ASEE Action Newsletter

June 2007

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ASEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2007 ASEE Annual Conference will be held in Honolulu, HI, June 24-27. The theme of the 114th Annual Conference is “Riding the Wave to Excellence in Engineering Education.” Sunday’s opening picnic will be a traditional island luau held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, which is ASEE’s headquarters hotel. Registration opens Saturday, June 23rd at 12 noon. Registration will be located at the Hawaiian Convention Center outside of Exhibit Hall I.

MORE ASEE AWARD WINNERS

In addition to the list of award winners named in last month's ASEE Action, the following candidates will be among the 2007 ASEE National and Society Award recipients honored at ASEE's Awards Banquet at the Annual Conference in Hawaii.

Sharon Keillor Award for Women in Engineering Education

Julia Ross
Professor and Chair, Chemical Engineering and Biochemical Engineering
University of Maryland – Baltimore County
Nominated by Nicholas A. Peppas, University of Texas at Austin

National Outstanding Teaching Award

Dennis A. Silage
Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering
Temple University
Nominated by Victor K. Schutz, Temple University

William Elgin Wickenden Award

Robert J. Roselli
Professor, Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering
Vanderbilt University

Sean P. Brophy
Assistant Professor, Engineering Education
Purdue University

Zone Outstanding Campus Representative Awards

Zone I

Harry Hess
Professor, Mechanical Engineering
College of New Jersey

Zone II

Donald P. Visco
Assistant Professor, Chemical Engineering
Tennessee Technological University

Zone III

Christi L. Patton Luks
Professor, Chemical Engineering
University of Tulsa
Zone IV

Marilyn Dyrud  
Professor of Communication  
Oregon Institute of Technology

Congratulations to all.

ASEE'S INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ASEE recently made the Chronicle of Higher Education (April 20). The article, “U.S. and Indian Academics to Cooperate on Education Engineers,” reported on ASEE’s leadership in the forthcoming series of forums in India and the U.S. where about 50 U.S. international engineering education leaders and corporate representatives will engage in a critical dialogue with the same number of Indian engineering, governmental and corporate leaders. The U.S. international delegation is expected to meet the president of India in New Delhi as well as other top ministers and government officials dealing with science, technology, and research. Professor Krishna Vedula, former dean and current professor at the University of Mass/Lowell, and Hans J. Hoyer, director of ASEE's International Programs, are coordinating this project called “Indo U.S. Collaboration for Engineering Education.” ASEE has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the World Bank focusing on such strategic points of interest such as the Global Colloquium in Istanbul and Cape Town and the India/U.S. collaborative.

SUCCESSION IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

After 10 years of accomplished, dedicated service to ASEE, Kathy Tollerton has retired from her position as Manager of Public Affairs. As of May 1, Eric Iversen has succeeded Kathy in this position, taking over the Public Affairs Department and merging it with the operations and responsibilities that fell under the Outreach Department. The new department will be called Public Affairs, and the areas of activity belonging to the new Public Affairs Department will include: supporting the Engineering Deans Council; administering ASEE's public policy activities; carrying on ASEE's K-12 activities; and interacting with outside organizations and people from government, education, industry, media, and societies.

ENGINEERING ON HAWAII PUBLIC RADIO

On May 2, “ThinkTechHawaii,” a public radio show on KIPO 89.3 in Honolulu, aired a show called, “Why the College of Engineering at Manoa Is Important--and Why It's So Hard to Get Students to Study Engineering.” The show featured an extended interview with Peter Crouch, Dean of Engineering at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, as well as a segment with Eric Iversen, the new ASEE Public Affairs Manager, on the topics of engineering education in Hawaii and the United States at large plus the upcoming ASEE Annual Conference. The audio file of the broadcast is available online at: http://www.thinktechhawaii.com/myGrid.aspx?base=Radioshows

IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

IEEE and a group of international partner organizations are organizing a conference entitled, “Meeting the Growing Demand for Engineers and their Educators 2010-2020.” The conference will be held in Munich, Germany, on November 9-11, 2007, and will bring together decision makers from industry, government, the pre-university education system and academia to discuss and plan the preparation of future engineers and the people who educate them. IEEE has invited ASEE participation in the conference, on the part of any ASEE members interested in attending or submitting proposals. More information about the conference, submitting papers, and other details is available online at: http://www.ieee.org/go/demandsummit.

CONDOLENCES TO VIRGINIA TECH

On behalf of ASEE's Engineering Deans Council, EDC Chair Paul Peercy has sent letters of condolences to Virginia Tech President Steger and to Engineering Dean Benson. At the recent Engineering Deans Institute in San Juan, the deans and other EDI participants observed a moment of silence in honor of those who died and suffered in the Virginia Tech tragedy. ASEE has posted, on our web site, a message extending deepest sympathy to the faculty, students, and families at VA Tech. A moving response from the VA Tech College of Engineering has also been posted. See: http://www.asee.org/about/news/THANK_YOU_From_Virginia_Tech.cfm

SUCCESSFUL EDI


STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT ARTICLE

A recent article in The Washington Post, reported on a report prepared by the Office of Personnel Management that showed more federal agencies are offering student loan repayments to attract and keep highly qualified employees. Engineers were among the top professionals mentioned. The article noted The Pentagon provided more than $4.6 million in student loan repayments to 1,383 employees that included 198 mechanical engineers, 128 nuclear engineers, and 94 electronics engineers.

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