

K & C Communiqué

Newsletter of the Knowledge & Community Sector of ASME

October 2006

The K & C Communiqué provides unit leaders with updates on current activities and important information items useful for unit operations. The K & C Board of Directors publishes this newsletter monthly. Please send your comments and article suggestions to dichtb@asme.org.

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Urgent Reminder for Section Leaders

Doug Brown

In case you missed the webcasts and other communications, this article very briefly tells you **what you need to do NOW** to be eligible to receive Merit Based Funding for your Section by about mid-November 2006. We estimate that Sections will be eligible for about 75% of last year's Section allocation amount, and likely more. **If your Section can use funds, this is definitely worth the time and effort.** Forms were due on October 1, but there is still time between now and October 13 to submit your forms. Sections that have not yet submitted forms will be contacted.

What to do to Qualify

- Submit “**Unit Operation Budget/Plan**”
- Submit “**Annual Financial Report**”
- Submit “**After Activity**” Reports
- Submit “**Section Merit Funding Program Form**”
- Have a current section officer list of file with ASME
- The activities you are reporting are for last year

Where to get the Forms

- On ASME.org in the Local Leadership Toolbox
- <http://districts.asme.org/leadershiptoolbox/>

If you have any questions, contact:

- **Burt Dicht**, 212-591-7074, dichtb@asme.org
- **Doug Brown**, 580-531-5871, 580-695-2653, brownd919@asme.org
- or your **District Leader**

This is your last opportunity to get Merit Funding this year for your Section activities from last year. My hope is that this article is not necessary, and you have already submitted the necessary information.

The merit funding Webcast presentation can be found at:

http://www.asme.org/Governance/KnowledgeCommunity/Updates_Messages.cfm

AFFINITY COMMUNITIES: ASME'S CUTTING EDGE

Dyer Harris, Vice President
Justin Young, Vice President Nominee

A new and exciting development has arisen from the Knowledge and Community Sector, ASME Affinity Communities. Familiar member units include sections, divisions, and institutes. These units meet many members' needs in obvious ways, but we believe there are still unmet ways for serving our membership. The mission of Affinity Communities is to identify, develop, and support groups of members with a special interest that cross technical and geographical boundaries. We believe that some of these groups will develop new cutting edge areas of interest that will contribute to our Society and the profession.

Instead of specifying what these areas may be from an organizational view, we are creating a laboratory in which ideas can be cultured, tested, and grown. The interest may be technical or non-technical, as long as it is within the scope of ASME's interests. The size of the initial unit may be small or large. A unit may subsequently grow and transition to a more suitable unit such as a technical division. Or it may fade as the interest upon which it was founded becomes less topical. Both situations are welcome. There is no pre-judgment of potential.

Examples of affinity groups exist already. One is the Young Engineer Correspondents Affinity Group. This group currently is 291 members strong. It was created by the Committee on Early Career Development under the Centers Sector as a grassroots network of early career ASME members organized to encourage other early career engineers to volunteer their time and to organize local early career events.

Other examples of self-starting affinity groups can be found on the ASME Communities of Practice website (cop.asme.org). Here you can find groups with titles like **Solidworks**, **ProE** with 195 members, **Volunteer Webmasters** with 31 members, **Sustainable Engineering** with 137 members, **Inverse Problems** with 15 members, and **Entrepreneurs** with 229 members. There are more, all started by members with common interests. A recently founded group is **Women in Engineering** with 49 members. We note that the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) has a somewhat similar affinity group activity, and specifically has a Women in Engineering unit with 10,000 members.

Our list of affinity groups is growing daily. The number of these groups and the issues of interest is limited only the imagination of our members and their ability to execute their vision. The role of the K&C Affinity Communities Operating Board is to support these groups, connect them as needed to the resources of the greater ASME, and make the ASME aware of important issues and needs that these groups identify.

We hope you can see the opportunity for member development and mission execution presented by these new groups. Your comments are welcome, either with concepts for an affinity group or advice on how to make this new unit of greater service to more members. Talk to us. youngj921@asme.org or harriss3@asme.org.

EARLY CAREER FORUM WITH AN INDUSTRY FOCUS HELD AT THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN ENGINEERING TECHNICAL CONFERENCES

In conjunction with the International Design Engineering Technical Conferences, ASME and ISPE (International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineers) held a joint Early Career Forum entitled Biotech/Pharma: A Forum for Emerging Technologies on September 11, in Philadelphia. Overall, the forum addressed career options for mechanical engineers within the pharmaceutical industry, be it with, manufacturers (owners), engineering & construction companies (consulting companies), or vendors/suppliers of hardware, software, and services. To accomplish this intent, examples of engineering projects via case studies illustrated the current and comprehensive aspects of the industry. Presentations also included important emerging technical aspects within the industry, illustrating some of the exciting opportunities on the horizon.



Thomas W. Flachmeyer, Senior Director, Wyeth presenting the Project Management Case Study of the Wyeth, Grange Castle, Ireland Project

Thanks to the forum organizing committee and the Advisory Board, the speaker line-up was outstanding. The list included very high profile engineers within the biotech/pharma industry and they each presented very pertinent topics to an audience of early career engineers/students who are currently pursuing or interested in pursuing a technical career in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. The list included:

Andrew A. Signore, CEO & Co-Founder, IPS (Keynote speaker)
Pharmaceutical Industry Trends

Russ Somma, Ph.D, President, SommaTech, LLC
Process Analytical Technologies & End Drug Development

Thomas W. Flachmeyer, Senior Director, Wyeth
Project Management Case Study of the Wyeth, Grange Castle, Ireland Project

Steve J. Wisniewski, Senior Associate, Director of Compliance, IPS
Good Manufacturing Practices

Charles A. Clerecuzio, PE, Vice President, Biopharmaceuticals, AMEC BioPharmaceuticals
Career Paths for Bio/Pharma Engineers

Although attendance was not as high as expected (14 total), those who were able to get away from the office and school had very positive views of the forum. One such early career engineer had this to say:

"As an early career engineer who was a past employee of a pharmaceutical company and an engineering firm that services the pharmaceutical industry I thought the program was extremely informative and beneficial to those who are considering a career with the pharmaceutical industry. The broad range of application, opportunity, and understanding of the industry that was presented would provide and early career engineer with so much knowledge on the many different levels of the industry. Having the ability to see all these levels and meet the caliber of speakers who were present in an 8 hour period of time is priceless to anyone who wants to advance his/her career in the industry." **Dan J. Hanna, Chair of Early Career Forum Committee**

Lessons learned...

Events such as this forum, with a strong focus on technical content in addition to career path advice seem to be in demand for Early Career Engineers. But there are a number of challenges to overcome in order to secure their attendance. Even if a prospective attendee sees value in the program, a day off from work requires pre-planning and coordination with the respective manager and as such, advance notice needs to be given. Unfortunately the marketing lead-time for this particular event was not sufficient. It is recommended that at least 3 months be allocated for the marketing effort of future events. This would mean that the program and speakers be secured well in advance of the 3 months marketing period.

Partnering with another organization, particularly one that has a strong influence on the industry you are targeting is important. However, lending the name and logo is not enough. Any sponsoring organization must actively participate in the marketing effort and be willing to promote the event to its membership to obtain maximum reach. Though this seems like common sense, it is not always a given.

It's a good idea to approach the speakers about sponsorship monies. In addition to providing their support by presenting, they are usually amenable to providing financial support as well. Through the generous support of IPS and AMEC BioPharmaceuticals, we were able to provide lunch for all attendees.



Russ Somma, Ph.D, President, SommaTech, LLC presenting Process Analytical Technologies & End Drug Development

DISTRICT F HOLDS STUDENT LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

District F held the first Student Leadership Seminar (SLS) of the fall season on September 15 to 16, at the Holiday Inn Atlanta Airport North. Forty-four student leaders representing thirteen student sections attended along with six student section advisors.

The SLS is a specially designed event for incoming student section leaders with the goal of providing student section officers and volunteers with the tools and skills they need to run their sections more effectively. Ten more are planned between now and the end of October and that includes seminars in Mexico and Puerto Rico.

In Atlanta, early arriving students were treated to a VIP tour of the Lockheed Martin Aeronautics plant in Marietta, Georgia. There the students had the opportunity to meet with the Director of Engineering and then tour the C-130J and F-22 production lines. It was an exciting and informative opportunity for the students to see the aircraft assemblies coming together as a finished product as well as learn about employment options at Lockheed.



Following the tour the students met for an opening session and icebreaker as they interacted with other students from around the district. During the seminar these new leaders participated in sessions on Student Benefits, Section Operations, Leadership and Student Section Resources. They also had a workshop to discuss important issues and challenges and they took part in a series of role-playing exercises designed to give them hands-on on experience in real life situations they might face in their sections. An added attraction was a presentation by Dr. John Baker, from the University of Alabama, who spoke on "The Challenge of Near Space".

For more information about the upcoming seminars go to: <http://districts.asme.org/SLS/>

SAN DIEGO SECTION HOSTS THE 2006 HUMAN POWERED SUBMARINE CONTEST

On July 19 to 23, ASME's San Diego Section and the San Diego chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers sponsored the 2006 Human Powered Submarine (HPS) contest. The event was held at the Offshore Modeling Basin in Escondido, Calif., a research and design facility for submersible vehicles, devices, and structures. High Tech High, a nonprofit organization that aims to improve K-12 education programs throughout California, also sponsored the competition.

The intent of the HPS contest is to provide engineering students with an out-of-classroom activity that will help develop the professional skills they will need in the workplace. Student teams had to design, build, and race a submersible that is human-powered and complies with the competition's safety regulations. Special attention was given to designs that were innovative and used unique construction methods.



The submarines competed on a straight course in the 300-foot long, 48-foot-wide by 15-foot-deep modeling basin. Each competing team is given a period of time for acceleration before they enter the course. At that point, the subs pass through a set of timing gates and results are recorded. In addition to the timing awards, there are six other awards for Safety, Design Presentation, Innovation, Design, Construction and Operation. And there is an overall Engineering Award.

Contd...

SAN DIEGO SECTION HOSTS THE 2006 HUMAN POWERED SUBMARINE CONTEST (Contd...)

At this year's contest twelve teams competed from the following universities:

Virginia Tech
University of Washington
EPM (École Polytechnique de Montréal)
Everett Community College
Texas A&M
University of Michigan
Technical University of Delft, Netherlands
University of Maine
University of British Columbia
UCSD (University of California at San Diego)
University of Wisconsin
Western Washington University



The final speed results for this year's contest were:

Fastest 1 Person Propeller Driven Submarine

University of Michigan (4.587 Knots)

Fastest 2 Person Propeller Driven Submarine

Western Washington University (3.427 Knots)

Fastest 1 Person Non-Propeller Driven Submarine

University of California, San Diego (3.050 Knots)

The San Diego Section hosts the HPS every two years. The driving force behind organizing this event is Dr. Nip Shah, past chair of the San Diego Section, who brought together dozens of volunteers from the local section and the community. Nip was able to harness this dedicated team to provide an incredible learning experience for the more than 100 students who made up the teams.



The logistics and support necessary for this event were complex. For example, more than sixty divers from local clubs donated their time to assist the teams while they were in the tank and the US Navy's Deep Submergence Unit provided divers to ensure the safety of all of the competitors. Local companies provided all the under water cameras, lights, timing programs and air bottles and a beverage company donated more than 3000 bottles of water to help combat the 100 degree temperatures in Escondido that week.

The San Diego section wishes to thank all of the competitors, the sponsors and the dedicated volunteers who made this event such a success.

If you would like to learn more about the HPS 2006 and see the complete results of the contest go to:

<http://sections.asme.org/sandiego/HPS2006.htm>

KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNITY AND INSTITUTES SECTORS TO HOLD MICRO & NANO FORUM AT CONGRESS 06

The Knowledge and Community Sector and the Institutes Sector are combining forces to produce a forum, which will encourage active dialogue, knowledge exchange through a vibrant poster-session, and relationship building across the Society's micro and nano communities.

We are asking you to encourage your interested division/sector membership to participate in our Congress 2006 Society-Wide Micro & Nano Forum, which will be offered on:

Congress 2006 Society-Wide Micro & Nano Forum

Wednesday, November 8, 2006

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Williford Room C in the Chicago Hilton & Towers

Poster entries are called for from papers already accepted for oral presentations so contributors have the chance to present their papers twice, once in their regularly scheduled (oral/poster) session and the other in this special forum. The poster entries should be related to micro and nano-technology, their phenomena, and processes.

Interested Congress micro and nano authors will be requested to submit a 50-word abstract and a one-page powerpoint-type slide summarizing their major findings to the following FTP website:

Users' Screen

This screen will let users browse their hard drives and upload powerpoints, pdfs and avi files.

<https://secure.asme.org/presentations/institutes/et02/docdemo.cfm>

username: institutes-ftp

password: upload*06

Please label your 50-word abstract and one-page powerpoint as :

LastnameFirstinitial_papernumber_dateofsubmission

Plan on joining us at our special Society-Wide Micro & Nano Forum on Wednesday, November 8, 2006 in Williford Room C at the Chicago Hilton & Towers - a light meal and beverages will be provided. A short standing-only discussion session is planned during the poster session in order to bring forward ASME's position in this area.

Don't miss this opportunity to network with ASME's micro and nano experts and provide input to the Nanotechnology Institute Advisory Board. Your feedback is always welcome!

Gang Chen Sang-Gook Kim, MIT
Chair, ASME NI Advisory Board

Aaron Knobloch, Ph.D.
ASME MEMS Division Program Representative

CONTINUING EDUCATION INSTITUTE WORKING WITH SECTIONS TO OFFER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES

The Continuing Education Institute (CEI) has been working with various sections to hold classes at their local sites. Successful programs have already taken place in Trinidad for two of ASME code courses - B31.3 and Section VIII. The Eastern Virginia Section is planning on holding a Design of Bolted Flange Joints course in October, the Canaveral Section is interested in Cryogenics in January and Anchorage, Alaska is working on B31.3 Process Piping for February.

These sections have received a favorable response from their local members to schedule these ASME courses. This affords an opportunity for local membership to attend courses taught by industry experts while saving on travel time and expenses. Of added value is ASME CEI courses award participants with Continuing Education Units (CEU's) as ASME is approved by IACET (International Association for Continuing Education and Training) as an authorized provider. All parties involved have found that working within this new model can be mutually beneficial.

If you would like more information on the logistics of holding a course at your local section, please contact Olga Lisica at 212-591-7843 or email lisicao@asme.org.

SECTION UNIT AFTER ACTIVITY REPORTS POSTED ON THE COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE SITE

Copies of your 2005-2006 Unit Activity Reports can be found on a newly created Communities of Practice (CoP) Site.

If you have submitted your 2005-2006 Unit Activity Reports before September 1, 2006 please follow the instructions below:

Instructions:

Go to <https://cop.asme.org/COP>

- Sign up on the COP Site.
- If you have previously signed onto the COP site enter your email address and password.
- Select "Join/Visit Communities" and in the Keyword Search enter "Section Unit Activity Reports" or in the index select "S" and search for the Section Unit Activity Reports community.
- Put a checkmark in the "Join Communities" box and select the "Join Communities" menu button.
- The document is in the Community Resources and is titled "Unit Activity Reports." It is a word document. To find your section reports use the "edit - find" function and type in your section name like the "Boston Section" for example.

Section Unit Activity Reports submitted after September 1, 2006 for the 2005-2006 or 2006-2007 year will be uploaded to the site after September 30, 2006.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Jessica Albert at albertj@asme.org or 212-591-7911.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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<http://www.asme.org/Governance/KnowledgeCommunity>

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Said Jahanmir, Chair

sjahanmir@mitiheart.com

<http://crted.asme.org/>

WHERE TO GET STAFF ASSISTANCE

If you need help with:

- Program planning and development
- Policy Issues
- Financial Issues

Contact:

Burt Dicht (Sections and Districts)

Tel: 212-591-7074, Email: dichtb@asme.org

John Bendo, Senior Manager

Energy Resources and Energy Conversion Groups

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Norma Johnston, Business Manager

Tel: 202-785-7395, Email: JohnstonN@asme.org

If you need help with:

- Section Appropriations (status and disbursements)
- Section Roster Access and Officer Coding
- Unit e-mail list-server
- Supplies

Contact Unit Support:

Jessica Albert

Tel: 212-591-7911, 212-591-7437

Email: albertj@asme.org, unitsupport@asme.org

Additional Unit Support Staff

Deidra Hackley (CoPs and other admin)

Tel: 212-591-7852, Email: hackleyd@asme.org

Jacinta McComie (Technical Divisions)

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Lashion Pettiford (Technical Divisions and other admin)

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Charlene Trotman (Student Sections and training)

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If you need help with:

- Membership Information/Renewal
- Address/Contact Information Changes
- Product Ordering Information
- Conference/Event Information and Registration

Contact Information Central at:

800-843-2763 (800-The-ASME)

001-800-843-2763 (Mexico)

973-882-1170 (outside North America)

Fax: 973-882-1717, Email: infocentral@asme.org