

# The ASEE Environmental Engineering Division Newsletter

Spring 2005

## A Message from the Division Chair

Dear Colleagues:

Greetings to all who pursue enlightened environmental engineering education! I write this letter after another long day at the "office". However, this is a labor of love of my own choosing, as it is for many of you. I did not go into academia for money, but because I felt I could have a stronger impact in my chosen profession. Now, as I look back over my years of involvement with ASEE, I see that IT has had an even stronger impact on me!

I started attending ASEE Annual Conferences in 2000 and have yet to miss a year. The conference has had a profound influence on how I do my job of teaching engineering. I've learned some of the tricks of the trade (and there are many more to learn), seen the power of service learning in educating students, made new friends and reconnected with long-forgotten professors and mentors. Over the last 4 years, I have served as treasurer, secretary, program chair, and now chair of the environmental engineering division, and I can say without hesitation that the experience has been enlightening, exhilarating, and, at times, exhausting. I look back now and see that my involvement in this division has truly been an education, and I look forward to continuing my involvement with the division and ASEE.

This past year, I have seen a growth in division activities and changes in the way we do business. For example, we are forming an alliance with the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professionals (AEESP) to strengthen the breadth of the division's outreach on engineering education pedagogy and methodology. The first step in this alliance is in the area of sustainability with a planned workshop in environmental sustainability for the AEESP Research and Education Conference to be held at Clarkson University campus in July 2005.

As usual, the upcoming ASEE Annual conference provides an appropriate end to the year and an opportunity to begin anew. The program includes session on accreditation, sustainability, service learning, curriculum development, and Tricks of the Trade (see the article in this newsletter for further information). I hope you all can attend and look forward to seeing old friendships and making new ones. As I step down from being the Division Chair, I want to thank the individuals who have helped our division run smoothly. I appreciate their commitment and continuing efforts. Hope to see you all in Portland!

Sincerely,  
Chris

**Dr. Christopher Swan**  
Tufts University  
cswan@tufts.edu

Be sure to check out the Division Web Site:  
<http://users.rowan.edu/~jahan/asee/envwebpage.htm>

## **OFFICERS** **July 2004- June 2005**

**Division Chair:** Dr. Christopher Swan  
Tufts University  
cswan@tufts.edu

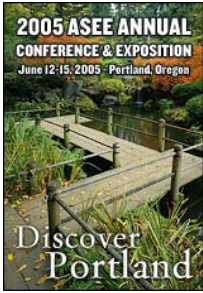
**Program Chair:** Dr. Francis Hopcroft  
Wentworth Inst. Of Technology  
[hopcroff@wit.edu](mailto:hopcroff@wit.edu)

**Secretary:** Michael A. Butkus  
US MA West Point  
[bm8375@usma.edu](mailto:bm8375@usma.edu)

**Treasurer:** David Pines  
University of Hartford, CT.  
[pines@mail.hartford.edu](mailto:pines@mail.hartford.edu)

**Please note that the Treasurer position is open for 2005-2006. Please attend the Division Business Meeting at Portland if you are interested in this position.**

## ASEE 2005 Activities



The Environmental Engineering Division will be hosting five technical sessions at the ASEE Annual Conference in Portland.

The sessions are scheduled as follows:

- Session 1351 Accreditation
- Session 1451 Sustainability
- Session 2451 Service Learning
- Session 3451 Curriculum Development
- Session 3651 Tricks of the Trade

We will be holding our annual Dinner Meeting Monday evening, 6/13/05. The location has not been finalized yet but there are a host of fine dining establishments and options available to us. A notice will be sent to all once the details are set and a notice will also be posted at the conference. We generally start the dinner meeting between 6:00 and 6:30 pm. ***This year we will also be holding our annual Business Meeting at the restaurant in conjunction with the dinner meeting, immediately prior to the serving of dinner, to encourage more participation from the Division membership.***

The Business Meeting will start about 6:00 pm while dinner will be started about 7:00 pm, or earlier if we get done with the Business Meeting.

### ***DIVISION SOCIAL***

***Monday June 13, 2005,  
Time: 6:00 PM***

***Kells Irish Restaurant and Pub,***

***125 S.W. Second Avenue,  
Portland, OR.***

***Phone: 503 227 4057  
(website:www.kellsirish.com)***

This social event is open to all division members, prospective members, families and friends. The event provides a relaxed atmosphere to socialize and honor the Best Paper Award and the Early Career Grant recipients and the Outgoing Division Chair. The division honors the awardees with a plaque, certificate and a free invitation for the dinner.

**Please inform Dr. Francis Hopcroft at hopcroff@wit.edu if you plan on attending.**



## BEST PAPER AWARD 2004

Dr. Charles Turner and Leirad Carrasco are the recipients of the Best Paper Award for 2004.

This professor-student partnership was titled ***"Weaving Green Engineering into Campus Construction"***.

This paper was presented at Session 3551 last year. Dr. Charles Turner is a Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Texas at El Paso. His research interests range from water resources of the Rio Grande and water treatment and desalination. He is an advocate of sustainability in all aspects of engineering.



Leirad Carrasco is a graduate student pursuing a Ph.D. in the same department. She holds a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering and an M.S. in Environmental Engineering from the same institution.



## EARLY CAREER GRANT, 2005

Dr. Kevin Bower is an Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at The Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina.

Dr. Bower's scientific research interests are water quality in the drinking water distribution system and advanced

oxidation processes. His teaching research interests are in improving active learning environments and the development of classroom pedagogy to improve moral development in engineering students. Dr. Bower received his Ph.D. in 2003 from The University of Akron (Akron, Ohio).

Dr. Bower's paper is titled ***"Implementing Self-Directed Problem Based Learning in a Multidisciplinary Environmental Engineering Capstone Class"***.



## Call for Papers 2006

The Environmental Engineering Division invites papers for the 2006 ASEE Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois June 18-21, 2006.

*The Environmental Engineering Division is seeking input from the membership regarding the general topics of greatest interest for next year's conference in Chicago. We have the opportunity to seek papers on essentially any topic relevant to our Division and of interest to our members. We are seeking the input of all the members on this issue to try to make sure that the topics we choose are timely, relevant and interesting to our members and to the ASEE membership at large.*

Papers in the past have focused on the following topics:

- Innovative approaches in teaching environmental engineering courses;
- Laboratory development in environmental engineering;
- Innovative curricula;
- Outreach to elementary, middle, or high school students;
- Undergraduate research experiences;
- Interdisciplinary projects and contests;
- Nuclear engineering and the environment;
- Accreditation;
- Technology enhanced learning and distance education; and
- Green engineering/sustainability.

Questions may be addressed to the Environmental Engineering Division Program Chair, Dr. Michael A. Butkus via phone (617-989-4177) or e-mail ([bm8375@usma.edu](mailto:bm8375@usma.edu)).

## Best Paper Award

The author must be a current member of ASEE and of the Environmental Engineering Division. The paper must be submitted to the proceedings. **The author (not a graduate student or colleague) must present the paper.** For multiple authors, at least one paper author must be a division member, and the presentation at the

conference must be made by a division member. In cases of multiple qualified authors, the prize will be split.

**Prize is dinner for winner + 1 guest and recognition at the Division dinner, a plaque, and an honorarium of \$200.**

## EARLY CAREER GRANT 2006

The Environmental Engineering Division of ASEE is pleased to announce the inception of the Early Career Grant. Recipients of this grant will be registered for the conference free of charge, and will be guests at the Environmental Engineering Division Dinner.

### Eligibility Criteria

Applicant will be in a tenure-track position as of August 30, 2005. Applicant will be un-tenured as of August 30, 2005.

Applicant teaches at any 2- or 4-year University that offers at least one environmental engineering course.

***The abstract must be submitted to the Environmental Engineering division.***

### Selection Criteria

A single recipient will be selected based on the abstract submitted. A selection committee will judge the abstract based on its ability to positively impact environmental engineering education.

### Application Process

To apply, simply ensure that the last line of the abstract contains the following sentence:

***"I am eligible for the Environmental Engineering Division Early Faculty Grant."***

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Environmental Engineering Division Program Chair for 2006 (Michael A. Butkus) at [bm8375@usma.edu](mailto:bm8375@usma.edu).

## Upcoming ASEE Conferences

- **June 18 – 21, 2006**  
**Chicago, Illinois**
- **June 24-27, 2007**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii**

*Newsletter Editor:*

*Dr. Kauser Jahan, P.E.  
Associate Professor  
Civil and Environmental  
Engineering  
Rowan University  
201 Mullica Hill Road  
Glassboro NJ 08028  
Phone: 856-256-5323  
Fax: 856-256-5242  
email: [jahan@rowan.edu](mailto:jahan@rowan.edu)*