Mechanical Engineering Alumni Network

December 1st, 2009

Our ME-AN group met last Friday for the second time and began the process of creating our working groups and committees. Thanks to those that were able to attend;


We discussed the group’s overall goals and objectives, but focused on our short term issues; meeting schedules, event schedules, programs and membership. The point was made that all ME graduates are by default members of the group but we should try to have both students and alumni make a commitment of some sort to be “enrolled”.

We have extensive data bases which can be used in contacting alumni and many ways to pursue our peers. The membership committee will start to sort out how we proceed.

We have formed three committees;

1. The membership committee; Kent Larson, Jim Rutzick and others, please join us.
2. The program committee; Kent Larson, Tom McEvoy, Don Hewitt, Jennifer Clarke
3. The communications committee; Don Hewitt, Dale Nugent

Our next ME-AN event will be on ME Day, April 28th and we are planning on getting our working group together in January. Let me know what dates in January you are unable to attend and I will try to find a date that will accommodate the greatest number of us. If anyone wants to join one of the start-up committees, let me know and I will get you in touch with the group. Feel free to join in, everyone is welcome and can contribute to our growth.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering Capstone Senior Design Show is on Tuesday, December 15, 2009 from 2:00 - 4:30PM the Great Hall on the Ground Floor of Coffman Union (near the Bookstore) Everyone is welcome to come to see what projects have come out of the department this year.

Teams of four to ten students work for 15 weeks (one semester) on an engineering design project sponsored internally or by a local company and projects are advised by mechanical engineering faculty and by engineers from sponsoring companies. The objective of the course is for students to learn engineering design by experiences a real-world design project. A second objective is to return value to the client through the delivery of a completed design. The fall semester’s class culminates in the event on December 15th, where the teams show off their work in a public forum and are evaluated by a professional jury.
Everyone is welcome and it would be nice to have our group represented. If you are interested, please plan on meeting at the Campus Club Bar for a little socializing/networking afterwards (meet there any time after 4PM). This might be another good way to get folks involved. Call and invite any ME alums who you think might be interested. Call Jennifer for details and let her know who is coming so that she can give a general headcount to the Campus Club. I will be in Wyoming on the 15th and will miss this event, so Happy Holidays. I hope to see everyone in January.

Marcos Gatti has written and excellent overview of our current work. I am attaching it for your review. Nice job Marcos.

Best wishes to everyone. Jim Rutzick