

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

• By Don Moseman, Chairman

Welcome to the New Year! Have you maintained those resolutions you set on January 1, 1995? Well, good for you (For those who didn't, pay no attention)!

Have we got some New Year's surprises for you!

- A Republican Majority rules both Houses (No really....I'm not kidding!).
- Our President needs "bodyguards" when visiting the state of North Carolina.
- Jesse Helms will be Chair of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.
- Santa Claus is for real!

I've heard that the only real constancy in life is "change." This has hit home "hard" for many of us in the past few years. But, the best / worst is yet to come, depending on your outlook.

Have you all heard the gloating in the media as of late from the Honorable Senator Dole and other Republicans that "Anything and everything is on the chopping block?" The way they flaunt their arrogance makes me want to puke (Such language from your Chair....Actually, I had a few other expletives in mind...not suitable for printing or public conversation)! Were the Democrats this putrid during their victory in 92?

Do you all remember the "hulabaloo" regarding the Superconducting Super Collider.....One of the so-called "Big Science Projects?" This may be a sign of things to come. I heard the other day that the Department of Energy is under scrutiny by the

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NEXT DINNER MEETING

"THE PAST LOOKS AT THE FUTURE"

Mr. Richard "Dick" Folsom, Ph.D.
President Emeritus - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Past President of ASME

The title says it all! Come hear the "Grand-Ole-Man" of ASME give us his take on what the future holds for mechanical engineers? Which "Science Based Agency" will the new Republican majority put on the chopping block next? Whose "Big Science Project" will fail to get funding in the next fiscal year? What role will ASME have in these changes?

I had the pleasure of listening to Dick as Keynote speaker at our 1993 Regional Administrative Conference. Don't miss your chance to be a part of history in the making!

Come join the "Grand Ole Man" as he takes us on a tour to "The Future of Engineering."

Date: Wednesday
January 25, 1995

Time: 6:00 PM Social Hour
7:00 PM Dinner
8:00 PM Program

Location: Spengers Fish Grotto
1919 Fourth Street
Berkeley

Cost: \$20 ASME Members
\$10 Student Members
\$22 Non-Members
\$12 Student Non-members

--FOR DIRECTIONS/PARKING SEE BACK COVER --

RSVP: Call S.F. ASME at (415) 721-4478 by Friday, January 20, 1995.

In This Issue...

Monthly Focus:
Student Professional Awareness Conference
College Corner
Distinguished Lecture Series on Ethics

MONTHLY FOCUS:

THE STUDENT PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS CONFERENCE

• By Wes Chang, Industrial Liason for UCB ASME

During the spring semester, the UC Berkeley chapters of ASME and the IEEE will jointly host the Student Professional Awareness Conference. The goal of the SPAC, an event organized by students, is to expose all engineering students to the non-technical aspects of their field. The conference will feature several speakers from industry, with each giving an hour-long presentation on his or her topic. The event will also provide students the opportunity to interact with these engineers. Berkeley is planning to combine its SPAC with the annual ASME professional section crab feed in mid-March. Although the architecture of the double event has not been established, it seems probable that a joint event will be held with an afternoon conference followed later that evening with the professional dinner.

For this event, we are seeking support from the professional section. We would like to establish the necessary contacts in industry to enlist speakers, and we would also like to hear suggestions and advice from those in the professional world. Although the conference will be strictly non-technical, the topics presented will relate directly to the engineering profession. The conference will hopefully serve to help students prepare for their future as engineers. Some of the topics we are considering are described below.

Education: Among the most important issues for students is graduate education. We often wonder whether working for a masters or a doctorate degree is worthwhile. We want to learn what the advantages and benefits of a higher degree are. Is going to graduate school worth it? Who should go? A complete presentation on this subject would include a discussion on the various opportunities one can expect for each level of education and how careers and job capacities can vary with the amount of academic training. What does industry look for when hiring new engineers?

Ethics: We would also like to address the ethical issues of engineering and hold a presentation to promote an awareness of the need for the proper and moral conduct of practicing engineers and the consequences of ethical misconduct. An eminent figure, Roger Boisjoly would have been an ideal speaker for this topic. However Mr. Boisjoly's personal commitments will prevent him from participating in any Berkeley event this school year.

Legal Issues: Another topic we are interested in hosting is the legal aspect of engineering, the securing of patents and intellectual property. College students know little about the rules and formalities for the protection of inventions and designs. An inventor or a lawyer would perhaps be best suited to discuss this matter for the conference.

Society, Economics, Politics: An engineer's pursuits are rarely unrelated to economics, politics, and other social issues. Yet as engineering students, we do not receive much training to deal with these matters. Those products that companies choose to develop and market are determined by the cost and profit issues. Whether government decides to fund a project depends on the political climate and the availability of public resources. A diminishing of foreign military threats, as a well-known example, would favor a decline in contracts for tanks and war planes; engineers in the defense industry lose their jobs. We would like to invite a speaker to discuss the impact of economics, national politics and world events on the career of an engineer. The speaker should offer some insights on the future of various industries and give students an idea of which sectors show the most potential for growth and job opportunities.

These are just some of the topics we are planning for our SPAC. We welcome any other suggestions. Our hope is not only to provide a unique forum for our classmates here at Berkeley, but to also serve as a model for conferences at other universities. Please contact Wes Chang at 510-841-7614 or at wchang@ocf.berkeley.edu, with your comments and ideas.

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Republican majority. Would the DoE qualify as a "Big Science Project?"

I read the Republican "Contract with America" on the Internet today. One of its prime initiatives will be to strengthen our national defense. This should provide a little comfort to those in the defense industry. Will the defense industry see an upswing? If so, when?

While "Beta-Testing" the ASMENet the other day, I ran across an article stating that Republicans had targeted Congress' Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) for the axe...stating, "That it had gone way beyond its original charter." Which "Big Science Project" is next? Who's to say? Maybe there will simply be scale-backs and budget cuts instead of wholesale elimination.

What will become of the National Laboratories (e.g. Sandia, LLNL, LBL, ANL, etc.)? Presently, they are under intense scrutiny as a part of a programmatic review of their "mission." A pending report (I hear it will be issued in the Spring) to the President will provide recommendations for their restructuring and refocusing of their mission.

Will "Star Wars" be resurrected?

Space Station Freedom (oops...now it's Space Station Alpha. What's next...Space Station Zippo?) has already taken a beating! Will it last? Will the Space Shuttle program be scaled back? These and many other questions come to my mind.

I don't have the answers. Maybe some of our wise and more experienced members have some thoughts on this. The only thing I do know is that the next few years are going to be very interesting.

Regards,

Don Moseman, Chair

P.S.: I apologize to those of you expecting an analysis of our national energy policy. After looking into this in some detail, I quickly gained an appreciation for just how complex it can be. Stay tuned for this topic in a future newsletter.

BEST GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD PRESENTED AT NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING



Mr. Xing Yu speaking after receiving his award, as Don Moseman (in back) looks on.

At the November 30, 1994 ASME dinner meeting, an Award Plaque was presented to Mr. Xing Yu, graduate student in the Department of Naval Architecture and Offshore Engineering at UC Berkeley. Mr. Yu won the Best Graduate Student Paper Award in the 1993 National Competition of Best Student Project of the Ocean Engineering Division of ASME. He submitted a manuscript entitled "Interaction of Transient Waves with a Circular Surface-Piercing Structure" together with a video animation of the computer solution. The award was presented by ASME Chairman Don Moseman in the presence of Prof. R. W. Yeung, Mr. Yu's advisor in the same department. Mr. Yu's work will be published in the ASME Journal of Fluid Engineering.

Frank Diaz
B.S., Mechanical Engr., Jan 1994
San Francisco State University
Good ME with E.I.T., seeking entry level position
Please call 510-654-4009

The Bay Connection welcomes letters to the editor and editorials from our membership! Please contact Johnny Wu, newsletter editor, (see fax, phone numbers on sidebar) for submissions.

College

ATTENTION UNDEGRADUATE ASME MEMBERS

Each year, the Executive Committee for the San Francisco Section of ASME gives a number of undergraduate awards to honor the memory of Dr. Leonard Farbar. These undergraduate awards, ranging from \$100 to \$200 are intended to recognize the recipients' academic achievement, commitment to enhancing their profession and leadership skills. Look for applications in your mail soon, or contact your faculty sponsor. Applications are due Monday, February 20.

EIT Review Class at SFSU: San Francisco State University is offering a seven week evening review class for the Engineering-in-Training (EIT) exam. The class will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 - 9:45 p.m., from February 14 to March 30. Students taking the class will be eligible for 3.8 units CEU credit. For registration information, contact Extended Education at (415) 338-1373. For information about the course, contact Ahmad R. Ganji at (415) 338-7736.

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An Industry Tour coming up...



The U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln

at the Alameda Naval Airstation, scheduled for March 4, 1995 at 10:00am. Please contact Phil Rockwell at (510) 489-3900 for February 25th register. There is a limit of 50 people on this tour; Anyone driving must register.

The Distinguished Lecturer Series in the Social Implications of Technology Presents:

The Engineer: Professional or "hired gun?"

Deborah G. Johnson,
Professor of Philosophy, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Thursday, February 2, 1995
7:00pm in Sibley Auditorium, U.C. Berkeley

Sponsored by Interdisciplinary Studies of the College of Engineering
University of California at Berkeley

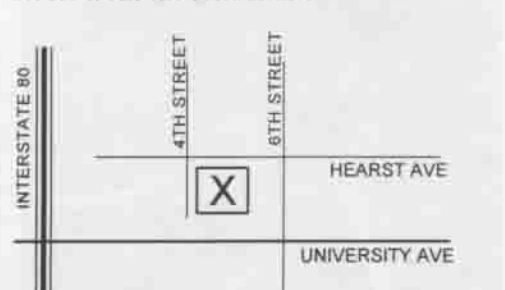
- Admission free of charge -

The public is invited

Please contact our Ethics Chair, Joe Wujek (see sidebar, pg 3) if you have any questions.

Directions to Spengers

From I-80, take the University Avenue Exit (Berkeley) going east. At the first stop light, 6th street, take a left. Proceed to Hearst Avenue where you'll take another left. Proceed to 4th street and take another left. You're there! Parking: Free and located across from the restaurant.



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