





MAY 2023 2022-2023 ME Division Chair: Dr. Anna Howard

**Division Chair's Letter** 

Greetings, fellow ME division folks!

We are getting ready for another in-person meeting in June in Baltimore where the number of abstracts is breaking records in all kinds of divisions. This welcome news comes amidst all the concerns with the finances of ASEE. We all have faith that ASEE will come out of that stronger than ever, and we are very grateful for the tireless efforts of ASEE staff and volunteers working to make ASEE stronger than ever.

You may be aware that the Bass accounts (our operating funds) for all the divisions and sections were marked as unavailable to us. Our accounts had been held in common with other ASEE funds to make better use of the options that come with larger deposits. However, this common accounting also allowed our division's fund to be temporarily used for other ASEE debts. ASEE has pledged to return all the money we had in our division account over the next several years. We have been asked to keep our division revenue-neutral this year: conference attendees will notice that our Convivium will be held in the convention center rather than at a local restaurant to keep costs down. We will also not receive the dues this year, though we hope to receive these again in the future.

ASEE has made significant changes to address the financial issues including reducing their staff by 41%, furloughing one workday per week for staff during the fall, and reducing the amount of office space occupied by headquarters. These changes and other cost-cutting measures have allowed the repayment of \$1.3 million of debt to date. The phone system has also been revamped, so ASEE has a new phone number: 202-949-6726.

All these changes will make ASEE a stronger base from which our division can succeed at celebrating the great accomplishments of our Mechanical Engineering educators. We have a saying in my family, "You only have the community you make." We need all of us to make the Mechanical Engineering community at ASEE successful!

If you would like to play an active role in our division, please attend the business meeting at the national conference. If you are unable to attend the conference, please join in remotely. (Contact me or Brian Novoselich to get the login info.) There are lots of ways to be involved:

- The Awards Committee plays an essential role of helping us highlight the great work from our rising stars in The Outstanding New Mechanical Engineering Educator Award and our most excellent contributors in the Ralph Coats Roe Award. The Awards Committee does most of its work in February and March, all virtually. Nathan Washuta rolls off this year after serving as chair, so as we do every year, we are seeking another member for a three year term.
- We have openings for a new Secretary/Treasurer. The secretary/treasurer position leads into our fouryear officer track. In the second year you arrange our Convivium. Much goodwill is due to Siamak Farhad who has had to arrange the party this year with no funds! The third year in this track is program chair. Huge kudos go to Brian Novoselich who has stepped up to the plate this year in the first year of NEMO as a conference platform. And the fourth year is Division Chair.

- This is Maryam Darbeheshti's last year as Newsletter Editor. We're looking for someone who might like to take on producing the newsletter, which is published once or twice a year.
- We have two people rolling off the Nominating Committee. If you want to get to know the people in our division, this is a great way to get involved.
- Our awesome division representatives to both the P-12 Engineering Education Committee and the Commission on DEI are finishing up this year, so we are looking for new representatives. Many thanks to Anne Spence and Leigh McCue respectively who have represented us for the last three years.
- And lastly, there is still movement afoot to produce a Journal of the Mechanical Engineering Division of the American Society for Engineering Education. Contact Rungun Nathan if you'd like to be involved in this effort.

Contact me at <u>anna\_howard@ncsu.edu</u> if you'd like to hear more about any of these opportunities to become involved. And finally, Thank You! All our authors and reviewers are what make our section great. I look forward to seeing you in Baltimore!

# Anna Howard

ASEE Mechanical Division Chair Teaching Professor, MAE, NCSU

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### **ASEE Annual Conference and Workshop**

Mark your calendars: June 25-28, 2023. The Annual Conference will be in Baltimore, Maryland. There is a workshop on SMART Instructor Training on Sunday, June 26, 2023 from 9 am – 12:00 noon. SMART pedagogy is a modified-mastery approach to teaching that is specifically designed to handle  $21^{st}$  century challenges in engineering education. Developed in

2016, SMART has been the subject of a collection of award winning ASEE papers and has been successfully implemented in a variety of courses, by multiple instructors, at several universities.

This workshop is designed to train instructors on the best practices for implementing SMART pedagogy in their classes. Workshop topics include:

- Scientific foundations of the SMART method.
- Nuts-and-bolts details on best practices for implementation.
- Tips and advice for navigating student and peer perception.
- Methods for on-boarding teaching teams.
- Participant discussions and questions.
- Hands-on planning session for implementing SMART in your class.

The workshop is led jointly by faculty from Michigan State University and the University of Maryland. There is no cost to attend.

At the end of this session, you will have the tools needed to implement SMART pedagogy in a way that is relevant to your classroom needs. All workshop attendees who decide to implement SMART in the fall of 2022 will have access to a weekly zoom support meeting to address specific challenges or questions with local implementations.

For more information on SMART pedagogy, see ASEE publication <u>https://peer.asee.org/36547</u>. Sponsored by the ASEE Mechanical Engineering Division and ASEE Mechanics Division

Questions? Contact Geoff Recktenwald at gdr@msu.edu

We are looking for moderators for sessions, so if you're participating in the conference and are willing to serve as a moderator, contact the division chair Anna Howard <u>anna\_howard@ncsu.edu</u>. We will also be electing our new leadership team at the business meeting, so plan to attend if you're interested in leadership positions! Note that the division meeting is the one part of the virtual conference that you can attend without registering for the conference.

## ASEE ME Division Awards

The Division gives out two awards each year at the Annual Conference, the Outstanding New Mechanical Engineering Educator award and the Ralph Coates Roe Award. The 2022 Outstanding New Mechanical Engineering Educator Award was presented to Dr. Alexander De Rosa. The 2022 ME Division Best Paper Co-author was presented to Dr. Blake Hylton of Ohio Northern University. The Ralph Coates Roe award was presented to Dr. Joseph J. Rencis.

We will have the traditional social event at which the 2023 awards will be presented. Please plan to join us for the social event in Baltimore this year.

## ASEE ME Division Executive Committee 2022-2023

Our division's current officers are:

Division Chair: Anna Howard, NC State Program Chair: LTC Brian Novoselich, U.S. Military Academy Anna Howard, NC State University Program Chair-Elect: Siamak Farhad, University of Akron Secretary/Treasurer: Jamie Canino, Trine University Nominating Committee Chair: Rungun Nathan, Pennsylvania State University Awards Selection Chair: Diane Peters, Kettering University Newsletter Editor: Maryam Darbeheshti, University of Colorado Denver Members at Large: Pavan Karra, Minnesota State University; Orlando Ayala, Old Dominion University; Maryam Darbeheshti, UC Denver

#### Notes from the editor

**Newsletter Contributions.** I am always looking for great articles for this newsletter, similar in style and length to the type you see within this edition. Feel free to submit great articles anytime even though the newsletter is produced only in the fall and spring. Just email your articles directly to me or any of the Division officers (listed on page 3). The ME Division website is also a good place to find current events and lists of important contacts and dates. If you have details you would like the entire division to see, send them to me as well.

The division website location is the same as you have previously seen: <u>http://mechanical.asee.org/</u>. Watch for upcoming updates to the website. We look forward to serving the division and meeting your mechanical engineering educational needs.