



# Engineering Libraries Division Newsletter

## December 2015

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## Message from the Chair

Anne Rauh



Greetings from Syracuse, NY where there is currently no snow on the ground! As excited as I may be by the late arrival of winter in Upstate NY, I know that winter will arrive shortly, the fall semester will wrap up, and we will be turning our attention to 2016 and the wonderful program that Craig Beard and the Conference Planning Committee are preparing. Before we do that, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your engagement and contributions to ELD in 2015.

### Letter from ASEE Officers

In November, I forwarded a message from the officers of ASEE expressing their pleasure with our decision to stay with ASEE and further addressing the organization's financial situation. The entire letter can also be found on pages 3 and 4 of the newsletter. The letter invites us all to attend the Financial Town Hall to be held from 3 pm to 4:30 pm on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 during the Annual Conference. Members will have the chance to ask questions and hear an update about the financial situation of ASEE at that time. I know I plan to attend and I hope some of you will join me.

### Update on BASS Account Administrative Fee

After the November ASEE board meeting, I was informed that sponsorship money we raise for a specific conference activity will not be subject to the 30% administrative fee. This means that every penny we receive for sponsored conference activities will go towards defraying the cost of conference attendance for our members. Amy Buhler and the Development Committee are actively working to secure sponsorships from our generous partners so that we may *laissez les bons temps rouler* at the annual conference in New Orleans.

### Revised ABET Criteria

In November we also learned that ABET has further revised criteria 3 and 5 and sent the revisions out for public comment again. There are seven student outcomes that programs will be required to document, and we should be especially excited to see the inclusion of outcome number 6, "An ability to recognize the ongoing need for additional knowledge and locate, evaluate, integrate, and apply this knowledge appropriately."

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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...)*

The full document is available at <http://www.abet.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Proposed-Revisions-to-EAC-Criteria-3-and-5.pdf> and the information webpage with the link to the survey is available at <http://www.abet.org/news/abet-releases-criteria-proposal-for-public-comment/>. Julie Arendt and the Accreditation and Standards Committee are preparing a formal response that ELD will submit, but you are welcome to submit an individual response to the latest changes. Feedback will be accepted through June 30, 2016.

### Committee Chair Reappointments

The following committees need to have their current chairs reappointed or new chairs appointed in 2016:

- Accreditation and Standards Committee 2016 - 2018
- Development Committee 2016 - 2018
- Membership Committee 2016 - 2018
- Publications Committee 2016 - 2018

If you would like to chair any of these committees, please send a brief email describing your interest to me at [aerauh@syr.edu](mailto:aerauh@syr.edu). The Executive Committee will appoint chairs following elections in the spring. A complete list of committee and appointed position descriptions is available on our website at [http://depts.washington.edu/englib/eld/eld\\_officers\\_committees\\_appointed\\_positions.php#accreditation](http://depts.washington.edu/englib/eld/eld_officers_committees_appointed_positions.php#accreditation).

If you have any questions, comments, or ideas about ELD, please do not hesitate to contact me at [aerauh@syr.edu](mailto:aerauh@syr.edu). I wish everyone a peaceful holiday break and a Happy New Year!



## Letter from ASEE Officers

*The following email message was sent to ELD by 2015-16 ASEE president Joseph J. Rencis on November 3, 2015, and on behalf of ASEE leadership.*

**From:** ELD-L [mailto:[eld-l-bounces@mailman13.u.washington.edu](mailto:eld-l-bounces@mailman13.u.washington.edu)] **On Behalf Of** Anne E Rauh  
**Sent:** November-03-15 10:18 AM  
**To:** '[eld-l@u.washington.edu](mailto:eld-l@u.washington.edu)'  
**Subject:** Message to ELD from ASEE Leadership

Dear ELD Members:

PIC IV Chair Maura Borrego has informed us that many of you have seriously considered leaving ASEE. We are very pleased and thankful that you have decided to stay with us. Our understanding is that driving this consideration was concern about ASEE's financial situation. Allow us to directly address the questions you have raised.

Fiscal year 2014 (ending September 30, 2014) ended with an operating deficit of slightly less than \$1.2M. Part of this deficit, it is important to note, was a product of combining FY 2014 losses with defunct account receivables and other losses not recorded in the previous three fiscal years. Upon this discovery, it was determined while our financial office practices are fully compliant with legal requirements, they have not been sound. We do not believe these practices were the result of malevolent intent or malfeasance. Rather, significant turnover in the accounting department, beginning with the death of CFO Charlotte Watson in 2010 and the departure of several subsequent CFO's and controllers, has led to a loss of institutional knowledge, foresight of addressing accounting and financial concerns, and pressures on every other part of the organization. We have full confidence that current Managing Director for Finance and CFO Joe Dillon has the expertise and background to help guide ASEE to a sound financial situation.

The board anticipates that FY 2015 will also have a deficit, given that corrective action we took came late in this fiscal year. It is clear that if ASEE continues to operate with its existing business model we will have annual operating deficits of at least \$1.5M moving forward. These deficits are the shortfall of our dues and other fee revenue and the expenses associated with the goods and services we offer to our members. Heretofore, we made up this deficit through fees and revenue derived from federal contracts and grants.

However, beginning in March 2013, the federal government substantially reduced the number and size of these federal contracts and grants, resulting in a decrease in the fees and related revenue collected by ASEE. Therefore, it is prudent that ASEE seek to support activities that directly serve members and sustain core organizational functions entirely via dues, conference revenue, and member fees (such as those for meeting registration, publication subscription, etc.). Most significantly, ASEE's academic institutional members voted to increase their dues above the level initially requested by the Board. This was done with the clear intention of assisting the Society in retiring debt and returning to a healthy financial posture as quickly as possible. We were already engaged in the process of redressing a many years' long freeze in individual membership fees. We will continue that process while assuring members that the value of membership continues to exceed fee levels.

While the actions above will address the annual budget shortfall, additional steps are being taken to address accumulated debt and to build our financial reserves. These steps include a campaign to increase the number of institutional and individual members and concerted efforts to develop and market products and services to members and non-members. We very recently renewed two significant fellowship programs that we administer for the government – over the next several years the fees we earn from these programs will go toward paying of short-term debt, expanding our very modest reserve fund, and building an endowment fund. Recognizing the sacrifices being made by our individual and institutional members, ASEE headquarters is making sacrifices as well. While seeking to maintain the high level of service enjoyed by our members, several positions were eliminated following the June Annual Conference. In addition, ASEE is investigating moving to a majority-telecommuting office to save money on office space. This is a complex transition but the effort to determine feasibility is underway (we have very recently signed with a commercial real estate agent to seek tenants for a large portion of space at ASEE HQ).

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## Letter from ASEE Officers *(continued...)*

One of the most fundamental roles of a board of directors is to ensure the financial health of the organization that it oversees. While past ASEE Boards grew increasingly concerned about ASEE's financial condition based on previous deficits, we think it fair to say that none truly appreciated the depths of the challenges the Society faces. In that regard, we think that we can speak for current and previous ASEE Board members, including executive director Dr. Norman Fortenberry, in offering a mea culpa. No one involved in the leadership of this organization wants to cause anything but a positive experience for our members.

As Executive Director, Norman is our chief staff officer and has direct responsibility for effectively managing ASEE's business operations and finances. Norman is playing a key role in translating into operational reality the ASEE Board's guidance for restoring ASEE to financial health. Norman and Joe Dillon will lead a Financial Town Hall to be held from 3 pm to 4:30 pm on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 during the Annual Conference and Exposition to be held in New Orleans. At this event we can personally assure you that members will have a chance to ask questions, be heard, and be responded to in a thoughtful, transparent manner. Norman is always available for phone calls or email exchanges to engage concerned members, makes time for members at the annual conference, and attends a variety of meetings of ASEE leadership bodies.

The Board has also implemented the following actions to improve its ability to properly oversee the operations of the Society including its finances: (i) reorganized Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings to better monitor ASEE's financial operations; (ii) added Board of Director training to include fiscal training; and (iii) added members to the Financial Committee who have strong, diverse financial experience.

We will consistently communicate our progress to our members over the coming year.

Joe Rencis, *ASEE President*, [jjrencis@tntech.edu](mailto:jjrencis@tntech.edu)

Nick Altiero, *ASEE Immediate Past President*, [altiero@tulane.edu](mailto:altiero@tulane.edu)

Louie Martin-Vega, *ASEE President-Elect*, [louis\\_martin-vega@ncsu.edu](mailto:louis_martin-vega@ncsu.edu)

Terri Morse, *ASEE Vice President Finance*, [terri.f.morse@boeing.com](mailto:terri.f.morse@boeing.com)

# Conference Program Update

## Conference Program Update

Hello ELD members,

*Laissez les bons temps rouler* – engineering librarian style! I hope you're making your plans to join your colleagues in beautiful and historic New Orleans, Louisiana, June 26-29, 2016, for the 123rd ASEE Annual Conference.

Many thanks to those who submitted abstracts, to the ELD Program Planning Committee (Amy Buhler, Julie Cook, Scott Curtis, Sylvia George-Williams, Kari Kozak, John Napp, Bruce Neville, Daniela Solomon, and Larry Thompson), and to the members of the Publications Committee, some of whom have already begun the demanding task of reviewing the draft papers.

This year, we received 19 abstracts. ASEE assigned us five technical sessions (two initially, and three more thanks to the efforts of our PIC Chair, Maura Borrego) and one poster session. We were also to get three business sessions we are planning to fill. In addition, we will be co-sponsoring a panel session with the Biomedical Engineering Division on open source textbooks. As you'll see below, ASEE has changed the schedule so that our first sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday will begin at 8:00 a.m. rather than 7:00 a.m.

Preliminary Schedule:

8:00 - 9:30	Monday Plenary	Annual Business Meeting	Technical Session 5
9:45 - 11:15	Exhibit Hall Brunch / NSF Poster Session	Tuesday Plenary	Business Session
11:30 - 1:00	Welcome / Lightning Talks	Exhibit Hall Lunch / Poster Sessions	Business Session
1:15 - 2:45	Technical Session 1	Panel Session	Business Session
3:00 - 4:30	Technical Session 2	Technical Session 3	EEC Meeting
4:45 - 6:15	Exhibit Hall Social (4:30 - 5:30)	Technical Session 4	
7:00 - 8:30	Welcome Reception	Banquet (7:00 - 9:00)	

In addition to our program, we are co-sponsoring these interdivisional sessions:

Interdivisional Town Hall Meeting on the Proposed Changes to the ABET Accreditation Criteria (Criterion 3 and 5)

Meeting for Incoming/Current Programs Chairs & Division Chairs

Our directors Kari Kozak and Julie Cook are planning the Annual Banquet and the Welcome Reception. Stay tuned for more information on these and other social and networking events at the conference.

So mark your calendars for June 26 through 29 in N'awlins, and watch the ELD list for more information on the conference.

Craig Beard  
ELD Program Chair 2015-2016

# Conference Travel Stipends

## Conference Travel Stipends

ASEE / ELD New Orleans 2016 Travel Stipends

Sponsored by  
Morgan & Claypool Publishers

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.

With that in mind, Morgan & Claypool Publishers has again agreed to sponsor travel stipends for the ASEE Annual Conference. Morgan & Claypool has allocated \$1,500 to be disbursed in two \$250 random drawing awards and two \$500 need-based awards.

The drawing for the two \$250 awards was held at the ASEE Seattle conference, with the following winners and alternates selected: Mark Mounts and Linette Koren as winners; and Margaret Phillips, Megan Sapp Nelson, and Jaquelina Alvarez as alternates. The award will be sent to each recipient after confirmation of the recipient's registration for the New Orleans conference. If a random drawing recipient does not attend New Orleans 2016, the funds will be awarded to the alternates in the order that they were drawn.

We will soon be ready to accept applications for the two \$500 need-based awards from Morgan & Claypool. These awards are available to librarians who are at any stage of their career and are members of ELD as of December, 2015.

The \$500 stipends are meant to support those with the greatest need. Therefore, applicants will be asked to document what level of funding they expect to receive from their institutions and travel expense information. Details on the application procedure for the need-based awards will be announced soon on both the ELDnet-l and the ELD-l lists.



# Awards Committee Call for Nominations

## 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, 2016.) 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 2015?
- Have you read an excellent engineering information related paper or book written in 2015?
- 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 and a wide variety of perspectives is extremely helpful to the Awards Committee as it goes about trying to determine "the best of the best."

The awards are listed below along with basic summaries and their respective requirements. A link to the ELD Awards web page is also included. Send all nominations with a subject line of "ELD Awards Nomination" via e-mail to:

Alice Trussell  
Chair, ELD Awards Committee  
[alitrus@ksu.edu](mailto:alitrus@ksu.edu)

**1. HOMER I. BERNHARDT DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD** - Each year at the ASEE Annual Conference, the Engineering Libraries Division presents an award that recognizes work that contributes to the advancement and development of excellence in engineering libraries. Membership in ASEE is not a requirement for this award.

Award nominations must include the name, title, and contact information of the nominee and nominator, nomination rationale statement, and curriculum vitae of the nominee. The rationale statement should not exceed 700 words and should clearly indicate why the candidate is being nominated for this award. Letters of support from individuals besides the person making the nomination may be included.

**Deadline for Nomination: February 9, 2016.**

**2. BEST PUBLICATION AWARD** - The purpose of this award is to honor the best new paper or non-reference monographic work in engineering information published during the year 2015.

Criteria:

1. Single or multiple authors are eligible. Works authored by Awards Committee members are ineligible during the members' terms of service.
2. Work must have been published during the year prior to the year in which the award will be made.
3. Work should represent a significant contribution to the field of engineering information. Work should be scholarly, show evidence of thorough research, documentation, and critical evaluation. It should be clearly written and well organized.

**Deadline for Nomination: February 9, 2016.**

## Call for Nominations *(continued...)*

### 3. INNOVATION IN ACCESS TO ENGINEERING INFORMATION AWARD

The purpose of this award is to honor innovation in access to engineering information.

Criteria:

1. Awarded to a person or entity for the creation of a resource, service or tool in any format that provides innovation in accessing, utilizing, or presenting engineering information. Members of the Awards Committee are ineligible during the members' terms of service.
2. The resource, service or tool must have become available during the two years previous to the year in which the award will be made.
3. The resource, service or tool should represent a significant contribution to the field of engineering information.
4. Resources in all media are eligible.

**Deadline for Nomination: February 9, 2016.**

The ELD Awards web page (<http://depts.washington.edu/englib/eld/awards.php>) has detailed information on each award as well as a listing of past recipients. A new feature highlights the work and accomplishments of the Homer I. Bernhardt Distinguished Service Award winners back to 2001. 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.

Alice

## Committee Reports

### Publications Committee

Scott A. Curtis

We have received and accepted 19 paper/poster abstracts for the 2016 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition. In this activity the Publications Chair worked with the conference Program Chair. The next phase of activity will begin after the February 1, 2016 deadline for authors to submit their draft papers. Based upon the conference timeline provided in the ASEE 2016 Annual Conference Author's Kit ([https://www.asee.org/documents/conferences/annual/2016/2016\\_Authors\\_Kit.pdf](https://www.asee.org/documents/conferences/annual/2016/2016_Authors_Kit.pdf) for the interested reader), the Publications Committee paper reviewers will then have until March 7 to review the papers and notify authors of any requested revisions. There will be an accelerated round of review of papers with requested revisions that will take place from March 21-28, at which point all authors will have notification of acceptance or rejection of their draft papers.

### Accreditation and Standards Committee

Julie Arendt

During the June 2015 ASEE meeting, the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) presented proposed revisions to their accreditation Criterion 3. Criterion 3 addresses student learning outcomes. The proposed version of Criterion 3 would have streamlined eleven learning outcomes down to six. The proposed revision would have removed "broad education," "lifelong learning," and "global" from the accreditation expectations.

The draft revisions received enough criticism that *Inside Higher Ed* posted [one article](#) and two opinion pieces about it. ELD was one of many groups and individuals to ask ABET to reconsider the proposed revisions.

ABET has reconsidered! On November 5, ABET released a [new set of proposed revisions to Criterion 3](#). In the new set, much of what had been dropped in the first draft of revisions has been at least partly reincorporated. The new revision also adds Outcome 6, "**An ability to recognize the ongoing need for additional knowledge and locate, evaluate, integrate, and apply this knowledge appropriately.**"

The Accreditation and Standards (A&S) Committee agreed that this Outcome, as well as some of the other new revisions, were positive changes to the proposed ABET criteria. The wording of Outcome 6 is close to wordings some members of A&S suggested to ABET in their response letters.

It's not over yet! ABET will accept comments on the new proposed revisions until June 30, 2016. ELD will send a letter of support, and you can voice your opinion too. The form for comments is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CRIT35R2>. Please also share this information with any supportive engineering faculty you know who would be interested in this issue.

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## Committee Reports *(continued...)*

### Membership Directory

Subject: December 2015 ASEE ELD Directory of Members - Now Available!

Dear ELD Members,

The ASEE ELD Directory of Members is current as of December 2, 2015. You may download a PDF copy of it from <http://depts.washington.edu/englib/eld/secure/2015DirDecember.pdf>. The password to open the directory is [see email to the eld-l listserv from 12/4/2015]. A non-password protected copy of the Directory will be e-mailed to current ELD members upon request.

If your contact information has recently changed, and if you wish to have these changes reflected in the ASEE ELD Directory of Members, please e-mail your most recent contact information to [ewen@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:ewen@rose-hulman.edu).

Thank you to David Schmitt (Membership Chair), Mel DeSart (Electronic Discussion Lists Chair), Julie Cook (Webmaster), and all other members who provided me with current contact information.

**IMPORTANT:** Access to the ELD Membership Directory is a benefit of ELD membership. The address and password used to access the Directory and the information contained in the Directory should not be reproduced, copied, forwarded, edited, sold, or distributed. We value both your privacy and the privacy of everyone else listed in the Directory.

Kind regards,

Bernadette

ASEE ELD Membership Directory Chair