



## *IFEES Semi-Monthly Newsletter*

### *February 2009*

#### *Updates from IFEES Secretariat*

- Hans J Hoyer represented IFEES as an invited keynote speaker at the World Engineering Convention (WEC) in Brazilia, Brazil, in early December of 2008. This global event, inaugurated by Brazil's president Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, brought together over 5,500 engineers from throughout the world. Over 1,000 of those were engineering students mainly from Brazil. The theme of the WEC was “Engineering: Innovation with Social Responsibility.” Hans' presentation was entitled “Global Competence and Mobility in Engineering Education. The challenges and obstacles faced by globalizing engineering preparation and examples of recent organizational developments to create socially responsible networks of engineers.” Hans was also a member of the US delegation to the WEC 2008/UPADI/WFEO and participated in the capacity building program.

The Brasilia Declaration: Engineering and Innovation for Development with Social Responsibility is available at: <http://www.sefi.be/?p=1258>.

- IFEES member - the Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE) and the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) hosted the first IFEES Asia Pacific Regional Conference in conjunction with its own 38th Annual Convention on the beautiful campus of KIIT University in Bhubaneswar, India on December 19 - 21, 2008. Given the leadership and support provided by Professor Shetty, President of ISTE, and his team as well as the active participation of several IFEES members and the General Secretary, IFEES was able to successfully conduct its first regional conference bringing engineering education leaders from throughout Asia and other continents. The structure of the IFEES Regional conference focused on the following themes and counted on approximately 200 participants:



- “Challenges in Engineering Education in the Asia Pacific Region” and featured several speakers from India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Singapore;

- “Skill Development for the Global Workforce Requirement.” The Global Student Forum included approximately 40 students from India, other South Asian countries, Europe and the US;
- “Industry Expectations of Institutions and Industry Obligations to Institution” and featured nine corporate speakers including IFEES members Dassault Systemes, Infosys and Autodesk;
- “IFEES Mission and Strategies in Search for Excellence in Engineering Education Worldwide.” Speakers included the representatives of the Global Engineering Deans Council, IUCEE, ISTE and the IFEES Secretary General.

IFEES leader Mervyn Jones, representing the IACEE, was the keynote speaker to the ISTE Convention, as well as Jack Lohmann and Karl Smith offered a well attended workshop focusing on engineering education research and the Journal for Engineering Education. Mervyn also presented a workshop on his research related to life-long learning. IFEES Executive Committee member Xavier Fouger of Dassault Systemes was responsible for planning, facilitating, and identifying nine corporate colleagues for the panel discussion on industry.

### ***IFEES Member Spotlight***

#### **The Australasian Association for Engineering Education**

*“Fostering excellence and innovation in engineering education”*

The Australasian Association for Engineering Education is a professional association committed to fostering excellence and innovation in engineering education. Established in 1989, the Association brings together people across Australia and New Zealand who have an interest in engineering education - engineering academics, academics from other disciplines who teach engineering students, engineering support staff, postgraduate engineering students, engineering librarians, professional engineers, employers, and vocational educators. Our members actively participate in research in the fields of engineering education and engineering practice, reflected by a visible presence in international journals and conferences.



The AaeE membership is a strong, very welcoming community which has established an international reputation for both innovation and research – as evidenced by our membership of IFEES, the request for our past President Roger Hadgraft to Chair the 2009 Research in Engineering Education Symposium in July 2009 and our close liaison with, and support from, the Professional Engineering institutions.

The general mission of AAEE is to improve the quality, relevance and performance of engineering education in Australia and New Zealand. More specifically, the objectives of the Association are to:

- Quantify and make more visible within Australasia the increasing need for specific advanced engineering skills.
- Increase the participation rates of high school leavers in engineering education and training, especially of women and non-traditional sources of students.
- Promote the development and use of new teaching techniques and tools and promote measurement of teaching effectiveness.

- Provide assistance to the engineering educators, especially to the new members of the teaching staff.
- Promote the professional development of engineering educators.
- Make the Association the focal point for information on all aspects of engineering education within Australia and New Zealand
- Develop global links with similarly minded organizations in other countries.

The Association is a Technical Society of both Engineers Australia and the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand. Membership is provided free to academic staff of both countries thanks to the sponsorship of Engineers Australia and subscriptions paid by both the Australian and New Zealand Councils of Engineering Deans. Membership is welcomed and encouraged from professional engineers, international members or those from other institutions with an interest in engineering education.

The Association's members represent a wide range of institutions, disciplines, and interests. The Executive is keen to encourage networking among its members. To this end, the following Special Interest Groups are currently enabling members with similar interests to debate, collaborate and share knowledge and resources, via newsletters and online forums.

- Educational Research Methods
- First Year Programs
- CDIO/PBL
- New Engineering Academics
- Engineering Librarians

The main activities of the Association are:

#### **Annual Conference**

AaeE's Annual Conference is Australasia's premier engineering education event. Hosted by one of Australia or New Zealand's engineering schools, the conference is a key networking opportunity and showcase for what is new and exciting in engineering education. The next conference will be held at the University of Adelaide from 6 -9 December. For more details on this please visit the conference website at: <http://www.plevin.com.au/aaee2009/>

#### **e-Journal**

The Australasian Journal of Engineering Education is AaeE's own e-journal, presenting work at the cutting edge of engineering education – with an Australasian flavour.

#### **Annual Excellence Awards**

Each year AaeE recognizes outstanding contributions to engineering education through its annual awards for excellence which are presented in a number of categories.

In recent years the community of AaeE has been investigating ways of disseminating best practice in teaching and learning, as well as research by means of resource sharing. One such project has been the beginnings of a Bibliography to assist those entering the field of engineering education research or even just wishing to improve their teaching by using research based evidence. Our website at [www.aaee.com.au](http://www.aaee.com.au) is currently under revision to incorporate content which will provide real-time opportunities for more interaction with our membership.

## *Upcoming Events*

- **ANFEI Workshop, Merida, Mexico**

**March 9-13, 2009**

IFEES, together with the Universidad de Yucatan, is pleased to sponsor a 5-day workshop “*Curriculum Innovation and Quality Assurance: a Roadmap for Excellence.*”

For more information, please see:

<http://www.ifees.net/news/documents/CurriculumInnovationandQAWorkshop-Mexico%20March09.pdf>.

- **Global Engineering Deans Council Leadership Institute Workshop, Boston, Massachusetts, USA**

**March 21, 2009**

The Global Engineering Deans Council will host a one day Leadership Institute workshop in Boston on Saturday March 21, 2009.

For more information, please see:

<http://www.asee.org/conferences/edi/2009/index.cfm> and  
<http://www.ifees.net/activities/index.cfm>.

- **5th Global Students Forum on Engineering Education, St. Petersburg, Russia**

**May 15-23, 2009**

Student Platform for Engineering Education Development (SPEED) in cooperation with International Federation of Engineering Education Societies and Russian Association for Engineering Education (RAEE) will gather 100 student leaders for the Global Student Forum on Engineering Education to discuss the ideas on Qualities and Competencies of a Globally competent and Locally applicable engineer. For further information:

<http://worldspeed.org/gsf2009russia>.

- **3rd IFEES Global Engineering Education Summit, St. Petersburg, Russia**

**May 19-23, 2009**

Themed “*Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Engineering Education: Roadmap for Excellence,*” IFEES Summit is expected to gather at least 100 participants both from Russia and all over the world to interact, share best practices and challenges, learn from one another, strengthen ties, and plan the following year’s activities. For more information, please see:

<http://www.ifees.net/activities/Summit.cfm>.

- **International Colloquium of the Russian Association for Engineering Education, St. Petersburg, Russia**

**May 20-22, 2009**

RAEE invites the professional bodies, societies and international registers dealing with accreditation of programs and certification of professionals to joint our initiative of organizing of a colloquium for discussion of issues and recent progress in global recognition of engineering education and profession. The aim of the meeting is a searching for *global convergence of*

*systems of recognition in accreditation and professional qualifications.* For more information, please see: <http://ac-raee.ru/colloquium/index.php>.

- **ACOFI 2009 National Meeting and Engineering Expo, Santa Marta, Colombia  
September 16-18, 2009**

IFEES' member, ACOFI, will host its national meeting to generate an academic environment for analyzing and reflecting upon the relationship between the university, the productive sector and the State, from the perspective of Engineering Schools, with regard to processes of entrepreneurship and innovation and their impact upon society.

For more information, please see:

<http://www.ifees.net/news/documents/invitacionexpoingles.pdf>.

- **8<sup>th</sup> Annual ASEE Global Colloquium on Engineering Education, Budapest, Hungary  
October 12-15, 2009**

The American Society for Engineering Education presents an annual global colloquium that unites the diverse elements of the international engineering education world while focusing on issues of interest to the international engineering education community. For more information, please see: <http://www.asee.org/conferences/international/2009/index.cfm>. During the Global Colloquium, the Global Engineering Deans Council (GEDC) will conduct a one-day Leadership Institute workshop focusing on capacity building for deans and rectors in Hungary, Europe and globally.