PRISM PROFILES ASE President Sarah Rajala

There is a profile/interview of ASEE president Sarah Rajala coming in the September issue of Prism Magazine. The article, "Subtle Change Agent," follows Rajala's early academic life that began at a small country school and continued at Michigan Tech, where initially planning to major in math, Rajala switched to engineering, though advised against the move. She was the only woman in her engineering classes. After earning a doctorate at Rice University, Rajala was hired by NC State University where she stayed for 27 years. In 2006, she accepted a position at Mississippi State to head the department of electrical and computer engineering. In 2008, Rajala was appointed Dean of the engineering department at Mississippi State University, and is the university's first female dean of engineering.

RAJALA VISITS INFOSYS IN INDIA

Earlier this summer, ASEE President Sarah Rajala visited the CEO of Infosys in Bangalore. She expressed ASEE's appreciation for Infosys's sponsorship of the IUCEE Summer Leadership workshops in Mysore. Corporate partners, Lueny Morell (HP) and Xavier Fouger (Dassault Systemes) and Hans J. Hoyer, the director of ASEE's International Programs, accompanied Rajala. These workshops involved both US and Indian faculty members and provided training experience for 585 Indian faculty members. Rajala spoke at a World Bank workshop focusing on decentralization and accountability in the Indian educational sector.

GLOBAL COLLOQUIUM

The 7th Annual ASEE Global Colloquium on Engineering Education will be held in Cape Town, South Africa, October 19-23, 2008. The colloquium is held annually in locations such as Berlin, Beijing, Rio de Janeiro, Sydney and Istanbul with the assistance of engineering education organizations from the host country. The meeting brings together engineering educators from multiple international countries to meet and exchange ideas and viewpoints. For details on the colloquium, go to: www.asee.org/gcee2008.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FOR 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Submission of abstracts for the 2009 Annual Conference and Exposition, Austin, TX, June 22-25, 2009, opens September 8, 2008. Abstracts must be submitted through the ASEE SmoothPaper system (http://www.asee.org/smoothpaper) by October 10, 2008. The ASEE Board of Directors has initiated a policy of "Publish to Present" at the ASEE annual conference. Under this new directive, all conference papers must be submitted for peer review in order to be presented at the conference and, subsequently, published in the conference proceedings. The process is as follows: authors submit an abstract to be reviewed. Authors of accepted abstracts are invited to submit a full paper draft for review. Successfully reviewed and accepted paper drafts will produce a final paper to be presented at the annual conference. For further information, go to: www.asee.org/annual2009.

GEM/ASEE FELLOWSHIP

The National GEM Consortium and ASEE are looking for applicants for a joint GEM-ASEE fellowship position. This fellowship is aimed at minority graduate students. The fellow will help develop one or more college-level online introductory engineering courses for the web site, www.curriki.org, which provides free educational resources for students and educators in third world countries and across the globe. Under the guidance of an ASEE staff member, the fellow will develop course outlines for one or more courses. A technical background in electrical, materials, mechanical, aerospace, civil, or related engineering fields is a plus. M.S. program applicants (preferred) and Ph.D. program applicants will apply through the existing GEM fellowship module and adhere to all guidelines set forth by GEM (http://www.gemfoundation.org/apply/general_instructions.php). For full consideration, applications must be received by November 15, 2008.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

NASA Aeronautics Scholarship Program. The purpose of this NASA program is to help advance the nation's aeronautics enterprise by investing in the educational development of the future aeronautics workforce and to provide opportunities to attract highly motivated undergraduate and graduate students to aeronautics and related fields. 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 2009, 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. Application opens September 1, 2008. For more information, contact nasa.asp@asee.org

**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: www.asee.org/nrl.

**The Air Force Summer Faculty Fellowship Program (SFFP).** This program is intended for US citizens or permanent residents who have an earned doctorate in science or engineering and who hold full-time science or engineering faculty positions at US colleges, community colleges and universities. The duration of this summer fellowship is from 8 to 12 continuous weeks and research is performed on-site at Air Force laboratories. There is a competitive weekly stipend, and relocation and daily expense allowances are available for those who qualify. The application opened on August 1st, 2008. To apply online, go to: www.asee.org/sffp.

**The National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Program (NDSEG).** The fellowship program is sponsored by the Army Research Office, Office of Naval Research, Air Force Office of Scientific Research and the DoD High Performance Computing Modernization Program. This program is intended for U.S. citizens or near the beginning of their doctoral studies in science or engineering programs. The fellowships are for three year tenures and include full tuition and fees, a competitive stipend, and a health insurance allowance. The application deadline is January 5, 2009. Go to: www.asee.org/ndseg for applications and detailed program information.

**The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP).** For U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent resident aliens at or near the beginning of their graduate studies, this program offers a stipend of $30,000 a year for three years, a $10,500 cost of education allowance and a one-time $1,000 travel allowance. There are 900-1,600 anticipated awards in FY09 pending availability of funds. For application and deadline information, go to: www.fastlane.nsf.gov. For additional program information, go to: www.nsfgrfp.org.

**Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship for Service Program.** The purpose is to promote the education, recruitment, and retention of outstanding undergraduate and graduate students in science, mathematics, and engineering studies; the DoD is also interested in supporting the education of future scientists and engineers in a number of interdisciplinary areas. Scholarships and fellowships awarded include salary or stipend, full tuition, required fees, federal employee benefits, and up to $1000 book allowance per year. The SMART Program will allow individuals to acquire an education in exchange for a period of employment with the Department of Defense. The program is intended for citizens of the United States; students must be at least 18 years of age to be eligible for an award. Application deadline is December 15, 2008. For information and to apply online, go to www.asee.org/smart.

**The East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes (EAPSI).** These programs are designed to provide U.S. graduate students in science and engineering: 1) first-hand research experience in Australia, China, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore or Taiwan; 2) an introduction to the science and science policy infrastructure of the respective location; and 3) orientation to the society, culture and language. The goals of EAPSI are to introduce students to East Asia and Pacific science and engineering in the context of a research setting, and to help students initiate scientific relationships that will better enable future collaboration with foreign counterparts. The institutes last approximately 8-10 weeks from June to August. New EAPSI solicitation for summer 2009 will be available in late Aug/Sept 2008. Application deadline: December 9, 2008. For more information, please visit: www.nsf.gov/eapsi or www.nsfsi.org.

**The Office of Naval Research (ONR) Summer Faculty Research and Sabbatical Leave Program.** This program is intended for US citizens who hold teaching or research appointments relating to science and/or engineering at U.S. academic institutions. A competitive stipend, relocation and travel allowances, and a pre-program site visit are offered. The application will open September 2, 2008. For more information go to www.asee.org/summer, or contact onssummer@asee.org.

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**SURVEY ON COMMUNICATIONS ASSIGNMENTS IN ENGINEERING COURSES**

A group at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, supported by a grant from the Engineering Information Institute, is collecting information on how communications assignments are incorporated into engineering courses. This is an important topic, since ABET criteria specify effective communication skills as a required outcome. If you would like to help identify the challenges faced and the resources used by engineering faculty to incorporate such assignments, you can complete the brief survey on-line at http://dev.rose-hulman.edu/EIF/. Individual information will not be reported, but aggregate results will be shared with interested participants. For questions or assistance, email: fec_survey_help@rose-hulman.edu.

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