Welcome to another installment of the ASEE Gulf-Southwest Section Newsletter, which is issued annually. The Section had a wonderful meeting in Houston, Texas (hosted by the University of Houston). This was yet another successful Section annual meeting. The choice for the venue and its location couldn’t have been any better. The topics covered were truly informing and educating, and pretty full attended at times. There were company presentations that were truly engaging. So my personal congrats to the organizers on a very well done meeting that continued the tradition of excellent conferences our Section is known for.

The 2012 meeting (see more info below) is gearing up to be another excellent edition for our GSW Section. This conference comes in the midst of important national discussions on the importance of engineering and technology education in helping our economy grow and stay ahead. I hope to see you there.

Tariq Khraishi, Section Newsletter Editor

The Chair’s Corner

The 2011 ASEE Gulf Southwest Section’s Annual Conference, sponsored by University of Houston, College of Technology, was held on March 9-11, 2011 at the Westin Oaks at the Galleria in Houston, Texas.

The conference theme was "Innovating Engineering and Engineering Technology Education." The conference began on Wednesday afternoon with two parallel pre-conference workshops. BiPOM Electronics, Inc. workshop was on ARM Technologies and was presented by M. Oguz (Oz), the CEO and President of BiPOM and 26 people attended the workshop. The second workshop was on PSoC and was presented by Patrick Kane, Director of Cypress University Alliance program and was attended by 31 people. Following a short social, the attendees had the opportunity to attend a reception.
Thursday morning started by a Keynote Speaker Dr. William Fitzgibbon, Dean, College of Technology. Paper presentations started on Thursday morning. Dr. Raymond Cline, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, College of Technology at the University of Houston was the luncheon keynote Speaker. Music by Alfredo entertained the attendees on Thursday night during a dinner banquet.

Cathy Wicks, University Program Manager, from Texas Instruments, Inc. presented the TI Technologies and Programs during breakfast on Friday morning and Igor Alvarado, Business Development Manager – Academic Research, from National Instruments, Inc., presented NI Technologies during lunch. The conference ended by the awards ceremony.

The conference was attended by 52 faculty, 36 students, and over 25 guests for a total of 113 people. The conference also had five vendors (Texas Instruments, Inc, National Instruments, Inc, BiPOM Electronics, Inc., Cypress Semiconductors, Inc., and Entest) that displayed their products and services in the main registration area. A total of 15 sessions were planned for the 76 conference papers. In addition to the faculty papers, the conference included sessions for both undergraduate and graduate student paper competitions. All faculty papers as well as full student papers were published in the conference proceedings on a CD-ROM format. The papers are also available at the conference website (www.uh.edu/aseegsw2011).

The post-conference workshop on “The Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program” was presented by Dr. Sheryl Sorby. 11 people attended the workshop.

University of Houston, College of Technology was honored to host the 2011 ASEE-GSW conference. On behalf of the administration, faculty, staff, and students of the University of Houston’s College of Technology we thank you for participating and making this year’s conference a big success.

The 2012 ASEE-GSW Annual Conference will be hosted by the University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas on February 15-17, 2012. It is shaping up to be a great conference and I hope to see you all there.

Farrokh Attarzadeh, 2011 Conference Chair
A Word from Program Chair

Upcoming section meeting:
The American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)
The 2012 ASEE-GSW Annual Conference
Organized by the University of Texas – El Paso (UTEP)
April 4-6, 2012
El Paso, Texas

“Bridging Theory and Practice in Engineering and Technology Education”

The College of Engineering at UTEP invites engineering and technology educators, students and professionals from industry to the 2012 American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) Gulf Southwest Annual Conference.

Papers from all points in the engineering and technology student pipeline, including K-12, Undergraduate Education, Graduate Education and after engineering and technology graduates enter the Professional Workforce are welcome. Papers from all engineering and technology disciplines are welcome.

Prospective authors are invited to submit papers in the following tracks:
Classroom Teaching: Papers in this scope area will typically present instructional strategies used by engineering and technology educators in a classroom setting.
Informal Instructional and Learning Strategies Outside the Classroom: This track will publish papers on informal and engineering and technology educators use outside the classroom.
Assessment and Evaluation: This track will specially focus on novel assessment tools and techniques to assess the effectiveness of a certain practice.
Technology Mediated Learning and Instruction: Papers published in this scope area will detail the use of technology in furthering the effectiveness of the practice of engineering and technology educators.
Faculty Development Activities for Improvement of Practice: This section will provide engineering and technology faculty an opportunity to write about any unique professional development efforts they were part of, especially for improving their instructional practice.
Industry Perspectives: This section will publish papers from industry practitioners who may be able to contribute to improving engineering and technology education.
Student Perspectives: Student authors are invited to provide student perspectives on the practices and instructional efforts of engineering and technology educators.
Applications of Education Theory: Papers that illustrate applications of widely accepted learning theory in education in general and engineering and technology education in particular will be published in this track. Software applications developed using accepted learning theories and principles will also be published in this track.

Authors interested in proposing other sessions that they can organize around a common theme are invited to contact the conference organizers.

Timeline and Paper Submission Process:
After registering and creating an account in the online paper submission, authors are
invited to submit a 300-word abstract of their paper. Abstracts are due November 1, 2011.

All abstracts will be reviewed by the conference organizing committee. Notification of acceptance of the abstracts will be emailed by November 15, 2011.

Authors whose abstracts are accepted will then be required to submit a full paper for the conference proceedings, unless they are doing an “Abstract Only” presentation. Full papers will be due by February 1, 2012. Authors (main author and/or co-authors) whose final papers or abstracts are accepted for presentation in the conference and for inclusion in the proceedings must register for, and commit to present at, the conference.

**Conference Website:**
http://2012aseegswconference.info