



Guelph Engineering Society



Report on ESSCO PM at University of Ontario Institute of Technology,
September 19th-21st, 2008 .

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1. Purpose of Conference

This conference is a meeting of the Presidents, and Vice President External's that are members of ESSCO. Since this is about three months into the new executive's term, it gives the council a chance to evaluate what the executive has done so far. There is also a plenary session that allows for motions to be made to make mandates and change direction of ESSCO if needed.

2. Personal Goals for Conference

My goals for this conference were to get to know the other VP External's better, as I am attending teleconferences and other conferences with them for the rest of the year. Also after looking over the conference agenda, I was really looking forward for to the website development session as I think that can be important to our Engineering Society.

3. Summary of Events

Regional Resource Groups

- The main topic of discussion in this session was the creation of committees called regional resource groups
- These would be groups that are split into regions for groups of schools that are closer to each other
- The people in the groups would be responsible for being on contact with council, and with the schools in the region.
- The group would be looking into ways to network with schools, as well as keep the other schools informed about events and workshops.

Website Development

- This sessions was about ways to make your website work well and easy to maintain
- Some occurring problems with websites are:
 - they are hard to navigate
 - cluttered

- website is old and out of date
- Ways to make a good website are to first make a plan, otherwise the website is structure less, and lacks maintainability
- Another thing that creating a master plan does is it can allow for a non technical person to update the website.

Get Involved

- This session was about different engineering competitions that we may not have heard of before.
- The most interesting one of these, and one that was talked about a lot in this session was one about a “Moon Buggy” competition
- This is a competition where you have to build a person powered vehicle that can carry 2 people over simulated moon terrain.
- The vehicle must also hold certain items that an actual moon buggy might hold
- Other competitions were a steel bridge competition, but this one did not seem that relevant to our school, as we have no civil or mechanical engineering

ESSCO Lite

- This session was about ESSCO history and ways to update the ESSCO 101 presentation
- Things that were discussed were adding videos of different things that are part of ESSCO culture (the Ric Flair for example)
- 2 presentations are possible, so that there can be a professional presentation for professional organizations, and then a different presentation for people at conferences like FYIC
- This session was really interesting, and there was lots of input from other schools about what to include in the presentation. I look forward to seeing the updated version of this at the next ESSCO conference that I attend

Promoting Diversity

- This session was about ways to promote diversity of students at your school and within the people that come to your events
- One way that was suggested that was really good was making clothing that says “Blank Engineering Society” in different languages
- Another way is to just make sure you are talking to everyone that is in your classes, even if it’s just a hello between classes, to make people feel like you care about what they think

4. Evaluation

i) ***Conference Organizers***

This conference was run really well, from the social events to the sessions. The hotel that we stayed in was also really nice, and the food was also really good. One thing that I would change or could have improved the conference would have been to hold the sessions at the same place where we were staying or within walking distance of the hotel.

ii) ***Delegate***

As a delegate I think that I represented Guelph well at this conference. I feel like I accomplished my goals, by becoming close friends with people who before were just acquaintances. This will help at future conferences, as I am now comfortable sharing ideas, and writing motions with the other VP Externals. I also feel like even though I didn't write any serious motions at this conference, that ESSCO is still going in a good direction and I didn't feel like motions needed writing. I also felt like the rest of the VP Externals were thinking the same thing, as not many motions were written and passed.