

Upcoming Meetings and Events

October - Open

November - Clean Burning Coal by Al Carson; Thursday, November 15, 2007, 7 pm
Location TBA

December – Open

January – Austin Energy: Wind Power (tentative)

February – Annual Ethics presentation
CENTRAL TEXAS ASME MEMBERS ONLY!

March - Travis County Correctional Complex Tour (tentative)

April - Open

May - Open

As you can see there are many opportunities for presentations! We need volunteers to help with hosting events and topics. If you have something that you think may be of interest to ASME or could host a group of about 20 people please let us know!

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Local Section News

ASME Central Texas Section Calendar

Check the online activities calendar often to see what events are coming up. You can find it at <http://sections.asme.org/centex/bboard.html> and click on the Year Planning Calendar link.

Brain Teaser of the Month (by Braingle.com)

A man in a restaurant asked a waiter for a juice glass, a dinner plate, water, a match, and a lemon wedge. The man poured enough water onto the plate to cover it. "If you can get the water on the plate into this glass without touching or moving this plate, I will give you \$100," the man said. "You can use the match and lemon to do this."

A few minutes later, the waiter walked away with \$100 in his pocket. How did the waiter get the water into the glass?

Answer appears on Page 6

Contact Us

We're assembling new committees to help develop membership and improve the Central Texas Section. If you'd like to help, please contact us:

Chair/Treasurer: Mark Stefanov, P.E.

(stefanovm@asme.org)

Vice Chair: Ali Merrikh (aliakbar.merrikh@amd.com)

Secretary: Theresa Jones (jonest2@asme.org)

Newsletter Editor: Anthony Gatica, P.E.

(anthony.gatica@gmail.com)

Membership Development: Gary Sutorius

(tomsdad@ccsi.com)

I-SHOW PREMIERS AT 2007 CONGRESS



ASME, in collaboration with the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA) and Idea to Product (I2P) competitions will present the first Innovation Showcase, (I•Show) contest, Nov. 9, held in conjunction with the 2007 ASME Congress in Seattle, Wash., Nov 11-15. The I•Show is a competition that encourages teams of individuals to present their technological innovations to an audience, which will include successful entrepreneurs, seed venture capitalists, and intellectual property specialists. Judges will decide the best and most feasible ideas, and winners will receive seed funding and additional product and start-up support. I-Show will feature 10 semi-finalists for the inaugural competition including teams from the University of Washington, Penn State, Oregon State University, Texas A&M University and others.

For more details visit the Web site at http://www.asme.org/Communities/Entrepreneur/Innovation_Showcase_IShow.cfm or contact Patti Jo Snyder at snyderp@asme.org

Bernard Amadei Will Deliver Keynote at 2007 Congress



Bernard Amadei, Ph.D., the founding president of Engineers Without Borders-USA, will be the featured keynote speaker at the 2007 ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress, Nov. 11-15, in Seattle. Amadei, a professor of civil engineering at the University of Colorado at Boulder, will speak on the topic of engineering innovation, particularly as it relates to sustainable solutions for needy populations in developing and underdeveloped countries of the world. He will discuss the shift in engineering education and practice called Earth Systems Engineering, aimed at creating interaction between engineering applications and the Earth's natural systems. The keynote session will be held on Sunday, Nov. 11, at 5:30 PM at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel. All Congress attendees are encouraged to attend.

Online registration for the 2007 ASME Congress is now open. To register or for more information about Congress activities and events, visit <http://www.asmeconferences.org/congress07/>

ASME IGTI to hold 2007 Gas Turbine Users Symposium in New Orleans

The International Gas Turbine Institute of ASME will conduct the 2007 GTUS, Dec. 11-13, at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. The symposium provides a forum for end-users to exchange ideas and share best practices regarding the operation and maintenance of industrial gas turbines and aero-engines. GTUS will co-locate with the 2007 Power-Gen International conference at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. GTUS registrants will receive access to all sessions in the 3-day symposium, as well as admission to Power-Gen and a complimentary copy of the conference proceedings on compact disk. GTUS will deliver practical information and provide an opportunity for engineers and other technical professionals to learn about solutions to problems shared in the global gas turbine industry. For more information or to register visit the web site at <http://www.asmeconferences.org/gtus07/>



The **ASME Volunteer Opportunities Bulletin Board (VOBB)** is a tool designed to help volunteer leaders promote local Section and Society-wide volunteer positions. It is also used to help link volunteers with opportunities for involvement in all areas of the society. Opportunities for involvement include standards development, pre-college outreach and educational activities, government relations, and the development of new products, programs and more.

Volunteer leaders are encouraged to use the VOBB as a recruitment tool. If your ASME group is looking for a few good volunteers to share their passion and make meaningful contributions, contact Deidra Hackley at hackleyd@asme.org or visit http://volunteer.asme.org/vobb/Post_Volunteer_Opportunity.cfm. For more information on posting or applying for a position on the VOBB visit <http://volunteer.asme.org/> or e-mail bookert@asme.org.

Changing the Face of Engineering: Diversity Action Grant Applications Now Being Accepted

Do you know of a Student Section doing some good work? Diversity Action Grant (DAG) applications are now being accepted from ASME student sections for the 2007-08 academic year. Student Sections located outside the United States, or collaborative projects with international partners, are strongly urged to apply.

The DAG Program, supported by the Center for Leadership and Diversity, is a competitive program which awards grants ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 to ASME Student Sections to sponsor events that:

- Promote the inclusion of women and under-represented minorities in ASME Student Sections and in mechanical engineering;
- Inspire K-12 students to excel in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education; and,
- Assist minority- and women-owned businesses in solving engineering design problems.

In addition, applications should promote collaboration with other organizations on campus or within the community, cost sharing of associated expenses, and a method for measuring the success of the project.

DEADLINE: Nov. 1. Apply Today!

www.asme.org/Communities/Diversity/Diversity_Action_Grant.cfm, or contact Marina Stenos at stenosm@asme.org.

ASME Offers Members Chance to have their Voices Heard During the CNN/YouTube Sponsored Presidential Debate on Nov. 25th, 2007

On Sunday, Nov. 11, as part of the International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition (IMECE) the Government Relations Department of ASME will be providing members with the opportunity to register online with YouTube in order to formulate questions to ask the Presidential candidates as they debate policy issues live on CNN as part of "You Choose '08." This unique opportunity will allow ASME have their voice heard in front of the nation and possibly drive discussion as the U.S. prepares to elect a new President. The debate is formatted so that candidates answer videotaped questions from people.

This idea was originally conceived after ASME Member and former Washington Internships for Students of Engineering (WISE) intern Chris Deal decided to videotape a question for this debate related to global climate change and the possible policy implications of this issue. To view Deal's video please visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTr2rQzoACI> For more examples, please visit <http://www.youtube.com/youchoose>.

For submission guidelines or to create a YouTube account, visit: www.youtube.com.

Questions are due by Sunday, Nov. 25, and you will be submitting your video as an individual, facilitated but not necessarily endorsed by ASME. Members who choose to submit questions are encouraged, but not required, to ask questions pertinent to the interests of ASME and those of mechanical engineers at large.

Early Career Engineer Essay Competition

The Old Guard Committee of ASME invites you to participate in an Early Career Engineer Essay Competition. The competition was developed to engage early career engineers in communicating advice and guidance based on your own personal/professional experiences and your relationship with ASME to new ME/MET graduates. The winning essay will be posted on the ASME Early Career website and the author will receive \$1,000 and a lifetime ASME membership.

For complete details visit:

http://www.asme.org/Communities/EarlyCareer/Old_Guard_Early_Career.cfm

A four-day career enhancement program for early-career engineers, Nov. 9–12, 2007 Seattle Sheraton, Seattle, Washington (held in conjunction with the ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition)

Nov. 9: Innovation Showcase

Become inspired at the I-Show, where 10 top collegiate student teams present their technological innovations to a judging panel of successful innovators, industry experts, venture capitalists, and intellectual property specialists for the ultimate reward: industry recognition and seed funds to move onto the next step in commercialization.

Nov. 10: Invention to Venture Workshop

Designed for the science, engineering, and technology communities, the 'I2V' is a one-day "entrepreneurship boot camp" that teaches technology entrepreneurship basics, helps build networks, and provides a framework for moving ideas forward. Topics include idea validation, intellectual property management, marketing, building the team, creating a business plan, and financing your idea.

Nov. 11: Early Career Forum & Fair

The Early Career Forum & Fair provides an outstanding opportunity to learn the skills necessary to get on the fast track of your engineering career. Industry experts offer key advice on how to advance in both technical and management areas. You have the opportunity to ask specific questions about your career goals.

Nov. 12: Early Career Development Series

The Early Career Development Series (ECDS) offers five dynamic sessions covering an array of engineering topics. The 2007 ECDS will focus on such pivotal topics as alternative energies, patents and intellectual property, aerospace design, engineering entrepreneurship, and government funding for engineering research.

For complete details, updates, and to register for the Early Career Forum & Fair and other early career programs, visit www.asmeconferences.org/ecf07

Are YOU the New Face of Mechanical Engineering?

Aimed at promoting the up and coming innovators of the engineering profession, the New Faces of Engineering (a program of the E- Week celebration) is currently accepting nominations for 2008.

The New Faces of Engineering strives to promote the accomplishments of early career engineers by highlighting their engineering contributions and the resulting impact on society. The top individual New Faces will be featured in a full-page ad in USA Today during Engineers Week, Feb. 17-23, 2008. Each photo will be captioned with the engineer's name, name of the engineering society providing the nominee, employer and a brief statement of that individual's accomplishments as they relate to the public welfare.

Nominate someone (or yourself) today! DEADLINE: Nov. 19, 2007. Check out last year's New Faces: <http://www.eweek.org/site/Engineers/newfaces2007/index.shtml>, or contact Marina Stenos at stenosm@asme.org.

Advancing Your Career With ASME PPC

The ASME Professional Practice Curriculum (PPC) is an online resource designed to help you advance in the engineering profession by providing guidance and resources on subjects that complement an engineers technical skills.

The PPC consists of 42 modules on topics ranging from product development and writing cost proposals to team building and negotiation. The PPC also provides information on alternative engineering career paths such as patent law, marketing and sales, and entrepreneurship.

To get started, please visit www.professionalpractice.asme.org.



Universities Need Your Valuable Perspective!

Applications are being accepted through **Oct. 15** for ASME/ABET Program Evaluators.

Program Evaluators contribute to the continuous improvement of Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering Technology, or related degree programs by evaluating them against a set of criteria related to faculty, facilities, curriculum, and other key program areas. In doing so, you will be helping to assure the quality of undergraduate degree programs and the students graduating from those programs. Serving on an assessment team for a degree program is very professionally and personally rewarding and a great way of supporting the future advancement of the engineering profession.

Desired Qualifications:

- Demonstrate an interest in undergraduate education.
- Demonstrate desired competencies outlined in ABET's Competency Model
- Have at least one degree in mechanical engineering, mechanical engineering technology, or a closely related discipline. Graduate degree preferred.
- 10+ years of work experience. Management experience a plus.
- ASME member or willingness to become a member prior to applying to serve as an evaluator

To complete an application and for more information, please visit

http://www.asme.org/Education/College/ABET/Become_Evaluator.cfm

ASME is committed to increasing the range of valuable perspectives that comes from having a diverse cadre of program evaluators. As such, we especially encourage minorities, women, and engineers working in industry or government to apply. Contact Amy Bentow, manager, Education, at bentowa@asme.org or 212-591-7880 with additional questions.

Made a Difference in Engineering Education?

Do you know an individual or entity (e.g. company, organization, institution, etc.) that has contributed to engineering education in a significant way? If so, consider nominating them for one of the following society awards:

The **Frank von Flue Award**, established in 2002, recognizes significant contributions by an individual or a group to the promotion of lifelong learning for mechanical engineers. Lifelong learning is defined as the continued process of education and/or professional development, following a post-secondary education degree, to maintain the competence and flexibility of mechanical engineers throughout their career. Contributions may include assessment, development, distribution or promotion of materials for lifelong learning via appropriate mechanisms, such as professional development or university extension courses and programmed or self-paced learning.

The **Ben C. Sparks Medal**, established in 1990, is presented annually to a mechanical engineer for recognition of eminent service to mechanical engineering technology education through contributions toward ASME; towards higher education professional service; and towards the teaching and/or research faculty roles in mechanical engineering and mechanical engineering technology. Candidates must have a record of outstanding performance in all of three areas: a broad range of contributions to ASME; dedicated efforts and a record of achievements in the advancement of engineering education and engineering technology education; and contributions, over an extended period of time, to the positive support, recognition, or interaction of mechanical engineering technology and mechanical engineering programs, their faculties, or students.

The deadline for submitting nominations is Jan. 1, 2008. For more information and a nomination package, please visit: <http://www.asme.org/Governance/Honors/SocietyAwards/>

VOTE NOW !!

The Future of ASME is in your hands!!!

Information about nominees for Society Office for terms beginning in June 2008 is now available online.
http://www.asme.org/Governance/Nominating/Selections_By_2007_Nominating.cfm

Ballots are included in the Sept. 2007 Issue of ME Magazine and are due back no later than Oct. 24, 2007.

You have the power to shape the future of ASME!!

During the Annual Meeting in June 2008, the Nominating Committee will evaluate candidates, deliberate and nominate individuals from our Society for the following offices:

President

Board of Governors - 3 to be elected

Vice President

Education – Centers Sector
Safety Codes & Standards – Codes and Standards Sector
Conformity Assessment – Codes and Standards Sector
International Gas Turbine Institutes – Institutes Sector
Programs & Activities – Knowledge and Community Sector
Technical Communities – Knowledge and Community Sector
Government Relations – Strategic Management Sector

Terms of office for the positions voted above will begin in June 2009. Please evaluate individuals in your unit of ASME as possible nominees for the officer positions in your Sector. You may also wish to consider potential nominees for the offices of President and the three Board of Governor positions.

In addition, during the business meeting of the Annual Meeting in June 2008, the Voting and Alternate Members for the 2009 Nominating Committee will be elected.

The Nominating Committee is now smaller than previously, and it is crucial that each segment of the Society be represented in the selection process by a highly qualified Nominating Committee Member. Please identify members to represent your sector.

For further information please contact RuthAnn Bigley at 212.591.7650 or bigleyr@asme.org.

Answer to this month's Brain Teaser:

First, the waiter stuck the match into the lemon wedge, so that it would stand straight. Then he lit the match, and put it in the middle of the plate with the lemon. Then, he placed the glass upside-down over the match. As the flame used up the oxygen in the glass, it created a small vacuum, which sucked in the water through the space between the glass and the plate. Thus, the waiter got the water into the glass without touching or moving the plate.

Editorial
Volunteering for ASME

I've read a bit recently about the level of volunteerism and personal donation in the Austin area. It appears that we are pretty giving of our time but not our money. I also read an editorial today that criticized Americans for not being cohesive enough to tackle large projects anymore, such as the Apollo program in the 1960's. These two items are somewhat related in my opinion. We are a nation of 300 million people, which equates to 300 million degrees of freedom. Our biggest challenge is to get oriented in the same direction. But think for a moment if even a small fraction of that number could align itself to tackle some really big problems. One example of a big problem to solve is clean power generation and distribution.

However, there are some smaller problems that can be tackled closer to home. The Central Texas Section of ASME is one that could use some help. We are a group of over 620 (136 student) members yet only 4 or 5 of us volunteer our time to make this section function. We do what we can but we also have families, work commitments, and possibly other volunteer activities that take our time as well.

Think for a moment if just a few more people could volunteer their time to help out with this section. Already we are able to organize a few meetings, publish a monthly newsletter, and take care of the business side of the section.

With just a few more people we could organize really cool tours, host more technical workshops, and perhaps even arrange some social events!

You may already want to help but are wondering what you could do to help with just a small amount of free time. Contact one of the executive members from the front page and find out!

Tony Gatica
Editor

News from the Chair

Tony has said most of what is important right now for the Section. All I can do is emphasize the need for a little volunteer time from many of you. This could be as simple as just attending a function or two each year. The functions are limited right now to only a few due to the reasons given above. Of course additional help would always be appreciated. We received some last month from M & M Enginerring in North Austin. Thank you!

ASME sections are geographical organizations for bringing members who work and live near each other together on a regular basis. "Networking", in my opinion is an overused cliché which few seem to understand its power, but is the main reason for a Section. It allows members to have a face to face opportunity to interface with other mechanical, and other, engineers. Too often we forget the importance of this type of interaction until we really need it. Then it is tough to put forth the great effort needed to achieve the contacts that could be nurtured a little bit at a time. Please help us to make this more effective in Central Texas.

Mark Stefanov, Chair

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