A (Brief) Message from the Chair:

The holidays are always a blur, right? This year I volunteered as Santa at a local function, and my icy cold faculty heart welled with joy when I asked a child (who couldn’t have been older than 10) what they wanted for Christmas and they responded they wanted “elements from the periodic table – but especially strontium and titanium!” Happy memories like this accompany the fun holiday parties, travel and visits with loved ones, etc., but by the end of it all I feel like I need a break. Of course, the joke is that there’s no break to be had – it is quickly time for classes to start up again! Luckily I have the best job in the world as an engineering educator, and it is a wonderful feeling to get back into the swing of things.

On that note, as easy as it is to stress out during the holidays, I do my best to reflect on the year past and look ahead to the year to come. It is easy for us to constantly focus on the next thing, but also important to take a deep breath and remember all of our hard work and successes of the past year. If you haven’t already, let this be your excuse to take a moment to think to yourself about what you accomplished in 2019, and what you really want to get out of 2020. Do you have a grant idea you’re planning to submit? Is a promotion on the horizon? Do you want to refocus your work/life balance? Do you want to learn how to sail? All of these are great things worthy of excitement. Speaking of excitement, I am getting pumped for the Annual ASEE Meeting in Montreal this summer! Spoiler alert: the conference is going to be well-attended, with our humble ChE Division hosting the most paper submissions we’ve seen in years (maybe ever)! It will be a true highlight of my 2020 to see all of you in sunny Montreal to share ideas, stories and collegiality. In the meantime, warm up with this winter update our colleague Elif Miskioglu has caringly put together for us. Good luck to all in 2020!

Yours,

Matthew Cooper
N. Carolina State Univ.

News from the Division: Get Involved in ChED!

Nominations for Appointed Positions

The ASEE Chemical Engineering Division seeks nominations and self-nominations for members to join two division committees for appointment-based positions:

Fundraising Committee: The Fundraising Committee is an ad hoc committee whose charge is to explore leads for division fundraising with a focus on ChED awards, as well as maintain existing relationships with current and previous division sponsors. The appointment lasts until the next June, but is renewable at the discretion of the Division Chair. We especially encourage both new members and members who have previously served as chair or director to consider this as a way to get involved and/or maintain your connection with the division. If interested, please contact Bernie Van Wie (bvanwie@wsu.edu).

Nominations for Elected Positions

This spring we will be electing our next Chair-Elect and Director. Please consider volunteering or offering the name of a promising colleague to help shape the future of our division! Send any nominations or self-nominations to the past Division Chair at enszer@udel.edu by April 1, 2020. Descriptions of the position are as follows:

Chair-Elect: serving concurrently with a Division Chair, the Chair-Elect may be thought of as a vice-chair who then assumes the role of chair the following year. This is a three-year commitment effective as of the division business meeting at the ASEE Annual Conference of the year of election. Chair-Elect (and subsequent role) responsibilities may be found here.

Director: this is also a two-year position; there are two directors whose elections are in alternating years. The responsibilities of Director can be found here.

2020 ASEE Annual Conference

Housing and Registration are open for the 2020 ASEE Annual Conference & Exposition, June 21-24 in Montreal, Quebec!

Call For Applicants: Undergraduate Summer Fellowships

WashU Summer Engineering Fellowship is currently accepting applicants for 2020. The program provides a fully funded research experience for rising juniors and seniors (current sophomores and juniors) who are from backgrounds underrepresented in the STEM fields, including underrepresented minority students, students from economically disadvantaged and underserved backgrounds and students with disabilities. The program is open to WashU students as well as students who attend other universities. Please consider forwarding information about the program to students who may be interested as well as colleagues. The application deadline is February 1, 2020. Questions can be directed to Dr. Emily Boyd, ejboyd@wustl.edu, 314-935-6193.
Position Announcement: Teaching Faculty

Assistant or Associate Teaching Professor, Chemical Engineering, West Virginia University

The Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering of the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources (Morgantown, WV) invites applications for a Teaching Assistant or Teaching Associate Professor in chemical engineering. Requirements include an earned Ph.D. in chemical engineering or a closely related discipline and a B.S. in chemical engineering at the time of appointment. The B.S. degree should be from an ABET accredited institution in the US or the candidate should possess at least three years of experience teaching undergraduates at such an institution. Candidates must demonstrate the ability to teach traditional, core chemical engineering courses mainly at the undergraduate level, advise students and assist with the ABET accreditation process. Candidates for the rank of Teaching Associate Professor must have a sustained record of outstanding teaching and service for a minimum period of 5 years at an ABET accredited institution. Responsibilities include teaching at the undergraduate level, assisting in the ABET accreditation process, engaging in professional service to the Department and College, advising students, and participating in professional development activities that advance the engineering education field by making presentations at national meetings and authoring papers in education journals. The development of a limited research program in the general area of education research either alone or in conjunction with existing faculty in the Department and College is also encouraged. For further information regarding this employment opportunity and how to apply, please visit https://careers.wvu.edu.

West Virginia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and is an Employer and the recipient of an NSF ADVANCE award for gender equity. The University values diversity among its faculty, staff and students, and invites applications from all qualified individuals, including minorities, females, individuals with disabilities, and veterans.

Position Announcement: Appl. Asst. Prof.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT: Applied Assistant Professor, Russell School of Chemical Engineering at University of Tulsa

The Russell School of Chemical Engineering is seeking to fill a contract position with an initial appointment of three years at the Applied Assistant Professor level. Anticipated starting date is Fall 2020. The successful candidate must be committed to excellence in teaching traditional chemical engineering undergraduate laboratory and lecture courses. Minimum qualifications include an earned terminal degree in Chemical Engineering or closely related field and the ability to communicate effectively. Applicants should forward a curriculum vitae, a brief statement of teaching interests, and complete contact information for three references. Applications should be sent to ChESearch@utulsa.edu or Daniel Crunkleton, Professor, Russell School of Chemical Engineering, University of Tulsa, 800 S. Tucker Dr., Tulsa, OK 74104-3189. Underrepresented minorities and women are especially encouraged to apply. The University of Tulsa is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community through their research, teaching and/or service.

Call for Participation: O*NET Data Collection Program

Dear Colleagues:

The O*NET Data Collection Program, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, is seeking the input of expert Chemical Engineers. As the nation’s most comprehensive source of occupational data, O*NET is a free resource for millions of job seekers, employers, veterans, educators, and students at www.onetonline.org. You have the opportunity to participate in this important initiative and your participation will help ensure that the complexities of your profession are described accurately in the O*NET database for the American public. O*NET Description of Chemical Engineers: Design chemical plant equipment and devise processes for manufacturing chemicals and products, such as gasoline, synthetic rubber, plastics, detergents, cement, paper, and pulp, by applying principles and technology of chemistry, physics, and engineering. You are considered an Occupation Expert if you meet the following criteria:

- You have at least 5 years of experience with the occupation. This time can include supervising, teaching, or training, if you have at least one year working as a Chemical Engineer during your career.
- You are currently active in the occupation (practicing, supervising, teaching and/or training) and based in the U.S.

If you meet these criteria and are interested in participating, please contact Jim Rose at RTI International, the O*NET data collection contractor (jrose@onet.rti.org or 877-233-7348 ext. 121). Please provide the following:

- Name
- ASEE
- Address with city and state
- Daytime phone number
- Email address

Process and Participation Incentive: A random sample of experts responding to this request will be invited to complete a set of questionnaires (paper or online versions available). Experts who are selected and agree to participate will receive $40.00 in cash and a certificate of appreciation from the U.S. Department of Labor. We encourage you to consider helping to keep information about your profession accurate and current for the benefit of our colleagues and the nation. Thank you for your support.

Thanks,
Norman L. Fortenberry, Sc.D.
Executive Director
American Society for Engineering Education
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