Engineering Libraries
Division Newsletter

Chair's Message

As the end of the year approaches it is sometimes useful to remind oneself that the academic year is only half complete. There are still six months in which to accomplish goals, complete projects and plan for the new year. In that spirit, let me update you on the progress of the Division in accomplishing its goals for the 2000-2001 year.

✔ ACRL Information Literacy Standards
The motion, passed at the annual Business Meeting in June 2000, endorsing the principles of the ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education was forwarded to Dan Davis, PIC IV chair, to present to the ASEE Board at their January meeting.

✔ Letter to the Center for Research Libraries
A draft of this letter is included later in this newsletter. Comments are solicited from members until January 3, 2001 after which the letter will be finalized and sent to the director of CRL.

✔ JSTOR Task Force
This task force has been formed (see the description later in the newsletter) with a charge to complete their work in time for discussion at the annual meeting in June 2001.

✔ Mentoring Task Force
A new task force has been formed to investigate mentoring opportunities for both old and new members of the division. Jay Bhatt chairs the task force and describes their goals later in this newsletter.

📁 Liaisons with other engineering library organizations
The Extended Executive Committee is working on the parameters for these positions and we hope to have something ready for discussion in the next newsletter.

🗇 Other activities:
Your chair is working on a publicity campaign to alert library schools that our members are willing to speak to groups of library school students about engineering librarianship. I'm simply calling this service a "Speaker's Bureau" that will be open to queries from any groups for opportunities to speak about being an engineering librarian.
In an effort to encourage attendance at the ASEE annual meetings and promote ELD membership, I drafted a proposal that SLA and ALA members be offered ASEE member rates for annual meeting registration. Dan Davis, the PIC IV chair, will present it at the next ASEE board meeting.
Mel DeSart is hard at work developing an exciting program for the members in Albuquerque in June 2001. Personally, I am looking forward to burritos for breakfast - as well as the company of colleagues, of course!

YOUR role 🖑

Some of the committees and task forces could use some assistance. Take a moment to look at the committees of the Division and see if you have particular interests (http://www.englib.cornell.edu/eld/officers.html). Contact the committee chair if you are interested. Has one of the projects above

piqued your interest? If so, let me know and I'll help you get involved. Are there projects or issues you want the division to investigate? Speak up and we'll take a look!

Enjoy the remains of this calendar year and I'll see you in the next.

Linda Musser
ASEE/ELD Chair
Lrm4@psu.edu
814-863-7073

Conference Program Update

Greetings! The conference program for Albuquerque is shaping up nicely, but isn't quite set in stone yet. Much more detailed information will be available in later issues of the Newsletter. And while almost all of the technical session content is set, there is still an option for ELDers to present at the conference via our Division's Poster Session. Per a recent e-conversation with Poster Session moderator Kate Lee, at present we have only 3 poster presentations lined up. Given that we have space for up to 20, there is ample opportunity for you to communicate the results of your research, project, program or other activity to your colleagues. Drop Kate a note at katelee@mail.uflib.ufl.edu if you'd like to participate in the 2001 ELD Poster Session.

Mel DeSart
ELD Program Chair

Call For Award Nominations

The ELD Awards Committee requests your assistance in submitting nominations for the following awards.

The Homer I. Bernhardt Distinguished Service Award.
This award recognizes work by an individual that contributes to the advancement and development of excellence in engineering libraries. Each year at the ASEE Annual Conference the Engineering Libraries Division presents an award to the recipient.

Deadline: February 28th, 2001.

How to nominate: Award nominations must include the name, tide, 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. Membership in ASEE is not an eligibility requirement for this award.

Call for Nominations for the ASEE/ELD Best Paper Award
This award is to recognize the best paper in engineering information published in the previous two years. The paper must have been published in 1999 or later and should represent a significant contribution to the field of engineering information/librarianship. Papers should be scholarly, show evidence of thorough research, documentation and critical evaluation. It should be clearly written and well organized.

Call for Nominations for the ASEE/ELD Best Reference Work Award.
This award is to honor the best reference work in engineering information. Reference works published or released in 1998 or later, which represent a significant contribution to

the field of engineering information, are eligible. Works in all media are eligible.

Nominations for all of these awards may be submitted to:

Suzanne Weiner at stweiner@unity.ncsu.edu
or
Textiles Library
NCSU Libraries
PO Box 8301
NC State University
Raleigh NC 27695
Fax: (919) 515-3926

Thank You
CSA

for Sponsoring the
Hors D'Oeuvre Hour
At the ELD Banquet

Mentoring Task Force

ELD's Mentoring Task Force has been set up to develop and implement mentoring related activities to promote networking, and develop mechanisms that offer opportunities in professional development for ELD members. The Task Force will work with the Program Chair(s) to develop activities at the 2001 and 2002 Annual Meetings to achieve these goals. The MTF will set up a long-term mentoring procedure and offer mentors as guides to next year's conference.

Present Committee members are:

Jay Bhatt, Chair   bhatt@drexel.edu
Tom Volkening
volkenin@mail.lib.msu.edu,
volkenin@egr.msu.edu
Suzanne Weiner   suzanne_weiner@ncsu.edu
Linda Martinez   bookworm@duke.edu
Jennifer Edelman   jedelman@osf1.gmu.edu

Holding a reception for new members at the next year's conference was one suggestion that the MTF will consider. Other forms of activities may include:
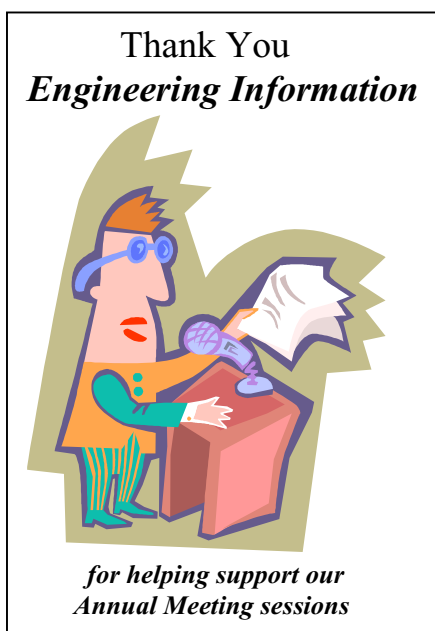
1. Setting up Mentor/Mentee teams based upon similar interest areas. Areas of interests can include but are not limited to: building electronic journals collection, collection development and weeding, weeding old abstracts and indexes (print), developing instructional modules (web based, guidebooks and literature resource guides), outreach to students and faculty, ways of promoting new resources to our community, developing and maintaining skills on electronic resources among students and faculty, etc.

2. Electronic mentoring – the MTF will try to identify experts who can provide advice on specific topics such as publishing and accreditation.

If you have any ideas, suggestions and feedback, please send them to Jay.
The Mentoring Task Force is looking forward to a fruitful and collaborative participation from other members of ELD.

Jay Bhatt,
Mentoring Task Force Chair

JSTOR Task Force

A task force has been formed to assemble a priority list of engineering journals that the ELD would like to see preserved in a JSTOR-like fashion. The initial list will be short, approximately 10 titles, with deadline for completion of June 2001 for discussion at the annual meeting in Albuquerque. If you are interested in participating, contact Linda Musser or Dorothy Byers.

Thank You
Engineering Information

for helping support our Annual Meeting sessions

ELD Committee Openings

The Awards Committee is looking for a few additional members. What's involved? You just need to be willing to read some of the latest articles on engineering librarianship and look at new, exciting engineering reference works. Who wouldn't want to do that? If you are interested, please contact Suzanne Weiner at stweiner@unity.ncsu.edu.

Are any new members interested in learning more about the ELD? Do you want to add something to your vita? Consider volunteering for the position of Editor of the ASEE/ELD Newsletter. Tom Conkling would be happy to talk with any interested members about taking on the job. Tom's number is 814-865-3698, or email him at twc1@psu.edu.

Draft of Letter to CRL Director

The following is a draft of a letter that the ELD plans to send to the director of the Center for Research Libraries. Please send your comments and suggestions about this draft to Linda Musser (Lrm4@psu.edu) by January 3, 2001.

To the Director of CRL from the members of ASEE/ELD:

The members of the Engineering Libraries Division of ASEE collectively represent one of the largest archives of engineering literature in the world. Additionally, many of their institutions are members of the CRL. While our strongest collection development focus is on access to the latest developments in our fields, we are also deeply committed to the preservation of access to historic and potentially valuable research materials of the past. We are concerned that many preservation efforts in the science and technology have focused primarily on the former to the near exclusion of the latter. Since the Center's collections are managed to complement and supplement the collections of major North American research libraries, the CRL could potentially play an important role in filling this void of preservation of technology materials. CRL could best aid us in achieving our goals of preservation and access by:

a) providing access to current works in engineering published outside the U.S.,

Canada and Western Europe
b) archiving older engineering texts, journals, and handbooks
c) collecting the grey literature of engineering including superceded standards such as those from the ASTM, ASME, and ANSI; technical reports, and product catalogs such as Thomas' Register.

While need is great across all engineering disciplines, attention is particularly needed in the fields relating to mining and various aspects of civil engineering as there is no federal agency that addresses these fields.

Publications

DePetro, T.G. "ESDU International and Engineering Libraries: Past, Present, and Future." *Sci-Tech News* 54(4), November 2000, pp.6-9.

News Items

NCLIS is proposing a new federal government information agency to combine the activities of NTIS and the federal depository library program. A preliminary draft is available at http://www.nclis.gov/govt/assess/assess.html. Public commentary is being solicited.

This interesting paper can be found on the BrightPlanet.com website (http://www.completeplanet.com/Tutorials/DeepWeb/index.asp):
The Deep Web - Surfacing Hidden Value
"…Searching on the Internet today can be compared to dragging a net across the surface of the ocean. There is a wealth of information that is deep, and therefore missed. There is a vast reservoir of Internet content that is 500 times larger than the known "surface" World Wide Web. What makes the discovery of the deep Web so significant is the quality of content found within. There are literally hundreds of billions of highly valuable documents hidden in searchable databases that cannot be retrieved by conventional search engines."