

Chairman's Corner

Hello again!

I imagine many of you are getting into the Mardi Gras spirit. I also hope some of you will channel a little bit of enthusiasm towards a few events we have coming up. We had a very enjoyable time last month at the Mariner restaurant and heard a lot of great ideas about how to improve our local section. The most important thing is to get involved. We are striving to offer a wide variety of events to our local membership so that there is something for everyone. We need your help. Come to an executive board meeting, come to a section meeting, volunteer to be on the executive board as a committee chair, volunteer to be an officer, or just contact an officer to talk about the section activities. We look forward to seeing everyone soon.

The MACE banquet is on Friday, February 24, 2006. Please see the details to the right and RSVP as soon as possible.

I really encourage everyone to attend the Distinguished Lecturer program that we have scheduled for Wednesday, March 1, 2006. I have seen the last two distinguished lecturers that visited our section and they were both excellent presentations. See you there!

Ray Miller, Section Chair

Upcoming Events

MACE Engineers' Week Awards Banquet

Friday, February 24, 2006

Heron Lakes Country Club

Social: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00pm

Tickets are \$30.00 each (Buy one – get one free through ASME). Please contact Ray Miller at 342-1070 or miller@volkert.com by February 24 at noon.

ASME Distinguished Lecturers Program and the Mobile Gulf Coast Section Present

"An Overview of Recent Developments in Nanotechnology"

by Dr. Meyya Meyyappan, Director of the Center for Nanotechnology and Senior Scientist at NASA Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, CA

Wednesday, March 1, 2006.

Bienville Club in Mobile, AL

5:30 – Social

6:00 Dinner

7:00 - Presentation

ASME Members & Guests \$20.

Students \$10.

RSVP by Monday, February 27 to Ray Miller at 342-1070 or miller@volkert.com.

American Tank & Vessel Plant Tour

Date: March 21st

We are working to secure the USA bus to take us from campus to the plant site. Our plan is to leave campus around 4:30, travel to the site, tour & dinner, and return to campus by 8:30 or 9:00. Look for more details in next month's newsletter.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 **Local Section News**
- 2 **New Internship Opportunity**
- 2 **Katrina Loans Available for Students**
- 3 **ASME ABET Degree Program Evaluators**
- 4 **One Stop For Member Support**
- 5 **Diversity Action Grants Awarded**

NEW INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR EARLY CAREER ASME MEMBERS

ASME's Center for Leadership and Diversity is pleased to announce the creation of a new internship opportunity for early career ASME members. ECLIPSE, Early Career Leadership Intern Program to Serve Engineering, is a program designed to place early career engineers in highly visible and productive roles within the ASME organization. ASME believes that early career engineers can make significant contributions to its various units and is eager to encourage their active participation in all levels of the Society.

ECLIPSE is a competitive internship program. Applications are solicited in the December through February timeframe, with the selection of interns made in March. ECLIPSE participants are matched with a specific ASME unit for a period of one year. The interns work closely with an assigned mentor to complete one or more projects throughout the year. Internships commence at the Summer Annual Meeting (SAM) with an Early Career Leadership session. Interns also attend the IMECE in November, as well as training at the Leadership Development Conference. At the conclusion of the internship period, ECLIPSE participants are assisted in identifying opportunities for continued participation in ASME.

Participation in ECLIPSE is open to any ASME member who has served a minimum of three, but not more than 10, years in the workforce since completion of her/his engineering degree. ASME members who have previously served as Leadership Development Interns (LDIs) or Minority Leadership Program (MLP) interns are not eligible for participation in ECLIPSE, but are encouraged to serve as mentors.

Applicants should assume that they will need to attend several out of town meetings of approximately three days' duration during the internship period. The cost of attending those meeting will be partially covered by ASME in accordance with Society Policy P-4.5: reasonable transportation costs to attend pre-approved meetings are eligible for reimbursement, as are lodging and meal expenses up to a \$100 per day per diem. All expense reimbursements are subject to budget limitations. ASME encourages cost sharing of these expenses with the interns' employers.

Additional information on ECLIPSE, as well as the application form, is available at www.asme.org. Select Communities/Early Careers/Mentoring. For additional information, contact Marian Heller, director of the Center for Leadership and Diversity, at hellerm@asme.org

ASME Connections On ASME.ORG

At ASME Connections, meet the faces behind some of the successes so far, converse with other members at ASME's growing [Communities of Practice](#) web forum, and learn about the new programs that are being developed by the Society at the [New Initiatives](#) link. You may also access a number of news outlets such as [ASME News Online](#), [Inter-Comm](#), the quarterly news publication, and the [ASME Press Room](#).

ASME Connections will be updated regularly. For additional information, contact Mel Torre, director, Communications at torrem@asme.org or 212 591 8157.

New *Community* to Discuss ASME Web Site Available

A new community called [ASME Website](#) has been formed within ASME's Communities of Practice site for comments and feedback regarding the revamped ASME.org.

Access to the Communities of Practice site is open to members and nonmembers. To join this Community to provide your feedback, log on to www.cop.asme.org

Katrina Loans Available for Eligible Students

ASME has established a fast track student loan for mechanical engineering students who have been adversely affected by Hurricanes Katrina & Rita. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis thru June 30, 2006.

For more information contact Maisha Phillips at (212) 591-7371 or PhillipsM@asme.org. Additional information can also be obtained by visiting the Web site at <http://www.asme.org/education/enged/aid/loan.htm>

ASME Solutions Provides The Tools For Success

Today's new and expanding global market demands more than conventional thinking. Whatever your business, you need to build and maintain your engineering edge, with the insight and training that only comes from a leader. **ASME Solutions** is a powerful, comprehensive, and unique resource that provides industry-specific tools required for success. Through **ASME Solutions**, companies or institutions can partner with ASME to ensure a competitive edge.

Find out how to build a stronger engineering community and a better business environment. Visit <http://www.asmesolutions.org/>

Call For Nominations: ASME ABET Degree Program Evaluators

The Center for Education is accepting nominations for ASME ABET Mechanical Engineering/Mechanical Engineering Technology and related degree program evaluators.

As a Participating Society of ABET Inc. (the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology), ASME is responsible for 428 degree programs in the U.S. and for establishing a diverse cadre of highly qualified and highly committed ME/MET Program Evaluators to assume the very sensitive and important role of assessing undergraduate degree programs against established criteria.

All ASME program evaluators must submit a completed nomination, be selected, participate in a training workshop, and serve as an observer on an on-campus evaluation team visit prior to being placed on the roster of "active" evaluators for a period of 5 years. Serving on an assessment team for a degree program is very professionally and personally rewarding and an important means of "giving back" to and supporting the future advancement of the engineering profession.

Qualifications:

- 10+ years professional experience in either industry, government, or academia
- ASME member in good standing
- Graduate degree a plus
- ***Women, minorities, and engineers working in industry or government are especially encouraged to apply***

Additional information including an application form can be found at:

www.asme.org/Education/CertifAccred/Become_Evaluator.cfm

Nominations should be submitted by March 30 and forwarded to: Amy Bentow, Manager, Education, ASME Three Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016. Phone: 1-212-591-7880 Email: bentowa@asme.org

ASME News Is Now Online!

ASME News is now available to membership exclusively online at <http://www.asmenews.org>. When a new issue of ASME News is posted, a special announcement will appear on the ASME homepage and on Mechanical Engineering magazine online's *only on M.E. Magazine box* (located in the table of contents page of the magazine).

Student Activity Calendar

January

Jan 31 Applications Deadline: [Gas Turbine Industrial Fellow](#)

Jan 31 Those who have not [renewed](#) their 2005-06 membership are dropped

February

Feb 1 Deadline: Early Career Leadership Intern Program to Serve Engineers

Feb 1 Nomination deadline: [Student Section Advisor Award](#)

Feb 1 Abstract Deadline: [NDE Student Paper Competition](#)

Feb 15 Manuscript Due: [Arthur L. Williston Award Contest](#) – (Civic Service Paper)

Feb 19-25 [National Engineers Week](#)

March

March 1 [Old Guard Early Career Engineer Essay Competition](#) deadline

March 1 [Old Guard Young Engineers Award](#)

2006 ASME Young Engineers Award Nominations Needed!



The ASME Old Guard Committee is accepting nominations for the 2006 Young Engineer Award. ASME members that have made great strides in the engineering profession, community and the work of the society and have continuous membership since becoming an ASME student member and earned a baccalaureate degree in Mechanical Engineering between the years March 1, 2000 - March 1, 2002 are eligible to apply.

The Grand Prize is \$5000 including a prepaid life ASME membership. To learn more about the selection criteria and how to nominate, visit:

<http://staging.files.asme.org/asmeorg/Communities/EarlyCareer/8026.pdf>

One Stop for ASME Member Support

Now that ASME has moved on from Continuity & Change to the Implementation phase, one of the obvious changes will be in how we support our members. Now that our field offices have been closed, member support has been consolidated in the ASME Information Central. Should you need to contact ASME with questions regarding your membership, you'll only to call one phone number, or send one email.

Phone: 800-843-2763

Phone: 001-800-843-2763 (Mexico)

Phone: 973-882-1170 (Outside North America)

Fax: 973-882-1717

Email: infocentral@asme.org

For a full list of contact information, please visit:
<http://regions.asme.org/closures>

The Old Guard Early Career Engineer Competition

The ASME Old Guard Committee is accepting entries for an Early Career Engineer Essay Competition. All ASME members who have between 4-10 years work experience in professional practice since graduation may apply. An award of \$1,000 plus a lifetime membership (valued at \$2,500) will be given to the author of the winning essay. For more information, visit the [Essay Competition](http://www.asme.org/Communities/EarlyCareer/Early_Career_Engineer_Essay.cfm) webpage:
http://www.asme.org/Communities/EarlyCareer/Early_Career_Engineer_Essay.cfm

Mechanical Advantage is accepting articles for the February 2006 issue. *Mechanical Advantage* is ASME's online student newsletter, which offers engineering students useful articles, program information and upcoming events and deadlines. **Student submissions are highly encouraged!**

For more information visit:

<http://www.asme.org/NewsPublicPolicy/Newsletters/MechanicalAdvantage/> or contact Maisha Phillips, Coordinator, Student Development at phillipsm@asme.org

Call for Nominations: 2006 ASME Johnson & Johnson Medal

The Center for Leadership & Diversity is actively soliciting nominations for the 2006 ASME Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies, Inc. Medal.

This medal recognizes outstanding contribution by an individual, company, government entity, school, or other organization towards developing and implementing practices, processes and programs that value and strategically manage diversity and inclusiveness. The award includes a medal, certificate and honorarium of \$1,000. In addition, travel expenses of the recipient are reimbursed, in accordance with ASME Policy -4.5, to allow the recipient to attend the meeting at which the presentation of the medal is made.

The first recipient of the Medal, Dr. Joseph Bordogna, was recognized during the Honors Assembly at the 2005 Congress.

Nominations, along with a completed nominations packet, must be received no later than Feb.1, 2006. The ASME JJCCI Medal Nominations Committee will review the nominations, and a recommendation will be made to the Committee on Honors by no later than March 1, 2006.

Award applicants should be able to:

- Demonstrate alignment to the core values of ASME
- Demonstrate the effectiveness of their practices, processes and programs towards increasing the numbers of women and minorities within the multi-disciplines of mechanical engineering
- Demonstrate the impact of programs that are designed to include diverse participants and that create positive work and achievement environments for all participants.

In addition, award applicants:

- Must be a member of ASME or of a recognized engineering society;
- If an institution or organization, must have had an established program for a minimum of two years with more than 25 active participants; and,
- Must not have been involved in litigation related to discrimination or harassment within the past three years.

Additional information, as well as the nomination form itself, may be found at
<http://www.asme.org/honors/ms71/saa/johnson.html>.

DAG AWARDS GO TO 19 ASME STUDENT SECTIONS

Nineteen ASME Student Sections have been awarded a total of \$22,860 in grants from the Diversity Action Grant (DAG) Program. The DAG Program, supported by the Center for Leadership & Diversity, is a competitive program which awards grants ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 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; and/or,
- * Assist minority- and/or women-owned businesses solve engineering design problems.

ASME Student Sections receiving awards for the 2005-2006 academic year are as follows:

Baylor University; Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo; Central Washington University; Drexel University; Johns Hopkins University; Universidad del Turabo; University of California, Irvine; University of California, Riverside; University of Dayton; University of Evansville; University of Hartford; University of Illinois; University of Miami; University of New Hampshire; United States Military Academy/West Point; Virginia Commonwealth University; University of Louisville; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Virginia Tech

The 19 proposals accepted for funding met the DAG program criteria. In addition, many included collaboration with other organizations or campus or within the community, cost sharing of associated expenses and a method for measuring the success of the project.

For additional information on the DAG Program, visit <http://www.asme.org/communities/diversities/bdo/dag.html>
Solicitation of applications for the 2006-07 academic year will begin in September 2006. The application deadline will be Nov. 1, 2006.

Local Section Leadership

Chairman	Ray Miller, PE	342-1070	rmiller@volkert.com
Vice Chairman	Aaron Andry	443-6440	aandry@mpsac.com
Secretary	Lance Steed	605-1480	lsteed@fluid-eng.com
Treasurer	Scott O'Briant	443-6440	sobriant@mpsac.com

Student Section

Chairman	Brad Snow	bsnow213@hotmail.com
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