

# NEWSLETTER

## OF THE ASEE GULF-SOUTHWEST SECTION

August 2005

### Newsletter Editor Corner

Hello! Welcome to another installment of the ASEE Gulf-Southwest (GSW) Section Newsletter. This is the third Newsletter that I have worked on for the Section (the first one was done in July 2003). I want to be the first to say that the Section had another successful year celebrating engineering education. Highlights of success stories are discussed elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Here, I simply want to point out the new changes made to this Newsletter over last year's. Although the letter's format mirrors that of last year, there are two new sections added here: "Treasurer Report" and "Section Campus Representative Report". Read through them as well as the all-NEW information in the rest of the letter and enjoy! As always, contributions from Section members are welcome for consideration.

*Tariq Khraishi*, Section Newsletter Editor



### The Chair's Corner

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The 2005 ASEE Gulf Southwest Section's Annual conference, sponsored by Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (A&M-CC), was held on March 23-25 at the Holiday Inn-EMERALD BEACH in Corpus Christi. The conference included two workshops on Wednesday afternoon: (1) "Discover One Instrument that Can Positively Affect Learning, Retention, and Diversity in the Engineering Classroom-Experience MBTI," by Kristi Shryock of Texas A&M University, and (2) "The Development and Assessment of Computer-Based Active-Learning Materials for Engineering Courses," by Roman Taraban and Edward Anderson of Texas Tech. Highlights of the conference included the Thursday opening session presentation by Dr. Diana Marinez, Dean of the College of Science and Technology at A&M-CC and

the stimulating talk by Dr. Robert Furgason, Executive Director of the Harte Research Institute at A&M-CC.

The program included 68 regular papers and 23 student papers, with four concurrent sessions. The conference proceedings were published on a CD-ROM and are freely available on-line at our Section's website (<http://www.aseegsw.org/>). Attendance at the conference was 99, including students. Pictures from the conference are now posted online at <http://entc.tamucc.edu/ASEE-GSW-Conf/ASEE-GSW.htm>. On behalf of the A&M-CC administration, faculty, staff, and students, I convey my sincere thanks to all who attended the conference for their participation and contribution. Hope to see many of you at next year's meeting in Baton Rouge.

*Ray Bachnak, 2005-2006 Section Chair*

## A Word from Program Chair



Upcoming section meeting:  
**American Society for Engineering  
Education**  
**Gulf-Southwest 2006 Conference**  
**March 15-17, 2006**  
**Southern University – Baton Rouge**  
**Baton Rouge, LA 70813**

### ***“Engineering Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Pipeline and Workforce”***

[http://www.engr.subr.edu/ASEE/ASEE\\_GSW%2006%20Index.htm](http://www.engr.subr.edu/ASEE/ASEE_GSW%2006%20Index.htm)

The conference will begin at 1:00 pm on Wednesday March 15, 2006 with afternoon workshops from 1 pm to 5 pm. Paper presentation sessions start on Thursday morning and continue on Friday. The conference will conclude with an award

luncheon at noon on Friday. The organizing committee invites members of the GSW section to submit workshop proposals for review. In particular, workshop proposals that focus on aspects of engineering education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century or unique application areas are encouraged. Each workshop should last about four hours. The format and content of each workshop will largely be determined by the presenter. Workshop proposals should state the goals of the workshop and provide sufficient information to evaluate the quality and importance of the topic. Proposals should be limited to three pages and contain the following information:

- Proposed title of the workshop
- A brief technical description of the workshop, specifying the workshop goals and its focus
- A brief discussion of why and to whom the workshop is of interest
- The names, postal addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of the proposed workshop organizer(s).

Workshop proposals should be submitted via e-mail. Please send an electronic copy (plain text, word or pdf) as soon as possible but no later than November 4, 2005 to Dr. Hamid Majlesein, Workshop Coordinator. Email: [hamid@engr.subr.edu](mailto:hamid@engr.subr.edu). Proposals will be reviewed and prospective organizers will be notified of the decision no later than December 2, 2005.

For more information contact:

#### **Vice-Chair (Program Chair):**

Dr. Patrick Carriere  
Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs  
College of Engineering  
Southern University- Baton Rouge  
Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
Phone: (225) 771- 5870/5290  
FAX (225) 771-4320  
E-mail: [carriere@engr.subr.edu](mailto:carriere@engr.subr.edu)

# Section Officers

## **Past Chair:**

Lloyd Heinze  
Associate Professor of Petroleum  
Engineering  
213B Petroleum Engineering Building  
Texas Tech University  
Lubbock, TX 79409-3111  
(806) 742-1801 ext 236 (office)  
(806) 742-3502 (FAX)  
Email: [Lloyd.Heinze@ttu.edu](mailto:Lloyd.Heinze@ttu.edu)  
*Term expires: June 2006*

## **Chair:**

Dr. Ray Bachnak  
Professor  
Engineering Technology  
Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi  
(TAMUCC)  
6300 Ocean Drive, ST 222D  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412  
(361) 825-6025 (Office)  
(361) 825-2795 (FAX)  
Email: [rbachnak@falcon.tamucc.edu](mailto:rbachnak@falcon.tamucc.edu)  
*Term expires: June 2006*

## **Vice-Chair (Program Chair):**

Patrick E. Carriere P. E.  
Chairman and Massie Chair Professor  
Department of Civil Engineering  
P.B.S. Pinchback Bldg,  
Southern University  
Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
Phone: (225) 771-5870  
Fax: (225) 771-4320  
E-mail: [carriere@engr.subr.edu](mailto:carriere@engr.subr.edu)  
*Term expires: June 2006*

## **Secretary/Treasurer:**

Jerry Keska  
Department of Industrial Technology  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

PO Drawer 42972  
Lafayette, LA 70504-2972  
(337) 482-5718 (office)  
(337) 482-6661 (FAX)  
Email: [jkeska@louisiana.edu](mailto:jkeska@louisiana.edu)  
*Term expires: June 2007*

## **Section Campus Rep:**

Amir Karimi  
Associate Dean of Engineering  
The University of Texas at San Antonio  
6900 North Loop 1604 West  
San Antonio, TX 78249  
(210) 458-5514 (office)  
(210) 458-5589 (FAX)  
Email: [akarimi@utsa.edu](mailto:akarimi@utsa.edu)  
*Term expires: June 2006*

## **Section Newsletter Editor:**

Tariq Khraishi  
Mechanical Engineering Department  
The University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131  
(505) 277-6803 (office)  
(505) 277-1571 (FAX)  
Email: [khraishi@me.unm.edu](mailto:khraishi@me.unm.edu)  
*Term expires: June 2007*

## **Section Awards Committee Chair:**

Habib Mohamadian  
Mechanical Engineering Dept.  
Southern University & A&M College  
Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
(225) 771-4624 (office)  
(225) 771-4877 (FAX)  
Email: [mohamad@engr.subr.edu](mailto:mohamad@engr.subr.edu)  
*Term expires: appointed*

## **Section Nominating Committee and Resolutions Committee Chair:**

Ronald E. Barr  
Mechanical Engineering Department  
Mail Code C2200  
University of Texas at Austin  
Austin, Texas 78712  
(512) 471-3008 (office)

(512) 471-7683 (FAX)  
Email: rbarr@mail.utexas.edu  
Term expires: appointed

### **Section Webmaster**

Terrence L. Chambers  
Department of Mechanical Engineering  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
PO Drawer 44170  
Lafayette, LA 70504-4170  
(337) 482-6731 (office)  
(337) 482-1129 (FAX)  
Email: [tlchambers@louisiana.edu](mailto:tlchambers@louisiana.edu)  
Term expires: appointed



**Find Us on the Internet!**

You can find us on-line at the following URL:  
<http://www.aseegsw.org/>

This link contains the latest info on the 2006 Section meeting/conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, as well as all proceedings from post Section meetings.



@ the 2005 ASEE-GSW Section Annual Meeting

Habib P. Mohamadian, Section Awards  
Committee Chair

- ***Outstanding Campus Representative Award (Certificate):***  
Troy F. Henson, University of Texas at Tyler
- ***Outstanding Teaching Award (Certificate and \$500):***  
Amir Karimi, University of Texas at San Antonio
- ***Outstanding Service Award (Certificate and \$500):***  
William McCarthy, New Mexico State University
- ***Conference Person-Mile Award (Plaque):***  
Texas Tech University
- ***Student Paper Awards***
  - **1<sup>st</sup> Place Award (Certificate and \$150):**  
Richard Hoehn and Saleh M. Sbenaty, “*Designing, Building, and Testing a Microcontroller-Based System for Industrial Applications,*” Middle Tennessee University
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award (Certificate and \$100):**  
Jeanette De Leon, Alfred Vitela, and Randall D. Manteufel, “*Evaluations of LEED Green Building Rating Potential for the Engineering at UTSA,*” University of Texas at San Antonio
  - **3<sup>rd</sup> Place Award (Certificate and \$75):**  
Christopher A. Irle and Steven L. Bryant “*Buoyancy-driven Flow and Residual Stagnations in Sand Columns,*” University of Texas at Austin
- ***Best Paper Awards***
  - **1<sup>st</sup> Place Award (Certificate and \$300):**

Edgar C. Clause, W. Roy Penney, Jeffrey R. Dorman, Daniel E. Fluornoy, Alice K. Keogh, and Lauren N. Leach, "Laboratory/Demonstration Experiments in Heat Transfer: Laminar and Turbulent Forced Convection Inside Tubes," University of Arkansas

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award (Certificate and \$200):**  
Richard Bannerot, "An Early Hands-on Experience in Mechanical Engineering that Seams Particularly of Interest to Female Students," University of Houston
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place Award (Certificate and \$100):**  
Sarah J. Smith, "Ethics in Engineering Education," Purdue University North Central

## Awards Info

The Chair of the Section Awards Committee, Professor Habib Mohamadian, wants to share with Section members information regarding Section awards and nomination procedures below. This information should be kept on file if you anticipate making or getting a nomination.

### ASEE Section Outstanding Teaching Award

This award is given by each ASEE section, with support, where possible, from local industry. The award, which focuses on outstanding classroom performance, recognizes teachers of engineering and engineering technology students and serves as an incentive to make further significant contributions to teaching.

**The Award:** The award consists of a certificate, prepared by ASEE National Headquarters, and an appropriate honorarium, where possible, presented by the local section. Each section shall determine its own level of the honorarium and fund the honorarium from its Banking and Accounting Services System fund. Presentations are made at the section annual meeting with notation in the ASEE Annual Awards Banquet Program.

**Qualifications:** Candidates may be teachers of any subject included in an ABET/CEAB accredited engineering or engineering technology curriculum. In addition to technical courses, subjects may include the humanities and social studies, mathematics and science.

The teacher, as an individual, must:

1. Possess and be able to communicate a broad and accurate knowledge of the subject area.
2. Possess self-confidence, create a feeling of harmony between self and students and be able to meet difficulties with poise.
3. Possess a sense of proportion, stressing fundamentals and disregarding trivial detail. Give assignments that challenge students, demanding thinking in the completion of assignments.
4. Demonstrate such an intense interest and enthusiasm for the subject area and for the enhancement of learning processes that students are motivated to their fullest capacities.
5. Be available for advising and counseling students before and after graduation.
6. Teach a minimum of two semester or three quarter courses per calendar year.
7. Have considerable endorsement from students, using both regular course evaluations and individual letters of recommendation as evidence.
8. Attend the section annual meeting at which the award is presented; and make a presentation at that meeting (or the following section meeting) to share some element of his/her success as a teacher.

9. Possess a strong record of activity in ASEE or the educational activities of another professional society.

The teacher's contributions to the profession should include at least three of the following:

1. Participation in the development of courses or curricula.
2. Development of teaching equipment or development of a wider application of teaching equipment previously developed.
3. Contribution to the improvement of laboratories or other facilities.
4. Development or authorship of instructional material or a text that enhances the student learning process.
5. Publication of original work, through any medium, that enhances the engineering education process or adds to the literature pertaining to teaching methodologies.
6. Service as a mentor to other teaching faculty or participation in the conduct of seminars and workshops that are focused on helping other teachers improve their classroom effectiveness.

### **Outstanding Section Campus Representative Award**

The Campus Liaison Board of ASEE has initiated this award in order to recognize those ASEE Campus Representatives who have achieved excellence in their roles as the Society's representative on campus. The ASEE Campus Representative acts as a liaison to help determine members' interests and reactions to Society programs and publications, to stimulate interest among the faculty in section and national meetings and to promote individual membership and involvement. This award is bestowed annually upon those ASEE Campus Representatives who have demonstrated staunch support for ASEE on their campuses.

**The Award:** The award consists of a certificate to the ASEE Campus Representative selected from each section and is presented at the section meeting.

**Award Criteria:** Nominees must have served ASEE significantly through active participation in the following areas:

1. Recognition of outstanding teaching and research activities on his or her campus by submitting ASEE award nominations and support of the New Engineering Educators program.
2. Encouragement of faculty members to submit articles to ASEE publications.
3. Encouraging faculty members to submit papers for presentation at section and national meetings.
4. Promotion of individual membership in ASEE.
5. Encouragement of faculty attendance at section, division and national ASEE meetings.

**Selection Criteria:** Each ASEE Campus Representative should submit an annual form to his or her respective Section Campus Representative outlining ASEE activities on his or her campus. The form is found in the Campus Representative Manual. The appropriate Section Campus Representative will select the recipient of the award based on the evidence that indicates consistent and outstanding promotion of ASEE on campus according to the above award criteria.

### **Outstanding Zone Campus Representative Award**

Each Section Campus Representative will forward to the respective Zone Chair the name of the Section Campus Representative Award recipient together with the appropriate documentation. The Zone Chairs will then select the recipients of the Outstanding Zone Campus Representative Awards.

**The Award:** The award consists of a plaque to be presented to the ASEE Campus Representative, selected by each Zone Chair, at the ASEE Annual Conference.

## Best Paper Awards

The Awards Each year three awards are given to the best engineering education papers published and presented at the annual meeting of the ASEE-Gulf Southwest (GSW) Section. Awards in the amounts of \$300, \$200, and \$100 are given to the first, second and third placed papers, respectively. In addition certificates of recognition are presented to the authors of the selected papers. In the case of co-authors, individual certificates will be presented, but the honorarium will be split among the number of authors. Award presentations are made at the Honors and Awards Luncheon of the ASEE-GSW section.

**Qualifications:** The paper must be presented by the author(s) at the annual meeting. The paper must be an original paper written specifically for and published in the Proceedings of the ASEE-GSW Section Annual Conference. It is permissible that the paper be of similar content to the papers written by the same author(s) for other conferences.

**Selection:** The members of the ASEE-GSW Section Awards Committee will make The selection of best papers.

## Outstanding Service Award

**Purpose:** To recognize a member who has demonstrated a long history of service to engineering education and/or the ASEE-GSW section.

**The Award:** The award consists of a \$500 honorarium and a certificate of recognition. Presentations are made at the section annual meeting with notation in the ASEE Annual Awards Banquet Program.

**Qualifications:** Any current or past member of GSW section with a distinguished record of service to engineering education and/or the ASEE-GSW section shall be eligible for this award.

**Nomination:** Any member of the section may nominate candidates for this award by preparing a nomination package that includes an ASEE General Award Nomination Form, candidate's

curriculum vitae, and a nomination rationale statement highlighting the service to engineering education and/or the ASEE-GSW section. Supporting letters are recommended to strengthen the nomination but not required.

The selection will be made by the section Awards Committee. The nomination package should be mailed to the ASEE-GSW section Awards Committee Chair.



Thanks and congratulations to Dr. Rafic (Ray) Bachnak and his colleagues at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi for organizing an outstanding annual meeting of the ASEE-GSW Section last spring (March 23-25, 2005). A report on the meeting is included elsewhere in this newsletter. A large number of pictures are also posted at the following link. <http://entc.tamucc.edu/ASEE-GSW-Conf/ASEE-GSW.htm> If you attended the meeting, you might find yourself in one of the pictures or you might recognize some of your friends and colleagues. A Campus Representative (CR) meeting was held on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-8:00 a.m. Nine institutions were represented in this meeting. Dr. John Ballard, the Zone III chair, was also present at the meeting. Several issues, including the CR responsibilities, CR list, CR activity report, election of a new Section CR, awards nomination, and future ASEE-GSW meeting sites were discussed. The following is a summary of the topics discussed in the meeting and other information that might be useful to new CRs, prospective CRs, and the general membership.

### **What is a Campus Representative?**

Campus Representatives serve as the liaison between ASEE Headquarters and faculty and students on campus. They play a vital role in recruiting new members, informing their colleagues about the ASEE meetings announcements, call for papers, and other ASEE activities. If you are a new CR or interested in becoming one, the ASEE Campus Representative Operating Manual provides useful information. This can be accessed through the following ASEE link: <http://www.asee.org/members/resources/campusRepOperatingManual.cfm>

### **Do you know if you are a Campus Rep?**

Every year, I send several e-mail messages to the ASEE-GSW Section CRs with information regarding meeting announcements, deadlines for awards nominations, and requests for campus representative reports. To create an e-mail distribution list, I have used the official listing of the ASEE-GSW campus representatives posted on the ASEE website. I realized that the listing is not always complete and for several engineering or engineering technology programs in the GSW Section, no CR is listed on this site. I have been able to compile an extended e-mail list by including all the CRs who have been participating in the GSW Section activities. However, those who are not officially on the ASEE CR list still won't receive information packages from the Headquarters (forms for CR report, membership drive programs, etc.). Occasionally, I get responses to my e-mails from individuals on the official list indicating that they didn't know that they were a CR or they have been retired for a while.

I've wondered why the ASEE Headquarters does not have a complete and accurate list of CRs and how to compile a more accurate

list. The ASEE staff has explained to me that all colleges that hold an institutional membership are asked to assign a campus representative. Some colleges have not responded to this request; therefore they are not represented on the CR list. To have a more complete and accurate CR list, I request for your help by making the following suggestions: Please

- i) Check the following link to see if your college holds an ASEE institutional membership  
<http://www.asee.org/members/organizations/oncampus/memberSchoolsBySection.cfm>
- ii) Check the following website to see if you or someone else from your institution is listed as a campus.  
<http://www.asee.org/members/organizations/oncampus/campusRepsBySection.cfm#303>
- iii) If any corrections or updates are necessary, please contact your Dean's Office and ask them to contact the ASEE-membership department at [membership@asee.org](mailto:membership@asee.org), (202) 331-3521.

### **Campus Representative Activity Report:**

As a Campus Representative you are asked to submit a report each year to provide a summary of ASEE activities at your campus. The completion of this report is very simple. Typically, an electronic Activity Report form is sent to Campus Reps in August or September. If you don't receive the form, you may download this form from the following site:

[http://www.asee.org/members/resources/upload/CR\\_ActivityRpt05-06.doc](http://www.asee.org/members/resources/upload/CR_ActivityRpt05-06.doc). Most common activities are already listed on the form. You just need to mark those activities already implemented or planned for the future on your campus. The form also includes a section on reporting the Dean's actions. Consulting with the Dean in completing the form might also be very useful in gaining his/her support in

conducting ASEE activities at your campus. **The deadline for submission of report is the 31st of October each year.** One copy of the report should be sent to your Section Campus Representative and one copy to ASEE's Membership Department.

These reports are used to select the Outstanding Campus Representative for the Section. The reports from the winners of the Outstanding Campus Representatives from each section are given further consideration for the Outstanding Zone Campus Representative Award. The Outstanding Campus Representative Award is presented at the Annual Section meetings. The Outstanding Zone Campus Representative Award is presented at the Awards Banquet at the ASEE Annual Conference along with the Society's other national awards. Our GSW section winners have done well in winning the Outstanding Zone III Campus Representative Award. In the last nine years, seven recipients of the GSW section Outstanding Campus Representative Awards have also received the Zone III Outstanding Campus Representative Award. Dr. Troy F. Henson from The University of Texas-Tyler received both awards in 2005.

Spread the Word: This membership promotional program is designed to encourage Campus Reps to spread the word about ASEE membership on their campuses. The Deans Program is designed to assist CRs in recruiting new members. Through this program new members can receive two years of free membership. If the Dean provides funds to cover the first year's membership cost, ASEE will waive the second year's membership fees. Each year during the Campus Representatives receptions at the ASEE Annual Conference awards are presented to the Campus Representatives that recruit the highest

number of members and the highest percentage of members in their section.

**Would you be interested in serving as the Campus Representative?** According to our GSW Bylaws, the Section Institutional Representative (Section Campus Representative) shall: act as liaison between Campus Representatives and the section leadership, chair meetings of the Section Campus Representatives, initiate requests to the Deans of Engineering/Engineering Technology member institutions to appoint Campus Representatives, perform the duties of The Section Campus Representative as described in the ASEE Section Officers' Orientation Manual (the ASEE Campus Representative Operating Manual). The Section Institutional Representative shall serve a three-year term of office commencing June 1, following the Annual Section Conference of his/her election. The Section Institutional Representative may serve consecutive, multiple terms.

I have been serving as the ASEE-GSW Section Campus Representative for the last eight years and have had the pleasure of meeting and working with many of you in our section annual meetings. 2005-06 will be the last year of my third term in this position. As I will be serving as the Chair of Zone III over the next two years, perhaps this is a good time for someone else to serve as the GSW Section Campus Representative. If you are interested in this position please contact either Dr. Ron Barr (the Nominating Committee Chair) or myself.

**Nominations for ASEE Awards:** The ASEE-GSW section presents several awards to the members and the participants at the Annual meetings. The current section awards are the Section Outstanding Teaching Award, Section Outstanding Campus Representative Award, Best Paper

Awards, Outstanding Service Award, and the Person-Mile Award. Detailed descriptions of these awards are posted at the ASEE website at the following link: <http://www.asee.org/members/awards/section.cfm>

The best papers are selected at the GSW section annual meeting. Selection of the Section Outstanding Campus Representative is based on the activity reports submitted by October 31<sup>st</sup>. The Person-Mile Award is given to a GSW member institution that receives the highest points when the number of participants from each institution is multiplied by the distance (in miles) between that institution and the conference site. The other two awards require nominations. The deadline for all 2005-ASEE Award nominations, including the section awards, is January 15, 2006. Nomination procedures and the nomination forms are available at ASEE's website and can be accessed directly through the following link: <http://www.asee.org/members/awards/generalNomination.cfm>

The GSW Best Paper will receive consideration for the best Zone paper award through the following procedure. A selection committee reviews the best papers from the three sections in Zone III. The paper selected by the Zone III selection committee and those from the other three Zones will be presented at the ASEE national meeting. A review committee will select one of these papers for the best Zone paper award. The winner of the GSW section award may receive consideration for the National Outstanding Teaching Medal. The National Outstanding Teaching Medal recipient is selected from the winners (past and present) of one of the twelve Section Outstanding Teaching Awards. The recipient of the GSW Section Outstanding

Campus Representative Award will be considered for the Zone III Outstanding Campus Representative Award.

**ASEE-GSW Section Bylaws:** The GSW Section Bylaws are posted on-line at our Section's website (<http://www.aseegsw.org/>)

**Volunteer Institution is needed for hosting the 2007 ASEE-GSW Section Meeting:** The following institutions have volunteered to host future ASEE-GSW meetings: Southern University, Baton Rouge (2006), University of New Mexico, Albuquerque (2008), Baylor University, Waco (2009). The site for 2007 must be identified during the 2006 meeting (preferably, prior to the meeting). According to the Bylaws this meeting must be held in the central region of the GSW section. Therefore any institution in the GSW section located somewhere between Baton Rouge and Albuquerque is qualified to host the 2007 meeting. If your institution is located in the central region of GSW section, please consider hosting the meeting. The meeting will provide increased visibility to your engineering or engineering technology programs. Please contact me or any other GSW officers if you need additional information for hosting the annual meeting.

**ASEE-GSW Section Website:** The section web address is <http://www.aseegsw.org> This website host information related to GSW Section, including papers published in the proceedings of ASEE-GSW section annual meetings since 2003. Dr. Terry Chambers from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette is the section Webmaster. Plans are underway to post the Chronology of the ASEE-GSW Section and a list of the Section's Award recipients on this site. The Chronology of the ASEE-GSW Section contains the list of ASEE-GSW section meeting host institutions and the officers

since 1966. Dr. Ronald Barr handed down the original to me in 1997 and I have updated it annually since that date. I have started to compile a list of ASEE-GSW Awards recipients, starting in 1992. I seek your help to expand the list to include award recipients, prior to 1992. If you have received an award, have copies of older newsletters, or the minutes of the section meetings prior to 1992, please contact me (Amir Karimi).



## \$Treasurer Report \$

ASEE/GSW Section

March 24, 2005

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, Texas

As 2/28/04 there was ending BASS Account balance \$12,974.29 and operating account balance \$550. As 12/28/05 there was ending BASS Account balance \$16,272.41 and operating account balance \$550. Net total change: \$ 3298.12.

*Jerry Keska*



### RESOLUTION

Let it be resolved that the Gulf-Southwest Section of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) expresses its sincere appreciation to **Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi** for hosting the 2005 Annual Section Meeting, and in particular expresses sincere gratitude to:

- i. Program Chair **Dr. Ray Bachnak** for his untiring efforts in organizing the meeting program, paper presentations, and associated activities; and
- ii. **Dr. Diana Marinez**, Dean of the College of Science and Technology for her excellent opening plenary remarks on changing demographics and the new generation of students; and
- iii. **Dr. Patrick Michaud, Dr. Joe Loon,** and **Dr. Robert Ferguson** for their fine talks during our main meal events touching on such important topics as leadership and communication, internet research, green engineering, sustainability, shifting learning paradigms, and the flammability of strawberry pop tarts (SPT's); and
- iv. **Drs. Carl Steidley, Tim Coppinger, Satyajit Verma, Mufid Abudiab, Heshan Shaalan, Stacy Lyle,** and the other local TAMU-CC faculty for their support and help in this conference; and

- v. **Mr. James Gillis**, the delightful acoustic guitarist; and most importantly
- vi. **Ms. Crystal Seehorn**, for graciously handling the registration and business matters pertaining to the conference.

Furthermore, let it be recognized that all attendees, from near and far, enjoyed immensely the friendly collegiality, the intellectually stimulating paper presentations, the bountiful food and refreshments, the hotel hospitality including its free wireless internet access, and the wonderfully refreshing south Texas air, sun, and proximity to the beach.

The GSW Section also expresses its appreciation to **Dr. John Ballard**, ASEE

Zone III Chair and our representative on the ASEE Board of Directors, for his attendance, comments, and support at our meeting.

At last, let this resolution be recorded on the permanent records of the GSW Section and be distributed to appropriate officers of the Society.

Respectfully Submitted on March 25, 2005  
ASEE GSW Section Resolutions Committee

Dr. Ronald E. Barr, Chair

CC: **TAMU-CC Pres, Dean, Ray**  
**(multiple copies)**