



Contact: Keryl Cryer
Tel: (410) 347-7700
E-mail: kcryer@abet.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 1, 2008

2008-2009 Officers Installed on ABET Board of Directors

Baltimore, MD — ABET, Inc., the recognized accrediting body for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology, is pleased to announce that **Richard C. Seagrave, Ph.D.**, has been honored with the Linton E. Grinter Distinguished Service Award, the organization's highest honor.

The Grinter Award was presented during the 2008 ABET Annual Meeting, *Charting Tomorrow*, held October 30-31 in Louisville, Kentucky. ABET Board of Directors selected Seagrave to receive this honor "for his outstanding, sustained, distinguished, and innovative leadership of first the Engineering Accreditation Commission and then the ABET Board of Directors at a time of radical change in ABET; his committed and diplomatic style assured an orderly transition to a performance, quality assurance-based method of accreditation."

Seagrave is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Iowa State University and is completing his 29th year as an ABET volunteer. After serving as an American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) program evaluator for 10 years, he was on the Engineering Accreditation Commission for 10 years, including the chair position in 1996. He became a member of the ABET Board of Directors, representing AIChE, in 1999 and was Secretary for two years before becoming ABET President. Seagrave is a Fellow of AIChE and of ABET.

Linton E. Grinter received the first Distinguished Service Award from ABET's predecessor, the Engineers' Council for Professional Development (ECPD), in 1972. Grinter showed an outstanding record of leadership within the engineering community and ECPD, and the Board Executive Committee that year not only gave the new award to Grinter but decided to call it the Linton E. Grinter Distinguished Service Award. Among Grinter's legacy are three reports that have had major effects on engineering education: (1) the 1945 *Manual of Graduate Study in Engineering*; (2) the groundbreaking 1955 *Report of the Committee on Evaluation of Engineering Education*, now known as "The Grinter Report" — a major work in the development of engineering curricula that outlines specific objectives for both the technical and humanities areas of study necessary for future engineers; and (3) the 1972 *Report on Engineering Technology Education*. Grinter's powerful insight into the future of the engineering profession inspired and impacted not only the ECPD of yesteryear, but the ABET of today.

Recipients of the Linton E. Grinter Distinguished Service Award, such as Richard Seagrave, are those ABET volunteers who follow in Grinter's footsteps and surpass even the highest service expectations of the organization. A complete list of individuals who have received the Grinter Award is available at the following website: <http://www.abet.org/grinters.shtml>.

###

ABET, Inc., the recognized accreditor for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology, is a federation of 30 professional and technical societies representing these fields. Among the most respected accreditation organizations in the U.S., ABET has provided leadership and quality assurance in higher education for more than 75 years. ABET currently accredits some 2,800 programs at more than 600 colleges and universities nationwide. Over 1,500 dedicated volunteers participate annually in ABET activities. ABET also provides leadership internationally through workshops, consultancies, memoranda of understanding, and mutual recognition agreements, such as the Washington Accord. ABET is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.