ASEE Action Newsletter

March 2008

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ASEE 2008 NATIONAL ELECTIONS

Ballots for the 2008 ASEE National Election were included with the February issue of Prism Magazine. Please cast your vote for the candidates you’d like to see in ASEE leadership positions. The deadline is March 31, which means your ballot must be postmarked by this date in order to have your vote counted. ASEE has over 13,000 members, but each year receives fewer than 1,000 votes. Why not try for a better turnout this year? Candidates for the top spot – ASEE president elect – are J.P. Mohsen, University of Louisville, and Tom C. Roberts, Kansas State University. To view the full slate of candidates for this year’s election, go to: www.asee.org/about/Elections.cfm.

ERC WORKSHOP AND FORUM

This year’s Engineering Research Council Workshop and Forum will be held March 16-18, 2008, in Arlington (Crystal City), Virginia at the Sheraton National Hotel. There will be three panels focused on current issues, challenges and trends in university research. Sunday’s panels are “Implication of New Trends, Terms and Conditions of University Research Agreements” and “Model Agreements with Industry,” and Monday’s panel is “Overcoming the Barriers to Transitioning University Technology.” Meeting participants will have good opportunities to meet program managers from federal agencies and get the latest on federal research funding. National Science Foundation Director, Arden Bement, will be the speaker at the Forum Banquet. Engineering department chairs and directors of engineering R&D centers are among those who would benefit from attending this ASEE-sponsored Conference on Innovation in Engineering Research and Technology Transfer. See: http://www.asee.org/erc2008 for further details.

NEW POLICY REGARDING PAPERS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The ASEE Board of Directors at its 2008 winter Board Meeting approved the important 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 presentation 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 will take place this June, and the new “Publish to Present” Policy will apply.

REGISTER FOR 2008 ASEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This year’s ASEE Annual Conference will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 22-25, 2008, and Housing and Registration is now open. Check out your February issue of Prism Magazine which has a full spread about the city of Pittsburgh as well as extensive information about the conference. Plan now to join your friends and colleagues at the largest gathering of engineering educators in the United States. For more information go to: www.asee.org/annual2008. For questions, call Leigh Ann Watson at: l.watson@asee.org.

2008 NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING AWARDS

NAE’s 2008 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for innovation in engineering and technology was awarded to Drs. Jacquelyn F. Sullivan and Lawrence E. Carlson, co-directors of the Integrated Teaching Learning (ITL) Program of the University of Colorado at Boulder. NAE said the ITL Program is exceptional in its use of interdisciplinary, hands-on learning in an innovative environment to develop future engineering leaders, noting that Sullivan and Carlson have worked tirelessly to extend the success of the program, and have shown themselves to be leaders in the engineering education community. The Gordon Prize, inaugurated in 2001 by NAE, is given annually and carries a $500,000 award. This year’s Charles Stark Draper Prize, awarded annually to honor engineers whose accomplishments have significantly benefited society, was given to Rudolf Kalman, inventor of the Kalman filter, a mathematical technique that removes “noise” from series of data. Kalman is now Professor Emeritus of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich.

THE 14 BIGGEST ENGINEERING PROBLEMS FACING THE PLANET

Chronicle of Higher Education’s online conference report of the recent AAAS meeting in Boston highlighted the news conference by the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) to release its list of “Grand Challenges for Engineering” on February 15th. There are 14 challenges ranging from making solar energy economical to “reverse engineering” the human brain. To see the complete list on the NAE web site, go to: http://www.engineeringchallenges.org. Comments on the grand challenges can be made on the web site and those inclined can also vote for their top challenge.
SIMULATION TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

Cornell University will be hosting a university-industry workshop on the integration of simulation technology into the engineering curriculum, July 25-26, 2008. This workshop should be of interest to all engineering faculty who use or would like to use simulation technology in their courses and projects. Participation from industry will include major engineering software vendors. More information about the workshop is available at: http://www.mae.cornell.edu/swanson/workshop2008. For questions, please contact Rajesh Bhaskaran at: rb88@cornell.edu.

NEW WEBSITE FOR STUDENTS

Scientists and Engineers for America (SEA) has a new website at: http://www.SHARP.SEforA.org, which is an interactive wiki that tracks the science, engineering, and health policy stances of Congress as well as the presidential and congressional candidates. Students can add information to the SHARP Network and call attention to the science issues that they consider important. The site is free to use and edit, but one needs to register. Students are invited to join SEA's telephone conference on February 26 at 3pm at 1-866-228-9900, call in code: 640405.

WILLIAM E. SAYLE DIES

ASEE was saddened to learn that William E. Sayle died earlier this month. A member of ASEE for the past 26 years, and a long-time volunteer in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Division, he was elected to the ASEE Academy of Fellows in 2003. He served on the faculty of Georgia Tech from 1970 to 2003 and was dedicated to improving the quality of engineering education. Sayle will be remembered as a leader and pioneer in many areas and will be missed by friends and associates.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

- **Undergraduate/Graduate**
  - NASA Aeronautics Scholarship Program
    
    NASA Aeronautics Scholarship Program. Please note that applications for this program opened online Friday, February 22, 2008 and will close March 17, 2008. The purpose of this NASA program is to meet the continuing needs of the nation's aeronautics and space effort by increasing the number of highly trained scientists and engineers in aeronautics and related disciplines. Scholarships awarded include competitive stipend payments anticipated amount for undergrad up to $15,000 and up to $35,000 for graduate. There is an option to attend a summer internship (up to $10,000 per summer) at a participating NASA Research Center. The undergraduate program is open to U.S. citizens, and applicants should have completed their sophomore year of college by fall of 2008, and should be in good standing at an accredited college or university. The graduate program is open to U.S. citizens, the applicants should be accepted or enrolled in an accredited program, and remain in good academic standing at their respected college or university. For more information, contact nasa.asp@asee.org Go to: http://www.asee.org/nasaasp.

- **Postdoctoral Fellowship**
  - 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. This 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. This program has a rolling admission. Go to: http://www.asee.org/nrl.

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