



Guelph Engineering Society



Report on ESSCO PM at Laurentian University,
September 18-20, 2009.

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1. Purpose of Conference

The purpose of ESSCO PM is to introduce all the VP Externals and Presidents from schools across Ontario, to educate each other on how we can improve our engineering societies at our own schools and to define goals of the society for the up coming year.

2. Personal Goals for Conference

At this conference, I hoped to meet more of the VP Externals from the other schools to learn new ideas to bring back to Guelph, particularly as Guelph begins to expand its engineering population. I also hoped to connect more with Manoj (from PEO) and Lee (from OSPE), hoping to get them more involved with Guelph after attending an event at our frosh week.

3. Summary of Events

Electoral Process Reform

- *a reoccurring issue within ESSCO is the election process*
- *the order in which elections occurs can result in schools voting based on who is already on council (how they'd work as a team, geographics, etc) as opposed to focusing on the individuals running*
- *it was suggested a preferential voting system be implemented and students are limited to run for two positions*
- *an electoral reform committee was selected during plenary (which I was elected onto) to determine a better process, create an elections guidance report and present this at the February teleconference*

CFES

- *the Ontario ambassador presented the 'CFES for dummies' presentation to introduce everyone to the Canadian Federation of Engineering Students*

- the CFES holds two big conferences: CFES PM and Congress, in addition to a meeting each season for members of the Board of Directors
- CFES also runs Project Magazine (all entries by engineering students) and runs Complementary Education courses available to all students, along with being the link between students and many professional engineering organizations, for example Engineers Canada

LIAC (Lobbying Issues and Actions Committee)

- topic for the survey this year is engineering and stress
- questions were looked over and modified to be more specific towards finding out how stressed students are and the reasons behind this stress so that hopefully a solution can be found from the results

Website Proposal

- the ESSCO website is pretty outdated and not easy to upload documents to
- two options were presented: hire someone to redo the website (who we would have to pay) or elect a Technical Director who's job would be to update the website to make it easier to use (no cost to ESSCO)
- During the plenary session, it was decided to get a technical director and that the ESSCO executive solicit bids and further investigate the possibility of hiring someone to update the website

PEO and OSPE Presentation

- the PEO and OSPE representatives challenged the delegates to find a new way to get students involved with ESSCO and more aware of what they do
- during these presentations, students came up with many great ideas such as swag, publications in school newspapers, advertising more engineering competitions to students and helping them get involved with these and display of a personalized ESSCO mascot at each school

4. Evaluation

i) Conference Organizers

This conference was very well organized. Before the conference, input was taken from all schools about what they wanted to get out of the sessions at the conference which helped make the conference very successful. The sessions run were informative and engaged the students. Meals and accommodations, as well as travel during the conference was well organized.

ii) Delegate

I think I represented Guelph in a positive light at this conference. I attended and actively participated in all sessions, and made good contacts with others from schools across Ontario to learn from throughout the year when planning our own events.