



First-year Programs Division Newsletter

Fall 2012 Edition

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Looking Back: Message from the 2012 Program Chair

From Rich Whalen: "Howdy, y'all". When one thinks of San Antonio Texas, immediately the Alamo comes to mind and possibly the famous quote by Sam Houston "*Remember the Alamo*" -or maybe quotes of other famous Texans like Samuel Brenner who said after working around cattle all his life "I guess I learned all there is to know about it, and I think I can sum it all up in one thing: You can't drink coffee on a running horse." Well I hope "y'all" were able to join us at ASEE 2012 in San Antonio, Texas and it was as memorable as most things in Texas. After all "Everything is Bigger in Texas" and this year's conference was no exception. Thinking back to the beginning stages of planning, an immediate goal was to make this one of the largest contributions to ASEE from FPD in recent years. We accomplished this goal thanks to all of you who participated in planning, reviewing abstracts and papers, moderating sessions, and those who made the trip to be an attendee.

With 11 technical sessions accepted this year it is clear that ASEE considers FPD to be an important cog in the society's machine. Colleges and universities across the nation realize the importance of first-year programs and are investing in new programs to increase retention, student learning, and overall satisfaction. Engineering education starts in the first year and as a division we have the responsibility to research, assess and disseminate information across the Society in pursuit of academic excellence. Without our commitment –as well as that of others who we work closely with, such as Student Services and our Deans –there is no second year in engineering and we all lose.

In response to the Call for Papers, FPD received 91 abstracts which resulted in 59 accepted papers. FPD used the Poster Session for the second year in a row

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Upcoming Events and Dates of Interest

ASEE 2013 Abstract Submission Open:

August 1-September 21, 2012

ASEE 2013 Sunday Workshop Applications Accepted

August 1-October 26, 2012

FIE: 2012 Frontiers in Education Conference:

"Soaring to New Heights in Engineering Education"
October 3-6, 2012 Seattle, Washington

WEWF: World Engineering Education Forum:

"Engineering Education for Sustainable Development and Social Inclusion"
October 15—18, 2012 Buenos Aires, Argentina

Conference for Industry and Education Collaboration (CIEC):

"Engineering Education in an Era of Globalization"
February 6-8, 2013 Phoenix, AZ

See page 4 for the complete Call for Papers.

Planning Ahead ... *Future ASEE Meetings:*

2013 – Atlanta, GA	2014 – Indianapolis, IN
2015 – Seattle, WA	2016 – New Orleans, LA



Photo courtesy of John Estell

Message from the Chair: ASEE 2012 (continued)

and this allowed for the eleven technical sessions to only accommodate four presentations each. The result: more time for each author and better discussion after each paper. Sessions this year included topics on research in the first-year, innovations in design and curriculum, increasing engagement and motivation, crossing bridges and easing transitions into the first-year and issues addressing retention. Those of you fortunate enough to attend our last session "Tidbits and Cookies" were even treated with some Texas hospitality and cookies! Overall, attendance was excellent at all of the session.

This year FPD sponsored three very successful workshops. In fact, four workshop proposals were accepted by ASEE however it was decided to run only three as the assigned time slots were all the same. The three workshops listed with additional co-sponsors were:

- **IEEE Real World Engineering Projects: Discovery-based Curriculum Modules for First-year Students.** Co-Sponsors: IEEE Educational Activities and ASEE First-year Programs Division.
- **Introduction to the Arduino Microcontroller.** Sponsored by the ASEE First-year Programs Division.
- **Talk to Me and ENGAGE: Improving Faculty Student Interaction from Both Sides of the Diploma.** Co-Sponsors: WEPAN and ASEE First-year Programs Division.

Two of the three workshops were sold out with the third heavily attended. Many thanks go out to all of the facilitators whose hard work and dedication help contributed immensely to the success of the 199th ASEE Conference. *continued above right ...*

Since I am handing out the thanks I would like to acknowledge those who attended this year's business meeting breakfast including all of our award winners. It is great to see many of the same faces and some new ones and your input is vital and appreciated. Special congratulation goes out to all of our award winners, as it is your commitment that makes us a very strong division. It should be noted that FPD has won the PIC III best paper five out of the last eight years and Best Overall Conference Paper two of those years. Clearly we are doing things right!

In closing, it is my view that the 2012 Annual Conference was a complete success. This was possible with the help of all the members of FPD, the 75 reviewers who stepped up to help out, the session moderators, workshop facilitators, authors, presenters and Executive Board Members. As we now start the planning for ASEE 2013 in Atlanta, Georgia (guess it's gonna be another hot one!) we ask for your continued commitment to FPD. For those willing to help out please contact Robin Hensel our 2012-2013 Program Chair at robin.hensel@mail.wvu.edu or myself at r.whalen@neu.edu. Helping hands and creative minds are always appreciated. I look forward to working with all of you to continue the success of FPD and building on the hard work of those who have sat in this position before. FPD is strong but there is always room for improvements and your thoughts and ideas are always welcomed. Cheers and see you in Atlanta!

With kind regards,

Rich Whalen

2012-2013 First-year Programs Division Chair



Photo courtesy of Beverly Jaeger

CALL FOR PAPERS: The First-year Programs Division (FPD) seeks papers relating to educational activities associated with first-year engineering students, including freshman and transfer students. Topics under consideration include those below, and papers on other pertinent topics are very welcome.

Topic Suggestions:

- Innovative approaches to first-year engineering education
- Insights into group work and team/member assessment
- Creative problem-solving courses and related activities
- Project-based and hands-on courses and related activities
- Instructional use of computers and computer software
- Integrating engineering design into the first year
- Integrated curricula for the first year leading to upper levels
- Advising, student services, bridge and orientation programs,
- Retention strategies, programs, and their assessment
- Pre-college programs, preparation, and experiences
- Linkages with 2-year and junior college institutions
- Linkages with K-12 education and STEM recruitment
- Fostering meaningful and robust service-learning alliances



Due to the competitiveness of publication in the First-year Programs Division, the quality of abstracts -and thus papers- submitted is of utmost importance. As the reviewers are required to evaluate numerous submissions in a short time frame, below are some guidelines and features authors may want to incorporate in order to help the reviewers gain a better understanding of the nature of the work submitted. As each author's potential for contribution to ASEE through the FPD is unique, all of the suggested criteria do not have to be met.

Minimum Abstract Requirements:

- Extended abstracts of up to one full page of text are customary (750-800 words).
- This is a blind submission and blind review. Do not include the names of institutions or authors anywhere in the abstract. However, in order to help facilitate an accurate review it is imperative to include a description of the University or College at which the research was conducted at. It is suggested to use descriptors such as *U University* or *C College*.

Additional Abstract Guidelines and Suggestions:

- As appropriate, include the pedagogical theory or approach being used;
- Indicate the form that your outcome(s) will take as appropriate;
- As applicable, methods of assessment should be made clear;
- A second page may be used to include a graph or image to clarify the nature of your work or to include limited references to indicate a basis for the work undertaken.

Blind peer review occurs for both abstracts and papers. Abstract acceptance does not guarantee acceptance of the paper. ASEE has a Publish-to-Present requirement and final papers must be written and accepted in order for the work to be presented either in a technical session or a poster session at the 2013 ASEE Annual Conference in Atlanta Georgia. Submission of abstracts and final papers will be via the new ASEE Monolith system and in accordance with ASEE published deadlines. Refer to the following link: <http://www.asee.org/conferences-and-events/conferences/annual-conference/2013/program-schedule/call-for-papers>

For more information, contact:

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Meet the Board: *Below are some of the people who keep FPD functioning with passion and energy!*



Back Row, Left to Right: Sue Freeman, Lorelle Meadows, Rick Freuler, Scott Moor, Ken Reid, Keith Mazachek
Front Row, Left to Right: Mara Knott, Beverly Jaeger, Robin Hensel, Jean Kampe, Rich Whalen

Who's Who on the Board and Committees for 2013: *Where are they from and what do they do?*

Sue Freeman, Northeastern University
Executive Board Member-at-Large
Newsletter Editor

Rick Freuler, Ohio State
2012-2013 Past Chair

Mara Knott, Virginia Tech
Vice Chair Elect

Robin Hensel,
Vice Chair, Program Chair

Beverly Jaeger, Northeastern University
Newsletter Editor

Jean Kampe, West Virginia University
Program Chair-Elect

Lorelle Meadows, University of Michigan
Executive Board Member-at-Large

S. Scott Moor, Indiana University Purdue
University, Fort Wayne, Secretary/Treasurer

Keith Mazachek, Washburn University
Executive Board Member-at-Large

Paul Palazolo, University of Memphis
Executive Board Member-at-Large

Ken Reid, Ohio Northern University
Executive Board Member-at-Large Editor

Rich Whalen, Northeastern University
Division Chair, Newsletter Editor

How about
you?

Paper and Presentation Awards in FPD



Best Presentation Award for 2011 Conference:
R U All There? Texting, Surfing, and E-Tasking in the Classroom and its Effects on Learning. Sue Freeman, Beverly Jaeger & Rich Whalen, Northeastern University.



Best Student Presentation for 2011 Conference:
Problem-Based Learning: A Student Perspective on the Role of the Facilitator. Holly Matusovich (pictured), Nicole Hunter, Brett Jones, Marie Paretti, Jacob Preston Moore & Deirdre Annaliese, Virginia Tech.



Best Paper FPD 2012 and PIC III Best Paper Nomination: Empowering Students with Choice in the First Year. Elizabeth Hildinger (pictured), Lorelle Meadows (pictured) & Robin Fowler, University of Michigan.



3rd place Best Paper FPD 2012:
 Online Delivery of a Project-Based Introductory Engineering Course. Christa James-Byrnes (pictured), University of Wisconsin, Barron County & Mark Holdhusen, (pictured) University of Wisconsin, Marathon County.

Also:

2nd place Best Paper FPD 2012:

Dual Model Summer Bridge Programs: A New Consideration for Increasing Retention Rates. Jeff City & Angela Lindner, University of Florida.

Q: What does it take to earn a Best Paper or Best Presentation Award?

A: Refer to past FPD Newsletters for Guidelines:

<http://www.asee.org/member-resources/groups/divisions>

In your next FPD Newsletter: FPD Meeting Minutes, Spotlighting the Program of our First-Place Paper winners, Learning about the Community Engagement Constituent Committee, More Dates and Events of Interest, Looking Ahead to (what to do in) Atlanta ...

Very Special Recognition for Service

Chris Rowe, Past Chair of First-year Programs Division is presented with the prestigious Service Award by Rick Freuler for years of service to the Division.



Q: What else was happening at ASEE in San Antonio?

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A: FPD featured at the Inaugural Division Mixer!

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Read on below



The Inaugural Division Mixer! This year at ASEE saw a few changes in the conference format. One of these upgrades was the Division Mixer. The Sunday evening event officially kicked off the 119th ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition with energy, entertainment, refreshments, and networking. This new innovative format replaced the Annual Picnic with the intention of catalyzing lots of interaction and generating excitement and collaboration. Each Division was invited to apply for a table and was allowed to place any informational and hospitable material at the table to attract and inform members of other divisions.

The mixer worked well to retain all of the positive features of the picnic of years' past. It fostered virtually unlimited interaction among members of different divisions and served to reunite members of common Divisions as they were free to circulate about Ballroom C catching up with familiar colleagues and meeting new ones along the way.

Considering this was the first attempt, it was considered a success with opportunities to develop, improve, and grow. ASEE Leadership was pleased with the response and is also more than happy for you to pass on your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions to your PIC Leaders and Division Officers.



Q: Where can I find a listing of all FPD Papers that were presented at the 2012 ASEE Conference?

A: Head to ASEE web site and search by Division:

<http://www.asee.org/public/conferences/8/registration/sessions>

