

April includes exciting opportunities for members to learn about the future of biomass gasification and endurance limits in steels. The CIS-ASME activity calendar is nearing its end, but it's not too late to participate!

## *April Meeting*

### **The Future of Biomass Gasification**

Thursday, April 13, 2006

BECON-Nevada, Quality Inn & Suites- Ames

#### **Agenda:**

- 4:30 pm - Presentation/Tour of BECON
- 6:00 pm - Travel to Quality Inn & Suites
- 6:30 pm - Buffet Dinner
- 7:00 pm - ISU ASME Human Powered Vehicle Project Presentation
- 7:30 pm - Speaker-Dr. Robert Brown (ISU)  
*The Future of Biomass Gasification*
- 8:30 pm - Adjourn

Cost: Members-\$20, Guests-\$25, Students-\$10

For more information on this event and to register, please visit

<http://sections.asme.org/CentralIowa/>.

Registration Deadline:  
Friday, April 7 (noon)

*Thanks to Lesley Gustafson  
for organizing this event!*

If you are interested in serving on CIS-ASME next year, please contact a current cabinet member. Thanks to all cabinet members for your efforts this past year!

## *April Technical Seminar*

### **Is Endurance Limit in Steels a Convenient Myth?**

**Dr. Charles Mischke**

Friday, April 28, 2006

1:00-5:00pm

1226 Howe Hall

Iowa State Campus

Ames, Iowa

Cost: Members-\$75, Students-Free!

For more information on this event and to register, please visit

<http://sections.asme.org/CentralIowa/>.

Registration Deadline:

Thursday, April 27 (noon)

*Thanks to Max Gassman  
for organizing this event!*

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## ASME & THE NATIONAL INSULATION ASSOCIATION FORM A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

ASME and the National Insulation Association (NIA) in Sept. 2005 entered into a partnership to collaborate on educational programs and initiatives. NIA is a fifty-year-old trade organization representing the mechanical and specialty insulation industry.

NIA has worked with ASME's Continuing Educational Institute in developing a training course; PD568 – "Mechanical Insulation and Design Technology" and recently established a Communities of Practice for Mechanical Insulation. In addition, NIA has developed a series of presentations that are available to the Section network. The two most notable presentations are entitled: "The Power of Insulation" and "Insulation, The Lost or Forgotten Technology."

Mechanical Insulation is a time tested and proven technology for energy conservation, emission reduction, personnel safety, process and productivity improvements and host of cost reduction and work place improvements. Yet, given those benefits this technology, simply known as insulation is often overlooked, undervalued and not used to capacity.

The NIA presentations are eligible for Professional Development Hours (PDH) and are being provided to the ASME Section Network on a no charge basis. All attendees receive a software program that can be utilized to determine energy loss and with existing and new insulation systems and a variety of mechanical insulation resource information.

Take advantage of this offer from NIA to learn more about the value of this technology in new construction and maintenance applications in the industrial and commercial markets. Ron King, a past president of NIA and currently a consultant for NIA, is coordinating the ASME Section presentations. You can contact him at [RonKingRLK@aol.com](mailto:RonKingRLK@aol.com). To learn about NIA visit their website at [www.insulation.org](http://www.insulation.org).

## 2006 FIRST Championship

The FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition is an exciting, multinational competition that immerses middle and high school students in the world of engineering. Working with engineers who serve as mentors and advisors, students get a hands-on, inside look at the engineering profession.

The fun and excitement of FIRST Championship competition will be held **April 26-29** at the Atlanta Georgia Dome and is free and open to the public. To foster the technological literacy of society, ASME and FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) are working together to achieve this goal. For more information visit <http://www.asme.org/Events/Contests/Partnership.cfm>

## ASME CONGRESS '06 SET FOR CHICAGO

Mark your calendar to attend the 2006 ASME International Congress and Exposition to be held Nov. 5-10 at the Hilton Chicago.

The Congress will bring together engineers, scientists and technical professionals from around the world to discuss and demonstrate innovation in advanced technologies. The program will feature special tracks organized around leading industries and technical disciplines, including energy, biomedical systems, transportation, and homeland security. Other highlights at the Congress include the Young Engineers Forum, Student Design Contest finals, and the Honors Assembly ceremony recognizing service and achievement in mechanical engineering.

Hundreds of sessions, forums, exhibits, tours and social events will keep you current on the latest trends in technology and industry, and provide the opportunity to network with engineers in different industries and companies.

For more information about this year's Congress, visit the Web site at <http://www.asmeconferences.org/congress06/>

## Call for Submissions: Mechanical Advantage

Do you have something to share with ASME's Student Members? Submit your article or ideas to *Mechanical Advantage*, ASME's online student newsletter. *Mechanical Advantage* offers engineering students useful articles, program information and upcoming events and deadlines. Please send all submissions to [mechadv@asme.org](mailto:mechadv@asme.org).

Student submissions are highly encouraged!

## Energy Nanotechnology International Conference Set for June

Featuring presentations on the role of nanotechnology in energy conversion, storage and utilization, the Energy Nanotechnology Int'l Conference will be held **June 26-28, 2006**, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge.

Engineers and scientists on the leading edge of research in nanotechnology will interface with professionals engaged in the national debate over alternative energy technologies to reduce America's dependence on oil and natural gas. The ASME Nanotechnology Institute is a sponsor of this event. For more information visit <http://www.asmeconferences.org/energynano06/>

## Frontiers in Biomedical Devices 2006

The ASME Nanotechnology Institute presents Frontiers in Biomedical Devices 2006, to be held **June 8-9, 2006** at the McDonnell Douglas Engineering Auditorium at the University California at Irvine campus.

Leading authorities in the commercial and academic arenas will focus their expertise in 4 intense meeting tracks including: Physiological & pathological environment for medical devices, Monitoring & imaging techniques, Device development, Regulatory & clinical issues. The conference also includes an evening reception, exposition and poster session on June 8th at the University Club. General Audience and Student Registration fees include access to all sessions, one copy of the conference proceedings, daily coffee/tea breaks, lunches, and conference reception/poster session/exhibit. For more details visit <http://www.asmeconferences.org/NanoBio06/> or contact Brandy Smith at 917-596-0306 or email: [smithb@asme.org](mailto:smithb@asme.org)

## ASME SPRING STUDENT CONFERENCES (formerly known as the RSC'S)

ASME Student Conferences will be held between March and April 2006 throughout the ASME districts. The student conferences attract over 2,500 participants annually and are hosted by ME/MET Departments at selected universities or by ASME Sections. They take place over 1 to 3 days at the host campus or a nearby location. In addition to professional development sessions or workshops, grad school seminars or career fairs, these conferences also include the following ASME competitions: The Student Design Competition, The Old Guard Prize - Oral Presentation Competition, The Old Guard Technical Poster Competition and The Old Guard Technical Webpage Competition. Visit the student conference website for dates and locations.

[http://www.asme.org/Communities/Students/2006\\_Spring\\_Student.cfm](http://www.asme.org/Communities/Students/2006_Spring_Student.cfm)

## 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](mailto: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 Deploys Vivísimo Velocity Search Engine

ASME has launched a new search engine on ASME.org with Vivísimo Velocity as its enterprise search platform. With Velocity, ASME is leveraging existing assets to search and combine the company's internal content management system, products catalog, and other Web content while presenting all results organized into easy-to-navigate folders. Now, thousands of ASME.org users will have access to multiple content sources searchable from a single, user-friendly interface.

To try out ASME's new search engine, visit [www.asme.org](http://www.asme.org)

## Student Activity Calendar

### April

April 27 [2006 FIRST Championship](#)

### May

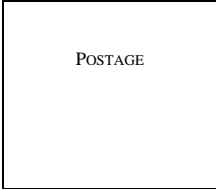
May 8 [Turbo Expo 2006](#)

### June

June 17-22 [ASME Summer Annual Meeting](#)

**Local Section**

Return Address  
Street Number and Name  
City, State 98765-4321



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Mailing Address  
Street Number and Name  
City, State 98765-4321