

## Upcoming Events

October – Thursday, Oct. 16, 2008  
**TECO Westinghouse Plant tour hosted by Scott Lambie**  
Arrive, sign into building @ 6:30 - 7 pm  
Presentation 7 - 8 pm  
Plant tour 8 - 9 pm  
[http://sections.asme.org/Centex/temp/ASME\\_CTX\\_Oct\\_Mtg.pdf](http://sections.asme.org/Centex/temp/ASME_CTX_Oct_Mtg.pdf)

November– Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2008,  
7 PM  
**Heat Transfer presentation by Alex DaSilva**  
University of Texas, (room pending)

December – Thursday, Dec. 11, 2008, 7 PM  
**UT Biomedical Engineering presentation by Kenneth Diller**  
University of Texas, (room pending)

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## Local Section News

### ASME Central Texas Section Calendar

Check the following link

<http://sections.asme.org/centex/bboard.html>

Click on the "Year Planning Calendar" link to access the calendar.

### Contact Us!

We really need volunteers to help with the Central Texas Section activities. If you'd like to help, please contact us:

- Chair: Theresa Jones ([jonest2@asme.org](mailto:jonest2@asme.org))
- Vice Chair: Al Carson ([al\\_carson@urscorp.com](mailto:al_carson@urscorp.com).)
- Secretary: Anjon Contractor ([anjancontractor@gmail.com](mailto:anjancontractor@gmail.com))
- Treasurer: Mark Stefanov, P.E. ([stefanovm@asme.org](mailto:stefanovm@asme.org))
- Newsletter Editor: Anthony Gatica, P.E. ([anthony.gatica@gmail.com](mailto:anthony.gatica@gmail.com))
- Education Committee Chair: Cecil Teller ([cecil\\_m\\_teller@verizon.net](mailto:cecil_m_teller@verizon.net))
- Membership Committee Chair: Gary Sutorius ([tomsdad@att.net](mailto:tomsdad@att.net))
- Webmaster: Steve Embleton ([embleton@gmail.com](mailto:embleton@gmail.com))

### Student Paper Contest Announced.

The Central Texas Section is sponsoring a student paper contest open to all students enrolled in mechanical engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. Students must be Student Members of ASME (the international organization) to be eligible. The winners will be required to present at the April meeting. The topic is **How should we address the energy storage issues presented by solar and wind energy?**

We are looking for Central Texas members to serve as evaluators. Please contact Al Carson ([al\\_carson@urscorp.com](mailto:al_carson@urscorp.com).) if you are interested in being an evaluator. Visit our web site for upcoming information.

## ASME SELECTS 2008 CONGRESS KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Peter H. Diamandis, a pioneer and leader in the commercial space arena, will be the keynote speaker at the 2008 ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress, Oct. 31-Nov. 6 in Boston. The keynote will be held at the Opening Session of Congress on Sunday, Nov. 2, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Diamandis is chairman and CEO of the X PRIZE Foundation and is changing the way the world thinks about its problems and their solutions.

He is also the chairman and co-founder of the Rocket Racing League, and serves as the CEO of Zero Gravity Corporation, a commercial space company developing private, FAA-certified parabolic flight utilizing Boeing 727-200 aircraft. Diamandis is a co-founder of Space Adventures, Inc., the company which brokered Dennis Tito and Mark Shuttleworth's flight to the International Space Station.

Dr. Diamandis attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he received his undergraduate degree in molecular genetics and graduate degree in aerospace engineering. After MIT he attended Harvard Medical School where he received his M.D. In 2005, he was also awarded an honorary doctorate from the International Space University. He is the winner of the Konstantine Tsiolkovsky Award, twice the winner of the Aviation & Space Technology Laurel, and the 2003 World Technology Award for Space. In 8th grade, while living in New York, Dr. Diamandis won first place in the Estes rocket design contest.

Diamandis' mission is to open the space frontier for humanity. His personal motto is: "The best way to predict the future is to create it yourself!"

## ASME Early Career Development Forum

Join us in Boston on Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008, for a chance to turbocharge your career! The **Early Career Development Forum** provides an outstanding opportunity to learn the skills necessary to get your engineering career on the fast track. Industry experts offer key advice on how to advance in both technical and management areas.

### In one information-packed day, learn how to:

Work with different groups of people to accomplish objectives and develop relationships; develop mentoring relationships with the experienced engineers around you; create a project roadmap; gain insight into how a design moves from concept to reality and how the internal and external customers drive improvements in order to make the best product available. And more!

### Forum Topics:

- Systems Thinking: Managing Expectations
- Knowledge Transfer: Building Your Technical Expertise across Generations
- Energy: Renewable and Alternative
- Nanoscience & Engineering
- Design: Concept to Reality

### Get full details and get your career on the fast track! visit:

<http://www.asmeconferences.org/Congress08/ECF.cfm?campaign=ecf08&channel=email81308>

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! ENGINEER YOUR LIFE

Help Inspire the Next Generation of Young Women to Become Engineering Leaders!

ASME (as part of its Engineers Week collaboration) actively supports Engineer Your Life (EYL), the national campaign to encourage college-bound girls to consider engineering enrollment.

A key element of EYL outreach is collaboration with the college counseling community through the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC). We are asking for volunteers – engineering and engineering students – for high school fairs throughout the U.S. this fall.

Cities, dates and locations of fall fairs can be found at [http://www.eweek.org/site/pdfs/college\\_fair.pdf](http://www.eweek.org/site/pdfs/college_fair.pdf) For more information or to sign up, contact Marina Stenos at 212 591 8614 or [stenosm@asme.org](mailto:stenosm@asme.org). For more information about Engineer Your Life, visit [www.EngineerYourLife.org](http://www.EngineerYourLife.org)

## The ASME Foundation Launches Major Capital Campaign

In 1973, the first ASME Federal Fellow was charged with drafting a committee staff report on "Initiatives in Energy Conservation," which laid out the rationale for possible legislative action to ease energy prices in the wake of the Arab Oil Embargo. Initial hearings on automobile fuel economy standards and appliance efficiency labeling followed and, in time, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act was signed into law.

Thus was born the ASME Federal Fellows program, which continues to offer unbiased technological and scientific insights and advice to our public policy makers in Washington D.C. to ensure that public policy based on sound engineering principles.

Today, the results of that first ASME Federal Fellow's contributions are clear: automobile fuel efficiency ratings, or CAFE standards, are in place and will increase to 35 miles per gallon by 2020. The appliance efficiency rating program – those yellow stickers on appliances large and small – has been expanded. And, of course, there is much more. The world has undergone tremendous change since 1973. At no time in history have our nation and our world confronted more technologically complex challenges requiring engineering solutions than at the present.

The ASME Foundation will announce at this year's Congress that a three-year campaign is underway to raise operating and endowment funds to ensure the future of the ASME Federal Fellows program, and of technologically sound public policy. The official launch of the campaign will take place at the beginning of the keynote address on Sunday, Nov. 2, in Boston. Don't miss hearing Governor John Sununu make the formal announcement.

### 2008-09 Diversity Action Grants now Available

Sponsored by ASME's Center for Leadership and Diversity, the Diversity Action Grants program provides awards ranging from \$500 to \$1500 to ASME Student Sections to sponsor events which:

- 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;
- Engage international participation in ASME Student Sections;
- Assist minority- and/or women-owned businesses solve engineering design problems

Projects that emphasize collaborative partnerships with other engineering societies on campus, as well as international in scope are strongly encouraged to apply. To be considered for the 2008-09 academic year, all applications should be submitted by November 10. For more information on the DAG program and an online application, contact Marina Stenos at [stenosm@asme.org](mailto:stenosm@asme.org), or visit [http://www.asme.org/Communities/Diversity/Diversity\\_Action\\_Grant.cfm](http://www.asme.org/Communities/Diversity/Diversity_Action_Grant.cfm)

### 2009 ASME I•Show -- Student Teams Wanted!



ASME's Third Annual Innovation Showcase -- I•Show -- is currently looking for creative and entrepreneurial student teams that are looking to commercialize their innovation. The ASME I•Show provides the full experience of technology product development, bridging the gap between engineering school practicum and business school theories. More than a standard business plan competition, teams with the most creative yet commercially viable ideas will be rewarded with industry recognition and seed funds.

Deadline for Team Submission: Dec. 12, 2008

The 2009 ASME I•Show is scheduled for June 13, 2009. For more details, visit: [www.asme.org/events/ishow](http://www.asme.org/events/ishow) or contact Patti Snyder at [snyderp@asme.org](mailto:snyderp@asme.org)

## Call for Mentors! Ementoring Opportunities for Early Career Engineers.

Mentors are a great way to gain knowledge and learn from the experiences of experts in your field. ASME offers an e-mentoring service right at your fingers!

To learn more and sign up for mentors, or to register to become a mentor, log onto

[http://www.asme.org/jobs/mentoring/Ementoring\\_Early\\_Career.cfm](http://www.asme.org/jobs/mentoring/Ementoring_Early_Career.cfm) or contact Noel Netel at [neteln@asme.org](mailto:neteln@asme.org)



The ASME Foundation promises something big at Congress this November! Don't bother to guess; make sure to be in Boston at the Keynote Address on Sunday, front and center.

<http://foundation.asme.org/>

## Recipient of the First Virginia Tech Memorial Scholarship



Please join The ASME Foundation in presenting the first ever Virginia Tech Memorial Scholarship award to Justin Klein. Mr. Klein, who has completed his undergraduate studies at VT, will begin graduate coursework at the College of Engineering in the fall 2008.

The Virginia Tech Memorial Scholarship Fund was created with your generosity to permanently observe the tragic events of April 16, 2007. The fund is currently endowed to ensure that a VT graduate student in engineering will receive a \$5000 award in perpetuity.

Congratulations Justin! Go Hokies!

Participate in ASME's Salary Survey get a **FREE** salary report based on your experience level and geographic area. Visit <https://asme.enetrix.com> and see how you compare! **ASME Member Exclusive!**

Purchase comprehensive, custom reports at a discount price.

## Great Opportunities, Great Work, Great People Engineers without Borders – USA



Engineers Without Borders - USA (EWB-USA) is a non-profit humanitarian organization established to partner with developing communities worldwide in order to improve their quality of life. This partnership involves the implementation of sustainable engineering projects, while involving and training internationally responsible engineers and engineering students.

ASME and EWB-USA have been collaborating for several years on a variety of projects. You can get involved too! EWB-USA offers several opportunities to become involved in building a better world one community at a time, whether you are an engineering student (undergraduate or graduate; a student in some other field of study; a professional engineer or university faculty member; or, not an engineer at all!

There are several EWB\_USA workshops taking place this fall around the country. More details on these workshops are available at <http://www.ewb-usa.org/Fallworkshops.php>. To find out how your Student Section can get involved in EWB-USA, contact Marina Stenos at [stenosm@asme.org](mailto:stenosm@asme.org) or 212 591 8614.

## Enhance Your Presentation Skills at Congress

Join us on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 8:30 – 4:30 pm for the Best Practices for Powerful Presentations event in Boston.

In this hands-on and interactive session, you will explore four key best practices for presentations: appropriate content, presentation format, enhancing the overall learning experience, and fine-tuning in real time. You will engage in mini presentations to obtain first-hand experience, examine varied presentation formats and their respective value, and discuss facilitating different types of groups and participation situations.

The Best Practices for Powerful Presentations event will leave you more confident and more competent in your presentation skills. Since this is such an important skill for ASME volunteers it will be held free of charge to all participants. Travel reimbursement is limited and will be offered on a first-come, first serve basis to participants attending this 1-day event. This reimbursement will cover reasonable travel expenses (excluding rental car costs) and up to \$150 per diem for the day. To register or find out more information for this event, contact Ty Booker at [bookert@asme.org](mailto:bookert@asme.org) by Oct. 15, 2008. For more information on the event facilitator go to <http://files.asme.org/Volunteer/VOLT/15697.doc>.

## Volunteer with ASME Using the Volunteer Opportunities Bulletin Board

Have you thought about volunteering at ASME, but don't know where to start? Try the Volunteer Opportunities Bulletin Board (VOBB). Whether you are an experienced ASME volunteer or new member looking to make a difference, the VOBB is the place for you to start. As a tool designed to help volunteer leaders promote local Section and Society-wide positions, it opens the door to new opportunities. The opportunities for involvement include pre-college and educational activities, standards development, government relations, honors and awards selection, the development of new programs and more.

To learn more about the VOBB and the volunteer positions available, go to <http://volunteer.asme.org/vobb/>.

## Programs and Activities Training Committee

Seasoned members: Looking for a way to pass on your expertise to new members? New members: Looking for a way to increase your participation in ASME at your own pace?

The Knowledge and Community (K&C) Sector recently formed a Training Committee to work on the following:

1. Review and update existing skills and knowledge material. Volunteers use this material, called the body of knowledge (BOK), at each K&C leadership level.
2. Develop and implement an annual training plan for leaders in the K&C Sector. The training plan will include face-to-face conferences, webinars, online self-study material, and information that can be downloaded for local use.
3. Work closely with other ASME members to provide world-class leadership training and orientation for volunteer leaders, which will contribute to the quality of leadership at all levels.
4. Develop the knowledge and skills needed to lead ASME units in forming collaborative efforts, sharing best practices, providing forums for outreach, focusing programs on critical issues (students, early career engineers, industry, new technologies, etc.), encouraging more active volunteer participation, and developing new business opportunities.

Choose topics that most interest you. Contribute your special talents (speaking, teaching, editing, etc.) to enable learning at training events in your local, district or society events. We'd love to have you.

## **VOTE NOW !!**

### ***The Future of ASME is in your hands!!!***

Information about nominees for Society Office for terms beginning in June 2009 is now available online. <http://www.asme.org/Governance/Nominating/>

Ballots are included in your September 2008 Issue of ME Magazine and are due on or before Oct. 17, 2008

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

## Editorial

### That Fine Line Between Life and Work

After I finish this newsletter I will probably head back to work. Not to the office but via the Internet. It's very easy these days to log into your office computer and keep working after coming home. I recently read in the newspaper how one local company has decided to give the employees a stipend to purchase a computer for work. The idea is that the employee will select the machine that best fits them – small and portable or a large laptop – they decide. Some of them will likely decide to blur the line between personal and professional use of the computer since they made decisions regarding what to purchase. After reading this I got to thinking about my “journey” to logging in to work.

When I first started my career I spent most of my time designing in CAD. Back then we had non-networked PCs and the World Wide Web was just getting started, so there was no way to be “at work” without actually being there. Laptops were very expensive and not many people had them. Those that did could log into email via dial up (remember that?). By the time I left that job remote login was just getting started, but the large company I worked for had not totally embraced it yet. At my next job I was given a laptop that I had to take everywhere for work. With that I could easily log into the office and even run limited CAD and FEA. However, it was easy to delineate between the “work” computer and “home” computer. At my current job I don't have a laptop but I do use Windows Remote Desktop on my home computer to run my office computer and pretty much do everything that I can at work but without being there. And unfortunately I find that I do it far too often.

So it is a slippery slope that we are on – not being able to turn off work after we leave for the day. I recently told a middle school class during a presentation on college and career that the key to happiness was balance between work and play. It's a struggle sometimes to find that balance - but I'm working on it.

*Tony Gatica - Editor*

## News From the Chair

Al Carson and I just returned from a District E meeting in Dallas. Talking with other section leaders is always encouraging and discouraging. For instance, we heard about a section in the northeast that has over a million dollars. Some meetings in Houston have over 100 attendees. But then other sections are more like us: excited to have 20 people attend a meeting; disappointed when they have a wonderful speaker and a near-empty room. But seeing the success of other sections is just evidence of what the Central Texas Section can be.

We were so pleased with the student turnout at our September meeting held on the UT campus that we will be holding more meeting on campus and inviting the students. We recognize that parking is an issue on campus. We will be posting an updated parking map on our website. As part of our effort to further support students, we have announced a student paper contest for UT students who are members of ASME. The topic is “How should we address the energy storage issues presented by solar and wind energy?” The students will present at the April meeting. Mark your calendar. We are looking for evaluators so here's a chance to become involved.

Theresa Jones  
Chair, Central Texas ASME

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