

# CommunityMatters™

A Monthly Newsletter for the ABET Community

April 2009

## InsideABET

### ABET Names Phillip E. Borrowman Its 2009-2010 President-Elect



The ABET Board of Directors selected **Phillip E. Borrowman, P.E., S.E.**, as its 2009-2010 President-Elect at its spring meeting, held in Baltimore on Saturday, March 28. Borrowman

will be installed during the 2009 ABET Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX, in October.

Borrowman first became involved in ABET activities as a program evaluator for the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), evaluating civil engineering and architectural engineering programs. He went on to serve five years on the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) before becoming a member of the ABET Board of Directors. He was a representative director from ASCE for five years, two of which he simultaneously served as ABET Board Liaison to the Computing Accreditation Commission. In addition, Borrowman has chaired the International Activities Council (INTAC) and became ABET Secretary in 2008. He was inducted as a Fellow of ABET in 2007.

At present, Borrowman is Senior Vice President with Hanson Professional Services, Inc., in Kansas City, Missouri. He joined Hanson in 1974, working in the Peoria, Illinois, office on projects involving structural engineering and testing of construction materials. In 1997, he opened Hanson's Seattle office. The next year, he was named a Senior Vice President and director of the western division for Hanson. In 1999, he relocated to his current position in Kansas City. As office manager for Rockford, Seattle, and Kansas City, he has managed and participated in the planning and design of streets, roadways, bridges, build-

ings, retaining walls, utility relocations, and site development on projects pursued from those offices. Additionally, he has managed and participated in the design of railroad facilities, including capacity improvements, intermodal facilities, and transload facilities.

Borrowman holds a B.S. Architectural Studies and an M.S. Civil Engineering, both from the University of Illinois. Furthermore, he has been an adjunct instructor at Bradley University.

### ABET Board Elects 2009-2010 Leadership at March 28 Meeting in Baltimore

In addition to Phillip E. Borrowman, who will serve as President-Elect, the following individuals have been elected to serve on the ABET Board of Directors during the 2009-2010 term:



**David K. Holger, Ph.D.**, will become 2009-2010 ABET President. At present, Holger is ABET's President-Elect. Previously, he served as an American Institute of Aeronautics and

Astronautics (AIAA) representative on the Board of Directors and for two years as the Chair of the ABET Accreditation Council. He was named a Fellow of ABET in 2006. Currently, Holger is Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Dean of the Graduate College at Iowa State University.



**Ronald L. Hinn, Jr.**, has been elected to a one-year term as ABET Secretary. At present, Hinn is serving in the third year of a three-year term as the Society of Petroleum Engineers

— continued on page 2

## LookAhead

- April 3-4** — Best Assessment Processes Symposium, Indianapolis, IN
- April 14** — Full registration deadline for April 18 Faculty Workshop on Assessing Program Outcomes, Baltimore, MD
- April 18** — Faculty Workshop on Assessing Program Outcomes, Baltimore, MD
- April 18-19** — Commission Executive Committee Meetings, Baltimore, MD
- April 18-19** — Program Evaluator Training, Baltimore, MD
- April 22** — "Accreditation Visit from the Program Evaluator Perspective" Webinar

# InsideABET

— continued from page 1

(SPE) representative on the ABET Board of Directors. Hinn is an engineering consultant within the upstream oil and gas industry, based in Houston TX.



**Daniel J. Bradley, Ph.D.**, will serve the second year of his second two-year term as ABET Treasurer. He was first elected to this position in 2006. Previously, Bradley chaired the

ABET Finance Committee from 2003 to 2006 and represented the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) on the ABET Board of Directors for two terms. Bradley is the current President of Indiana State University.



2008-2009 ABET President **Joseph L. Sussman, Ph.D.**, will become ABET Past President. Previously, Sussman served as an ASME representative on the Board of Directors.

He was named a Fellow of ABET in 2002. Currently, Sussman is a Specialist Leader for Deloitte Consulting, LLP. He works with the health care and life sciences industries, particularly in the area of enterprise applications. Prior to joining Deloitte, Sussman had worked for the Bayer Corporation and predecessor companies since 1982.

The 2009-2010 leadership will be installed during the fall 2009 ABET Board of Directors meeting, which will be held in San Antonio, TX, on Saturday, October 31, 2009.

## Two New Public Directors to Join ABET Board in Fall

ABET is welcoming two new Public Directors to its Board of Directors:

- ▶ **C. William Bevins, FAIA, NCARB**, has been a Principal in the architecture firm FreemanWhite, Inc., in Charlotte, NC, since 2002. He served as the president of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards in 2002 and as president of the National Architectural Accrediting Board in 2006.
- ▶ **Noelle L. Kehrberg, Ph.D.**, is a Professor in the Department of Health Sciences at Western Carolina University.

Public Members are not affiliated with applied science, computing, engineering, or technology through either training or practice. They are voting members of the Board and may serve up to two consecutive three-year terms. Both Bevins and Kehrberg will begin the first year of their terms at the fall Board meeting, to be held in San Antonio, TX, on October 31.

In addition to Bevins and Kehrberg, the following individuals will serve as Public Directors for the 2009-2010 term:

- ▶ **Sylvia L. Alexander** will begin the second year of her second three-year term as a Public Director. Alexander is the Michigan Department of Transportation's Administrative Manager and Personnel Liaison in the agency's Bureau of Finance and Administration and Executive Offices.
- ▶ **Peter Haas, Ph.D.**, will begin the third year of his second three-year term as a Public Director. Haas is a Professor of Political Science and Transportation Management for the Department of Political Science/Mineta Transportation Institute at San Jose State University.

- ▶ **Margaret I. Keller** will begin the second year of her first three-year term as a Public Director. She is the owner of Organizational Success, a facilitation and consulting firm for not-for-profits. In addition, she is the Co-Qualifying Broker for K.L. Werner & Associates, LLC, and a technical trainer for the Greater Albuquerque Association of Realtors.

## ABET Publishes New Readers' Guides to Help Constituents Understand Criteria Harmonization

For some time, you have probably heard about ABET's efforts to harmonize the criteria across its four accreditation commissions. This initiative, which ABET's Accreditation Council is coordinating, involves leadership from all four of the ABET accreditation commissions and aims to use common wording across the commissions where the intended meaning is the same. Harmonization is **not** about forcing commonality where differences are necessary and intentional.

Now, ABET has published a series of "readers' guides" that show the previous criteria and how they have changed. Each guide is accompanied by a survey that all constituents — faculty, administrators, ABET volunteers, ABET societies, and other stakeholders — can use to give feedback to the leadership involved. The readers and surveys will remain posted at [www.abet.org/harmonization.shtml](http://www.abet.org/harmonization.shtml) until May 15, 2009.

Feel free to send your feedback using the surveys available online. After May 15, send any additional comments directly to the Accreditation Director, ABET, 111 Market Place, Suite 1050, Baltimore, MD 21202, or to [accreditation@abet.org](mailto:accreditation@abet.org).

## ABETOnline

- ▶ Register for this month's Best Assessment Processes Symposium in Atlanta at [www.abet.org/bap.shtml](http://www.abet.org/bap.shtml).
- ▶ Missed a particularly interesting ABET webinar? Purchase a CD recording of it at [www.abet.org/webinar.shtml](http://www.abet.org/webinar.shtml).
- ▶ Read about changes in the criteria: [www.abet.org/harmonization.htm](http://www.abet.org/harmonization.htm).

## CommunityMatters™

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# Assessment101

## Assessment Tips with Gloria Rogers, Ph.D.

### Telling Your Story – Part 2 Program Educational Objectives

In last month's article, one possible method for reporting student outcomes was presented. The presentation of results of program educational objectives will differ from outcomes. In the March 2008 issue of *CommunityMatters*, the **Assessment101** article was about how program educational objectives and program outcomes were similar but different. There were four primary areas of difference: degree of specificity, role of constituents, types of measures possible, and cycles of data collection.

Using a common format for reporting results on all objectives is the most efficient way to document and communicate your findings. Because most programs have a limited number of program educational objectives (four to seven) and data related to the objectives are generally collected twice during a six-year assessment cycle, programs need to think carefully about the most efficient way to document their results. As with outcomes, there is no one way to report your findings and actions related to objectives. The following is a suggested format:

- 1) Communicate your overall assessment strategy for data collection. Because you will probably be assessing all of your objectives in the same format and from the same sources (constituents) using the same timeline, display your **process** in an easy-to-understand format, similar to the table at the bottom of the page.

In this example, you will be reporting two data collection processes (2004-2005 and 2007-2008). This will enable you to display a cycle of refinement (baseline data, improvements, and results of improvements).

- 2) After you have described your process, provide context for understanding your findings by indicating how many of your constituents from each group provided

feedback. This will vary for each constituent group — how many comprise the constituent group, and how many provided feedback? This will also vary for each cycle of data collection, so it would need to be presented at the beginning of each data collection cycle.

**Data Sources 2005:** *describe sources here*  
**Data Sources 2008:** *describe sources here*

- 3) For each of your objectives, provide the results for EACH constituent group separately for each data collection cycle:

**Objective 1: Graduates will work effectively as a professional in cross-functional teams.**

**2005 Results:**  
**Alumni:** *summary of results*  
**Advisory Board:** *summary of results*  
**Campus Recruiters:** *summary of results*

- 4) For each objective, describe **actions taken** based on the evidence cited in step 3.

Process repeats for each remaining objective beginning with step 3.

**Objective 2: Graduates will solve problems using the modern tools of the discipline.**

**2008 Results:**  
**Alumni:** *summary of results*  
**Advisory Board:** *summary of results*  
**Campus Recruiters:** *summary of results*  
**Actions Taken:** *summary of actions taken based on evidence*

For an example of what a report based on this format might look like, go to **[www.abet.org/assessment.shtml#Data\\_collection](http://www.abet.org/assessment.shtml#Data_collection)**.

If you have an example of your reporting process for your assessment results of program educational objectives, please provide it to me at [grogers@abet.org](mailto:grogers@abet.org). If several different examples are provided, they may be posted at **[www.abet.org/assessment.shtml](http://www.abet.org/assessment.shtml)**.

Constituent Providing Feedback	Assessment Method(s)	Time of data collection	Assessment Coordinator	Evaluation of Results
Alumni	Survey	Fall 2004, 2007	Wilson	Department
Advisory Board	Focus Group	Spring 2005,2008		
Campus Recruiters	Survey, Focus Group	Fall 2005, 2008		

# YourCorner

## Board of Directors

A report summarizing the actions taken at the Board of Directors meeting will be posted by late April. However, you don't need to wait to start communicating with your society about the ABET activities in progress. While it's fresh in your mind, write up a summary of your take-aways from the March Board meeting and e-mail it to your society liaison. Any efforts to communicate with our member societies are worthwhile.

## Commissioners

During your fall visits, did you note any programs or individuals fostering diversity in the areas that ABET accredits? Then, why not encourage them to submit a nomination for the 2009 Claire L. Felbinger Award for Diversity? Eligibility criteria are available at **[www.abet.org/diversity.shtml](http://www.abet.org/diversity.shtml)**.

## Institutions

Are there any programs or individuals at your school or on your IAC actively fostering diversity in the areas that ABET accredits? Then, nominate them for the 2009 Claire L. Felbinger Award for Diversity. Eligibility criteria are available at **[www.abet.org/diversity.shtml](http://www.abet.org/diversity.shtml)**, and self-nominations are encouraged.

## Member Societies

The program evaluator candidate training dates still available include May 2-3 in Baltimore, May 30-31 in Baltimore, and June 13-14 in Austin, TX, in conjunction with the ASEE conference. If you need additional information, e-mail the training team at [training@abet.org](mailto:training@abet.org).

Most societies have been using their new ABET Society Website, but if you need assistance, please let Donna Clark ([dclark@abet.org](mailto:dclark@abet.org)) or Hope Joseph-Nelson ([hnelson@abet.org](mailto:hnelson@abet.org)) know.

## Program Evaluators

During your fall visits, did you note any programs or individuals fostering diversity in the areas that ABET accredits? Then, why not encourage them to submit a nomination for the 2009 Claire L. Felbinger Award for Diversity? Eligibility criteria are available at **[www.abet.org/diversity.shtml](http://www.abet.org/diversity.shtml)**.

# Member Societies

ABET is a federation of 30 professional and technical societies representing the fields of applied science, computing, engineering, and technology:

American Academy of Environmental Engineers	IEEE, Inc.
American Congress on Surveying and Mapping	Institute of Industrial Engineers, Inc.
American Industrial Hygiene Association	International Council on Systems Engineering
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Inc.	International Society of Automation
American Institute of Chemical Engineers	Materials Research Society
American Nuclear Society	National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying
American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers	National Institute of Ceramic Engineers
American Society of Civil Engineers	National Society of Professional Engineers
American Society for Engineering Education	SAE International
American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.	Society of Fire Protection Engineers
American Society of Safety Engineers	Society of Manufacturing Engineers
ASME	Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Inc.
Biomedical Engineering Society	Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers
CSAB, Inc.	Society of Petroleum Engineers
Health Physics Society	The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society



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