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ASEE's Educational and Research Methods (ERM) Division seeks to encourage promising engineering educators by offering four Apprentice Faculty Grants to ASEE's Annual Conference. Each grant covers the conference registration fee (including all ERM ticketed events) and includes reimbursement of receipted travel and accommodation expenses up to $500. To qualify, applicants must: 1) plan to pursue a career in engineering education, but currently not hold a tenure-track appointment, 2) have demonstrated a commitment to innovation in teaching and/or have potential for substantial contribution to engineering education, and 3) be nominated by an advisor, mentor, supervisor, or colleague. The nomination package must be received by March 31, 2004, and nomination materials are described at: http://fie.engrng.pitt.edu/erm/. For questions, contact Robin Adams, Chair, Apprentice Faculty Grant Committee, Email: radams@engr.washington.edu; Telephone: 206-616-0615.

February Prism Magazine

The February Prism is the new big double issue with one-half devoted to annual conference information, and one-half offering a selection of timely articles. Included with the February Prism is your Ballot for ASEE's 2004 National Election. Please be sure to vote - this is your opportunity to indicate which candidates you'd like to see lead ASEE. Ballot envelopes must be signed and ballots returned to ASEE headquarters by March 31st.

Go Engineering!

ASEE has launched Go Engineering!, a new electronic newsletter about K-12 engineering education. The newsletter will look at ways engineering can help teachers make math and science more exciting for students and will cover successful K-12 engineering outreach programs. See: http://www.engineeringk12.org. If you'd like to receive this free newsletter, send an email to j.douglas@asee.org with your contact information.

Bush Proposes Shift of NSF Math and Science Partnership Program to Department of Education

On February 2, 2004, President Bush unveiled his FY 2005 budget, a $2.4 trillion package that calls for $818 billion in discretionary spending and little growth for domestic spending programs. While overall Federal Research and Development (R&D) funds increase under the plan, the science and technology budget is decreased by 0.4%. Part of Bush's proposal includes the phasing out of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Math and Science Partnership (MSP) Program in favor of a similar program in the Department of Education. The main difference between the programs is in allocation of funds - the NSF program runs a national competition based on peer review; the Department of Education program is based on a congressionally mandated formula to distribute money to every state based on its student population. Word of the shift of the MSP brought negative reactions from Capitol Hill. House Science Committee Chair Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) issued a statement saying that pieces of the budget proposal have some "glaringly bad decisions" and that the decision to move the MSP to the Department of Education is "primary among them."

Mondialogo Engineering Award

The "Mondialogo Engineering Award" program is organized by UNESCO and DaimlerChrysler, in conjunction with the International Association of Universities and World Federation of Engineering Organisations. Designed to promote international cooperation and the sharing of ideas between young engineers in developing and developed countries and to help bridge inter-cultural divides, the program provides 15 awards of $20,000 each. The project proposals should be jointly developed by student/young engineers in developing and developed countries for engineering and technology applications addressing poverty and sustainable development in developing countries. For more information, see: http://www.mondialogo.org/award. Indications of intent to submit a proposal should be submitted by February 28, 2004, and proposals should be submitted by December 31, 2004. The awards ceremony will take place in March 2005.

Ceec to Follow Annual Conference

Since 1992, the Christian Engineering Education Conference (CEEC) has provided an opportunity for Christian engineers from a variety of academic institutions to meet after the ASEE meeting and discuss engineering issues from a Christian perspective. Another such conference is planned to immediately follow the ASEE meeting in Salt Lake City this summer. Details can be found at http://engr.calvin.edu/ces/ceec.

Toychallenge Contest Promotes Engineering Fun

Kids like to make up and play games, and TOYchallenge capitalizes on this creative inclination. TOYchallenge is a competition organized by the Sally Ride Science Club and Smith College and sponsored by the Hasbro toy company. Teams of imaginative kids create or design a toy or game related to engineering or science. Teams have to be composed of at least half girls and they compete for awards and a grand prize. The contest's organizers hope that kids will learn about design, teamwork, and engineering, while increasing science interest among girls. The deadline to register is February 16, but students have several months after
registering to create their toy or game. For details, see: http://www.TOYchallenge.com/.

WEAPAN SEeks Executive Director

The Women and Engineering Programs & Advocates Network (WEPAN) is looking for an executive director. If you are interested or know of a good candidate, you'll have to move quickly since Friday, February 13, is the deadline to send a resume and cover letter. WEPAN is a non-profit educational organization with a membership of over 600 and an annual operation budget of $350,000 plus an annual project budget of $150,000. Resumes should be sent to: Kathy Henrichs, Tuft & Associates, 1209 N. Astor, Chicago, IL 60610; Email: kthhenrichs@msn.com.

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