ASEE AWARDED CONTRACT TO ADMINISTER NDSEG FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

ASEE has been awarded a contract from the Department of Defense to administer the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Program (NDSEG). ASEE will be responsible for the NDSEG program beginning with those students already selected to begin their doctoral studies in the academic year 1999/2000, and will begin accepting applications for fellowships to begin in academic year 2000/2001. ASEE is charged with promotion and outreach, application processing and review, and paying all stipend and tuition expenses.

As a means of increasing the number of U.S. citizens trained in disciplines of science and engineering of military importance, the Department of Defense (DoD) awards up to 150 new three-year graduate fellowships each year. Following a nationwide competition, DoD offers these fellowships to individuals who have demonstrated ability and special aptitude for advanced training in science and engineering. Fellowships are awarded for study and research leading to doctoral degrees in mathematical, physical, biological, ocean and engineering sciences.

Recipients of the NDSEG fellowship awards receive nearly $60,000 in stipend support over a three to four year period and full tuition at the university of their choosing. NDSEG fellows may choose from U.S. institutions of higher education offering advanced degrees in science and engineering. The NDSEG Fellowship Program is open only to applicants who are citizens or nationals of the U.S. Persons holding permanent resident status are not eligible to apply. Intended for students at or near the beginning of their graduate study in science and engineering, approximately 90% of the fellowships are awarded to students who have not yet started their second year of graduate school. Applicants for the upcoming competition must receive or be on track to receive their baccalaureate degrees by Fall 2000. For more information about this program and how to apply, go to http://www.asee.org/ndseg. Application forms will be available on the Web (activated September 1, 1999) and may be filled out online. The application deadline is January 19, 2000.

OCTOBER 1st IS ABSTRACT DEADLINE FOR 2000 ASEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

If you are planning to present a paper at the ASEE Conference in St. Louis, June 18-21, you should be aware that the deadline for submitting an abstract of your paper is October 1, 1999. Abstracts — and papers for that matter — will be submitted this year via the Web. The Conference Abstract/Paper Submission (CAPS) process was set up on the Web in July 1999, and the process, beginning this year, becomes solely electronic. Go to: http://www.asee.org/conferences/annual2000/html/caps.htm. At the url you will be taken step-by-step through the electronic submission process. Also at the url you will find a list of preliminary topics as well as important paper submission deadline dates. The theme for next year's Annual Conference is "Engineering Education Beyond the Millennium.”

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION MEETING.
The College of Engineering at Michigan State University will host the ASEE North Central Section 2000 Spring Conference in East Lansing, Michigan, on March 31 - April 1, 2000. The theme of the conference is "Engineering Education in the New Millennium: The Next Steps." Additional conference information is available at the web site: http://www.egr.msu.edu/asee2000. One-page abstracts on any of the topics listed at the web site are welcome. Other relevant topics will also be considered. Abstracts are due on or before November 1, 1999.

MATHSOFT OFFERS PRISM READERS MATHCAD EXPLORER.

MathSoft, Inc. is offering a free Evaluation copy of their award winning MATHCAD 8 Professional. ASEE members should look for the MATHCAD registration card in the September issue of PRISM. Detach the response portion and fill out the requested information (name, title, school, etc.), being sure to include your E-mail address. MathSoft will register and send you the url for downloading the Mathcad Explorer. Registering will help ASEE because if MathSoft gets a good return, they may pay to insert another set of cards in PRISM in the spring.

SECTION 127 EXTENDED.

The tax bill conferees extended the Section 127 provisions until January 1, 2004 for undergraduate courses only. Under current law, only the undergraduate program is in effect and expires in May 2000. The extension language included only in the Senate version of the tax bill applied to both undergraduate and graduate courses. This tax bill, of course, is likely to be vetoed by the President. ASEE joined other higher education associations in urging the Congressional leadership to make Section 127 permanent law.

NSB RELEASES INTERIM REPORT.

On July 30th, the National Science Board released an interim report "Environmental Science and Engineering for the 21st Century: The Role of the National Science Foundation," which discusses the need for the U.S. to make a significant new investment in the basic science and engineering discovery necessary to understanding the environment. The report includes a recommendation of increasing environmental research spending by $1 billion over the next five years. Read the report at: http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/tfe/nsb99133/start.htm.

MANILA CONFERENCE PUTS FOCUS ON GLOBAL ENGINEER.

In Manila, Philippines, on January 27-29, 2000, there will be an International Millennial Conference on Engineering Education (IMCEE 2000). IMCEE 2000 is being organized by the Philippines Association for Technological Education (PATE), the national organization of engineering schools in the Philippines (http://www.ust.edu.ph/pate). The conference theme is “Educating the Global Engineer,” and foreign participants are invited to present
papers on their institutional or national efforts in addressing the internationalization of engineering education. Interested parties should contact Dean Alberto A. Laurito at E-mail: alaurito@ustcc.ust.edu.ph.

This conference plus other international news and information is posted on ASEE’s new international page at: http://www.asee.org/international.

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