE MEETING

The International Association for Continuing Engineering Education (IACEE) Council met in Valencia in May. Eleven of the 18 council members, including those from Russia, Spain, Finland, the Netherlands, and Portugal attended. Agenda items included membership and dues; IACEE bylaws; IACEE finances; and the IACEE conference to be held in Tokyo May 2004. The IACEE Conference is held triennially, and the 2007 conference has elicited a bid from Vienna, plus interest from Marrakesh, Morocco. A Georgia Institute of Technology representative wants to meet in Nashville to make a serious bid. For this meeting, the host city undertakes responsibility for everything except for the program. ASEE serves as the headquarters for IACEE, and Frank Huband, ASEE executive director, serves as IACEE's secretary general.

ENGINEERS NAMED DISTINGUISHED TEACHING SCHOLARS

Rita Colwell, Director of the National Science Foundation, recently awarded a total of $1.8 M to two engineering professors and four other college and university faculty members who received the 2003 Director's Award for Distinguished Teaching Scholars. David Billington, on the faculty of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at Princeton University, plans to develop teaching materials for beginning engineering students and the general student body that introduce students to major engineering innovations of the 20th Century, and the thinking of outstanding engineers. Billington will deliver one of the Distinguished Lectures at the 2003 ASEE Annual Conference. Chris Rogers, a professor in the Tufts University Department of Mechanical Engineering, intends to use his award to investigate how students at all levels learn engineering. He hopes to increase the engineering literacy of all college graduates and bridge the gap between engineering and liberal arts courses by fostering collaborations with institutions interested in using open-ended research problems to increase the effectiveness of teaching and learning.

ASEE PARTICIPATES IN DIVERSITY SUMMIT

ASEE participated in the Engineering Societies Diversity Summit convened by the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES) and held recently at the National Academy of Engineering. Priorities identified at the meeting included: a common vision or policy statement, and increased leadership commitment to bring
the engineering community together on diversity issues. A second diversity summit meeting is tentatively scheduled for mid-September.

**WULF TO KEYNOTE ENGINEERING DESIGN WORKSHOP**

Mudd Design Workshop IV will be held July 10-12, 2003, at Harvey Mudd College (HMC). Titled "Designing Engineering Education," it features keynote speaker William A. Wulf, President of the National Academy of Engineering, and addresses by Eleanor Baum (Cooper Union), Thomas R. Chase (Univ. of Minnesota) and Erik K. Antonsson (Jet Propulsion Laboratory). Registration deadline is June 30. Contact Holly Hauck at (909) 621-8122 or Email to: holly_hauck@hmc.edu. The program can be viewed at: http://www2.hmc.edu/~dym/DesignWS.html.