

ASEE Engineering Libraries  
Division Newsletter

December 1998

Message from the Chair

Thanks to the care and dedication of many ELD members, the work of the Division is moving forward quite smoothly. It is very gratifying to see the enthusiasm with which people undertake various tasks that are important to the Division, and to the engineering library profession. In this message, I will recap some of the new initiatives which are being undertaken by your colleagues, and highlight a couple of ongoing activities.

Two new initiatives involve advising two separate scholarly communication/ publication endeavors on issues relating to engineering. As you have seen on the new ELD-L listserv, Mel DeSart and Kate Thomes have undertaken a project to advise Rick Johnson of SPARC, the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, on issues related to identifying publisher partnership opportunities in engineering. Mel's call for participants met with a great response, with over a dozen ELD members responding. For the second endeavor, Dorothy Byers is currently inquiring with J-STOR about a possible advisory role on adding engineering titles to their electronic archives. There will be further information on developments in that project, and a possible call for interested participants. Stay tuned!

Most members will be receiving this issue of the newsletter electronically. The membership had discussed this option at the 1998 Annual Business Meeting and decided to give it a try. In the September newsletter, Co-editors Tom Conkling and Kelly Jordan gave members the opportunity to request paper copies, if so inclined. Those who did not, and have e-mail access, will be receiving the electronic version. My appreciation goes to Tom and Kelly, for undertaking this new distribution method, and to Mel DeSart who set up the ELD-L listserv to allow such a distribution to ELD members only.

Speaking of ELD-L, it is now available for distributing newsletters, but it is also available for any other messages related exclusively to the membership of ELD. This will be an excellent vehicle for calls for participation on various committees or ELD activities-- as Mel's ELD-SPARC message illustrates-- as well as news and other queries concerning ELD business. ELDDNET-L is still available for issues that address the broader community of engineering libraries and information centers but not specifically related to ELD member activities. Mel has personally set up the ELD-L listserv with each member's address, and will work closely with Glee Willis, Membership Chair, and Fred O'Bryant, Membership Directory Editor, on keeping the listserv up-to-date. It is a closed list, with ELD members only as subscribers.

On another front, after hearing suggestions at the June Extended Executive Committee Meeting to explore possibilities of mentoring projects within ELD, I have established a Mentoring Committee to gather ideas on activities that would facilitate mentoring and/or the sharing of expertise within ELD. Marilyn Von Seggern and Jay Bhatt have volunteered to work on this project, and will be providing the Extended Executive Committee with a proposal in the spring. The Division does currently have a strong networking focus, with a lot of opportunity for interaction between members. I expect the Mentoring Committee's proposal will add to this tradition with ideas that will help facilitate such interaction as ELD membership grows larger. Expect to hear more about this undertaking in the future. I'm sure Marilyn and Jay would welcome your thoughts or suggestions as they explore the possibilities.

As the Division changes and grows through time, the ELD Bylaws occasionally require revising. Occasionally turns out to be this year. Charlotte Erdmann, our knowledgeable Past-Chair, has agreed to be the Chair of the Bylaws Review Committee. The Committee members are Mel DeSart, Fred O'Bryant, and Don Richardson. The issues they are addressing include adding a description for the position of Webmaster, adding the Division's review process for papers to be published in the ASEE

Annual Conference Proceedings (the ASEE governing board has recently required that the review process be a part of the bylaws of every Division), considering language describing a mechanism for activating future Bylaws Committees, and other revisions as deemed necessary. Members of the Committee may ask for your opinions through ELD-L. Please respond!

The Bylaws are a reflection of our Division and deserve our attention. I have asked that the suggested revisions be submitted to me the beginning of April. The suggestions will then be submitted to the Executive Committee, who by a two thirds majority vote, can propose amendments to the Bylaws. Those proposed amendments will be sent out to the membership in the May ELD Newsletter. Whew, what a process!! Bylaws can only be updated through a vote of you, the membership, so please review the suggested revisions in the May newsletter. Then be prepared for discussion and voting to take place at the 1999 Annual Business Meeting. Sheila Curl has been hard at work on the 1999 Program. It's going to be interesting! But I'll let Sheila give you the details later in this newsletter. One news item from me...ASEE conference planners are preparing to include an index by subject (not just by Sponsoring Groups, and Presenters) in the next Annual Conference Program. This will help attendees identify sessions by their area of interest and could prove very useful.

Other updates on member news and Division Committee activities are included in this issue. Read on! If you have any comments or questions about the Division, please contact me.

Beth Brin, Chair  
bbrin@bsu.idbsu.edu

#### Publications Committee

#### Literature Guides Subcommittee

The Literature Guides Subcommittee is looking for compilers for the following guides:

- Automotive Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Engineering Acoustics
- Metallurgical Engineering
- Safety Engineering
- Soil Mechanics/Foundation Engineering

We are also seeking volunteers to revise the guides on:

- Chemical Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Engineering Management

If you are interested in compiling or revising one of these guides, please contact Ann Ward (aeward@csupomona.edu) or Kelly Jordan (kxj@psulias.psu.edu) for more details.

#### Union List Subcommittee

## ASEE/ELD Union List and the World Wide Web

The 4th edition of the ASEE/ELD Union List of Technical Reports, Standards and Patents is underway! Subcommittee members include: Alan Gould (Univ. of Nebraska); Chandra Heller (Univ. of Washington); Janardan Kulkarni (Univ. of Louisville); Doug McGee (Princeton); Mona Mosier (Los Alamos Nat. Lab); Bruce Neville (Univ. of New Mexico); Greg Raschke (Georgia Inst. Of Technology) and Mary Schlembach, Chair (Univ. of Illinois at U-C). The subcommittee is contacting previous participants to update their holdings, as well as contact new organizations that would like to contribute their titles and holdings.

The final printed format will basically remain the same as the 3rd edition. However, we have successfully converted the previous edition's text files to a Microsoft Access database. This allows searching and retrieving by title, organization name, or by organizations in a particular state or province.

In order to improve the inputting of new organizations holdings and update current Union List holdings, we are designing a Web page so subcommittee members may input data directly into the Access database from their office computers. This replaces the previous method of mailing organizations holdings to the subcommittee chair to be entered at a single location. This password-protected Web site will provide ease with inputting changes and new organizations, as well as an initial Web site for future editions of the Union List.

In order to expand on the Union List titles, and since there are several Canadian and International members in ASEE, we are also trying to identify foreign titles that may be useful to include within the Union List. If you would like to recommend any titles to be included or have any questions about the Union List, please email the Subcommittee Chair, Mary Schlembach at [schlemba@uiuc.edu](mailto:schlemba@uiuc.edu).

## New Member Bios

David Lepse is a Reference and Instruction Librarian at the J. Robert Van Pelt Library, Michigan Technological University. He has been in this position for two years. His current responsibilities include online searching and reference collection management. David earned both his BS and MLS at the University of Iowa.

Joanne Lerud is currently the Director of the Arthur Lakes Library, Colorado School of Mines. She has held this position for ten years. Joanne earned both a BS in Geology and a MS from the University of North Dakota. Her MLS is from the University of Denver. From 1980-1987, Joanne was a Technical Information Specialist for the Marathon Oil Company. In 1987, she became the Director of Libraries at the Montana College of Mineral Technology.

Ed Perry holds the title of Energy Research/Engineering/Physical Activity Studies/Reference and Collection Development Librarian at the University of Regina, SK, Canada. He is also responsible for the areas of occupational health, safety and ergonomics. Ed handles equipment procurement, physical access issues, relations with Physical Plant and is the Facilities Planning Coordinator for the Library. Ed earned a MA in Library Sciences with a minor in Chinese/Russian Politics from the University of Minnesota. He also holds an Honors BA in English and History from the University of Western Ontario.

Ellen Seidel is the Head of Collection Development at the J. Robert Van Pelt Library, Michigan Technological University. She has been in this position for three years. Ellen earned her BA from St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN and her MLS from the University of Iowa. Ellen has expressed an interest to serve on the ELD Survey Committee.

Carol Szambelan is the Engineering Librarian at the University of Notre Dame Engineering Library. She has been in this position for one year. Carol received her MLS from the University of Pittsburgh and her

BA from Duquesne University. Prior to moving to the Engineering Library, Carol was the Business Reference Specialist at the Hesburgh Library at Notre Dame. She also served as the Engineering Librarian at Zenith Data Systems, formerly located in St. Joseph, MI.

#### People and Places

Tom De Petro at Wichita State in Kansas will begin a new job as a physical sciences (including engineering!) librarian at the Evans Library at Texas A&M University in College Station in January. He is returning to his adopted home state of Texas after nine years at WSU.