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**SARAH RAJALA INAUGURATED AS ASEE PRESIDENT**

At the 2008 ASEE Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, Sarah Rajala was presented with the President's Gavel and inaugurated as ASEE President for 2008-2009. Her President's Message can be read on ASEE's web site at: [http://www.asee.org/about/Presidents_Message.cfm](http://www.asee.org/about/Presidents_Message.cfm). Rajala is Dean of the Bagley School of Engineering at Mississippi State University. Previously she was associate dean for research and graduate programs in the College of Engineering at North Carolina State University. She received her B.S. degree from Michigan Technological University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from Rice University.

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN PITTSBURGH**

This year's conference in Pittsburgh was well attended with over 3400 participants and 386 paper sessions. Charles Vest, president of the National Academy of Engineering, gave the keynote address at the Main Plenary session. He spoke about engineering education in the 21st century, noting today's engineering graduates face a new century with a raft of new models, new technological frontiers, new players and new debates.

To see Vest's powerpoint presentation, go to: [http://www.asee.org/conferences/annual/2008/upload/ASEEAnnualConfVEST6-23-08.ppt](http://www.asee.org/conferences/annual/2008/upload/ASEEAnnualConfVEST6-23-08.ppt).

Other urls of interest include the 2008 Fellows at: [http://www.asee.org/activities/awards/current/fellows.cfm](http://www.asee.org/activities/awards/current/fellows.cfm) and 2008 ASEE Campus Representative Award Winners at: [http://www.asee.org/activities/organizations/campus/08winners.cfm](http://www.asee.org/activities/organizations/campus/08winners.cfm).

**NEW PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OPTION AVAILABLE**

The ASEE Board of Directors, which met in Pittsburgh, approved the creation of a new "Permanant" class of individual membership. The new class enables Professional Members to sign up for a lifetime membership at any time, paying immediately the total amount of dues at the current rate until they qualify for Life Member status. No more annual renewal bills. No worry about possible future dues increases. Complete details can be found on the ASEE website at: [http://www.asee.org/membership/accounts/individual.cfm](http://www.asee.org/membership/accounts/individual.cfm). You can go to membership@asee.org for an individualized quote or contact the Member Services department at 202-331-3520.

**US GRADUATING FEWER ENGINEERS**

According to a survey taken by ASEE, the number of engineers graduating from American colleges has fallen. Engineering bachelor's degrees declined in 2007 for the first time since the 1990s, ending seven years of growth. The decrease in the number of engineering graduates comes at a time of growing technological competition from Asia and mounting concern about problems involving energy, the environment and infrastructure that require engineering solutions. Engineering master's degrees show an even sharper drop than bachelor's degrees, having declined 8.8 percent since 2005. Ph.D.'s, by contrast, averaged 11 percent annual growth since 2004. Within the field, aerospace and biomedical engineering have gained in popularity while electrical and computer engineering declined. The 2007 edition of the Profiles of Engineering and Engineering Technology Colleges details the state of engineering education today, listing all college enrollments, degrees awarded, faculty and research expenditures at the undergraduate and graduate levels. More information can be found online at: [http://www.asee.org/colleges](http://www.asee.org/colleges), or contact Michael Gibbons at m.gibbons@asee.org or tel: 202-331-3535.

**ASEE’S JOURNAL OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION IS #1**

The 2007 Thomson ISI rankings have been released, and the Journal of Engineering Education (JEE) was ranked 1st, based on impact factor ratings, on both the Social Sciences Citation Index Educational and Educational Research category with 105 journals) and the Science Citation Index (Education in the Disciplines with 23 journals). This is the second year JEE has been listed on the Thomson ISI indices.

**FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

ASEE administers a number of federally funded programs that offer fellowship opportunities, including the following:

The Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. This program is open to US citizens and legal permanent residents and offers a competitive...
stipend as well as insurance, relocation, and travel allowances. The program offers one to three year postdoctoral fellowships designed to increase the involvement of scientists and engineers from academia and industry to scientific and technical areas of interest and relevance to the Navy. The program has a rolling admission. For further details, go to: http://www.asee.org/nrl/.

The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP). For U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent resident aliens at or near the beginning of their graduate studies, this program offers a stipend of $30,000 a year for three years and a $10,500 cost of education allowance and a one-time $1,000 travel allowance. For application and deadline information, go to: http://www.fastlane.nsf.gov. For additional program information, go to: http://www.nsf.gov/grfp.

NEW POLICY REGARDING PAPERS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The ASEE Board of Directors at its 2008 winter Board Meeting approved the recommendation put forth by ASEE's Professional Interest Council Chairs regarding papers to be presented at ASEE's Annual Conferences. Beginning with the 2009 ASEE Annual Conference in Austin, TX, a “Publish to Present” Policy will apply. This means all papers must be peer reviewed for both presentations at the conference and subsequent publication in the conference proceedings. Exceptions will be limited to speakers invited for panel presentations; corporate speakers, main plenary and distinguished lecture speakers. The 2009 ASEE Annual Conference Call for Papers took place in June, and the new “Publish to Present” Policy applies.

NAE RELEASES REPORT

The National Academy of Engineering (NAE) released its report “Changing the Conversation: Messages for Improving Public Understanding of Engineering” at ASEE's Annual Meeting in June. ASEE members of the NAE committee, Jackie Sullivan, Don Giddens, Leah Jamieson, and Jim Johnson, presented results, recommendations and implications for engineering educators. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the report found that encouraging young people to make a difference in the world through an engineering career is more likely to attract them than emphasizing the challenge of math and science. Copies of the report are available from the National Academies Press, tel: 202-334-3313 or 1-800-624-6242, or at: http://www.nap.edu.

NSF ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR WATERMAN AWARD

The National Science Foundation is accepting nominations for the 2009 Alan T. Waterman Award. Each year, the Foundation bestows the Waterman Award to recognize the talent, creativity and influence of a singular young researcher. Established in 1975 in honor of the Foundation's first Director, the Waterman Award is the Foundation's highest honor for researchers under the age of 35. Nominees are accepted from any field of science or engineering that NSF supports. The award recipient will receive a grant of $500,000 over a three-year period for scientific research or advanced study in any field of science or engineering supported by NSF. Candidates must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and must be 35 years of age or younger or not more than seven years beyond receipt of the Ph.D. degree by December 31 of the year in which they are nominated. Go to: http://www.nsf.gov/od/waterman/waterman.jsp for more information.