

**ASEE Engineering Research Council
Annual Report 2013-2014
Submitted by Gary A. Gabriele, ERC Chair**

ERC Objectives

The following objectives have been set forth in the ERC Bylaws.

1. To provide a forum for discussion of problems and exchange of information pertaining to the research activities of ASEE members.
2. To provide research related program content at ASEE meetings.
3. To represent and to speak on behalf of research and its administration both externally and within ASEE.
4. To improve the effectiveness of research operations at ERC member institutions.
5. To establish and maintain liaison with other organizations concerned with research and its administration.

Other details about the ASEE ERC and its committee assignments and activities may be found at its website:

<http://www.asee.org/member-resources/councils-and-chapters/engineering-research-council>

ERC Board Meetings

The Board of Directors of the ASEE Engineering Research Council meet by teleconference generally on a monthly basis throughout 2012-13 year, or on an as needed basis. We had three face-to-face meetings during the past year, on June 24, 2013 in Atlanta at the ASEE Annual Conference, on September 20, 2014 at ASEE headquarters in Washington DC, and on March 17, 2014 at the ERC Annual Workshop and Conference.

Membership

Current membership in the ASEE ERC involves about 330 institutional representatives from colleges and universities with engineering and computing programs. A complete list of representatives can be found at:

<http://www.asee.org/member-resources/councils-and-chapters/engineering-research-council/erc-institutional-members>

Major Activities

- The ERC cosponsored a session with the New Engineering Educators Division at the 2013 ASEE Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA co-chaired by Ralph Zee (ERC Board Member): “Improving Your Grant Writing Skills: A Panel Presentation” on Monday June 24, 2013 from 12:30 to 2pm. The panel was made up of ERC Board members and the attendance was about 40 people. The session was co-sponsored by the NEE Division.
- The ASEE Engineering Research Council held its annual conference on Engineering R&D Opportunities on March 17–19, 2014 at the Sheraton, Silver Spring, MD. The Conference Chair was Dr. Lori Bruce (Mississippi State). Specific program information can be found at: <http://www.asee.org/conferences-and-events/conferences/erc/2014>.
 - o This was a new venue for the conference at a hotel where we were able to get government rates on housing; helped to control costs.
 - o This 2014 meeting also included a change in timing, from a traditional Sunday noon to Tuesday noon format to a Monday noon - Wednesday noon format. The timing change allowed us to more readily accommodate the NSF program officers and assistant directors schedules.
 - o A major snow storm struck the greater Washington DC area on the Sunday evening and Monday morning of the conference, and the federal government, including NSF, was closed on Monday. To their immense credit, all the NSF program officers still showed up to give their talks and participate in panels. The storm weakened our attendance a small amount.

- o This year is the third year that we have held a workshop for associate deans of research that included a very interactive format meant to provide for networking and sharing of ideas, challenges, and solutions. The workshop was again which was very well received by the attendees.
- Dr. Ellis Meng, with the Department of Biomedical Engineering at University of Southern California, received the 2014 Engineering Research Council-Curtis W. McGraw Research Award.
- A revised set of Council Bylaws was developed during in 2013 that provides extensive reorganization and updating to current practices and approved at the business meeting during the Annual ERC Conference in 2014.
- The ERC has successfully completed its election cycle; all board positions have been filled. It will also meet in June 2014 at the ASEE Annual meeting in Indianapolis. New Board members for a three-year term beginning June 2014 are:
 - o John Leonard, Georgia Institute of Technology
 - o Martha Mitchell, New Mexico State University
 - o Clare Rinnac, Case Western Reserve University
- The ERC continues to be interested in ideas for educating young faculty about developing research programs, as well as continued support for its member Associate Deans of Research. A LinkedIn page has been started for the ERC members to share information and questions.
- The chair of the ERC participates on CMC monthly telephone calls as a liaison between ERC and CMC.

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