

**ASME Design Engineering Division General Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes of the meeting on**  
**Wednesday, September 5, 2007, 9:30am – 12:00pm**  
**Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino, Palma H Room**  
**Las Vegas, Nevada**

**Present:** K. Anderson, S. Azarm, W. Clark, P. Doepker, G. Flowers, K. Gupta, L. Howell, K. Jacobson, A. Kahraman, A. Karvelis, K. Kazerounian, P. Klasky, V. Kumar, M. McCarthy, Z. Mourelatos, L. Saggere, M. Scott, A. Shabana, J. Shah, T. Simpson, S. Sinha, H. S. Tzou, R. Ulvila, K.W. Wang

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order by J. Vance at 9:35 am.
2. **Approval of minutes.** The minutes of the General Committee Meeting on Monday, September 11, 2006 held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, were unanimously approved.
3. **Report of Executive Committee.** J. Vance presented the Executive Committee report (oral and written). A summary of the oral report is as follows:
  - *Terms of Technical Committee Officers:* There is concern that some technical committees are not abiding by the division constitution which states that chairs may not serve for more than four years. The Executive Committee will address the situation (see action item in Executive Committee Meeting minutes under Past Chair's Report).
  - *Proposal to Create New Journal:* There was discussion on the proposal to create a new journal (splitting from the Journal of Mechanical Design). Several issues were raised. There is some concern by the ASME Publications Committee that the division's journals are being split into too many smaller journals, as opposed to the Journal of Applied Mechanics which continues to grow as a single publication. The issue of relieving the load on the Editor was raised and is a key factor to be addressed. The original concept of creating a layer of senior editors beneath a single chief editor was rejected by the Publications Committee. Three alternative scenarios were suggested for consideration: 1) creating a new journal, 2) leaving JMD intact but creating two co-editors to handle different research areas, and 3) creating "sub-journals", such as JMD-a, -b, etc. The third option was deemed not reasonable because it would result in losing the reference history of JMD. The other two alternatives will be considered further by the affected committees and a revised proposal will be created by M. McCarthy for review by the Executive Committee (see action item in the Executive Committee Minutes under the Journal Relations Committee).
4. **Technical Committee and IMECE Reports.** A. Shabana presented a report on the IMECE (oral and written). The 2007 IMECE will be held in Seattle. Approximately 1500 people are expected. Papers will be divided into 17 tracks containing 460 sessions. Revenues will be distributed 40% to ASME and 60% to divisions. A plan for restructuring the congress has a goal of reducing the size of the meeting to 225 sessions within the next two years.

Technical Committee Reports:

- (a) *Design Automation.* Oral (T. Simpson) and written (H. C. Gea) reports submitted. **A motion was made (S. Azarm) and seconded (A. Shabana) to approve the revised bylaws of this committee (see report for specific revisions).** The motion was approved.
- (b) *Design Education.* Written and oral report P. Doepker. The committee is stronger than in recent years, with good attendance at the conference and sponsorship of seven sessions. Improvements are being planned for the student design competition.
- (c) *Design for Manufacturing.* Written report submitted by J. Herrmann.
- (d) *Design Theory and Methodology.* Written and oral report submitted by M. Scott. A concern was raised about the revised wording of the ASME 1903 copyright form. The specific concern is the "work for hire" phrase. It was suggested that this be addressed by the technical committees and by the division with the plan to petition ASME for a change in the wording.
- (e) *Fastening and Joining.* Written report submitted by E. Iarve.
- (f) *Mechanisms and Robotics.* Written and oral report by V. Kumar. The M&R committee does not normally participate in odd-year IDETC's, but this year 139 papers were accepted for sessions at the conference.

Money is being raised for the Mechanism Design Competition. The committee is investigating expanded use of the internet, including a YouTube site and a Wiki site.

- (g) *Micro and Nano Systems*. Written and oral reports submitted by L. Saggere. Bylaws have been approved by the committee. Five vacancies in committee membership have been filled.
- (h) *Multibody Systems and Nonlinear Dynamics*. Oral and written reports by K. Anderson.
- (i) *Power Transmission and Gearing*. Oral and written reports by A. Kahraman.
- (j) *Reliability, Stress Analysis, and Failure Prevention*. Written report submitted by E. Sancaktar.
- (k) *Vehicle Design*. Written report submitted by M. El-Gindy.
- (l) *Vibration and Sound*. Oral and written reports by G. Flowers. The Vibrations Conference included 22 symposia containing 54 sessions with a total of 255 papers. Planning for VIB 2009 is well under way with G. Flowers as the General Chair and D. Quinn as the Technical Chair. IMECE 2007 participation is primarily in the Mechanical Systems and Control Track with 60 papers. The two committee awards, Myklestad and Den Hartog, are being given at this IDETC meeting. The committee will propose to make the Den Hartog award a society award since it is now over the required endowment level.

#### 5. **Liaison Reports.**

- (a) *Journal of Mechanical Design*. Written and oral reports were given by M. McCarthy. A discussion of impact factors took place. JMD is now at #2 of the ASME journals with an impact factor of 1.2. M. McCarthy claimed that the biggest effect on impact factor was shortened review time, as it helps to build commitment to journal.  
More discussion of the proposed new journal took place. The same options as discussed during the Executive Committee Report (item 3 above) were rehashed. M. McCarthy feels that it is important to maintain a single chief editor if two senior co-editors are put into place.
- (b) *Journal of Vibration and Acoustics*. Oral and written reports were submitted by K.W. Wang. Three new Associate Editors have been approved and put into place, including M. Brennan, J. Zu, and W. Zhu. A special issue on Vibration-Based Structural Health Monitoring is being published. The journal is in good shape, having increased from 112 papers submitted in 2003 to 260 in 2006. To help reduce the backlog, the journal page numbers are increased from 600 to 800 per year, starting 2006. The Editor has begun providing authors with a list of related JVA articles for possible citation, after acceptance of a paper.
- (c) *Journal of Computational and Nonlinear Dynamics*. Oral and written reports were submitted by S. Sinha. The first year of the journal has been very active with 112 papers accepted so far out of 359 submissions. The journal has been submitted to Thompson ISI for tracking. One special issue has been published and one is being planned for 2008.
- (d) *Journal of Computing and Information Science in Engineering*. Oral and written reports by J. Shah. Last year the DED accepted the journal as a joint sponsor. The Advisory Committee of the journal has two members each from DED and CIE. The DED needs to confirm who its members are since the terms are indefinite. Papers are being solicited from the appropriate conferences (e.g. DAC, DTM, DFM, etc) for consideration by the journal. More input is needed from the Technical Committees in the nomination of Associate Editors. The first impact factor numbers for the journal were released this year from Thompson ISI.

Action Item: Confirm members of JCISE Advisory Committee (J. Vance).

- (f) *Journal of Medical Devices*. Written report submitted by A. Erdman.

- 6. **Vice Chair/Treasurer's report.** K. Kazerounian presented oral and written reports. Current balances stated in the report are projections from May balances (since those are the most recent numbers available from ASME), based on known transactions since that time. A question was posed concerning whether award accounts are the best place to apply division matching funds. Are there other more important activities to match? K. Kazerounian will pose this question to technical committees for input. A question was raised about the distribution of funds from the 2006 National Manufacturing Week, and possibly prior years. It is unclear what the distribution was and when it will be received.
- 7. **IDETC Technical Conferences.** L. Howell presented an oral report. The IDETC is a very large event this year. Some concern has been raised that it is becoming too large. Feedback on the meeting program is that it is confusing to follow. Some questions were raised as to whether the odd and even years should be made more uniform in size, with possible reduction of the odd-year conferences. These questions should be considered by the DED. The event will be held in New York in 2008 and San Diego in 2009. Montreal is being considered

for 2010. Proposals are being accepted for 2011. There was concern expressed that the conference is being moved too early in the fall, causing problems for faculty to leave school at the beginning of the term. A comment was made that organizers should consider avoiding a conflict with the International Conference on Engineering Design.

8. **ASME Meetings Department.** R. Ulvila reported that ASME headquarters has been made aware of the concerns over the accounting system, and the lack of or slow response to status requests. A database is being adopted that will automate information input for volunteers and division/committee positions. It was noted that the Dynamic Systems and Control division has pulled out of the IMECE, and will have a separate meeting in 2008 in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

9. **Standing/Special Committee Reports.**

- *Constitution and Bylaws.* Written reports by H. Lipkin.
- *NDEC.* Oral and written report submitted by Z. Mourelatos. This is a smaller conference this year. ASME's participation is only 7 sessions (compared to 31 last year). The culprit for the radical reduction in size is likely the time change of the conference, from spring to fall. The sponsor has also changed. P. Doepker raised the possibility of aligning the IDETC with the NDEC to boost industry participation in IDETC.
- *Honors and Awards.* Oral and written reports by J. Davidson. Some successors are needed on awards committees, including J. Davidson. It was suggested that industrial members be added. A proposal should be submitted for upgrading the Product Safety Award to a Society level award now that the moratorium on new Society awards has been lifted.

*Action Item: Submit a proposal for raising the level of the Product Safety Award to a Society award (J. Davidson).*

- *Nominating Committee.* Oral and written reports by S. Azarm. The committee is currently soliciting nominations for the Executive Committee.
- *USCToMM.* Written report by H. Lipkin.
- *Government Relations Committee.* Written Report by F. Tahmasebi.
- *Design Society.* Written report by W. Seering
- *Fellow Nominations.* Written report by R. Hirsch
- *Publicity and Newsletter.* Written report submitted by J. Michalek, oral report given by S. Azarm. Comments were solicited on the new look of the newsletter. The cost per copy is 50 cents.
- *Student Affairs.* No written or oral report.
- *Information Management.* Written report by S. Gooch.
- *Journal Relations Committee.* Written report by W. Clark. Previous discussions in the meeting covered the relevant topics.
- *K-12 Awareness of Design Engineering.* Oral and written reports by K. Jacobson. The committee is looking into activities, e.g. working with the Girl Scouts. A budget will be submitted. A question was asked about whether it would make sense to present a poster at the IDETC to promote the activities of this committee. It was mentioned that there could be ties to the new Broadening Participation Committee.
- *Professional Engineering Licensure.* Written and oral reports by A.V. Karvelis. A working group on international licensure has ended its work. There was concern that there could be an overall lowering of standards to the lowest common denominator in order to make this work. The NCEES is now actively working to create a mechanism for international licensure, which necessarily must pre-empt ASME's effort. A new concept is being considered, that is creating a certificate for qualified "Design Professional" or "Test Professional," to avoid the use of the term "engineer," which is already the domain of State licensing organizations. It is not clear how to best proceed with this. The National Fluid Power Association does this type of thing, so it was suggested that ASME could follow their lead. Another option is to follow the approach used in the UK. The committee will pursue this if the DED is interested.

10. **Old Business.** No old business.

11. **New Business.** It was pointed out (H. Lipkin) that the DED Constitution and By-Laws need to be approved at the ASME Group level, as well as the procedure for voting in new Executive Committee members.

12. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

William W. Clark  
Secretary of the Division