

Technical Dinner Meeting – Sabine Section – Region X

Roy Breaux, Region X Vice President

Sabine Section Panel Discussion Technical Meeting

10/16/00: memo from Roy Breaux The best ASME section meeting that I have ever attended was conducted by the Sabine Section in conjunction with several technical societies.

It was held on March 26, 1998, and was titled "Engineering Career Strategies for the 21st Century". A panel composed of two plant managers of large local plants, vice president of a large chemical company, a well know Houston technical recruiter, president of ASME International (Keith Thayer), and the director of the Texas Board of Professional Registration. The moderator was the very popular Mayor of Beaumont, Texas.

Each panel member made an opening statement followed by questions from the floor and discussion by the panelists. Over 200 were in attendance.

Participating societies were ASME, AIChE, IEEE, ISA, SHPE, SPE, and TSPE (Texas Society of Professional Engineers). The planning for the meeting began in August, 1997 and the joint society team met several times to agree on the program format and plan the event. This was the first joint meeting involving all the major technical societies in the Beaumont area since I have been a member of ASME.

The cooperation and fellowship between the society leaders was just as important as the attendance at the meeting. I was the leader of the joint team and made friends that I now communicate with regularly.

Based on the results of this landmark joint society meeting, I became an organizer and founding member of the Texas Engineering Alliance, which will expand the joint society cooperation format statewide.

February 20, 2001 Memo from Roy Beaux, Selection of Meeting Format

About two years before the meeting, the Sabine Section decided on the topic of a Career Development panel discussion because many young and mid career engineers were not sure what the right career path for an engineer should be. We wanted to have a meeting that would be of benefit to all our members.

The local chapter of the Business Roundtable had held a panel discussion on company contracting policies a year before on which I was a panelist. The program was extremely well attended and the format resulted in a very informative program for all who attended. Therefore, we felt that a panel discussion format would provide the best authorities in the subject and result in providing the information everyone in the audience wanted.

We needed to obtain the best people we could find in their field to be panelists to draw the attendance we needed for a successful meeting.

We knew that if we presented the discussion to ASME members only, the maximum attendance would be around 100. We wanted to assure our speakers of an attendance greater than 100 to attract the best speakers. Therefore, we decided that if all the engineering and technical societies in the area jointly sponsored the

meeting as their regular meeting for a month, we could greatly increase our attendance and assure the speakers of a large audience

Organizing Meeting Team

After spending months obtaining the correct names and phone numbers of area technical society chairs, a kick-off meeting sponsored by ASME was held in August, 1997, at a local restaurant to present the idea to the other societies. We solicited their ideas for a meeting topic and were able to convince them that the career development panel discussion would be the best way to go. We told the society leaders that this would be a joint society effort, not an ASME meeting. We told them everyone would have an equal voice in the planning and execution of the meeting.

We gave the society leaders our idea of a career development panel discussion and solicited other meeting ideas. No other ideas came forth so we all agreed to the panel discussion. The societies in attendance agreed to the idea and we formed the joint society team.

Society Members

Technical societies that were members of the Joint Society Team were:

- ASME American Society of Mechanical Engineers
- AIChE American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- ASCE American Society of Civil Engineers
- IEEE Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers
- ISA Instrument Society of America
- SHPE Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers
- SPE Society of Plastics Engineers
- TSPE Texas Society of Professional Engineers

Each society had one member on the team, except ASME which was the organizing society with two team members.

Planning Stage

Once the joint society team was formed and we had our mission, we had meetings monthly, then every two weeks, then weekly. We developed a plan and timetable for getting all the element of the meeting accomplished. Each member of the team had an area of responsibility. Each member had a speaker contact to make.

The group really worked as a team and was in constant communications with each other by telephone and e-mail.

Tickets to the event were sold by each society. Cost of the tickets was \$17.00 per person. Each society was responsible for its own ticket receipts. The event was a financial success and had a small surplus.

Panelists

The panelists were:

1. Manager of the very large local Mobil Oil Refinery.

2. Vice President of a large country wide chemical company, Huntsman Chemical.
3. President of ASME International
4. A well known and respected engineering recruiter from Houston, Texas.
5. Manager of a large local Fina Refinery which was in the process of modernizing and enlarging.
6. Director of Licensing for the Texas Board of Professional Engineers

The moderator was the very popular and articulate mayor of Beaumont, Texas.

The Meeting

The title of the meeting, which was held on March 28, 1988, was "Engineering Strategies for the 21st Century. A professional program was printed for the meeting.

The meeting was held at the Beaumont Hilton, the finest hotel in town. A dinner was served. Over 200 people were in attendance, far beyond our expectations. Some attendees drove 60 miles from Lake Charles Louisiana for the program. Everyone who attended said how great the meeting was. It began at 6:00 PM and ended at 9:30 PM.

The panelists were outstanding. The topics discussed were very much in tune with the audience's needs and to our local economy. Many people stayed after the program ended to speak to the panelists.

Joint Engineering Team

A meeting was held after the panel discussion to critique the meeting and discuss how we could cooperate on future endeavors.

Another joint meeting was held in 2000 attended by 150 people. The topic was Spindletop, the oil discovery near Beaumont, which was the beginning of the oil age.

Reason for Success of Program

The success of the program must be credited to these well-planned items:

1. Other societies were invited to participate so that a good meeting attendance could be assured.
2. All societies had a member on the joint society team and all team members had an equal voice.
3. All team members contributed to the planning and execution of the event. All accepted an important task and accomplished it.
4. A panel of outstanding individuals from different areas of engineering was assembled to make the program.
5. Planning began over a year in advance of the meeting.
6. The meeting was well publicized by each society and by the media.
7. Team members bought into the process early and were made part of the team at the beginning.
8. Many planning meetings were held.
9. The meeting place was excellent.
10. The topic was timely.
11. The team used e-mail to communicate with all members so that all were part of every decision and process.

Student Oral Presentation – Columbia Basin Section – Region VIII

Robert S. McKee, Chair Columbia Basin Section Chair, 1998-2000

ASME Student Paper Contest

This was a very good event for the Columbia Basin Section. We conduct it just before the Regional Student Conference to give the Old Guard oral presenters from our three schools a chance to practice before a live audience. Here are the three primary areas of planning and execution of the event.

1. We always have 3 Section member judges for the Student Oral Technical Contest...this is used as a warm up for the Regional Student Contest. We pick 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes, unless there are only 4 contestants, then we award two 3rd prizes so there's no "odd man out". The judges are asked to make comments on how the presenters can improve and meet with them after the meeting is adjourned.

This is the second time we have invited the Science Fair contestants and each time we've had a pretty good turnout from the local section. Last time we had about 10 local members show. But with the college contestants & their faculty advisor & friends, and the science fair kids & their parents, we end up with about 25 to 30 people.

2. Since the oral contest is usually held in early April, and the Mid-Columbia Science Fair is held in March, the timing works well to invite science fair contestants who were winners of ASME prizes. Our Section has a tradition of awarding cash prizes at the Science Fair, separate from the Science Fair organization, but we present the awards at the general awards ceremony. Contestants are from both middle school to high school (6th through 12th grade). Anyway, after the awards are given, the list of award winners is used to send letters to the students to invite them to the Student Oral Contest. They are offered a free dinner themselves & a 1/2-price dinner for an adult to accompany them (they usually bring both parents).

3. There were primarily 3 people involved in the planning programs; chair, program chair and Science Fair lead judge. The Chair sends the letters to the kids using the list given to them by the Science-Fair lead judge. The Chair also works with the student section advisors of the three schools in the section with ASME student sections to sign up the student oral presenters.

Bob McKee

(Printed on ASME letterhead)
Columbia Basin Section
P.O. Box 4232
West Richland, Washington 99353
(509) 376-4419

Dear xxxx,

We, the members of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), want to recognize you at our April Meeting for your excellent science project in the Mid-Columbia Science Fair. We invite you and your parents or sponsors to attend the dinner meeting; ASME will pay for your dinner. Space will be available for you to display your project board. We encourage you to stand with your poster and answer questions about your project before dinner.

The meeting will feature our ASME student paper contest. Mechanical Engineering students from the three engineering schools associated with our section (Washington State University Tri-Cities campus, Walla Walla College and Central Washington University) have been invited to make short presentations about projects they have completed during the school year.

ASME Student Paper Contest

When: **Tuesday, April 4**
5:30 PM, Registration and Social
6:00 PM, Dinner
7:00 PM, Speech Contest

Where: **Best Western Tower Inn**
1515 George Washington Way
Richland, Washington

Cost: Free for ASME prizewinners, \$15 for others.

Reservations: Call Matt Robinson (509) 371-3793 or e-mail matt@asme.org by March 31. Please include your name, phone number & number of attendees.

We encourage you to attend, share your science project, and learn more about the diverse and exciting field of Mechanical Engineering. Please call Matt Robinson by March 31 to make your reservations. Also, please arrive early to set up your posters.

We look forward to hearing from you soon, and we hope you remain diligent in your studies. Remember that it's not too early to start planning your project for next year's science fair.

With Regards,

Robert S. McKee, P.E., Chair

Distinguished Lecturer – San Francisco Section – Region IX

Eric Worell, P.E., San Francisco Section Vice Chair, 2000/2001

Distinguished Lecturer Program, Jon Kriegel on Chandra X-Ray Observatory
Joint meeting of the San Francisco, Santa Clara Valley and Mt. Diablo Sections on January 10, 2001 at
Francesco's Restaurant on Oakland, CA

Eric Worrell of the San Francisco Section organized this Distinguished Lecturers Program (DLP). He offered the following outline of his successful efforts.

- Review the DLP lecturer list and select a speaker. Contact this speaker and negotiate an acceptable date (In this case, Mr. Jon Kriegel)
- Fill out paperwork and register with ASME Headquarters in New York
- Get confirmation of approval from New York. Confirm with the DLP speaker
- Provide speaker with accommodation recommendations (speaker makes own arrangements)
- Select restaurant and menu. Determine price based on all costs
- Advertise upcoming event months in advance (November & January newsletters)
- Contact neighboring sections to attend meeting and advertise in their newsletters
- Determine audiovisual needs with lecturer and assure availability at event.
- Provide transportation from airport and to/from meeting as needed
- Determine who makes introduction and that he/she has lecturers bio
- Fill out final questionnaire, including evaluation
- Present the lecturer with a token (Section coffee mug) and honorarium

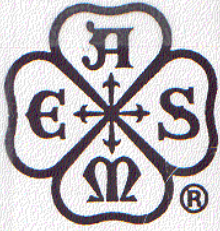
The general reaction of those attending was that this was an outstanding, interesting speaker and meeting. Jon Kreigel has one of the best power Point presentations we have seen! There were a total of 52 in attendance.

Note: The Distinguished Lecturer Program Host Section Guidelines, Lecturers, Biographies and contact information, forms and information about the program can be found at: <http://www.asme.org/member/dlp.html>
To answer questions, contact ASME Distinguished Lecturer Program at regionalsupport@asme.org

Remember: To Participate in the Program

- An ASME International Section must host the event
- The event must be held before June 30, of the program year
- A Section is limited to one speaker/one event per Distinguished Lecturer Program year.
- Formal notification to ASME of the event must occur at least 2 months prior to the event.
- The ASME Section must return an 'Event Summary' form subsequent to the event.

Student Sections, Subsections, Groups and Technical Chapters may approach their Section to co-host a speaker program. The program encourages multiple presentations.



The Bay Connection

Newsletter of the San Francisco Section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers

January 2001

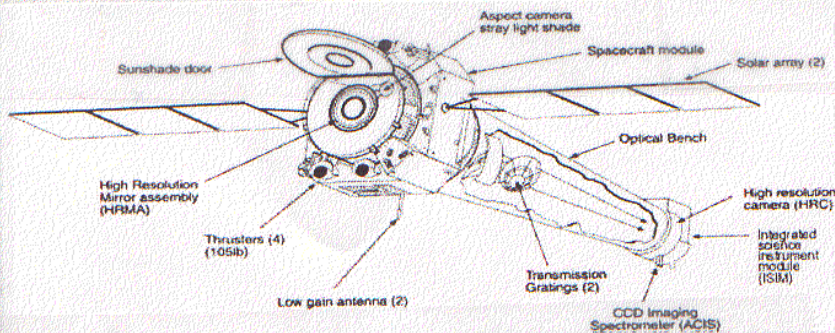
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Distinguished Lecturer Series Presents The Chandra X-Ray Observatory

NASA's premier X-ray observatory was named the Chandra X-ray Observatory in honor of the late Indian-American Nobel laureate, Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar. Known to the world as Chandra (which means "moon" or "luminous" in Sanskrit), he was widely regarded as one of the foremost astrophysicists of the twentieth century. NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory celebrates its initial year in orbit with an impressive list of firsts. Through Chandra's unique X-ray vision, scientists have seen for the first time the full impact of a blast wave from an exploding star, a flare from a brown dwarf, and a small galaxy being cannibalized by a larger one.

This talk in the lecture series exposes the audience to the satellite telescope's intended uses and its place in the evolution of our knowledge of the Universe. Launched in July 1999, the Chandra is being used to study the X-ray properties of distant galaxies, neutron stars, black holes, quasars and other high-energy sources. This Telescope represents a 100 X improvement over previous imaging and information gathering capability, and will help to unlock the secrets of the Universe.

Our speaker, Mr. Jon Kriegel, was part of the design team at Eastman Kodak Company, where the telescope was designed, fabricated and assembled. This presentation covers the technological advances made in creating the most perfect reflective surfaces ever produced; in establishing strain-free mounts for 450 pound mirrors; in assembling and aligning multi-story components, in Class-100 clean-room conditions, and other "solutions" which advanced the state-of-the-art called mechanical engineering.



ASME Distinguished Lecturer Series - The Chandra X- Ray Observatory

The San Francisco, Mt. Diablo and Santa Clara Sections of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers present ASME Distinguished Lecturer Jon M. Kriegel of the Eastman Kodak Company on:

Wednesday
January 10, 2001

Francescos Restaurant
8520 Pardee Drive at
Hegenberger Road
Oakland, California (near
Oakland Airport)

The Chandra X-Ray Observatory was placed in orbit in July 1999 to achieve a 100X increase over previous imaging and information gathering capability.

This telescope is being used to study the X-ray properties of distant galaxies, neutron stars, black holes, quasars and other high-energy sources and is playing a major