ASEE Action Newsletter - August 2003

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ASEE 2003 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ASEE held a well-attended, successful Annual Conference in June in Nashville. There were more than 3200 attendees, 200 technical sessions and close to 1300 papers published. Shirley Ann Jackson, president of RPI, gave the Main Plenary address to a standing-room-only crowd, and there is a link on ASEE's home page to the text of her speech. At the Annual Awards Banquet, Duane Abata, incoming dean at Northern Arizona University, was inaugurated as ASEE's 110th president. Full information on the ASEE's 2003-2004 Board of Directors can be viewed at: http://www.asee.org/welcome/board2003-2004.cfm.

WFEO/ASEE INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM

Prior to the Annual Conference ASEE held its International Colloquium in conjunction with the 6th World Congress on Engineering Education in Nashville. Lyle Feisel, chair of the planning committee, opened the meeting with a plenary session featuring World Federation of Engineering Organizations President Jose Medem, who spoke on the need for continuous improvement in engineering education and the importance of lifelong learning for practitioners. The three tracks at the colloquium were: Continuing Education and Its Delivery, International Recognition of Qualifications, and Developments in Teaching and Learning. See the program and speaker presentations at: http://www.asee.org/conferences/international2003/default.cfm. Next year's ASEE International Colloquium will be held in China with Tsinghua University.

9TH WCCEE TO BE HELD IN TOKYO

The 9th World Congress on Continuing Engineering Education, sponsored by the International Association for Continuing Engineering Education (IACEE) and co-sponsored by the Science Council of Japan and the Japanese Society for Engineering Education, will be held in Tokyo on May 15-20, 2004. With the theme of "Strategy of Continuing Engineering Education for International Competence and Cooperation," the conference will address such topics as case studies for continuing professional development, continuing engineering education in developing countries, and knowledge management. Abstracts and workshop proposals are due by October 1, 2003. Please visit the conference website at: http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/jsee/wccee/cfp.pdf. To nominate a colleague for an IACEE award to be presented at the WCCEE, see: http://www.iacee.org/awards/awards.htm.

TAP STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

The first Tau Alpha Pi student leadership conference was held before the Annual Conference at Middle Tennessee State University. The successful student leadership meeting drew 42 attendees from 14 states. Next year's meeting will be held at Weber State before ASEE's 2004 Annual Conference in Salt Lake City. Tau Alpha Pi is housed at ASEE.

JACKIE SULLIVAN TO LEAD K-12 DIVISION EFFORT

Duane Abata, ASEE President, has named Jackie Sullivan, University of Colorado-Boulder, to head up the organizational effort to form a K-12 Division. Currently the K-12 Constituent Committee has close to 200 individuals who have asked to become members. The next step will be selection of officers and formulation of bylaws.

ROBOTIC COMPETITION AS TEACHING TOOL

September's issue of Prism Magazine has an interesting article about a new televised student competition. Robot Rivals will air this fall on cable TV. Unlike shows like Battling Bots or Warehouse Warriors, Robot Rivals has more of an educational flavor, showing how things work. With an eight hour deadline, teams of college engineering students compete to build robots that must complete a task. When Southern Illinois University took on the University of Massachusetts in episode five, the challenge was to create a robot that could retrieve a pizza box and a soda from the fridge. In the episode covered in Prism, Clemson University and University of Utah race each other to build robots that can handle both violent and delicate activities, robots that can break through a wall and then pick up an egg inches away from the demolition and place it unbroken in a basket.

PRISM RECEIVES APEX AWARDS

ASEE's Prism Magazine has received three 2003 APEX (Awards for Publication Excellence) awards: Personality Profiles, All the Right Moves; Feature Writing, An Unsettling State of Affairs; and Magazines and Journals-Printed Four Color, Prism March 2003 issue.
BERGER AND MCGRAW WINNERS ON THE WEB

Past winners of the ASEE National Awards, the Frederick J. Berger Award, and the James H. McGraw Award, can be seen at: http://www.purdue.anderson.edu/etd.

GREEN ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES

A multidisciplinary group of engineers met recently at a conference in Sandestin, FL, to establish a set of principles for engineers to use in the design of products and processes within the constraints placed by business, government, and society. A summary report of the conference proceedings and the green engineering principles can be viewed at: http://www.enviro.utoledo.edu/Green/index.htm. NSF, EPA, DOE, and American Chemical Society's Green Chemistry Institute provided funding for the conference.

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