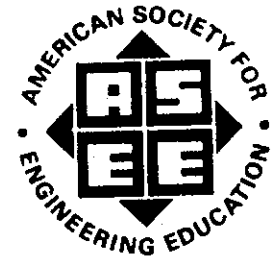


# ASEE

## Civil Engineering Division



December 1996 Newsletter

Editor: Alan L. Prasuhn

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

We had a successful meeting last spring in Washington. Please let me take the opportunity to thank the session chairs for a job well done. They are:

**Anthony Collins, Clarkson University**

**Bobby Price, Louisiana Tech University**

**James McDonough, University of Cincinnati**

**Thomas Lenox, U.S. Military Academy**

Next year we will be in Milwaukee, WI. Tom Lenox is the program chair for that meeting and things are well under way.

There are two initiatives that I would like to encourage for the 1996-1997 Academic year. The first is already being propelled by events. That is the preparation within the engineering education community for the new Criteria 2000 currently being developed by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). The second is the increased involvement of engineering practitioners in the Civil Engineering Division.

Criteria 2000 will be a major change in accrediting procedure for engineering schools in this country. Its implementation will involve an extensive educational effort by every involved organization.

The Committee for Curriculum and Accreditation (CC&A) of the American Society of Civil Engineers has been working for over a year to develop the new criteria for civil engineering programs. ASEE has been a part of the process through our liaison to that committee. CC&A, has already taken steps to prepare for the transi-

tion by temporarily suspending the selection and training of new program evaluators. Resources normally dedicated to training new visitors will be used to re-train current evaluators in the new criteria.

The Civil Engineering Division is also looking ahead in this area. The Committee on Professional Practice held a successful technical session at the annual meeting in Washington on "New ABET Criteria-Accreditation Process." Next spring in Milwaukee, we will have two related sessions: "Measuring Outcomes: CE Case Studies" and "Desired Competencies of CE Graduates." The session on measuring outcomes will be a review of the first programs being evaluated under Criteria 2000. As a test of the process, two colleges due for an accreditation visit (The University of Arkansas and Worcester Polytechnic Institute) will be evaluated with the new criteria. We hope to get both the evaluators and the department chairs to take part in the sessions. There they can provide insights into the process from their respective viewpoints.

The "Desired Competencies" session also looks at an important part of the process. The new procedure is outcomes based, therefore, one of the first steps to determining outcomes is to define these desired competencies.

Two other technical sessions are planned for Milwaukee. One, "NSF Coalitions and Innovations in Civil Engineering" addresses the practical deliverables of the NSF engineering education coalitions. The other, "Integration of Information Highway into CE Curriculum" is self explanatory.

The second initiative is to bring more practitioners into the division. Our activities would benefit greatly if we could increase the number of members outside of the academic community. We can approach this from several directions, but I believe a grass roots approach will be the most effective. I encourage all members of the Division to talk to your friends in engineering practice and recruit them for ASEE. There have been several notable practitioners who were very active in ASEE. However, they were a distinct minority. Let's work to improve the situation.

In the past engineering firms have funded or helped fund several of our activities. Last spring several firms contributed to our social gatherings. They are:

**Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.**

**Camp Dresser and McGee, Inc.**

**Greiner, Inc.**

**Sverdrup Civil, Inc.**

If you know any employees of these companies, please offer them a personnel thanks for their support.

Finally, the American Society of Civil Engineers is encouraging the use of the suffix "PE" for registered professional engineers. This is common practice in many other countries and probably a good idea for us. Although using the title seems a little pretentious in non-professional settings, once it becomes routine, we won't think anything of it.

*Howard C. Dunn, Jr., PE  
US Coast Guard Academy*

**PLAN NOW TO ATTEND  
ASEE ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
Milwaukee, WI  
JUNE 15-18, 1996**

## **EDITOR'S COLUMN**

Welcome back to another academic year. I had the best of intentions to get this issue of the ASEE Civil Engineering Division Newsletter out early in the Fall. But... Anyway, I hope that it will still provide some items of interest to the division membership. As always, I would greatly appreciate it if you would send news items to me for the Spring edition. As I have said before, this newsletter is everybody's, and if you have anything to share with your colleagues, please send items, articles, announcements, etc. directly to me.

By all accounts, the ASEE Annual Conference in Washington DC was an outstanding success. I attended nearly all the Civil Engineering Division sessions and events. Outside of a couple menu items, it was certainly a rewarding experience. As we prepare for the next Annual Conference in Milwaukee, may I urge everyone to put the conference on their calendars. If there were more involvement in the Civil Engineering Division, the division could become still more effective, and have an ever increasing influence on civil engineering education.

On another topic, the ASCE Committee on History and Heritage recently sent a resolution to the ASCE Board of Direction for its consideration. Since this resolution pertains in large measure to engineering education, it has been forwarded to the Education Activities Committee (EdAC) for its review and comments. For the same reason, I would like to update the division and encourage comments or suggestion on the resolution. The resolution appears below in its entirety. It should speak for itself, so I will make no additional remarks, but please send your reactions or responses to me. Thanks!

### **DRAFT ASCE POLICY STATEMENT HISTORY AND HERITAGE**

(Approved by the Committee on the History and Heritage of American Civil Engineering)

#### *Policy*

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) encourages all civil engineers to be knowledgeable about the history and heritage of civil engi-

neering. ASCE further encourages the study of history and heritage through the continuing professional development of members, and through incorporation within the educational programs of the undergraduate engineers.

ASCE believes that appropriate methods to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of history and heritage while enhancing the image of civil engineering include:

- \* Encouraging civil engineers to be knowledgeable about the heritage of their profession, and where possible share this knowledge with engineering students, colleagues and the general public.
- \* Focusing action at the national, state and local level through support of history and heritage programs at ASCE, ASEE and other professional organizations.
- \* Encouraging civil engineering faculty to incorporate a history and heritage component into existing courses as appropriate.
- \* Encouraging civil engineering programs to include courses related to the history and heritage of civil engineering in their curricula.
- \* Encouraging ABET to recommend the history and heritage of engineering as an important component of engineering education.

#### *Issue*

An understanding and appreciation of the history and heritage of one's chosen profession is a vital component in the development of the individual as a professional. However, the over-crowded curricula at most universities, as well as other pressures on both the department and the faculty, make it very difficult to include courses related to professional issues. As a result, many aspects of the students' intellectual and professional development are ignored. Subsequent to graduation, similar job pressures often keep the practicing engineer from developing in these same professional areas.

In a 1992 conference cosponsored by the Program in Values, Technology, Science and Society and the School of Engineering at Stanford University titled "The History of Engineering for Engineering Students: A Challenge for Engineering Education", the following conclusion was reached:

"Course work in the history of engineering is not only desirable but necessary to redress weaknesses in the present engineering curriculum and to produce engineers who are adept in coping with the realities of contemporary engineering practice."

#### *Rationale*

It is important that the life-long educational processes of a professional create an appreciation and awareness of the history and heritage of the individual's profession. This is an important part of professional identification. Moreover, the inclusion of history and heritage topics and/or courses is an appropriate vehicle to introduce other aspects of professionalism. Paraphrasing the Stanford report, a history theme:

- \* Helps motivate students to enter the profession.
- \* Provides insights into the design and problem-solving processes that are central to engineering.
- \* Exhibits the wide range of activities and relationships necessary for the creation of large-scale engineering enterprises.
- \* Supplies real-life episodes through which students can explore the many ways engineers confront ethical issues.

Finally, the introduction of history helps to explain the derivation of the engineering concepts as well. ASCE believes that the ongoing and continuing study of history is equally important to practicing professionals.

*Alan Prasuhn, PE*  
*Lawrence Technological University*

## **1996 Civil Engineering Award Winners**

**George Wadlin Award**  
***Dan McGinley***

**Glen L. Martin Best Paper Award**  
***Robert Henry***

**Congratulations to both winners!**

# 1996 ASEE ANNUAL MEETING

## Capitalizing On Engineering Education

A summary of the four sessions sponsored by the Civil Engineering Division:

### **Session 1615 - Missions and Goals of Civil Engineering Departments**

The session was titled "Mission and Goals of Civil Engineering Departments - A National Survey". Tony Collins, Clarkson University moderated the session and provided initial opening comments outlining the role of departmental objectives in the accreditation process. Tom Lenox, US Military Academy, then presented a paper titled "A Structured System for Outcomes Assessment". His presentation focused on setting departmental objectives in preparation for an upcoming ABET review and then the various procedures available for assessing achievement of the objectives.

Tony Collins then presented the results of a nation-wide survey of CE department mission and goal objectives. A request had been made to Civil Engineering Departments for a copy of their mission and goal statements. Approximately seventy departments responded and the documents were assessed within the context of ABET's statement that "Institutions are expected to develop and articulate clearly program goals that are in keeping with the overall institutional goals, the student body served, and other constraints that affect the program." A number of broad, recurring departmental goals were identified as well as those specific to the education of undergraduates.

The results of the survey were reviewed by a panel consisting of Tom Mulinazzi, University of Kansas; Bill Kelly, University of Nebraska - Lincoln; Sam Clemence, Syracuse University; and Tom Lenox. Input to the discussion was provided from the audience. Questions that were discussed included the framing of departmental goals, the role of the FE exam as an assessment tool, and the interest by departments in establishing difficult to establish goals. An additional paper by Rosaro Nici et al., US Air Force Academy titled "Educational Outcomes Assessment: Framing and Resolving Ill-defined Problems: will appear in the 1996 proceedings.

*Submitted by Tony Collins  
Clarkson University*

### **Session 2515 - New ABET Criteria - Accreditation Process**

The Civil Engineering Division of ASEE sponsored a session at the 1996 ASEE Annual Meeting on the "New ABET Criteria-Accreditation Process." Jerry Yeagan, Chairman of the ABET Criteria Committee and Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Arkansas, presented information on the Status and Implementation of the ABET Engineering Criteria 2000. Bobby E. Price, Moderator of the Session, Member of the ASCE Committee on Curricula and Accreditation, and Professor of Civil Engineering at Louisiana Tech University, presented the proposed ASCE Civil Engineering Program Criteria. William E. Kelly, a member of the ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission and now Dean of the College of Engineering at The Catholic University of America, discussed meeting the Old and New Criteria.

The session was attended by over 75 people with some having to stand outside the room. The session generated a lot of questions and statements of opinions. Sessions such as this provide an opportunity for topics of current interest to be brought forth and discussed as to the effects the topics will have on professional practice.

*Submitted by Bobby E. Price  
Louisiana Tech University*

### **Session 3215 - User of the Personal Computer in Undergraduate Civil Engineering**

The Committee on Computer Applications sponsored an informative session on the "Use of the Personal Computer in the Undergraduate Civil Engineering Education" at the 1996 Annual Conference in Washington, DC. Tom Lenox of the United States Military Academy moderated this technical session which focused on the inno-

vative uses of the personal computer in the civil engineering curriculum. Joseph Hummer of North Carolina State University discussed his work in comparing computer-based instruction with traditional classroom instruction. Gerry Seeley of Valparaiso University showed the power and simplicity of using Monte Carlo simulation in computer-assisted applications in civil engineering education.

Several computer programs developed by students of Manoocheher Zoghi at the University of Dayton were examined to demonstrate the effective use of the personal computer in geotechnical education. Finally, Bob Henry of the University of New Hampshire presented the findings of a survey commissioned by the Technical Council on Computer Practices of ASCE to evaluate the role of computing in civil engineering education. Steve Ressler of the United States Military Academy was chosen as the new chair of the committee for 1996-97. Steve is organizing a session at the 1997 Annual Conference in Milwaukee that will address applications of using information technology in civil engineering education emphasizing appropriate use of the world wide web.

*Submitted by Tom Lenox  
United States Military Academy*

#### **Session 3515 - Innovative Teaching Methods in CE**

The papers focused on a variety of teaching methods. One paper by Karl Meyer, Stephen Ressler, and Thomas Lenox dealt with models used in a structural engineering class to demonstrate basic concepts and techniques, models that are easy to make and demonstrate. A second paper by James McDonough and Bruce Harding dealt with teaching of design to freshmen engineering students in an Introduction to Engineering class. A third paper by Walter Vodrazka focused on professionalism and the teaching of professionalism in Civil Engineering.

A paper by Nelson Baker and Paul Chinowsky involved an introduction and assessment of new technologies in the classroom. Another by Constantine Ciesielski dealt with organizing and conducting an effective meeting and the process of demonstrat-

ing that in the classroom. All of the papers are published in the proceedings as well.

[A summary was not received in time for the *Newsletter*, so this report was generated from the previous *Newsletter*.]

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### **1996 ANNUAL CONFERENCE CIVIL ENGINEERING: RAP SESSION EVENING, JUNE 24, 1996**

The following are some of the thoughts tossed out and/or discussed at the annual rap session. They are reproduced here as a few snippets from the evening that may, however, provide considerable food for thought.

In a discussion of Civil Engineering programs, it was suggested that it was reasonable to expect that every school should have many of the same basic goals.

Walt LeFevre provided a summary of the new FE exam which commences this Fall. He also discussed the implications of using it as an assessment tool. He also pointed out that both the morning and afternoon sessions have 140 questions, and out of the total of 280 maximum points, only 90 points are required in order to pass the exam.

The official, unofficial list of Civil Engineering areas, or was it the unofficial, official list, are as follows:

- Construction and Management
- Environmental
- Geotechnical
- Hydraulics and Water Resources
- Structural
- Surveying and Measurement
- Transportation

On the subject of assessment, the use of departmental advisory boards to conduct exit interviews was discussed. Requiring student portfolios for numerous purposes such as job interviews was recommended.

Vince Drnevich on the subject of enrollment concerns, mentioned that among pre-college students, interest in engineering had dropped from an earlier 13% to 8%.

Bill Kelly suggested that there was a need to get the local schools and their faculty more involved in the ASEE Annual Conferences. Perhaps the CE Division should pick up some of the registration cost.

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#### **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION AWARD**

Robert Henry, Chair of the Awards Committee for 1995/96 has issued a call to the Civil Engineering Division membership for award nominations for the annual *George Wadlin Service Award*. This award is made for meritorious service to civil engineering education in general and the CE Division in particular.

Please send division award nominations directly to Bob at:

Robert Henry  
Civil Engineering Department  
University of New Hampshire  
236 Kingsbury Hall  
Durham, NH 03824-3591  
Phone: (603) 862-1444  
FAX: (603) 862-2364

E-Mail: robert.henry@unh.edu

Please note that all award nominations must be submitted before January 1, 1997.

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#### **APPENDICES:**

1. Civil Engineering Division ASEE Executive Board 1996-1997
2. Civil Engineering Division ASEE Committee Assignments 1996-97
3. Civil Engineering Division Business Meeting
4. Civil Engineering Division Treasurer's Report -- Fiscal Year 1996

# American Society for Engineering Education

## Civil Engineering Division Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 24, 1996  
1996 Annual ASEE Meeting  
Washington, DC

1. Call to order by the Chairman Bill Kelly at approximately 12:30 p.m.
2. There were 31 people in attendance.
3. Newly elected officers were introduced by the Chair. They are:  
Howard C. Dunn, Jr. Chairman  
Tom Lenox Vice Chairman (Program Chairman)  
Alan Prasuhn Director and Newsletter Editor

Please note these are unofficial as of today (6/24/96).

4. Chairman Kelly introduced the Program Committee for this convention and the sessions which they chaired:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Program</u>
Howard Dunn	Washington DC Program	Overall Chairman, Board Meeting, Business Meeting, Rap Session, Annual Banquet
Tony Collins	Educational Policy	Mission and Goals of CE Departments - A Survey
Bobby Price	Professional Practice	New ABET Criteria - Accreditation Process
Tom Lenox	Computer Applications	Applications of PC's in CE Programs and Labs
Jim McDonough	Teaching Methodology	Innovative Teaching Methods in Civil Engineering

5. Minutes of the June 26, 1995 Business Meeting - Copies were distributed by Sec./Treas. Dnevich and Jim McDonough moved approval of the minutes; Tom Mulinazzi seconded. The minutes were approved.
6. Secretary - Treasurer's Report - Vince Dnevich distributed copies of the FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS of the Division (Attachment). He explained several adjustments that had to be made by ASEE because of incorrect postings to both the Operating Account and the BASS Account. Jim McDonough moved approval of the report; Tom Mulinazzi seconded. The report was approved.
7. Report on Liaison with Educational Activities Committee (EdAC), ASCE - Bill Kelly
  - 7.1 Tom Lenox will be the new liaison person to EdAC.
  - 7.2 EdAC has been following up on the 1995 ASCE Education Conference. A special Task Committee has been formed by the ASCE Board to implement the findings of the Conference. Rick Scranton has been named chair and Bill Kelly is a member of that Task Committee.
  - 7.3 The ASEE member on EdAC is also the news person for the Civil Engineering Division of ASEE to ASCE's Civil Engineering News. Bill Kelly thanked Alan Prasuhn for assisting with this in the past year.
  - 7.4 The ASEE member on EdAC is also the official contact person to the Journal of Professional Issues and Practice of ASCE. Mark Evans of Northeastern University will be replacing Pete Hoadley as the new Editor of this Journal.

8. Report on ASCE's Committee on Curricula and Accreditation, CC&A - Howard Dunn reported that the efforts of CC&A have been focused on the Civil Engineering Program Criteria for ABET 2000. He provided copies (Attachment 3) of the latest version which was modified at the meeting of the Committee in May 1996. Comments on these should be sent directly to ASCE. With the changes occurring in the accreditation criteria, CC&A has chosen not to select any new evaluators but will instead focus on the training of existing evaluators to deal with the new Criteria.

9. New Engineering Educator's Success Kit Committee - Bill Kelly and Tom Mulinazzi. The New Educator's Success Kit was distributed to all Civil Engineering Departments in the country. The remaining copies were sent to ASEE who is offering them for sale. The Division will not be making any money from the sale, only breaking even. Bill asked for input on future needs on this topic.

10. Report from Bylaws Committee - Bobby Price has developed proposed revisions to the Bylaws to remove some of the conflicting items and to clarify and update them. The revisions will be published in the Newsletter and then be brought to a vote at the next meeting of the Division in June of 1997. Chairman Kelly thanked him for his diligent work in reviewing the Bylaws and recommending revisions. The Secretary is to keep the official version of the Bylaws and the proposed changes in the Bylaws.

11. Other Old Business - No other items were discussed.

12. New Business:

12.1 Bob Henry asked if any feedback mechanism was in place for measuring the effectiveness of the New Educator's Success Kit. Bill Kelly said that none was planned and suggested that maintenance of the Kit needs to be addressed. Bob suggested that a new standing committee be established. This was suggested to be a topic of discussion at the Rap Session that evening.

12.2 Tom Lenox pointed out that NSF is sponsoring a one-week-long workshop for faculty in July of this year. It is probable that they will continue in 1997 and 1998.

12.3 Fred Beaufait asked how we could get more people involved in ASEE and participating in the annual convention. Considerable discussion took place. Walt LeFevre made a motion to have the Civil Engineering Division take some action to get young people involved in the Civil Engineering Division activities by the 1998 Annual Conference which will be held in Charlotte, NC. Bill Wilhelm seconded the motion. After significant discussion, the motion passed unanimously. All persons interested in serving on a committee to develop a plan for implementing this action are asked to contact Bill Kelly.

12.4 Vince Drnevich, as incoming Chair of ASCE's Department Heads Council pledged to cooperate with the Civil Engineering Division in getting the word of Division activities out to the civil engineering department heads.

12.5 Bobby Price gave some suggested topics for discussion at the rap session this evening, which include: ASCE's Strategic Plan, ABET 2000, mandatory continuing education, and changes in the Fundamentals of Engineering exam.

13. Adjourn - A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Mulinazzi and seconded by Howard Dunn. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:15 p.m.

Submitted by Vincent P. Drnevich, Secretary/Treasurer.



**AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR ENGINEERING EDUCATION****CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION****FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS****FISCAL YEAR 1996****OPERATING BUDGET ACCOUNT****ACCOUNT NUMBER 3606000**

Date	Dues	Credits Interest	Other	Debits	Balance	Explanation
10/1/95					\$0.00	Beginning Balance FY 96
12/31/95			\$726.17		\$726.17	FY 96 funds provided by ASEE
6/3/96				\$321.08	\$405.09	Nov 95 Newsletter (Lawrence Tech)
6/3/96				\$338.76	\$66.33	Mar 96 Newsletter (Lawrence Tech)

**OPERATING BUDGET ACCOUNT****ACCOUNT NUMBER 3606000**

Date	Dues	Credits Interest	Other	Debits	Balance	Explanation
10/1/95					\$16,409.52	Beginning Balance FY 96
11/3/95				\$455.87	\$15,953.65	Travel, ASCE Detroit (Dunn)
11/26/95				\$321.08	\$15,632.57	Nov 95 Newsletter (Lawrence Tech)
12/31/95	\$578.00	\$36.47			\$16,247.04	1st Q FY 96
3/9/96				\$3,239.48	\$13,007.56	New Ed. Succ. Kit (Univ. of Neb.)
3/31/96	\$905.00	\$31.30			\$13,943.86	2nd Q FY 96
4/28/96				\$338.76	\$13,605.10	Mar 96 Newsletter (Lawrence Tech)
6/3/93			\$321.08		\$13,926.18	Adj. Oper. Acct. Nov 95 Newsletter
6/3/93			\$338.76		\$14,264.94	Adj. Oper. Acct. Mar 96 Newsletter
6/6/93				\$235.70	\$14,029.24	Plaques for Awards (Fred Beaufait)
6/6/93				\$527.59	\$13,501.65	Liaison to ASCE CC&A (H. Dunn)

Attachment

Prepared by V.P. Drnevich, 6/18/96

## CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION ASEE EXECUTIVE BOARD 1996-1997

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