



Engineering Libraries Division



December 2020

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Message from the Chair

David E. Hubbard



Greetings ELD colleagues,

It has been quite a year! I hope everyone is safe and well. We have all experienced an unprecedented challenge this year due to COVID-19. I've seen incredible efforts made by ELD members to rise to the occasion, both for ELD and our institutions. This may seem like an old refrain from me, but the challenge did provide us with opportunities to participate, engage, and learn that may not have been available otherwise. Whether it was participating in the ASEE Virtual Conference, learning and providing instruction through different modes, or working with colleagues at your institution to ensure access and services, all were, in my mind, opportunities. One small example, for me, was that I flipped a large

lecture class by using asynchronous tutorials before the class, resulting in more active in-class learning, and better assessment. I don't know if the professor and I would have done that (or reached that point so quickly), under different circumstances.

I've never looked forward to a new year more than 2021, though my anticipated highlight remains the same as the last 14 years - the ASEE Annual Conference. Next year's gathering is planned for June 27-30 in Long Beach, CA. Kari Kozak, our Program Chair, has been diligently working with the Program Committee and many others to plan and organize the ELD agenda. I'm looking forward to us getting together this summer.

If you've never attended an ASEE Annual Conference, I encourage you to do so. You'll find great people, presentations, sharing, networking, food, and fun. I always learn a lot, and come back from ASEE conferences energized and motivated to apply many of my peers' innovative ideas. Kari is finessing conference program details; expect an addendum in the weeks ahead, and updates in the months leading up to the conference. To help cover or defray the cost of attending the annual conference, we are fortunate to provide several need-based travel stipends through the generous support of our sponsors. Bernadette Ewen has information about the travel stipends on page 3. Many

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ELD is a division of the American Society for Engineering Education. Its mission is "to promote and strengthen the role of the library as an integral part of engineering education."

Message from the Chair *(continued)*



thanks to ASTM, Elsevier, IEEE, IET, McGraw-Hill, Morgan & Claypool, and SPIE for providing our travel stipends.

As you may recall, the Professional Interest Council (PIC) Chairs proposed and drafted a single set of bylaws for all five PICs; currently, there are separate bylaws for each PIC. I shared the draft PIC bylaws with you back in August. Many thanks to all that provided feedback on those proposed bylaws, which I communicated to the PIC and Division Chairs. Only minor edits were made and the bylaws were voted on in October by the PIC and Division Chairs; they passed and are being brought to the ASEE Board for their approval. I'll follow-up with more on the PIC bylaws later.

Speaking of bylaws, according to the PIC Chairs our ELD bylaws need to be amended or reaffirmed every five years. Our bylaws were last amended in 2016, so the end of the fifth year is June

2021. The ELD Executive Committee is starting to discuss this issue and we will get back to the membership in early 2021 with next steps.

If you have any questions, comments, or ideas, please feel free to contact me at hubbardd@library.tamu.edu.

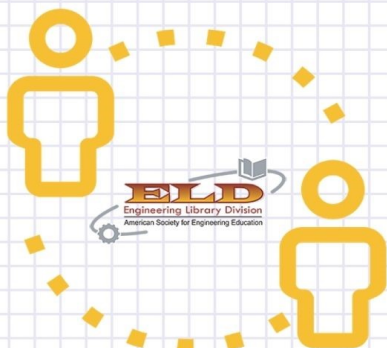
I wish everyone a happy, healthy, and safe new year.

Sincerely,

David

Brought to you by the
ELD Mentoring Committee

Conference Buddy Program



For more information contact
Bruce Neville via email:
bneville@library.tamu.edu

Are you new to the Engineering Libraries Division?
Attending your first ASEE Annual Conference?
Get paired up with an ELD Member to show you the
conference ropes.

Conference Travel Stipends

ASEE ELD Long Beach 2021 Travel Stipends

Sponsored by ASTM, Elsevier, IEEE, IET, McGraw-Hill, Morgan & Claypool, and SPIE

Background: The leadership of the Engineering Libraries Division (ELD) realizes that the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Annual Conference is an expensive event. Registration, airline, and hotel prices continue to increase, while at the same time many university travel budgets remain the same or decrease. Although conference costs may be particularly problematic for librarians who are new to the profession or who are in entry-level or near entry-level positions, travel support varies greatly between universities. Therefore, a librarian at any career stage may find it difficult to attend the ASEE conference.



Sponsors: With that in mind, ASTM, Elsevier, IEEE, IET, McGraw-Hill, Morgan & Claypool, and SPIE sponsor travel stipends for the ASEE Annual Conference. New 2021 travel stipends to be awarded for the 2021 ASEE ELD Long Beach Conference include:

Sponsors	Need-Based Stipends			Random Drawing Stipends	
ASTM	\$750	\$750			
IEEE	\$1500				
IET	\$750				
McGraw-Hill				\$250	\$250
Morgan & Claypool	\$500	\$500		\$250	\$250
SPIE	\$1000				

There are also 2020 ASEE ELD travel stipend awardees that will be using their unused, 2020 travel stipends from Elsevier, IEEE, and McGraw-Hill to attend the 2021 ASEE ELD Long Beach conference.

Procedures: The drawings for two \$250 Morgan & Claypool awards and two \$250 McGraw-Hill awards were held at the 2020 ASEE virtual conference, with the following winners (Morgan & Claypool: Julie Cook, Holly Surbaugh; McGraw-Hill: Paul Hottinger, Kristyn Caragher) and alternates (Erin Rowley, Cari Lyle, Sarah Over, and Anamika Megwalu). If additional alternates are needed, the ASEE ELD Development Committee will use the same randomized selection process on the same list of ASEE ELD candidates from the ASEE ELD Business Meeting on June 24, 2020.

We are now ready to accept applications for the new 2021 ASEE ELD travel stipends for the 2021 ASEE conference in Long Beach. Applications will be accepted from any ASEE ELD member that is either actively employed in a library setting or currently pursuing a graduate degree in library science as of January 15, 2021. [Please apply!](#) The purpose of the need-based stipends is to enable you to join your ELD colleagues in Long Beach for the ASEE conference.

The need-based stipends support those who have the greatest funding need. A panel of current and/or former ELD officers will review the applications and rank them according to need. This ranking will be used to assign

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Conference Travel Stipends (*continued*)

recipients to stipends ranging from \$1500 to \$500. For the panel to assess need, applicants are asked to document their travel cost information and what level of funding they expect to receive from their institutions. **Please provide as much detail as possible so the panel can accurately assess the need.** In the event a stipend recipient is unable to attend the conference, a stipend will be awarded to the next applicant on the need-based ranked list.

Rules and Deadlines: By submitting this form, you are applying for a need-based travel stipend to attend the 2021 ASEE Annual Conference in Long Beach, California.

Applications will be accepted from any ASEE ELD member that is either actively employed in a library setting or currently pursuing a graduate degree in library science as of January 15, 2021. Applicants must supply ALL requested information in this form.

Applications **MUST** be received no later than 5:00 PM EST on January 31, 2021. Initial award winners will be notified no later than February 12, 2021.

All awardees must notify ELD Secretary-Treasurer Daniela Solomon at dxs594@case.edu and Bernadette Ewen at ewen@rose-hulman.edu within two weeks of receiving notification from ELD of their need-based stipend award whether they will or will not be accepting the award. If you do not contact these two ASEE ELD members during this time frame, you forfeit your right to a stipend for this year, and a stipend will be given to the next person on the need-based ranked list instead.

Awardees accepting the stipend must also register for the ASEE ELD conference in Long Beach and send confirmation of registration to Daniela Solomon at dxs594@case.edu and Bernadette Ewen at ewen@rose-hulman.edu no later than March 15, 2021. Please realize that the funds will be disbursed to you after you provide ELD with evidence that you have registered for the 2021 ASEE Annual Conference. If you do not register and provide proof of registration to them by March 1st, you forfeit your right to a stipend for this year, and a stipend will be given to the next person on the need-based ranked list instead. Adherence to this timeline is necessary so that awardees and alternates can be notified of awards before the ASEE conference early-bird registration deadline, which is expected to be in early to mid- April 2021.

Application Form: Applicants must supply **ALL** requested information in the Web form available at: [ASEE-ELD-NEED-BASED-TRAVEL-STIPEND-APPLICATION-ASEE-LONG BEACH-2021](#)

Questions: For any questions about any of the above, please contact Bernadette Ewen at ewen@rose-hulman.edu



Legends of the ELD Development Committee

Larry Thompson, Virginia Tech, tells (nearly) all about the history of the Development Committee.

It started with Mel: A soon-to-be-retired old geezer's semi-coherent and mostly accurate ramblings about the rise and rise of the ELD Development Committee with an emphasis on its early years.

It all started back in the summer of 2001. The world had escaped the predicted Y2K apocalypse (see [here](#) for those of you who were in kindergarten at the time), Mel DeSart was starting his gig as Division Chair, Gretchen Sneff was the incoming Program Chair, and I was at the beginning of the gauntlet as ELD Secretary / Treasurer. Mel, taking advantage of the unlimited power that goes along with the Division Chair office, announced that the theme of his administration would be centered around his initials, MD. He would concentrate on recruiting new Members and raising more Dollars for ELD. One can only wonder what direction ELD would have taken if his name was Xavier Zojonc.



Mel was coming fresh off a 2001 fundraising success, having recruited IEEE to sponsor ELD's inaugural New Members Reception in Albuquerque at the University of New Mexico's Centennial Library. True to his word, Mel followed up on that by working with Elsevier to fully sponsor the ELD Banquet in Montreal 2002. And in 2003, at the Nashville conference, ELD had its first meal at a daytime session, when the then independent Knovel provided the breakfast for GAS, the Get Acquainted Session. (As the Program Chair for Nashville, I briefly considered promoting the session as "Knovel Provides Food with GAS," but decided against it).

For the newer ELD members who are reading this and are accustomed to meals — numerous and free — scattered throughout the conference, a single meal may seem rather ho-hum. It was a BIG DEAL. Members at the time were amazed that we had food, free food, in a session. One has to realize that the previous year, 2002, was the first year that members didn't pay for a banquet ticket out of their own pocket. Now, in 2003, ELDers were actually getting more free food, and during a session! Obviously, it couldn't get any better than this.



Au contraire. Mel was still out there talking to sponsors. We'd only just begun. (Cue the [Carpenters](#).)

As I finished up my term as Program Chair for Nashville 2003, and headed into the giddy heights of the Division Chair position, I could see a problem in the making. What if Mel successfully recruited more sponsors? Wouldn't the Program Chair be overwhelmed with the responsibility of working with all of them?

One must understand that up through Montreal, 2002, the Program Chair made all the decisions regarding the program. There was no Program Committee and most of the sponsors worked directly with the Program Chair. Ah, what a heady position to hold. In terms of raw, unmitigated power — it was second only to that wielded by the Division Chair. Unfortunately, there wasn't a formal structure for training the incoming Program Chair. This wasn't good. Gretchen can take credit for remedying the situation and initiating the Program

Photos, top to bottom: Patricia Watkins (retired), Embry-Riddle and Mel DeSart, University of Washington, ASEE 2013, Atlanta, GA; free food at ASEE 2008, Pittsburgh, PA; The Carpenters, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Carpenters

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Legends of the ELD Development Committee (*continued*)

Committee. In 2002 she was taking on the mantel of ELD Division Chair, and I was stepping into the Program Chair role. The brief conversation between her and I went something like this:

Gretchen: Larry, I think it would be good if you had a program committee.

Me: Nah, I don't need that.

Gretchen: I think it would be helpful if you had a group to bounce ideas off of.

Me: I can handle it. No problem.

Gretchen: It would be a good idea to get more people involved in the program planning.

Me: No one has ever had a program committee before.

Gretchen: You will have a program committee.

Me: Oh OK.

Ah yes, the power of the Division Chair to implement change.

Gretchen was correct. Having a Program Committee was a great idea, and it did give the Program Chair the opportunity to get feedback, and support, during the program planning. Also, it gave the ELD Secretary / Treasurer a chance to sit in on the decision making process as a committee member before taking over as Program Chair the following year.

Anyway, what the heck does the Program Committee have to do with the Development Committee? Patience young grasshopper. All will become clear. Gretchen had alleviated some of the Program Chair burden by implementing the Program Committee. In the meantime, Mel was out there adding to the stress by recruiting more sponsors, all of whom would report to . . .the Program Chair.

In 2003, in Nashville, ELD only had five sponsors. IEEE and Elsevier were underwriting the two evening events (the New Members Reception and the ELD Banquet), and the ELD directors worked with those two sponsors. In addition, there was CSA (see [here](#) for those of you who aren't familiar with CSA), Knovel, and Inspec. The Program Chair was liaison to those three sponsors. Although Gretchen had lessened the Program Chair pressures on the programming side by initiating the Program Committee, my concern was that Mel would be wildly successful in his fundraising and ramp up the pressure on the sponsorship side. What if we ended up with eight or even nine sponsors? (My imagination wouldn't take me into double digits. After all, how could we ever find ten sponsors willing to support ELD?) With eight or nine sponsors, I knew that the Program Chair would be overwhelmed as liaison to those, in addition to the regular programming duties.



Get Acquainted / SIG Session
New Members Reception
A/V Upgrades For All Sessions
Honorarium for guest speakers
ELD Banquet

Breakfast sponsored by Knovel
Food and transportation sponsored by IEEE
Funds provided by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
Funds provided by INSPEC
Sponsored by Elsevier / Engineering Index

The total of all these contributions is approximately \$15,000.

So, following Mel and Gretchen's lead, and using the powerful ELD Division Chair position, I decided we needed a Money Committee. I knew nothing about fundraising. In fact, while talking about the idea with a few ELDers, I was informed that it shouldn't be called a Money Committee, it's called a Development Committee. Really? I had no idea.

Photos, top to bottom: Gretchen Sneff, Temple University, ASEE 2009, Austin, TX; 2003 ELD September Newsletter Addendum, p. 2

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Legends of the ELD Development Committee (*continued*)

An email was sent to ELD, asking for volunteers to serve on a task force to set up an ELD *Development* Committee. The response was underwhelming. Mel had already been voluntold he would be on the task force.

After all, he was responsible for the current situation. The only other person to express interest was Stephen Stich (thank you, Stephen). During 2003 - 2004, Mel, Stephen, and I hammered out the structure for the Development Committee. Knowing that publisher reps seemed to change with the seasons, we sought to establish stability from one year to the next on the ELD side, by having "permanent" ELD liaisons to the publishers. The ELDers were grooving on the idea of more sponsors and more free food, and in 2004 they wholeheartedly approved the establishment of the Development Committee.

Stephen was the first Development Committee Chair and gets the credit for taking the initial structure and ideas we had and making them work in the real world of fundraising and meal sponsorship. There were things we had not anticipated.

For instance, in Honolulu (2007) we had box lunches for one of the meals. The caterers were wheeling tables stacked high with those lunches to our meeting room. Like sharks following the chum, or a wolf pack in the night (melodramatic much?), a mob of ASEE attendees was following close behind, ready to pounce on a box lunch as soon as the tables stopped. It seems that the affinity of ASEE faculty to food is like that of niffers to gold. As the tables slowed to a halt in front of our meeting room, and the mob descended, Stephen rushed to the fore, exclaiming, "No, no, these are not from ASEE. These are for the Engineering Libraries Division. You can't have any."

The scavenging pack was a recurring challenge for us throughout the years. Although we always asked the caterers to place the food in the meeting room, sometimes the rooms were too small, or there wasn't enough time to set up the food in the room during the break between sessions, so they'd set up in the hallway. We learned to love the out-of-the-way meeting rooms, where there was less hallway traffic, or rooms on dead end hallways where no one ventured. We also learned to watch for the arrival of the caterers, and when they finished the setup, we posted plainclothes ELDers at both ends of the buffet, asking would-be crashers, boldly, yet politely, "Are you a member of ELD?"



When we started arranging meals, we often worked directly with the venue caterers rather than going through the ASEE administration. It was an enlightening experience. We discovered that the price differential between the conference hotel and the conference center could be as much as \$10 - \$15 / person for the exact same meal. Therefore, if we had the Picnic Deli Delight Buffet (an actual choice) at the conference hotel, it was priced at \$35, while the same meal at the conference center was priced at \$20. By working directly with the conference center caterers, we paid only \$20, and saved ELD \$1500. Of course, other divisions ordering their meals through ASEE paid \$35 for the picnic buffet, regardless of the location. We would routinely ask that our meals be at the conference center, a request that was sometimes honored, and most of the time ignored.

Photos, top to bottom: Stephen Stich, Johns Hopkins University and Aleteia Greenwood, University of British Columbia, ASEE 2007, Honolulu, HI; ASEE 2013, Atlanta, GA

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Legends of the ELD Development Committee (*continued*)

We also discovered that the selections ASEE offered were only a small part of the catering menu. Working directly with the caterers allowed us to choose something completely different or customize or upgrade a meal in ways not available to other ASEE divisions. Only ELD members were treated to the wonderful delights of Taro Patch Pancakes in Honolulu. In later years, the advantage of working directly with the caterers diminished. Almost no meals were being served in the conference centers, and ASEE offered more selections on their menu.

Sometime during the early years of the Development Committee, I became concerned about a sponsorship bubble. After all, there had been a [dot com bubble](#) and a [housing bubble](#), so it made sense we'd have a sponsorship bubble. Every year we seemed to add a new sponsor and another meal, and finally when we reached nine sponsors, I figured that was the max we could hope for. My fear was that we'd built up an expectation among the ELDers for more and better events each year, but what would happen when a sponsor or two dropped out? Woe to the hapless Program Chair who arrived on the scene when the sponsorship bubble burst. Coddled ELDers would again be desperately scrounging for a lunch wherever they could find it, and maybe even paying for their own banquet ticket. It wouldn't be a pretty sight. But, it never happened. Sponsorship kept increasing, and rather than the rise and fall of the ELD Development Committee, we experienced the rise and rise, and were able to continually provide more benefits for the members.



Stephen served as chair for six years and shaped the committee into what it is today. Thanks again, Stephen. Over the years there have been hundreds of well-fed ELD bellies as a result of your work.

After Stephen's six years, I moved into the chair position, in 2010. After two years, (or more likely, after one) I realized it wasn't a good match. The Development Committee made decisions on the meal menus, and I don't know beans about food. Give me a little [Carolina style](#) pulled pork, with a big scoop of coleslaw on top, and I'm a happy camper. But the menus, they didn't make sense to me. After struggling through one particularly difficult set of entrees, I was talking to Stephen (for those of you unfamiliar with the concept of talking on a telephone, see [here](#)), and saying I didn't understand the menu. I related that I didn't know if a word referred to pasta, or sausage, or pickled goat brains, and I needed to Google everything. Finally, venting my frustration, I said, "It seems like a foreign language!" There was complete, absolutely complete, silence on the line, and finally Stephen replied, "Larry, it is a foreign language. It's Italian." Although deciphering menus wasn't my strong point, I couldn't

step down from the chair position so quickly. After all, Stephen had served for six years, and it would be embarrassing to quit after only two.

But, I had to plan ahead, so I started looking for someone to succeed me, and there she was, the perfect candidate, Amy Buhler. She was already serving on the Development Committee, she had admirably handled a difficult situation with one of the sponsors, and she had served as an ELD Director, so she knew the ins and outs of the organization. Fortunately for me, (and for the sophisticated and sensitive ELD palates) she agreed to step in as Development Chair in 2014.



Photos, top to bottom: Menu, ASEE 2018, Salt Lake City, UT (photo credit, Patricia Watkins); Julie Cook, University of Washington and Amy Buhler, University of Florida.

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Legends of the ELD Development Committee (*continued*)



And also, fortunately for me, in 2012, Morgan & Claypool had decided to sponsor a conference travel stipend for the Atlanta 2013 conference, rather than their usual meal. This gave me a perfectly legitimate ~~excuse~~ ~~escape~~ reason to gracefully and without too much embarrassment step down from the Development Committee Chair position. I could coordinate the travel stipends! But, enquiring minds want to know, why did we need a travel stipend coordinator? Couldn't the Development Chair do it? In a word, no.

The Development Chair and the coordinator for the travel stipends have two fundamentally different views of the conference. The Development Chair looks at the past conference to see who contributed funds and what activities they sponsored and uses this to inform and set up the current conference. The coordinator for the travel stipends looks at the current conference in order to make sure stipends are dispersed, but so looks at the next conference beyond the current conference.

al-
ence to confirm that the sponsors for the random drawing that takes place at the current conference but which are awarded for the next conference are on board for the next conference beyond the current conference. Hmm, make sense? In order to accomplish this, the travel coordinator starts work on travel stipends a year and a half before the actual conference for which the awards are given. For example, planning for the random drawings for the Indy conference (2014) began in January 2013 so sponsors could be confirmed and earmarked for the random drawing at the Atlanta conference (2013).

All in all, chairing the Development Committee and coordinating the travel stipends was too much for one person to keep straight. So, while the travel stipend funding comes through the Development Committee, and the travel stipend coordinator is a member of the Development Committee, the Development Chair is relieved of handling the logistics of the travel stipends. Thus, in 2014 when Amy assumed the Development Chair position, I was able to leave that position and began coordinating the travel stipend program. At least with the stipends there were no confusing menus to contend with.

Under Amy's direction (2014 – 2020) the Development Committee expanded beyond what I could have ever imagined, bringing the total to eighteen sponsors. Unbelievable! Following the tradition which Stephen had started, (and which I had gleefully abandoned), Amy served as chair for six years, and honed the program into the extraordinarily well-run organization we now have. It seemed that every year there was another sponsor and we saw the continued rise and rise of the Development Committee.

During the same time period, and as a result of Amy and Mel's work, the travel stipends also expanded greatly. Morgan & Claypool was the initiator of the program which started in Atlanta 2013, but by 2020 there were six sponsors supporting the travel stipends. For the first two years of the stipends, awards were divided into Early Career Stipends and General Stipends. The theory was that early career librarians had lower salaries and greater stipend needs and therefore should have a stipend reserved for them. As is often the case, theory didn't jibe with reality, and it soon became apparent that institutional support accounted for more variance in need than career stage.



Photos, top to bottom: Joel Claypool, Morgan & Claypool and Larry Thompson, Virginia Tech.

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Legends of the ELD Development Committee (*continued*)

Some institutions supported librarian travel at a high level, regardless of their career stage, while other institutions offered almost no support. In the third year of the Travel Stipend Program, the Early Career Stipend was dropped, and all stipends were open to all applicants.



We now have a new Development Chair, Michelle Spence, with Bernadette Ewen heading up the travel stipends. I have every confidence that things will go well under their leadership. We have a solid group of sponsors, an experienced group of ELD liaisons who work with the sponsors, and leaders who are familiar with ELD and the Development Committee.

I started out talking about Mel, because he was the instigator, or perhaps the initiator, of the fundraising, but it's really about everyone working together, and contributing to the effort. Hats off to Mel for starting this, hats off to Stephen for serving as the first chair and setting it up so well, and to Amy for her work in expanding the support to what it is now.



For the young whippersnappers in ELD, I'll close by relating a walking-three-miles-to-school-in-the-snow-uphill-both-ways story. Or, the ASEE lunch time equivalent. Back in the dark days, before abundant sponsorships, staying fed was not any easy task. There were no "Focus on Exhibits" with free food. None. And, for whatever reason, the cafes in the conference centers were never open. Never. The Sunday evening ASEE "picnic" always ran out of food. Always. It was the norm to walk a few blocks and try to find a place to eat. One year, rumor had it that there was a Subway only four blocks from the conference center. Some of us made the lunchtime trek, only to find that a few dozen other conference attendees had the same idea. The line was out the door. Even in the best of circumstances, Subway is not particularly fast food, but when it's the only food in sight, there's not much else to do. Besides, we realized that if Subway was packed, every other restaurant in the area would be, also. So, we waited the 30 minutes to get our sub. Of course, there were no seats inside, but someone had recently vacated their perch on the windowsill outside so at least I could sit down to eat, although the sharp corner of the concrete sill left a definite impression on me.



Thank goodness those days are over. It's been many a year since I've been hungry at an ASEE conference, and most of the time the problem is just the opposite. How does one moderate the intake so as not to be in a perpetual state of overfed stupor? But, it's a good problem to have. So, thanks to our sponsors, and thanks to those who have served on the Development Committee throughout the years. What a wonderful difference you've made in the ELD conference experience.

Photos, top to bottom: Bernadette Ewen, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology with Larry; Michelle Spence, University of Toronto; Larry, Craig Beard, University of Alabama, Birmingham, and Mel.

Awards Committee Call for Nominations

The ELD Awards Committee is seeking nominations for three annual awards. The fourth award, Best Poster, will be determined at the Annual Conference and Exposition in June, 2021. Nominations are an essential part of the awards process. The committee welcomes input from engineering librarians and other colleagues.



Ask yourself the following:

- Did you write an engineering information related paper or book in 2020?
- Have you read an excellent engineering information related paper or book written in 2020?
- Have you been impressed by a new resource, service, or tool that provides innovative access to engineering information?

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for his or her “Distinguished Service” to ELD and/or engineering information?

If you answered “Yes!” to any of these questions, please take the time and effort to nominate each item for which you said “Yes!” Please feel free to nominate more than one worthy candidate. Receiving nominations representing a wide variety of perspectives is extremely helpful to the Awards Committee as it goes about trying to determine “the best of the best.”

Remember that the Best Publication Award focuses on the best paper or non-reference monographic resource. Reference resources, both monographic and online, can be submitted for the Innovation in Access to Engineering Information Award if the approach to information is novel. Send all nominations with a subject line of “ELD Awards Nomination” via e-mail to: Erin Rowley, epautler@buffalo.edu.

Deadline for Nominations: February 5, 2021

The ELD Awards web page (<https://sites.asee.org/eld/about-the-eld/awards>) has detailed information on each award as well as a listing of past recipients. Highlights of the work and accomplishments of the Homer I. Bernhardt Distinguished Service Award winners back to 2001 are provided. We have a rich history of remarkable accomplishments by ELD members!

Remember: your participation in the nomination process is essential to keeping the awards a vital part of ELD. Without your nominations, we run the risk of missing the “best of the best!”

Thanks to all of you for your time and effort.

Erin Rowley
Chair, Awards Committee

Committee Reports

Mentoring Committee

Kevin Drees, Chair

Planning to attend the 2021 ASEE Conference in Long Beach, California? We'd like to help make your participation as rewarding as possible. In the *Conference Buddy Program*, (see page 2) first-time attendees are assigned to seasoned veterans to help them navigate the sessions and/or introduce them to members. This voluntary program makes the conference atmosphere more welcoming and inclusive. If you are a new attendee and you'd like to have a seasoned buddy, or, if you are a conference veteran and would like to share your wisdom with a "newbie" buddy, contact Bruce Neville at bneville@tamu.edu.

If you've submitted an abstract for the Conference, please consider our *Friendly Paper Review Service* (details below). Questions? Contact Kevin Drees at kevin.drees@okstate.edu.

Newsletter Committee

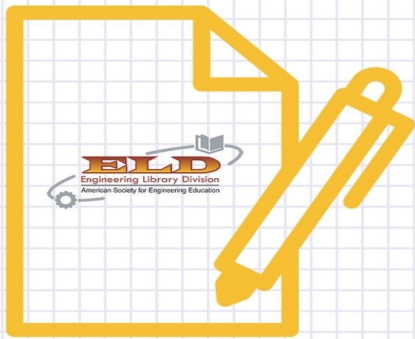
Kristen MacCartney, Chair

The Newsletter Committee welcomes two new members to its team: Denise Wetzel of Florida State University and Jennifer Long of University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Publications Committee

Amani Magid, Chair

This year the conference has received 22 abstracts and they have all been accepted. Compared to last year's conference, this number is about half the number of abstracts from last year, but it is understandable considering we are all going through a global pandemic. Just as a reminder, all draft papers are due on Monday, February 8, 2021 <https://www.asee.org/annual-conference/2021/paper-management/important-deadlines>. New to this year's paper review process is a rubric created by members of the Rubric Committee: Sarah Over (Lead), Isabel Altamirano, Esteban Cantu, Sylvia Jones, Julia Gelfand, Aditi Gupta, Randall Halverson, Jay McAllister III, Debbie Morrow, David Pixton, Eric Prosser, Mindy Thuna, and Marina Zhang! Thank you Rubric Committee members for your hard work! Information on this new rubric will be sent out soon.



For more information contact
Kevin Drees, Chair via email:
kevin.drees@okstate.edu

Would you like some feedback on a paper you are
planning to submit for publication?

Need some help writing your paper?

Want to improve your chances of
having your manuscript accepted for publication?

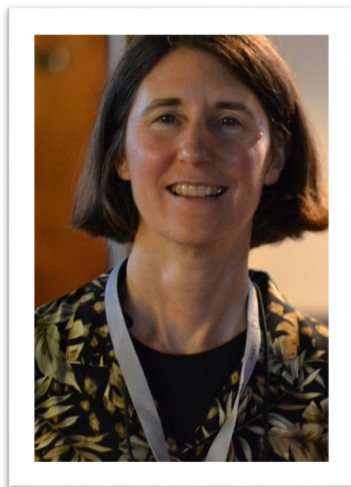
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Reflections on ELD

Beth Brin Reminisces about ELD

Beth is Emeritus Faculty, Boise State University



I retired this summer! I have enjoyed working with you over these many years. I have received many professional and personal benefits from being an ELD member and I've appreciated so many friendships. Thank you!

My first ASEE conference was in 1992 in Toledo, Ohio. If we were in a Zoom meeting I'd ask you to raise your hand if you were there! The conferences were always worthwhile. Presentations and poster sessions helped me improve my knowledge of the engineering literature, consider different instruction techniques and models like scaffolding within a departmental curriculum, and vary my methods of outreach to students and faculty. I always looked forward to finding out what other librarians were doing, and talking with vendors about the new features and programs that were in development. For some conferences, ELD co-sponsored mini-plenaries/distinguished lectures with national speakers like Clifford Lynch, Roy Tennant, and Michael Carroll. And then there was the historic presentation of Mosaic, a new graphical interface for the Worldwide Web, in 1993 at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Conference highlights included social events; they were mostly ELD events but ASEE sponsored ones as well. Who remembers looking for the ELD maroon and gold balloons when ASEE included a Society Picnic on Sunday evenings? These balloons designated where the ELD members were congregating, which was the Society Picnic highlight for me. ELD receptions and banquets have been held in many notable locations, sometimes library-related like the Engineering Library at University of Pittsburgh or in Portland, at the Powell Technical Books Store, or highlighting a local restaurant or an attraction, such as a museum or a cruise on the Mississippi River. These gave me chances to meet new people and renew friendships. Business meetings even had fun moments like the crowning of the Homer I. Bernhardt awardee with the very special hat. And then there are the CUEBALLS events! I have visited several local botanical gardens with ELD members, and explored ever so many brew pubs. Of special note, when the conference was held in Edmonton, Canada, there was a memorable after-conference trip to Jasper. Yes, the conferences have been worthwhile - for the thoughtful presentations and especially for the friendly exchanges and engagement.

Working on committees with ELD members provided an opportunity for deeper engagement and friendships. My first committee was as co-chair of the ELD Literature Guides Sub-Committee and that opened up a whole new level of engagement for me. What always impressed me about ELD members, and I especially experienced as Program Chair and Chair, was how collaborative and interactive the Division members are. ELDers have great ideas, and are enthusiastic about participating. I know you'll keep up the good work. :-)

I don't plan on renewing my ASEE membership, but my Boise State University email (bbrin@boisestate.edu) is still active, and I check it occasionally. I expect I'll continue lurking on eldnet-I as well.



Photos, top to bottom: ASEE Annual Conference 2013, Atlanta, GA; retirement preview (photo credit, Larry Lechner).

Spotlight on Members

Welcome New Members!



Devin Berg is an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, where he has worked for nine years. Dr. Berg earned his BS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a MS and a PhD from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Berg directs the Engineering Archive (engrxiv.org) and is working to push for open access to engineering work. He also directs a non-profit (openengr.com), which acts as the fundraising support/legal entity for Engineering Archive.

Erin Burns is an Assistant STEM Librarian at Texas Tech University, where she serves the engineering students as their personal librarian. She has had 12 years of experience at Penn State as a generalist for their campuses. She also taught a few semesters at Bryant and Stratton College in Parma, Ohio, after graduating from Kent State University in 2007 with a MLIS. She got her BA in English from Youngstown State University in 2005.

Current research interests include yoga as outreach programming, mental illness and higher education, and critical librarianship. When she is not crocheting or knitting, she might be found hiking or practicing tree pose. For select publications and presentations, see:

<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/library/about/staff/burns-erin/untitled.php>



Jennifer Long will become the STEM Librarian at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in January 2021, due to the retirement of Craig Beard (the 2020 recipient of the Homer I. Bernhardt Distinguished Service Award). She has served as the Science Librarian at UAB since 1997, and the new title reflects the addition of engineering to her other subject areas (biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, physics, and psychology). As a brand-new Engineering Librarian, she looks forward to learning about the discipline from more experienced colleagues in ELD.

Jennifer was born and raised in Ohio and has a MLS from Kent State University and a BS in Computer Science from Bowling Green State University. In her spare time, she enjoys doing jigsaw puzzles.