EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR ENGINEERING EDUCATION (SEFI) MEETING

President Duane Abata represented ASEE at SEFI’s annual meeting in Portugal. The theme of the meeting was "Global Engineer: Education and Training for Mobility."

ENGINEERING GO FOR IT

Initial reaction to ASEE’s "Engineering Go For It" has been very positive. The 64-page guidebook is aimed at high school students, and the hope is to capture students’ interest by showing that engineers are involved in innovative and exciting real life activities – from developing tools to combat terrorism to creating electronic music. ASEE’s goal is to get the guidebook into the hands of as many high school students as possible, particularly those students who do well in science and math. At some point the audience may extend to include middle schoolers as well. "Engineering Go For It," was made possible by the support and sponsorship of 75 engineering schools. All ASEE members will receive a copy of the guidebook, which will be bagged with the October issue of Prism Magazine.

DUPONT COMPANY CONTRIBUTES $10,000 TO MINORITIES AWARD

The DuPont Company has funded the 2004 ASEE Minorities in Engineering Award, that will be given at the Annual Awards Banquet at ASEE's Annual Conference (June 20-23, 2004) in Salt Lake City. For the third consecutive year, DuPont has contributed $10,000 to this important award, and requested that $2,000 of the contribution be used to fund the 2004 Minorities Award with the remaining $8,000 put toward the establishment of a permanent endowment. DuPont has cautioned that there is no guarantee that continued funding will be available, but reiterated that it is their intention to pursue funding each year until the award is permanently established. Arthur Murphy, DuPont Fellow Emeritus, serves on ASEE Board of Directors as Vice President for Finance.

ASEE REPRESENTED AT IGIP

Frank L. Huband, ASEE Executive Director, was invited to represent ASEE and speak at the International Society for Engineering Education (IGIP) Symposium held in Karlsruhe, Germany, September 15-18. IGIP President Federico Fluckiger opened the meeting addressing the symposium theme, "Engineering Education Today and Tomorrow."

OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH SUMMER FACULTY RESEARCH PROGRAM

ASEE has announced that applications are now being accepted for the 2004 ONR Summer Faculty Research and Sabbatical Leave Program. This program provides an opportunity for college and university faculty to participate in research of mutual interest to the faculty member and professional peers at U.S. Navy laboratories. Application deadline for Summer Faculty Research Program is December 1, 2003. For more information, please visit the program website: http://www.asee.org/summer.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS INCREASE FOR NSF

The Senate Appropriations Committee completed its markup of the VA-HUD-IA appropriations bill for FY 2004, providing $5.585 B in funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF), a 5.2 percent increase over FY 2003. The funding level in the Senate bill falls $805 M short of the $6.39 B called for in the NSF Authorization Act. The Engineering Directorate receives $550.0 M, an increase of 1.8 percent over FY 2003. Of the $550.0 M, $10 M is allocated to the Nanotechnology Initiative. The Education and Human Resources Directorate also receives increased funding, with $975.87 M appropriated for FY 2004, an increase of 8.0 percent. Under the EHR Directorate, NSF Math Science Partnerships receive $145 M, an increase of $18.3 M over FY 2003 but $55 M less than the request. The Historically Black Colleges and Universities program is funded at $25 M. Prior to the Senate markup, EDC Chair David Wormley and EDC Public Policy Committee Chair Nino Masnari wrote to the Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Stevens (R-AK), Ranking Minority Member Byrd (D-VA), VA-HUD-IA Subcommittee Chair Bond (R-MO) and Ranking Minority Member Mikulski (D-MD), and to Senator Specter (R-PA) urging them to do their best to support funding for the NSF at or near the $5.6 B authorized for FY 2004 in the 2002 NSF Authorization Act.

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