



Guelph Engineering Society



Report on ESSCO PM at the University of Ottawa,
October 12-14, 2007.

Prepared By: Caitie Rosen, President .

1. Purpose of Conference

This conference is the Presidents' Meeting for the Engineering Student Societies Council of Ontario. It is an opportunity for presidents and VP externals from across Ontario to share ideas and participate in mid-term accountability for the executive.

2. Personal Goals for Conference

Having attended this conference twice already, first as a volunteer when it was hosted by Guelph in 2005 and then as VP External in 2006, I was not expecting to learn very much over the weekend. I was hoping, instead, to participate in sessions where my experience might prove to be a useful tool, as most of the ESSCO Council is fairly new to the ESSCO scene. I was also hoping to further my relationships with the other delegates, in order to maintain Guelph's high reputation and keep contacts that could be useful for EngSoc.

3. Summary of Events

National Engineering Week

The Ontario National Engineering Week is from February 23 to March 2, a different week than the National Engineering Week (NEW). More volunteers are needed for the ESSCO NEW activities. We also need a NEW director for ESSCO. ESSCO now has a seat on the NEW Ontario Steering Committee, which is very exciting. The official NEW website is www.engineeringweek.on.ca.

Women in Engineering (WIE)

A WIE director is still needed.

A brainstorming session for the WIE director mandate yielded the following results:

- Contact with EngCan rep
- Contact list of WIE reps/employees from schools
- Make use of forum - WIE discussion
- Calendar of school events, inter-school activities
- Contact with PEO/OSPE

- Marta
- WIE committee meet
- WIE teleconference
- Networking
- Facebook group
- Reports on events from schools

Ontario Engineering Competition (OEC)

OEC is February 8th-10th this year. The only new changes or points of interest are the Senior Design will have an electrical component and the Communications presentations must have abstracts in 14 days prior to the competition.

Lobbying Issues and Actions Committee (LIAC)

LIAC is now headed in a new direction. They are looking into methods of actually lobbying, such as getting in to talk to the Council of Ontario Deans of Engineering (CODE). For this years study on Academic Misconduct, there is a 4 step plan. The first step is a series of three surveys: where do you stand, where have you seen others stand, how do you feel about standing and how can we get you to sit. The second step requires finding out the good and the bad from each school via the VP Externals. The third step is to collate all of the data and present it in an easy to read manner and the fourth step is to present the report to the Deans and administration so that something can be done about it.

The surveys were initially presented in the session to get some feedback. They will then be finalized and made available for the general members to fill out. The results will be in by January and the preliminary analysis will be presented at FYIC.

Leadership Conference Outcomes

Some new ideas for ESSCO:

- Professional Practice Exams
 - prep courses, write them before graduation, multiple choice
- Programs of value
- Job shadow program
- EIT connections
- Internationally trained engineers

Teamwork and Strategic Planning

Goal – frame for exec. teamwork

- Teamwork – clear leader, lead by example
- need to inspire

Transition Retreat – tried one day, its just not good enough, need well structured time (work, play, food), no outside intrusions

- maybe just new exec bonding, not transition, could be in September, not june
- have to get everybody there

Exec Roadmap – plan for full term in office

- all execs do one (goals, plans, mandates), how? resources?, very personal but can start with open brainstorming
- gives direction, structure, visual for everyone else, how they can help, helps to keep tabs on yourself

Business Plan – for whole engsoc, put all of the roadmaps together, outline for the whole year

- statement of purpose, general info on engsoc, exec summaries, company history, vision (overview of the year), budget
- good for professionalism, better image for students

Accountability – should be more intense, use directional documents

- AGM, warm fuzzies, beef and butter cups

4. Evaluation

i) Conference Organizers

This conference was very well run. The accommodations were a perfect fit for what was required, especially the kitchen access to make breakfast. The rooms for sessions were a short walk from the residence so no shuttles were required and we never went anywhere that required taking cabs home. The evening activities were very fun, and the golf tournament on the first night was a good way to bring people together and facilitate getting to know new people. The food was also really good, keeping things simple and making use of the kitchen to cut down on costs was very much appreciated, as it allowed more money to be spent on other things, like the swag bags.

ii) Delegate

I believe that I performed well at this conference and represented the Guelph Engineering Society well. While participating fully and networking with my fellow delegates at the evening activities, I still managed to be up and ready to go for sessions in the morning. I attended all of the sessions to which I was assigned and participated to the

extent of my ability. From the session directed at the Presidents, I definitely learned some new strategies for planning out a year and making goals and transitions more professional. This is information I hope to put to use for EngSoc. I also felt that I made some new friends and strengthened old friendships over the course of the weekend. The Guelph reputation was certainly upheld. I think that I achieved all of my goals for the weekend, and would not change a thing about the experience.