



# Going Global Accreditation Takes Off Worldwide



2008 Annual Report  
For ABET Fiscal Year 2007-2008



## ABET Vision

ABET will provide world leadership in assuring quality and in stimulating innovation in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology education.

## ABET Mission

ABET serves the public through the promotion and advancement of education in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology. ABET will:

- Accredit educational programs.
- Promote quality and innovation in education.
- Consult and assist in the development and advancement of education worldwide in a financially self-sustaining manner.
- Communicate with our constituencies and the public regarding activities and accomplishments.
- Anticipate and prepare for the changing environment and the future needs of constituencies.
- Manage the operations and resources to be effective and fiscally responsible.

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# ABET Accreditation Goes Global



This year, ABET went global. That doesn't mean that ABET wasn't a global organization before this time. It always has been to some extent. Almost from its founding, ABET's predecessor organization, the Engineers' Council for Professional Development (ECPD), was cooperating with international bodies such as the Engineering Institute of Canada in 1940. For the past few decades, ABET

volunteers have evaluated international programs, and many such programs were granted substantial equivalency. Additionally, ABET has been involved in mutual recognition agreements since the 1970s, as well as memoranda of understanding, to assist non-U.S. organizations initiate their quality assurance efforts.

However, this year, ABET launched one of the most significant changes in its recent history — international accreditation and refinement of the ABET international travel policy. As a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), I see many parallels between this change for ABET and the advent of jet propulsion in the 1950s. The introduction of this technical phenomenon enabled aircraft to fly higher, faster, and farther than the piston-powered airliners that were common after World War II. Jet propulsion changed the way by which commercial aviation was conducted, making it technically feasible and cost-effective for passenger carriers to open routes to destinations near and far. Now, travel across oceans within a single day is not only possible but plausible.

Probably more important, the introduction of jet propulsion changed the lives of many people who could now take advantage of international flight. It offered more speed, comfort, and efficiency for passengers, especially over long distances, and enabled many to go farther than they would have otherwise imagined. It opened the prospect of international travel to individuals of many nationalities and socioeconomic groups, and it made our planet a smaller and more closely knit world.

Like jet propulsion, international accreditation will provide global mobility for many technical graduates from all over the world. ABET accreditation will increase the professional opportunities of graduates from ABET-accredited programs as they pursue employment, education, licensure and certification, and other opportunities at home and abroad.

ABET accreditation of programs at non-U.S. institutions came to fruition this year, and the fall of 2007 saw the first accreditation visits to programs outside of the United States that were not duly established in the U.S. or extensions of programs within the United States. These accreditation visits commenced with representatives from two commissions going to 22 programs on four continents. The Engineering Accreditation

Commission visited 18 programs in four countries — Germany, Kuwait, Mexico, and Turkey. In addition, the Computing Accreditation Commission sent volunteers to four programs in three countries — Mexico, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates. These international visits were conducted using the same accreditation criteria and the same policies and procedures that are employed during visits within the United States.

Furthermore, this past year, ABET was involved in another step towards facilitating the mobility of technical graduates. On November 6, 2007, representatives from six international accrediting bodies signed the historic Seoul Declaration, agreeing on a “shared vision of establishing an accord on the accreditation of educational programs in the computing and IT-related disciplines.” ABET and five other signatories modeled this mutual recognition agreement after the Washington Accord, which recommends that engineering graduates from recognized programs be afforded the same rights and privileges as those graduates in the home country. This major step will certainly promote the mobility of computing professionals, and the years to come will see more signatories enter into the agreement.

**“This year, ABET launched one of the most significant changes in its recent history.”**

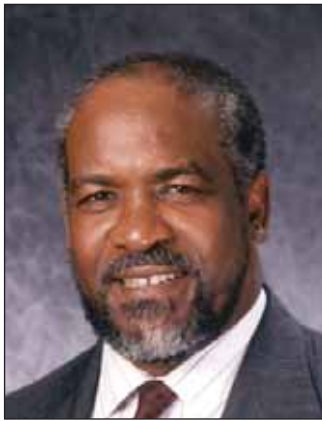
While the expansion into the area of international accreditation and the signing of the Seoul Declaration are unquestionably significant, these are not the sum of ABET's accomplishments over the 2007-2008 fiscal year. The organization continued to help faculty, both in the U.S. and abroad, improve their programs and institutions with workshops, the Institute for the Development of Excellence in Assessment Leadership (IDEAL), and the Best Assessment Processes Symposium. The ABET Board of Directors addressed in great depth three emerging issues — educational delivery, globalization, and governance — that are likely to become part of ABET's next strategic plan. Further, the Board of Directors established the ABET Foundation to complement and support special ABET programs. This organization's outstanding volunteers and staff, especially its Executive Department, have done a superb job in supporting these and other initiatives.

It has been a great privilege to serve as ABET's President during a year of such unprecedented change, growth, and development, particularly as international accreditation, the Seoul Declaration, and many other activities have taken flight.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Skip Fletcher". The signature is fluid and cursive.

L.S. “Skip” Fletcher, Ph.D.  
2008 ABET President

# Preparing Students for the Global Market: Not a New Need



Anyone who has watched a news broadcast or read an Internet article in the past six months knows that the global economy is in crisis. In the United States, this has impacted everything from Wall Street, as some of the world's strongest financial institutions have been reduced to rubble, to Main Street, where bank foreclosure and "for sale" signs dot many front lawns.

Now more than ever, we are realizing how interconnected our economy is with those of the rest of the world. As the U.S. economy falters, so do those of Europe and Asia and the Middle East. That is because we live in a global marketplace, and the technical students we are readying today must be prepared to face that marketplace tomorrow.

However, this situation should not be thought of as something new. It dates back decades, if not centuries. I am reminded of the bust of Herbert Hoover, the 31<sup>st</sup> president of the United States, that adorned the lobby of the United Engineering Center, where the ABET offices were located until 1994. Hoover was one of those technically trained, globe-trotting graduates, having studied mining engineering at Stanford in the 1890s. His early career took him to Western Australia, where he led an expansion program for a gold mine. Beginning in 1899, he worked as the leading engineer for a private corporation in China and directed the building of barricades during the Boxer Rebellion. Hoover went on to devise methods to recover lost zinc during mining operations, co-found a mining corporation, serve as an independent mining consultant, and lecture worldwide about mining until World War I, when his career in public service began.

ABET's predecessor organization, the Engineers' Council for Professional Development, was founded in 1932, near the end of Hoover's sole presidential term. It is a fascinating coincidence that the foremost leader of the country at that time was an engineer who had worked for international corporations and spent much of his technical career abroad. His career is similar to those of many working professionals today, and it is certain to reflect the trajectory of some technical professionals of the future. It is the charge of the programs that ABET accredits to prepare their students for such diverse career possibilities in an ever-changing world.

Despite some consternation, ABET has been pushing the concept of preparing technical students with a broad education

for several decades now and refocused with the introduction of the program outcomes criteria, commonly referred to as (a) through (k) or (a) through (i), depending on the discipline. These criteria insist that students attain an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility, as well as the broad education necessary to understand the impact of technical solutions in a global, economic, environmental, and societal context. They also maintain that students must have a knowledge of contemporary issues and the ability to communicate effectively. It is these professional abilities, along with their top-notch technical skills, that will carry students through as both large and small firms increase international operations.

This is one of the many reasons why ABET is placing greater emphasis on the international leadership aspect of its charge, without diverting resources from its domestic responsibilities.

**“Herbert Hoover was one of those technically trained, globe-trotting graduates ... His career was similar to those of many working professionals today.”**

In particular, I am pleased to undertake a new role within the organization, that of Managing Director for International Business Development and Executive Director Emeritus, effective November 1. Having participated in ABET's goal of providing world leadership in quality assurance over the past 15 years, I look forward to being a part of ABET's international vision for the next few years of its development. I also look forward to working closely with the leadership to help ensure that this organization continues to be a standard-setter, a recognized leader in accreditation, as it makes its way along the next leg of its journey.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George D. Peterson".

George D. Peterson, Ph.D., P.E.  
ABET Executive Director

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# 2008 Activity Highlights

## Accreditation Expands at Home and Abroad

The 2007-2008 accreditation cycle saw the first of ABET's accreditation visits to non-domestic programs, that is programs housed outside of the United States that were not an extension of U.S. programs. These commenced with representatives from the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) visiting one program in Germany, seven programs in Kuwait, nine programs in Mexico, and one program in Turkey. In addition, volunteers from the Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) visited two programs in Mexico, one program in South Africa, and one program in United Arab Emirates.

Furthermore, ABET reviewed an astounding number of programs within the United States with more than 720 programs evaluated across its four commissions. This includes 22 in the area of applied science, representing a rise of more than 68 percent, and nearly 100 for computing, a rise of 15 percent over the previous year. There were 442 evaluations in the area of engineering, up from 417 the previous year, and 141 programs evaluated for technology.



## ABET and Other Computing Organizations Sign the Seoul Declaration

On November 6, 2007, at a symposium in Seoul, Korea, representatives of six accrediting bodies signed a historic declaration of intent. Signatories of the Seoul Declaration agreed on a “shared vision of establishing an accord on the accreditation of educational programs in the computing and IT-related disciplines.” Modeled after the Washington Accord, an agreement among engineering accreditors, the Seoul Accord will be the first within the computing professions. The six signatories of the declaration were ABET, the Australian Computer Society (ACS), the British Computer Society (BCS), the Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS), the Japan Accreditation Board for Engineering Education (JABEE), and the Accreditation Board for Engineering Education of Korea (ABEEK). Joe Turner, a member-at-large of the Executive Committee of ABET's Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) was ABET's representative at the symposium and declaration signing.



## ABET Board Approves Establishment of ABET Foundation

At its fall 2007 meeting, the ABET Board of Directors approved the formation of an ABET Foundation “to advance, promote, and support the charitable, educational, and scientific purposes of ABET.” Among its purposes are to create an endowment fund for ABET, operate a consultancy service for programs seeking ABET accreditation, assist other countries in developing accreditation systems for scientific and technical education programs, and support research activities related to ABET’s activities and goals. To begin, the foundation’s Board of Trustees consists of three former ABET Presidents.

## ABET Lifts Longtime Ban on Dual-Level Accreditation in Engineering Fields

In 2006 and 2007, responding to the report “Engineer of 2020” issued by the National Academy of Engineering and to initiatives from some of its member societies, ABET sought comments from its constituencies with respect to the ABET/Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) longstanding policy II.B.8.a of the *Accreditation Policy and Procedure Manual*: “Engineering programs may be accredited at either the baccalaureate or master’s level. A program may be accredited at only one level in a particular curriculum at a particular institution.”

Following close review of comments received, the ABET Board of Directors approved a change to the policy that will allow institutions to seek accreditation for their engineering programs at two levels within the same discipline concurrently. The change was approved in March 2008 and will take effect with the 2009-2010 accreditation cycle.

## Accreditation Council Leads Criteria Harmonization Efforts

Criteria harmonization is an effort to use common criteria wording across the four ABET commissions where the intended meaning is the same. Harmonization is not about forcing commonality where differences are necessary and intentional. This project is addressing unintended differences that are a source of confusion for the institutions, ABET volunteers, and headquarters staff.

## INCOSE Becomes a Member Society

At its fall 2007 meeting, the ABET Board of Directors approved an application for membership from the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE). Founded in 1990, this organization’s mission is to advance the state of the art and practice of systems engineering in industry, academia, and government. Currently, INCOSE has 6,000 members, ranging from the level of students to senior practitioners. INCOSE received the needed ratifying votes on July 15 and took its seat on the ABET Board at the fall 2008 meeting. This addition brought the number of professional and technical societies that comprise ABET up to 29.

## ABET Signs Memoranda of Understanding with Israeli and Egyptian Organizations

ABET signed two memoranda of understanding — one with the Council for Higher Education in Israel and one with National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Education of Egypt. In general, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) is intended to improve the quality of applied science, computing, engineering, and/or technology education. The MOU provides a mechanism for the exchange of information and collaboration on accreditation. An MOU may lead to a mutual recognition agreement at some time in the future, but the agreement does not impart any rights or privileges to graduates of accredited programs. These two latest agreements bring ABET’s total MOUs to 14.

## ABET Board Strategic Task Groups Take on Challenges Around Educational Delivery, Globalization, Governance

One of the major functions of a board of directors is determining the strategic issues that will ultimately set its organization’s future course. At its spring meeting in 2007, the ABET Board determined that the organization’s top strategic issues revolve around (1) educational delivery, particularly what the emergence of new educational paradigms and degree paths mean for quality assurance; (2) globalization and the increasingly borderless nature of technical education and employment, as well as the opportunities and challenges that the global marketplace presents for an accrediting body; and (3) governance, specifically whether ABET’s current operating structure is optimal and if the organization has the representation needed to operate effectively in the changing environment. This year, the Board appointed volunteers to serve on Strategic Issues Task Groups, one addressing each of these areas. Their work will likely lay the foundation for ABET’s strategic thrust.



## ABET Begins New Webinar Series

In December 2007, ABET began a new series of webinars — interactive, Internet-based seminars that include on-screen audio and visual presentations and multiple opportunities for participants to pose questions to the presenter. ABET’s new series enabled an unlimited number of faculty members at a single location to learn about program assessment basics, accreditation visit preparations, and other topics of interest without incurring travel expenses. There were a total of 13 webinars with 10 different assessment or accreditation topics, including “Accreditation for Non-U.S. Based Programs,” “Preparing for the Site Visit” from each of the four commissions, “Defining Program Outcomes,” and “Developing Rubrics.”

## Partnership to Advance Volunteer Excellence (PAVE) Brings About Industry Recruitment Fliers, Team Chair Competency Model, and Much More

The PAVE initiative, which kicked off late in 2006, continued to introduce improvements to the means by which ABET volunteers are recruited, selected, trained, and evaluated. During 2007-2008, there were revisions and updates to the program evaluator competency model, the online program evaluator application form, its accompanying recruitment and selection guide, and the program evaluator candidate pre-work. The *centralized program evaluator training*, which includes the pre-work as well as a day and a half of face-to-face training, prepared a total of 119 candidates this year. A *volunteer recruitment flier that specifically targets professionals from industry and government* was developed, and a *team chair competency model* was created, revised, and approved by the ABET Board of Directors. In addition, the program evaluator *performance assessment tools* were revised and made more user-friendly, and a plan was developed to analyze and report the results of volunteer performance evaluations to the accreditation commissions, ABET member societies, and the individual volunteer.

## Faculty Workshops on Assessing Program Outcomes Gives Nearly 400 a Foundation in Continuous Quality Improvement

ABET hosted seven faculty workshops in 2008. The year's schedule included workshops in San Antonio, Tampa, Nashville, and Pittsburgh; two workshops in Baltimore; and a workshop preceding this year's Commission Summit in Louisville. In total, approximately 390 participants benefitted from these day-long opportunities to sharpen their assessment knowledge.

## Institute for the Development of Excellence in Assessment Leadership (IDEAL) Meets Increasing Demand with Two Sessions in One Year

Demand for IDEAL has been exceptionally strong, and 2008 was the first year in which two sessions were conducted. The first, held in Phoenix from January 7 through 11, hosted 39 participants, while the second, held in Baltimore from August 4 through 8, had 37 participants. ABET conducted these four-and-a-half-day intensive professional development workshops specifically to help individuals with limited assessment experience prepare to lead the development and implementation of an assessment plan for their programs or



institutions. After completing the Institute, participants are designated as IDEAL Scholars, which entitles them to a year of extensive support as they implement their assessment plans.

## Best Assessment Processes Symposium Marks 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Best Assessment Processes Symposium celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008. This two-day event provides interactive and presentation-based opportunities for applied science, computing, engineering, and technology educators to learn about assessment methods and how they can be used to validate and improve student learning outcomes. Peter Ewell, Vice President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, served as keynote, and special 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Presenters, who were instrumental in developing the symposium early on, delivered invited presentations throughout the event.

## 2008 Society Summit Brings Together Volunteers and Staff to Share Best Practices for Recruiting, Training, and More

On October 6, ABET hosted its second annual Society Summit. This event brought together individuals who have direct responsibility for their ABET member society's accreditation activities to share best practices and work to improve the accreditation experience for all involved. Forty-three individuals representing 18 different ABET societies attended. The program included progress reports about PAVE, as well as presentations from society representatives on strategies for recruiting program evaluator candidates and preparations for program evaluators who are assigned to visits outside of the U.S. Also covered were training volunteers on program criteria and preparing them to serve as mentors for new candidates, the use of performance evaluations for volunteer recognition and remediation, and approaches to refresher and remedial training.



# Financial Highlights

## Independent Auditors' Report

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET), (a non-profit organization) as of September 30, 2008 and 2007, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of ABET's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc., as of September 30, 2008 and 2007, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Shapiro & Duffalo, P.C.

January 14, 2009

### Statements of Financial Position See Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	2008	2007	Liabilities and Net Assets	2008	2007
<b>Current assets</b>			<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,187,207	\$ 1,128,636	Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	\$ 436,652	\$ 500,248
Investments — at fair value	2,468,030	1,878,455	Capital leases payable — current portion	9,423	26,728
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$35,000 and \$44,521, respectively for 2008 and 2007	426,537	1,079,524	Deferred revenues	3,435,727	3,970,769
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	102,114	97,142	<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>3,881,802</b>	<b>4,497,745</b>
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>4,183,888</b>	<b>4,183,757</b>	<b>Long-term liabilities</b>		
<b>Fixed assets, at cost</b>			Capital leases payable — net of current portion	76,578	
Information management systems	705,021	705,021	Deferred rent payable	222,966	239,703
Capital leases	88,424	108,305		4,181,346	4,737,448
Equipment	635,901	602,969	<b>Commitments</b>		
Furniture and fixtures	198,908	198,908	Unrestricted net assets	790,126	239,653
Computer software	38,354	12,549			
Leasehold improvements	79,798	79,798	<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 4,971,472</b>	<b>\$ 4,977,101</b>
	1,746,406	1,707,550			
<b>Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization</b>					
	(958,822)	(914,206)			
<b>Total fixed assets — net</b>	<b>787,584</b>	<b>793,344</b>			
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 4,971,472</b>	<b>\$ 4,977,101</b>			

**See Notes to Financial Statements.**

**Statements of Activities**  
See Notes to Financial Statements.

Unrestricted Net Assets	2008	2007	Expenses	2008	2007
Support and revenue			Accreditation expenses	2,720,484	2,440,749
Accreditation revenues	\$ 4,911,861	\$ 3,652,770	Professional services expenses	1,004,686	761,715
Professional services revenues	555,635	328,047	ECEI expenses	112	166,460
ECEI revenues	11,633	83,891	Legacy international expenses	2,898	48,851
Legacy international revenues	77,950	121,379	Governance, planning, and operations	2,609,352	2,391,075
Assessments – member societies	1,204,428	1,234,742	Special projects expenses	2,741	122,707
Executive meeting revenues	1,995	113,450		6,340,273	5,931,557
Other income	615	4,258	Increase (decrease) in net assets	550,473	(263,273)
Investment income	120,447	129,747	Net assets, beginning of year	239,653	502,926
Special projects revenues	6,182	—			
	6,890,746	5,668,284	Net assets, end of year	\$ 790,126	\$ 239,653

**Statements of Cash Flows**  
See Notes to Financial Statements.

Cash Flows From Operating Activities	2008	2007	Cash Flows From Investing Activities	2008	2007
Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets	\$ 550,473	\$ (263,273)	Purchases of fixed assets	(66,432)	(60,504)
Adjustments to reconcile increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities			Proceeds from sale of marketable debt securities	1,356,875	2,099,000
Depreciation and amortization	165,470	133,712	Purchases of investments	(1,946,450)	(2,576,914)
Deferred rent	(16,737)	(13,823)	Net cash used in investing activities	(656,007)	(538,418)
Equipment donations	(4,851)	—	Cash Flows From Financing Activities		
Unrealized (gain) on investment in marketable securities		(531)	Capital lease payments	(29,151)	(25,102)
Realized (gain) loss on sale of investment in marketable securities		(6,768)	Net cash used in financing activities	(29,151)	(25,102)
Bad debt reserve	(9,521)	(3,886)	Net Decrease in Cash And Cash Equivalents	58,571	(593,529)
(Increase) decrease in assets			Cash And Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year	1,128,636	1,722,165
Accounts receivable	662,508	(911,889)	Cash And Cash Equivalents, End of Year	1,187,207	1,128,636
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(4,975)	10,716	Supplemental cash flow information		
Increase (decrease) in liabilities			Interest paid during the year	\$ 6,415	\$ 5,910
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	(63,596)	(33,696)			
Deferred revenues	(535,042)	1,059,429			
Total adjustments	193,256	233,264			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	743,729	(30,009)			



## Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Organization

Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc., which is doing business as ABET, Inc. (ABET) was organized in 1932 and incorporated in 1963 as a tax-exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code Section Number 501(c)(3). ABET accredits applied science, computing, engineering, and technology, programs at colleges and universities throughout the United States as well as internationally. ABET also conducts faculty improvement workshops. The Engineering Credentials Evaluation International (ECEI) (See Note 8) is a division of ABET that evaluates the credentials of engineers educated outside of the United States. The organization is supported primarily by membership assessments and accreditation fees.

#### Revenue and Cost Recognition

The financial statements of ABET have been prepared on an accrual basis. Income from membership assessments is recognized over the period to which the assessment relates and income from fees are recorded when the related services are performed. Accreditation visit income is recognized as deferred revenue until the organization releases its final reports. Unless specifically restricted by the donor or the grantor, all contributions and grants are considered to be available for unrestricted use. Unrestricted contributions received for the organization's programs are recognized as income when received.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

ABET considers all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased, to be cash and cash equivalents.

The organization maintains four operating cash accounts in a brokerage firm located in the Baltimore area. These cash balances at times during the year may exceed Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insured limits. At September 30, 2008, the organization had not incurred any losses relating to these funds.

#### Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at the amount the organization expects to collect from outstanding balances. The organization provides for probable uncollectible amounts through a charge to

earnings and a credit to a valuation allowance based on its assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Balances that are still outstanding after the organization has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through a charge to the valuation allowance and a credit to accounts receivable.

#### Depreciation

Fixed assets are recorded at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful lives by use of the straight-line method over 3 to 10 years.

Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the remaining term of lease or the useful life of the improvement utilizing the straight-line method.

#### Donated Services

The organization has not reflected donated services relating to accreditation visits on its financial statements, since these services do not meet the criteria for SFAS No. 116.

#### Investments

The organization carries investments in marketable debt securities and certificates of deposit. All investments have a term of one year or less and have a readily determinable fair market value. Investments are displayed at fair market value on the statement of financial position with unrealized gains and losses being included in investment income on the statement of activities.

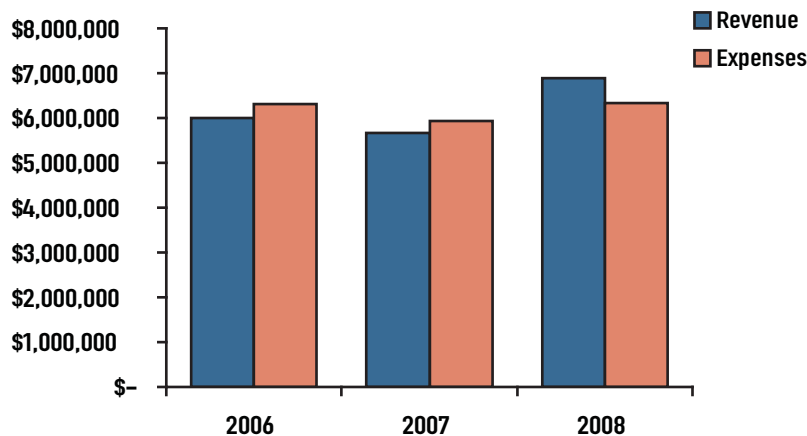
#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly actual results could differ from those estimates.

### Note 2 – Retirement Plan

A retirement plan is provided by ABET on an optional basis. The plan is carried through TIAA/CREF. The basic plan provides for a 5% contribution from the employee and an 8% contribution from ABET. In addition to the retirement plan, ABET offers a Supplemental Retirement Annuity Plan through TIAA/CREF. For the years ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, ABET contributed \$133,134 and \$148,172, respectively to the plan.

Revenue vs. Expenses



### Note 3 – Deferred Rent

In accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 13, operating lease agreements that provide for rent holidays and uneven annual payments are to be amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the noncancellable lease terms. The effect on this statement is to reduce the rent expense by \$16,737 over the amount of actual rent payments disbursed during the year ended September 30, 2008.

### Note 4 – Concentration of Credit Risk

Financial instruments which potentially subject the organization to concentrations of credit risk are trade receivables. The credit risk associated with trade receivables is limited, because the organization deals with large numbers of customers in a wide geographic area. The organization places temporary cash investments with credit-worthy, high quality financial institutions. As of September 30, 2008, the organization had no significant concentrations of credit risk.

### Note 5 – Investments

Investments consist of the following:

	2008	2007
Certificates of deposit	\$2,468,030	\$1,878,455
Excess of cost over fair value over cost and (excess) of fair value over cost	<u>2,671</u>	<u>(531)</u>
Total cost	<u>\$2,470,701</u>	<u>\$1,877,924</u>

### Note 6 – Capital Leases

ABET entered into a capital lease during the year ended September 30, 2008, with a third party. The economic substance of the lease is that ABET is financing the acquisition of the asset through the lease, and, accordingly, it is recorded in ABET's assets and liabilities. The capital lease is being amortized using the straight-line method over 5-year period.

The following is a schedule by years of future minimum payments required under the lease together with their present value as of September 30, 2008:

Year Ending	Amount
September 30,	
2009	\$21,816
2010	21,816
2011	21,816
2012	21,816
2013	<u>42,247</u>
Total minimum lease payments	129,511
Less amount representing interest	<u>\$43,510</u>

Present value of minimum lease payments \$86,001

Interest expense for the year ended September 30, 2008 was \$6,415.

### Note 7 – Rental Commitment

ABET is currently leasing office space under a noncancelable operating lease that expires in September 2014. The following is a schedule of future minimum rental payments under the lease and does not include operating and tax escalations that are adjusted on a periodic basis.

Year Ending	Amount
September 30,	
2009	\$308,893
2010	315,655
2011	322,570
2012	329,641
2013	336,872
2014	<u>344,267</u>
	<u>\$1,957,898</u>

Rent expense which includes maintenance and utilities amounted to \$354,704 for the year ended September 30, 2008.

### Note 8 – ECEI

On October 28, 2006, the ABET Board of Directors approved the motion to suspend ABET's credentials evaluation service (ECEI) and establish a timetable of related steps to include the finalization of current applications and a cessation of new applications. These actions were completed April 30, 2007.

### Note 9 – Reclassifications

Certain items in the 2007 report have been reclassified to conform to current year classifications. Such reclassifications had no effect on previously reported decrease in net assets.

### Note 10 – Noncash Transactions

During the year ended September 30, 2008, the organization acquired equipment by entering into capital lease obligations totaling \$88,424.

During the year ended September 30, 2008, the organization received donated equipment in the amount of \$4,851.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT on Additional Information

Our report on our audits of the basic financial statements of ABET, Inc. as of September 30, 2008 and 2007, appears on pages 9 and 10 of this publication. Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The additional information on these pages is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Shapiro & Duffalo, P.C.  
January 14, 2009

### Schedules of Operating Expenses For the years ended September 30,

Accreditation Expenses	2008	2007	ECEI Expenses	2008	2007
Salaries and related expenses	\$ 728,285	\$ 693,050	Salaries and related expenses	\$	\$ 102,951
Other professional fees	44,798	55,296	Other professional fees		12,150
General and administrative	67,190	66,696	General and administrative	112	16,903
Staff travel	30,015	27,729	Occupancy expense		34,151
Board of Directors travel expense	4,948	5,657	Staff development and morale		430
Commission officer travel	325,506	279,559	Individual membership dues		22
Participant travel		2,488	Document verification and translation		(147)
Volunteer travel	1,309,302	1,079,944		\$ 112	\$ 166,460
PAVE expenses	2,034				
Hosted meeting expenses	201,607	229,394			
Other expenses	6,799	936			
	<u>\$ 2,720,484</u>	<u>\$ 2,440,749</u>			
			Legacy International Expenses	2008	2007
Professional Services Expenses	2008	2007	Salaries and related expenses	\$	\$ 20,279
Salaries and related expenses	\$ 576,892	\$ 477,500	General and administrative	1,234	741
Other professional fees	987	311	Executive travel		6,685
General and administrative	148,900	62,618	Hosted meeting expenses		96
Staff travel	23,304	41,623	Volunteer travel		21,050
Board of Directors travel expense	4,982	1,323	Other expenses		
Participant travel	4,245	1,312		1,664	
Volunteer travel	1,370	4,142		\$ 2,898	\$ 48,851
Hosted meeting expenses	208,039	135,736			
Other expenses	4,026	3,883			
Advertising	31,941	33,267			
	<u>\$ 1,004,686</u>	<u>\$ 761,715</u>			

**Schedules of Operating Expenses**  
For the years ended September 30,

Governance, Planning, and Operations Expenses	2008	2007
Salaries and related expenses	\$ 1,287,750	\$ 1,171,129
Other professional fees	264,040	157,652
General and administrative	250,832	177,000
Occupancy expense	354,704	318,920
Meeting registration expenses	1,891	2,001
Staff travel	37,304	42,283
Board of Directors travel expense	47,658	32,040
Participant travel	99	920
Volunteer travel and recognition expense	29,115	33,284
Hosted meeting expenses	28,101	209,522
Depreciation and amortization	165,470	133,712
Miscellaneous expenses	10,687	1,892
Bank fees	46,875	16,508
Interest expense	6,415	5,910
Insurance expense	55,748	59,288
Staff development and morale	5,814	8,559
Volunteer recognition expense	4,306	
Individual membership dues	4,987	5,299
Membership dues – organizations	16,647	10,141
Bad debt expense	(9,091)	5,015
	<u>\$ 2,609,352</u>	<u>\$ 2,391,075</u>

Special Projects Expenses	2008	2007
Salaries and related expenses	\$	\$ 49,458
Other professional fees	2,723	
General and administrative	18	7,776
Staff travel		272
Participant travel		(793)
Volunteer travel		4,534
Project specific expenses		61,460
	<u>\$ 2,741</u>	<u>\$ 122,707</u>

***See Independent Auditor's Report  
on Additional Information  
(pages 9 through 12).***



# Accreditation Council

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Lawrence G. Jones  
Carnegie Mellon University

## Applied Science Accreditation Commission

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Ralph J. Hodek  
Michigan Technological University

### Chair-Elect

J. Turner Hughey  
Chromcraft Corporation

### Past Chair

Michael S. Bisesi  
The University of Toledo

## Computing Accreditation Commission

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### Past Chair

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University of North Carolina  
at Charlotte

## International Activities Council

### Chair

Phillip E. Borrowman  
Hanson Professional Services, Inc.

The ABET Accreditation Council was established in 2001. The council exists to improve the accreditation process with emphasis on sharing best practices and achieving appropriate consistency across the four ABET commissions. The work encompasses policies, processes, procedures, and criteria. Council membership includes a chair (two-year term) and the chair, chair-elect, and past chair from each of the four commissions. The chair of the International Activities Council serves as a non-voting member.

The most significant initiative this year was the criteria harmonization effort. Additional council activities included establishment of the Accreditation Council Training Committee; further alignment of processes, forms, and procedures; and work on common issues that span the commissions.

## Criteria Harmonization

The cross-commission *ad hoc* Criteria Harmonization Committee created a set of draft harmonized criteria this year. The committee consisted of two representatives from each commission with support from the ABET staff. The committee initiated the task with a meeting in Baltimore and then labored diligently to

**“The most significant initiative this year was the criteria harmonization effort.”**

get the criteria ready for July consideration by the commissions. ABET staff assisted greatly with the administration of an online survey to gather feedback on an early draft. The survey results confirmed that the committee was headed in the right direction. The coordination effort was truly herculean, and the council chair expresses his gratitude to all involved in the effort.

To assist in communication with stakeholders about the criteria harmonization effort, the council’s chairs produced a set of “frequently asked questions,” which includes the following information:

### *What is criteria harmonization?*

Criteria harmonization is an effort to use common criteria wording across the four ABET commissions where the intended meaning is the same. Harmonization is NOT about forcing commonality where differences are necessary and intentional.

### *Why harmonize?*

- **To help institutions.** It is becoming increasingly common for a campus visit to involve multiple commissions. Unintended differences are a source of confusion and frustration for institutions and especially for jointly-accredited programs.
- **To help ABET volunteers.** New program evaluators now share common training; however, they must devote more of their valuable time to learn commission nuances where intended differences are mixed with unintended differences.

Team chairs must create *ad hoc* bridges during joint commission visits; once rare, these types of visits are quickly becoming the norm. Additional duplicate efforts abound in the creation and maintenance of forms, commission-specific training, and supporting processes.

- **To help ABET headquarters staff.** Unnecessary differences in criteria stand in the way of alignment of staff processes and artifacts. This makes resources sharing and load leveling very difficult for the small headquarters staff.

The criteria harmonization will be presented to the Board in fall 2008 to begin the review and comment period. As the criteria are refined, associated forms and training materials will be developed to support institutions and visiting teams.

## Training

This year, the ABET Board approved changes to the Rules of Procedure (ROP) to create the Accreditation Council Training Committee. The Training Committee’s mission is to continue the goals of the Project to Advance Volunteer Excellence (PAVE) initiative through training to:

- Enhance the value of the experience volunteers gain from participating in ABET activities.
- Improve the accreditation process for team chairs and program evaluators.
- Assist member societies in carrying out their volunteer-related accreditation functions.

The committee consists of a chair, the training committee chairs from each of the four commissions, and four at-large representatives from member societies. The committee began its activities in fall 2008.

## Other Initiatives

In the spirit of the criteria harmonization effort, the council continued work to increase uniformity of policies, processes, and documents across the commissions. These efforts include:

- **Training for new Executive Committee members.** This session acquaints all commissions’ new Executive Committee members with their duties and begins to form the cross-commission personal relationships that further the council’s work.
- **Training on joint and simultaneous visits for team chairs.** A significant number of visits now involve multiple commissions. This training enables teams to work together more efficiently before, during, and after the visits.
- **Forms harmonization.** Criteria harmonization allows more uniformity of commission forms. Efforts are underway to align self-study templates and other supporting documents.

Council members are also supporting Board initiatives on alternate educational delivery means, program naming issues, and other strategic issues.

This was a highly successful year for the council, and we look forward to new challenges and further progress on current initiatives.

# Applied Science Accreditation Commission

## Officers

### Chair

Ralph J. Hodek  
Michigan Technological University

### Chair-Elect

J. Turner Hughey  
Chromcraft Corporation

### Past Chair

Michael S. Bisesi  
The University of Toledo

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Oakland University

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Atofina Chemicals

Richard R. Brey  
Idaho State University

David L. Wells  
North Dakota State University

### Board Liaison Representative

Edwin G. Wiggins  
Webb Institute

## Commission Members

### Public Commissioner

Linda Biemer  
State University of New York  
at Binghamton/Retired

### AAEE

John Segna  
American Society of Civil Engineers

### ACSM

Joseph Paiva  
Spatial Data Research, Inc.

Jack A. Walker  
Oregon Institute of Technology

### AIHA

Bret M. Clausen  
CH2M Hill Constructors, Inc.

Phillip L. Williams  
University of Georgia

### ANS

James S. Tulenko  
University of Florida

### ASCE

Douglas M. Mace  
Mace Consulting Engineers, PC

### ASSE

Christopher A. Janicak  
Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Tom W. Lawrence  
RRS Engineering

### HPS

Mark Rudin  
Boise State University

### IIE

Dennis B. Webster  
Louisiana State University

### NCEES

Rita Marie Lumos  
City of Las Vegas

### SME

Venkitaswamy Raju  
State University of New York  
at Farmingdale

## Alternate Members

### AIHA

George R. Osborne  
Southeastern Environmental Products,  
Inc.

Neil J. Zimmerman  
Purdue University

### IIE

Dan Hall  
Hill-Rom Company, Inc.

In 2007-2008, for the first time, ASAC accredited a program under its general criteria alone, as well as accrediting a program under the combined Environmental, Health, and Safety criteria that the ABET Board had approved following the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) and the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) entering into a memorandum of understanding regarding accreditation of these programs. Additionally, ASAC accredited two programs that were delivered through an online delivery mode.

## ASAC Operations

At the Summer Commission Meeting, ASAC training for both new and sitting commissioners was heavily focused on evaluation under outcomes-based assessment, the implementation of AC2001, and the conduct of campus visits where more than a single ABET commission is on site simultaneously.

During 2007-2008, the ASAC had five standing committees: Consistency, Criteria, Forms, Nominating, and Training. The Criteria Committee provided ASAC's input to the proposed criteria harmonization with the other commissions.

One of ASAC's focuses during the 2007-2008 cycle was bringing the ASAC documentation in line with the other commissions, through the efforts of the Accreditation Council: ASAC prepared a renumbered Program Audit Form, Self-Study Questionnaire, and draft statements reflecting the renumbered crite-

ria, as well as doing the same for the forms used by program evaluators. In addition, ASAC prepared a mock self-study for use in program evaluator training.

**“ASAC is pursuing new program areas that might be interested in ABET accreditation, including... ‘Homeland Security.’”**

ASAC Chair Ralph Hodek and Past Chair Michael Bisesi pursued ASAC's longstanding proposal that ABET embark upon a campaign to advertise the value added of accreditation to ABET's diverse constituencies. In addition, ASAC is pursuing new program areas that might be interested in ABET accreditation, including both international and domestic programs titled “Applied Science,” as well as programs under the growing program area of “Homeland Security.”



# Computing Accreditation Commission

## Officers

### Chair

Stuart H. Zweben  
Ohio State University

### Chair-Elect

Gayle J. Yaverbaum  
Pennsylvania State University

### Past Chair

Lawrence G. Jones  
Carnegie Mellon University

### Vice Chair-Operations

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Battelle

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Carnegie Mellon University

David L. Feinstein  
University of South Alabama

Harold Grossman  
Clemson University

Allen Parrish  
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

A. Joe Turner  
Clemson University/Retired

### Board Liaison representative

Susan O. Schall  
SOS Consulting

## Commission Members

### Public Commissioner

David E. Herrington  
Prairie View A&M University/Retired

### CSAB

James H. Aylor  
University of Virginia

Gordon L. Bailes  
East Tennessee State University

Jean R S. Blair  
United States Military Academy

Della T. Bonnette  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Lillian Cassel  
Villanova University

Kai H. Chang  
Auburn University

Thomas Cheatham  
Middle Tennessee State University

David Allen Cook  
Aegis Technologies Group, Inc.

David W. Cordes  
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Roy Daigle  
University of South Alabama

Venu Gopa Dasigi  
Southern Polytechnic State University

William John Dixon  
Ernst & Young, LLP

David S. Gibson  
United States Air Force Academy

Raymond Greenlaw  
Armstrong Atlantic State University

C. Richard G. Helps  
Brigham Young University

Thomas B. Horton  
University of Virginia

Carolyn M. Jacobson  
Marymount University

George M. Kasper  
Virginia Commonwealth University

Nancy Kinnersley  
University of Kansas

Jim Leone  
Rochester Institute of Technology

Antonette Logar  
South Dakota School of Mines &  
Technology

Lois Mansfield  
Raytheon Systems

Kenneth E. Martin  
University of North Florida

Manton Matthews  
University of South Carolina

Gerard Ulrich Merckel  
University of North Florida

Kenneth L. Modesitt  
Indiana University-Purdue University  
Fort Wayne

Dan Nash  
Raytheon Company

Ken Bennett Olson  
Utah Valley State College

Andrew T. Phillips  
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

George Pothering  
College of Charleston

Barbara Price  
Georgia Southern University

Anne-Louise Radimsky  
California State University, Sacramento

Dennis Dino Lee Schweitzer  
United States Air Force Academy

James A. Smith  
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Judith L. Solano  
University of North Florida

Pradip Srimani  
Clemson University

Stan Thomas  
Wake Forest University

John Carroll Turcek  
Robert Morris University

## Alternate Member

### CSAB

Karen A. Lemone  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

## Process Innovation and Improvements

In response to suggestions from previous CAC consistency committees, the draft final evaluation reports were distributed to the 2007-2008 Consistency Committee in advance of the Summer Commission Meeting. This allowed the Consistency Committee to anticipate issues and work with commissioners during the meeting to help eliminate potential consistency problems. The process proved to be very successful and likely will be used again next year.

The Executive Committee continued its aggressive enforcement of the time limits for team chairs and editors to complete their work. Despite increased workload due to the growth in the number of programs being evaluated, all deadlines were met. The working relationship between CAC and CSAB continued to be positive. CAC is in the unique position of having a single society that serves as the interface for other professional societies with an interest in computing accreditation. In 2008, this cooperative and collaborative relationship again was evident in the work of the joint CAC/CSAB Criteria Committee and their leadership in the cross-commission criteria harmonization effort. A similar working relationship was initiated with the respective training committees in supporting the Partnership to Advance Volunteer Excellence (PAVE) initiative and the effort to train program evaluators on our new criteria. CAC and CSAB took advantage of this singular relationship by coordinating the work of key committees. Once per year, the two executive committees meet jointly to discuss issues of concern to both the CAC and CSAB, to further improve processes. No discussion of actions involving accreditation of any programs is held at these joint meetings.

## Growth

CAC continues its substantial growth in requests for evaluation from new programs. For the second straight year, CAC evaluated more than 100 programs in a single cycle. The forecast is for this to continue in the 2008-2009 cycle. To handle the increased workload, the ABET Board allowed CAC to promote some alternates to the commission to cover the number of visits. CAC is grateful to the Board for its support.

## Criteria

This year, 12 pilot visits of 18 programs (including computer science, information systems, and information technology) were conducted using proposed general and program criteria. In the 2008-2009 cycle, the general and program criteria will be used for all CAC programs from institutions that have a new program under evaluation, and they will be used for about half of the other CAC programs undergoing re-evaluation. Full implementation of the general and program criteria will take place effective with the 2009-2010 cycle. The commission's Rollout Committee, led by Allen Parrish, coordinated and helped keep us on track in managing the rollout of these new criteria.

This year also saw culmination of the ABET Accreditation Council-coordinated effort to harmonize the criteria, so that the wording in areas that tend to mean the same thing to the different commissions is identical and less confusing. The benefit to institutions, evaluation teams, and headquarters staff is considerable if the criteria are harmonized in this way. CAC's David Feinstein led the cross-commission harmonization team, and Frank Young was the other CAC member of that team. The

team's recommendations were reviewed by the four commissions at the summer meeting and approved almost verbatim by CAC. CAC's actions on the criteria harmonization will be synthesized with those of the other ABET commissions to determine the extent of harmonization obtained. The final recommendations from this synthesis process are expected to be presented to the ABET Board in fall 2008.

## Documents, Training, and Outreach

With the rollout of the new criteria, there is a need to develop new documents to support the criteria changes and related process changes. The CAC's Documents Committee, under Harold Grossman's leadership, did a yeoman's job in providing the needed materials for the coming year's evaluations. Joe Turner, Chair of Training, and Susan Schall, CAC's Liaison to the ABET Board of Directors, continue to help lead the PAVE Project. Also, Past Chair Larry Jones is a member of the PAVE Steering Committee. Joe prepared useful training materials for the commission to facilitate our large-scale transition to the new criteria in the coming year.

CAC and the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) again conducted a training session for team chairs of simultaneous visits. These types of visits are becoming more frequent as institutions whose suite of ABET programs spans multiple commissions desire alignment of the programs' respective accreditation cycles. CAC now conducts almost half of its general review evaluations in partnership with at least one other commission.

The Chair, Chair-Elect, and CAC Adjunct Accreditation Director participated in the Commission Summit activities at the beginning of the 2007 ABET Annual Meeting. The plenary

**“For the second year straight, CAC evaluated more than 100 programs in a single cycle.”**

session, coordinated by CAC, provided tips on preparing the self-study document. The commission-specific afternoon session was devoted to training on assessment and an introduction to the new proposed criteria.

CAC continues its efforts to attract a gender-diverse volunteer corps to its commission and its leadership. Twenty percent of next year's commissioners are women, as is one-third of the incoming Executive Committee. Our greatest challenge remains the recruitment of commissioners from industry. However, we have made progress in this area as well, increasing our industry representation to over 25 percent in next year's commission. The ability to increase industry-based commissioners is directly related to our ability to increase industry-based program evaluators.

## Program Naming

Another challenge facing CAC is the plethora of program names that are used by computing programs globally. Many names are used for seemingly similar programs, and sometimes the same

name is used to represent programs from seemingly different disciplines. CAC's Lynn Carter captured many of the problems in a report to the Executive Committee this year. The problem

## **“Another challenge facing CAC is the plethora of program names that are used by computing programs globally.”**

is exacerbated by ABET's recent decision to accredit programs outside of the United States, and therefore this problem is receiving increasing recognition from other ABET commissions.

## **International Computing Accord**

ABET participated in international discussions regarding the development of an accord for computing programs that resembles accords in which ABET currently participates for engineering and technology programs. Such an accord signifies that the signatories believe that the accreditation processes used in the respective countries provides substantially equivalent evidence that graduates of accredited programs meet agreed-upon standards. Further discussions and possible action are expected in the coming year.

## **Acknowledgements**

The work of the commission has been greatly facilitated by ABET staff. Those working most closely and effectively with the commission throughout the year have been Norma Belton, Doris Lidtke, Ellen Stokes, and Maryanne Weiss. The continued strong support of the staff helped immensely in making 2008 another successful year.

# Engineering Accreditation Commission

## Officers

### Chair

Mary Leigh Wolfe  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
and State University

### Chair-Elect

John W. Rutherford  
The Boeing Company

### Past Chair

Gerald S. Jakubowski  
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

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Lockheed Martin

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North Carolina State University  
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James E. Bernard  
Iowa State University

Peter J. Carrato  
Bechtel Corporation

Susan Conry  
Clarkson University

Bruce Vaughn Smith  
Rockwell Collins, Inc.

David L. Soldan  
Kansas State University

### Board Liaison Representative

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Louisiana Tech University

## Commission Members

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National Science Foundation

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Parsons Corporation

Otis J. Sproul  
University of New Hampshire

### ACSM

David W. Gibson  
University of Florida

### AIAA

Brett L. Anderson  
The Boeing Company

David S. Dolling  
The University of Texas at Austin

### AICHE

Thomas F. Edgar  
The University of Texas at Austin

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Kirk Schulz  
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Joseph A. Shaeiwitz  
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Texas A&M University

David R. Thompson  
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USR Corporation

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Portland State University

Muthusamy Krishnamurthy  
Hydro Modeling, Inc.

Gayle F. Mitchell  
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Sarah A. Rajala  
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**IEEE**

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Kenneth F. Cooper  
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Indianapolis

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Deborah E. Puckett

Mickey Randall Wilhelm  
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**NICE**

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Verco Materials

**NSPE**

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**SAE**

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**SME-AIME**

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**SNAME**

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& Technology

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**TMS**

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## Process Improvement

In 2008, the Engineering Accreditation Commission piloted a new step in the process for determining accreditation actions. The overall goals for piloting panels were to increase opportunities for commissioners to participate in discussions of individual statements, to ensure each statement is reviewed adequately, to continue to ensure correct accreditation actions for programs, and to maintain/increase confidence in the engineering education stakeholder community that accreditation actions are determined through a credible process. The specific objectives of the panels as implemented in 2008 were to (1) review program statements to identify any issues that should be brought before the whole commission and (2) prepare team chairs to report on only panel-recommended issues to the full commission.

**“Commissioners also agreed that their level of participation in the overall process was higher in the panel compared to the previous process.”**

There were seven panels; each was chaired by a member of the Executive Committee. Following the panel sessions, the full commission reconvened and voting proceeded with each team chair moving the recommended actions. A script was provided to the team chairs to follow for making the motion and subsequent discussion.

Following the commission meeting, all commissioners were asked to complete an online survey on the effectiveness of the panels. All 56 respondents recommended that the process be continued next year. The commissioners agreed that the panel process will be viewed by our stakeholder community as a credible process for determining accreditation actions. Commissioners also agreed that their level of participation in the overall process was higher in the panel compared to the previous process. The two major recommended improvements had to do with logistics: individual meeting rooms for panels and access to the statements earlier to improve preparation for the panels. The Executive Committee will review the survey results and make improvements as recommended for 2009.

## Analysis of Accreditation Actions and Trends

Criterion 2 (Program Educational Objectives) and Criterion 3 (Program Outcomes) continue to be the areas in which there are the most shortcomings (deficiencies, weaknesses, and concerns). Common shortcomings related to these two criteria included the following:

- Inadequate evidence that the process in which the objectives are determined and periodically evaluated is based on the needs of constituencies (Criterion 2).
- Confusion between the definition of program educational objectives (Criterion 2) and program outcomes (Criterion 3).
- Inadequate evidence of using the results of evaluation of objectives (Criterion 2) and/or assessment of outcomes (Criterion 3) to improve the program.

- Inadequate evidence demonstrating achievement of objectives (Criterion 2) or outcomes (Criterion 3).

Other common shortcomings included issues around student advising, student monitoring, engineering design (weak major design experience), adequacy of facilities (including laboratories), and program criteria issues related to curriculum content.

## 2007–2008 EAC Goals

The EAC had similar goals for the 2007-2008 cycle as for the 2006-2007 evaluation cycle. The overall goal of producing draft and final statements in a timely fashion was expressed in some specific timeline goals:

- Receive all Interim Report draft statements from team chairs by September 15, 2007 — 42.5 percent of the statements were submitted by September 15 and 82.5 percent submitted by September 30.
- Complete Editor 2 revisions of all Interim Report draft statements by October 31, 2007 — 70 percent of the statements were edited by October 31 and 90 percent were completed by December 31.
- Send draft statements for all General and Interim Visits to institutions no later than March 1, 2008 — 76.4 percent of the statements were sent by March 1 and 92.1 percent were sent by March 31.
- Complete final editing of all final statements by May 15, 2008 — 51.2 percent were complete by May 15 and 90 percent were complete by May 31.

A second overall goal was to continue to make dramatic improvements in the quality of training, specifically by making major revisions to training materials instead of making minor revisions to earlier versions and, thus, do away with “death by PowerPoint”

**“In 2008, improvement efforts focused on new and continuing team chair training.”**

presentations. In 2008, improvement efforts focused on new and continuing team chair training. A new Team Chair Handbook was developed, which complements the Team Chair Workbook, and eliminated much of the PowerPoint presentations for team chair training.

A third goal was to promote good communications within the EAC, between the EAC and ABET headquarters, and between the EAC and other commissions.

## 2008 EAC Summer Meeting Overview

The commission debated, modified, and approved harmonized criteria (first reading), with the understanding that a public comment period would occur and the commission would review the criteria in 2009. In addition, the commission approved the

following items related to program criteria to be submitted to the ABET Board for approval:

- **Program Criteria for Biological and Similarly Named Engineering Programs:** Add the word “food” so the first sentence of the criteria reads, “These program criteria apply to engineering programs including ‘biological,’ ‘biological systems,’ ‘food,’ and similar modifiers in their titles, with the exception of bioengineering and biomedical engineering programs.”
- **Program Criteria for Software and Similarly Named Engineering Programs:** Strike the word “and” and add an additional phrase so that the text of the program Criterion 1 reads, “The curriculum must provide both breadth and depth across the range of engineering and computer science topics implied by the title and objectives of the program. The program must demonstrate that graduates have: the ability to analyze, design, verify, validate, implement, apply, and maintain software systems; the ability to appropriately apply discrete mathematics, probability and statistics, and relevant topics in computer science and supporting disciplines to complex software systems; the ability to work in one or more significant application domains; and the ability to manage the development of software systems.”
- Add new **Program Criteria for Systems Engineering Programs Without Modifiers in Their Titles** with lead societies American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Institute of Industrial Engineers, Instrument Society of America, International Council on Systems Engineering, and SAE International. These program criteria apply to systems engineering programs without modifiers in their title. Currently, there are no program-specific criteria beyond the General Criteria.

## 2007–2008 Committees and Task Forces

The EAC had the following six standing committees and one *ad hoc* committee during the 2007-2008 evaluation cycle:

Committee	Chair
Executive Committee	Mary Leigh Wolfe
Consistency Committee	Gerald Jakubowski
Criteria Committee	Pete Carrato
Materials Committee	Bruce Smith
Nominating Committee	Gerald Jakubowski
Training Committee	Susan Conry
<i>Ad Hoc</i> Consistency Task Force	Gerald Jakubowski

## Acknowledgements

The EAC thanks its retiring commission members for their dedicated service. This includes Gerald Jakubowski (EAC Chair 2006-2007), Jim Bernard, Larry David, Chik Erzurumlu, Gary Skaggs, Otis Sproul, Jill Tietjen, Chester Van Tyne, and Richard Warder.

The EAC also expresses its appreciation to ABET staff, especially Betty Brown (EAC Administrative Assistant), Keryl Cryer (Communications Specialist), Ellen Stokes (Accreditation Manager), Dayne Aldridge (EAC Adjunct Accreditation Director), and Maryanne Weiss (Accreditation Director), for their support over this past year.

# Technology Accreditation Commission

## Executive Committee

### Chair

Michael A. Robinson  
Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory

### Chair-Elect

Mohammad A. Zahrae  
Purdue University Calumet

### Past Chair

Anthony L. Brizendine  
University of North Carolina at  
Charlotte

### Vice Chair-Operations

Kevin D. Taylor  
Purdue University

### Members-at-Large

Lewis J. Bellinger  
Ford Motor Company

Thomas R. Currin  
Southern Polytechnic State University

Warren R. Hill  
Weber State University

Eric W. Tappert  
Tappert Engineering

### Board Liaison Representative

Robert A. Herrick  
Herrick Engineering, Inc.

## Commission Members

### Public Commissioner

Patricia A. Ladewig  
Regis University

### AAEE

William C. Boyle

### ACSM

Sonya Cooper  
New Mexico State University

### AIAA

Swami N. Karunamoorthy  
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### AIChE

Wilson T. Gautreaux

### ANS

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Nirmal Kumar Das  
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Subal K. Sarkar

Jean S. Uhl  
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### ASEE

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### ASHRAE

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### NICE

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### ASHRAE

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**ASME**

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Albert Lozano-Nieto  
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**IEEE**

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**IIE**

William Walter Willoughby  
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**SAE**

Daniel E. Skurski  
Ferris State University

**SME**

V. Jorge Leon  
Texas A&M University

## Analysis of Accreditation Actions and Trends

All but one of the programs that Technology Accreditation Commission reviewed this year received a positive accreditation action from the commission. Most of the findings reported dealt with shortcomings in continuous improvement plans and in the assessment of objectives and outcomes. This result is not surprising as programs continue to transition to the performance requirements of outcomes-based accreditation criteria. These findings have been consistent since their implementation four years ago.

Once again, good responsiveness on behalf of the institutions resulted in a significant number of findings being resolved or reduced in level during due process. The number of Interim Report accreditation actions continues to substantially outpace the number of Interim Visit actions.

## Programs for Institutions and Faculty

This year, TAC hosted or participated in the following outreach activities for deans, department chairs, and other institutional representatives:

- The Commission Summit activities at the beginning of the ABET Annual Meeting.
- The 2008 Best Assessment Processes Symposium.
- An Institutional Representatives Briefing in Pittsburgh, immediately prior to the American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference.
- An Institutional Representatives' Orientation session held in conjunction with the Summer Commission Meeting.

## TAC Committees

### Executive Committee

*Mike Robinson, Chair*

The TAC Executive Committee considered issues of policy, internal procedures, relationships with other ABET commissions, interpretations of the criteria, training of commission members and program evaluators, communications with educational institutions, accreditation visits in foreign countries, and improvement of the accreditation process. The members of the Executive Committee also served as editors for accreditation statements prepared by commission members and as team chairs for accreditation visits. The Executive Committee is to be commended for extraordinary diligence during this cycle. Even though the illness of one of the Executive Committee members increased the workload of each member, the Executive Committee was able to complete the preparation of all materials for commission review at the summer meeting on schedule.

### Operations Committee

*Kevin Taylor, Vice Chair of Operations*

The responsibilities assigned to this critical position are to coordinate and monitor the current year's workload of evaluation visits and report actions, working with the team chairs and ABET headquarters to ensure that preparations are made and carried out properly. The following major tasks were completed this cycle:

- Assigned or reassigned team chairs, editors/panelists, and reviewers as required for the current cycle and in proposed draft form for the next accreditation cycle.

- Ensured that the makeup of accreditation visiting teams was balanced (with regard to factors such as experience and employment), free of apparent conflicts of interest, and appropriate for the programs being evaluated.
- Monitored the scheduling, timing, and progress of each accreditation visit and assisted team chairs faced with emergency or unusual conditions during a visit.

**“The [TAC] Executive Committee was able to complete the preparation of all materials for commission review at the summer meeting on schedule.”**

This cycle, there were significant adjustments in editing assignments to be made, due in part to the illness of one of the Executive Committee members, as well as changes in program evaluator assignments. Even so, the outstanding efforts of the Vice Chair of Operations resulted in all statements being prepared on schedule for review at the TAC Summer Meeting.

### Criteria Committee

*Tom Currin, Chair*

*Warren Hill, Co-Chair*

The Criteria Committee was very active during the 2007-2008 cycle. The development and approval of harmonized criteria, the development of distinct outcomes for associate and baccalaureate programs, and the approval of changes to Nuclear Engineering Technology and Bioengineering Technology program criteria for submission to the commission were outstanding accomplishments of the Criteria Committee during the cycle.

One of the highest priorities of the committee was the development and review of the harmonized criteria. The committee chair and vice chair and the TAC Chair represented TAC on the *ad hoc* cross-commission criteria committee that developed the first draft of the criteria harmonization. The TAC Criteria Committee reviewed the various drafts that were developed and moved for the adoption of the final draft of the criteria by the commission.

A greater distinction between the outcomes of associate and baccalaureate degree graduates was recommended by the criteria committee. The need for this action was twofold. The decrease in the number of accredited associate degree programs has been one of the most difficult issues TAC faced during the last several years. In addition, a greater distinction between the learned capabilities of baccalaureate and associate graduates would support the participation of ABET in the Dublin and Sydney Accords. After considering several alternatives, the committee recommended a distinct set of outcomes for the associate and baccalaureate programs that is very similar to the distinction currently in the ASAC criteria. The changes in the program outcomes and the curriculum elements of the TAC criteria would not affect the proposed harmonized portions of the general criteria.



If approved by the Board of Directors, this set of criteria will not only provide an improved set of criteria for the support of associate programs and improved support of participation in the Dublin and Sydney Accords, but also a more unified treatment of associate programs in the two ABET commissions that accredit those programs.

### Documents Committee

*Lewis Bellinger, Chair*  
*Mohammad Zahraee, Co-Chair*

The Documents Committee was also very active in the 2007-2008 cycle. All documents were reviewed for consistency with the Renumbered Criteria, which will be implemented in the 2008-2009 cycle. Twelve TAC forms were amended both for consistency with the renumbered criteria and to support various general improvement actions. In addition, all forms and documents are under review so as to identify where revisions may be needed to comply with the harmonization project.

### Training Committee

*Eric Tappert, Chair*  
*Kevin Taylor, Co-Chair*

The TAC training committee supported the PAVE training effort by revising all TAC-specific training materials to reflect the renumbered criteria and incorporate trainee and facilitator comments. The committee is preparing to assist the cross-commission training committee's efforts to continue to improve the program evaluator training program.

The new commissioner training presentation was extensively revised to better serve the needs of the new members of the commission. This revision was led by commissioners who were in the process of making their first or second visits as team chairs so that the perspective reflecting the needs of new commissioners could be achieved.

Commissioner training was completely revamped this cycle and included two major focuses. One focus was a review of the new renumbered criteria, including an analysis of all the changes and the effect of those changes on the accreditation process. A second focus was an extensive discussion of the details of writing a good statement. Examples of good and poor findings are discussed in an effort to foster professionalism and completeness

in the documentation of accreditation visits. Considerable time was spent in small groups critiquing both poor and good write-up of findings.

### Summer Commission Meeting

Accreditation actions by the full commission, training of TAC members, and interaction with institutional representatives are the primary reasons for the Summer Commission Meeting in Arlington, VA. The new members of the commission attended an intensive training session just before the formal start of the meeting. Both new and returning commissioners participated in team chair training. However, the agenda of the 2007-2008 commission was reorganized so that the training actually occurred at the beginning of the 2008-2009 commission. (This reorganization of the commission agenda allowed retiring commissioners to be dismissed earlier.)

**“The committee recommended a distinct set of outcomes for the associate and baccalaureate programs.”**

The most outstanding work of the commission was in the area of criteria. The proposed harmonized criteria were approved by the commission with minor amendments. Proposed revisions to the program outcomes and the curriculum criteria were approved, which established a distinction between the minimal learned capabilities of graduates of associate and baccalaureate programs. This new program outcomes criterion is more compatible with the Dublin and Sydney Accords and is similar to the treatment of associate programs in the ASAC criteria. Finally, the commission approved amended program criteria for Bioengineering Technology and Nuclear Engineering Technology programs for second reading and submission to the ABET Board of Directors for approval.

# Statistics

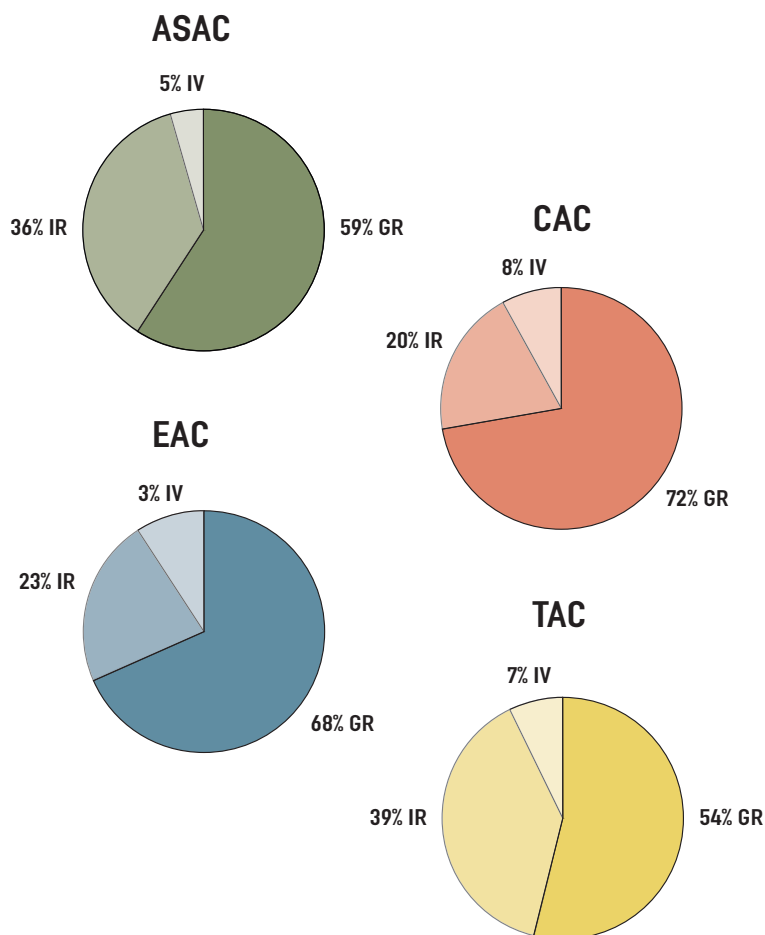
## Part A

### 2007–2008 Cycle Data

**Table 1**  
Evaluations Conducted  
(Number of Programs)

	ASAC	CAC	EAC	TAC	Total
General Review	13	73	314	76	476
Interim Report	8	20	104	55	187
Interim Visit	1	8	42	10	61
	22	101	460	141	724

### Results of Evaluations Conducted by Commission



#### Acronym Key

GR	General Review	NA	Not to Accredite
IR	Interim Review	NGR	Next General Review
IV	Interim Visit	SC	Show Cause

**Table 2**  
Programs Visited  
by Curricular Area\*

	ASAC		
	Associate	Bachelor	Master
Aerospace			
Agricultural			
Architectural			
Automotive			
Bioengineering and Biomedical			
Biological			
Chemical			
Civil			
Computer			
Computer Science			
Construction			
Drafting and Design (General)			
Drafting and Design (Mechanical)			
Electrical			
Engineering Management			
Engineering Mechanics			
Engineering, Engineering Physics & Engineering Science			
Environmental			
Environmental, Health, and Safety		1	
Geological			
Industrial			
Industrial Hygiene			8
Information Systems			
Information Technology			
Manufacturing			
Marine			
Materials			
Mechanical			
Metallurgical			
Naval Architecture and Marine			
Nuclear and Radiological			
Ocean			
Others		1	
Petroleum			
Safety	1	1	
Software			
Surveying and Geomatics		2	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>

\* Individual programs may embrace more than one curricular area and, thus, may be counted in more than one category.

CAC		EAC		TAC		Total
Bachelor	Bachelor	Master	Associate	Bachelor		
	14	1				15
	5					5
	3		1	1		5
				1		1
	19		1	3		23
	6					6
	34					34
	44		5	4		53
	36	1	4	1		42
68						68
	2		1	3		6
			1			1
			2			2
	55	2	17	17		91
		3				3
		1				1
	14			1		15
	11	1				12
						1
	1					1
	20					20
						8
11						11
3						3
	5			5		10
				1		1
	13					13
	53	1	6	10		70
	2					2
	2					2
	6					6
	1					1
	8		2	2		13
	2					2
						2
	4					4
	1		1			4
82	365	6	41	49		557

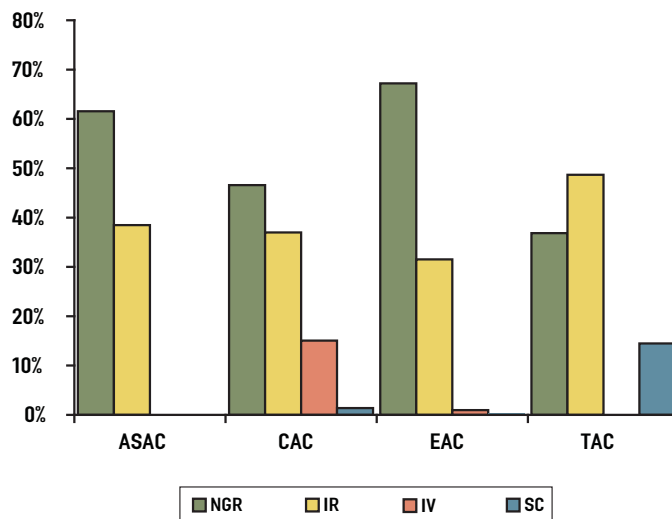
counted more than once in this table.

Acronym Key			
GR	General Review	NA	Not to Accredit
IR	Interim Review	NGR	Next General Review
IV	Interim Visit	SC	Show Cause

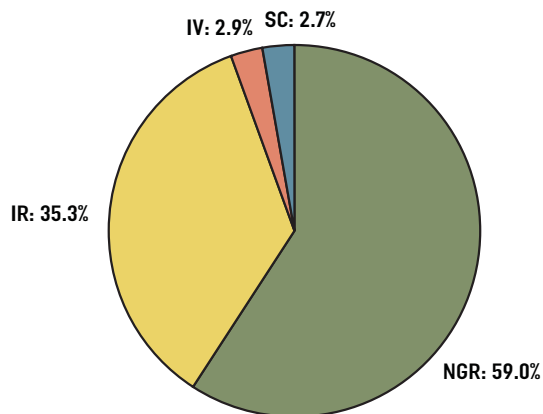
**Table 3**  
**Actions for General Reviews**

	ASAC		CAC		EAC		TAC		All	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
NGR	8	61.5%	34	46.6%	211	67.2%	28	36.8%	281	59.0%
IR	5	38.5%	27	37.0%	99	31.5%	37	48.7%	168	35.3%
IV	0	0.0%	11	15.1%	3	1.0%	0	0.0%	14	2.9%
SC	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	1	0.3%	11	14.5%	13	2.7%
NA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

**Actions for General Reviews, 2007-2008**



**Actions for General Reviews Across All Commissions, 2007-2008**

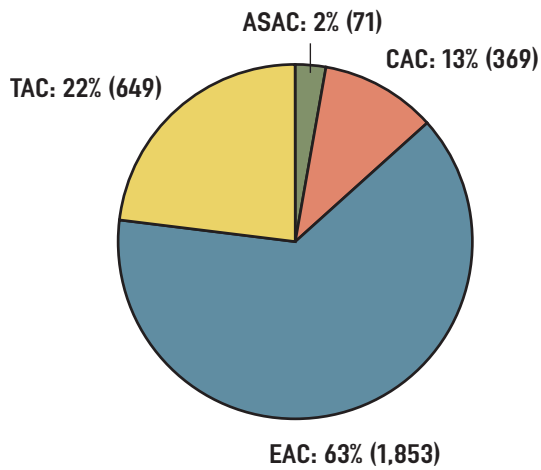


**Table 4**  
**Programs Accredited**  
**as of 10/1/08\***

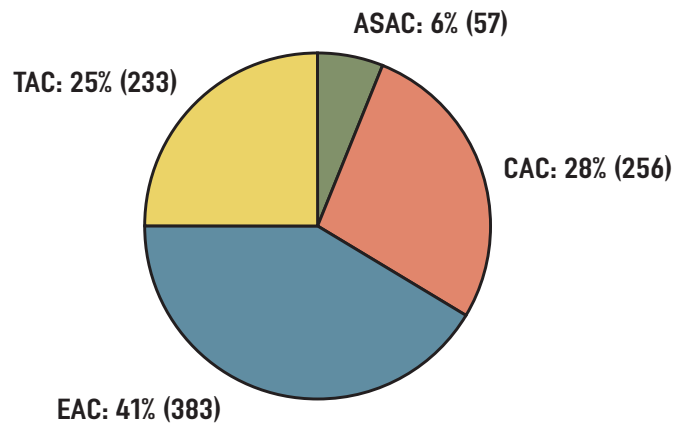
	ASAC			CAC	EAC		TAC		Total
	Associate	Bachelor	Master	Bachelor	Bachelor	Master	Associate	Bachelor	
Aeronautical							1	1	2
Aerospace					64	3			67
Agricultural					43				43
Air Conditioning							2	1	3
Architectural					16	1	17	8	42
Automotive								2	2
Bioengineering and Biomedical					61		3	5	69
Biological					9				9
Ceramic					4				4
Chemical					164	1			165
Civil					228	1	39	27	295
Computer					212	3	24	48	287
Computer Science				265					265
Construction					7		7	25	39
Drafting and Design (General)							1	1	2
Drafting and Design (Mechanical)							10	1	11
Electrical					308	4	98	113	523
Electromechanical							3	7	10
Engineering							5	15	20
Engineering Management					10	1			11
Engineering Mechanics					6				6
Engineering, Engineering Physics & Engineering Science					67				67
Environmental					51	7	4		62
Environmental, Health, and Safety		2	1						3
Geological					16				16
Health Physics		3	5						8
Industrial					97	1	6	8	112
Industrial Hygiene		6	35						41
Information Systems				36					36
Information Technology				9					9
Instrumentation and Control Systems							2	1	3
Manufacturing					22	1	9	26	58
Marine								3	3
Materials					64				64
Mechanical					291	2	62	67	422
Metallurgical					9				9
Mining					13				13
Naval Architecture and Marine					11				11
Nuclear and Radiological					20	1	2	2	25
Ocean					7	1			8
Others		1		2	34	3	13	15	67
Petroleum					17				17
Safety	1	8	2						11
Software					17				17
Surveying and Geomatics		10			6		7	5	28
Telecommunications							2	5	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>1874</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>2992</b>

\* Individual programs may embrace more than one curricular area and, thus, may be counted more than once in this table.

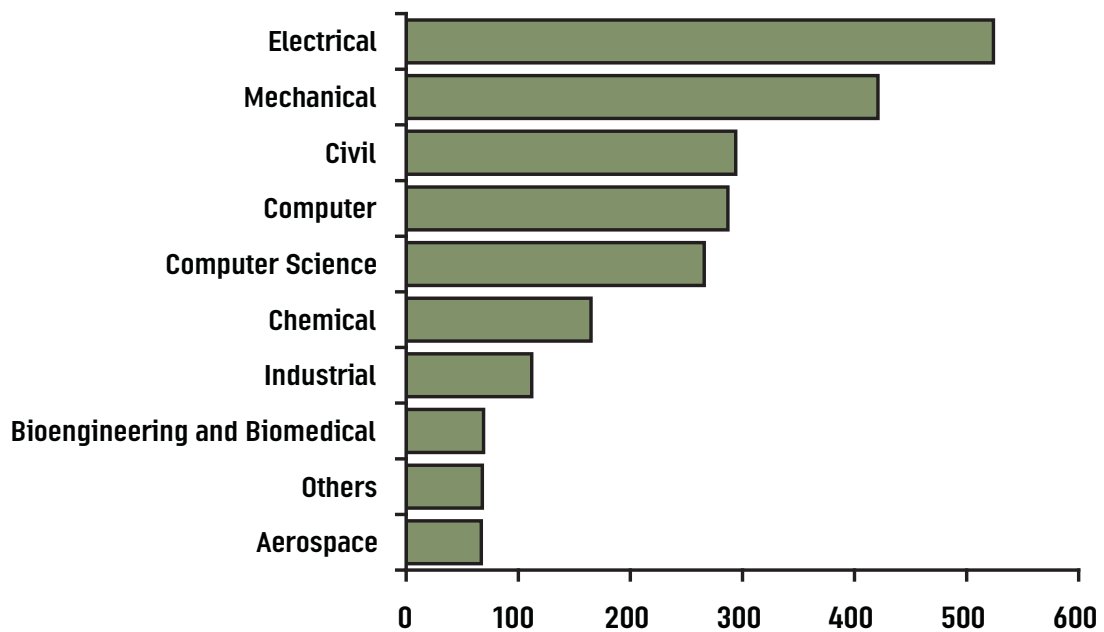
### Accredited Programs by Commission



### Institutions by Commission



### 10 Largest Curricular Areas by Number of Accredited Programs





# Statistics

## Part B Accreditation Trend Data

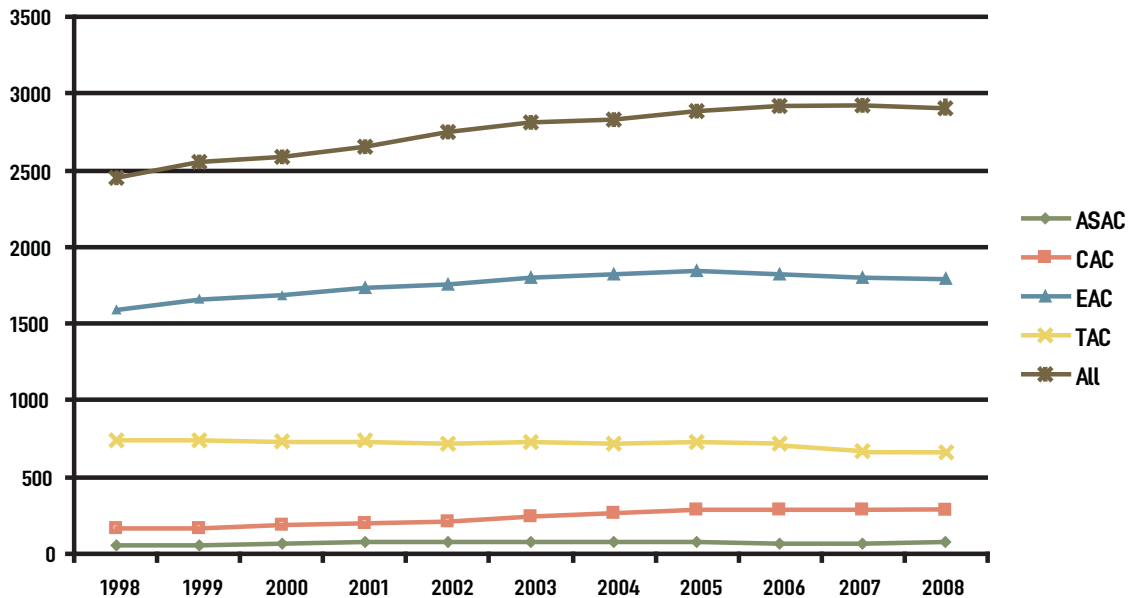
**Table 1  
Number of Accredited Programs and Institutions  
Having Accredited Programs, 1998–2008\*\***

	ASAC		CAC		EAC		TAC		All*	
	Pgms	Insts	Pgms	Insts	Pgms	Insts	Pgms	Insts	Pgms	Insts
1998	55	45	162	161	1571	330	699	239	2480	552
1999	59	46	166	165	1629	337	702	241	2549	559
2000	62	48	176	173	1667	342	691	242	2589	567
2001	71	53	189	183	1702	347	696	242	2651	573
2002	70	53	204	191	1732	349	691	235	2689	572
2003	73	54	230	204	1767	358	698	233	2758	583
2004	74	55	253	219	1810	365	702	234	2830	591
2005	71	56	280	236	1831	370	709	237	2881	600
2006	75	53	308	236	1883	371	702	233	2958	597
2007	75	53	309	237	1871	368	671	228	2916	591
2008	71	57	309	256	1853	383	649	233	2871	612

\* Individual programs may embrace more than one curricular area and, thus, the totals may be lower than the sums of the commissions.

\*\* Data above may differ from that reported in previous versions of this publication as a result of retroactive accreditation.

### Increase/Decrease in Number of Accredited Programs by Commission, 1998–2008



**Table 2**  
**Actions for General Reviews, 1998–2008\* [percentages]**

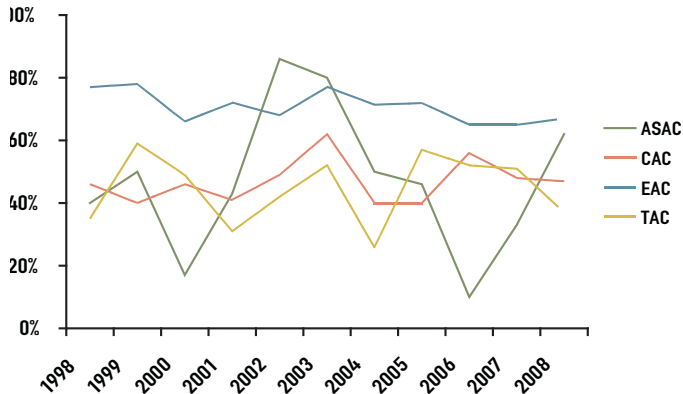
	ASAC					CAC*				
	NGR	IR	IV	SC	NA	NGR	IR	IV	SC	NA
1998	40%	40%	10%	5%	5%	46%	23%	31%	0%	0%
1999	50%	25%	25%	0%	0%	40%	26%	20%	14%	0%
2000	17%	83%	0%	0%	0%	46%	29%	11%	7%	7%
2001	43%	57%	0%	0%	0%	41%	27%	24%	2%	5%
2002	86%	14%	0%	0%	0%	49%	27%	16%	5%	3%
2003	80%	0%	20%	0%	0%	62%	10%	14%	10%	3%
2004	50%	43%	7%	0%	0%	40%	40%	8%	8%	4%
2005	46%	31%	23%	0%	0%	40%	46%	10%	2%	2%
2006	10%	90%	0%	0%	0%	56%	32%	12%	0%	0%
2007	33%	56%	0%	11%	0%	48%	39%	11%	2%	0%
2008	62%	38%	0%	0%	0%	47%	37%	15%	1%	0%

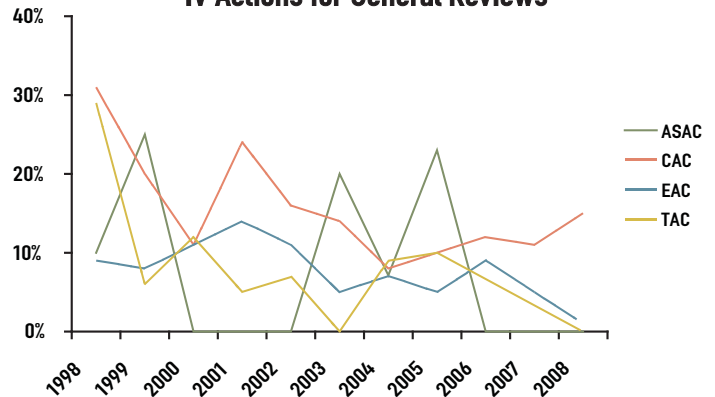
	EAC					TAC				
	NGR	IR	IV	SC	NA	NGR	IR	IV	SC	NA
1998	77%	12%	9%	3%	1%	35%	28%	29%	7%	3%
1999	78%	11%	8%	3%	1%	59%	34%	6%	0%	0%
2000	66%	22%	11%	1%	1%	49%	38%	12%	1%	0%
2001	72%	13%	14%	1%	1%	31%	38%	5%	0%	0%
2002	68%	21%	11%	1%	0%	42%	52%	7%	0%	0%
2003	77%	17%	5%	1%	0%	52%	47%	0%	1%	0%
2004	71%	20%	7%	1%	1%	26%	65%	9%	0%	0%
2005	72%	22%	5%	1%	0.4%	57%	32%	10%	0%	1%
2006	65%	26%	9%	0%	0%	52%	42%	6%	0%	0%
2007	65%	30%	5%	0%	0%	51%	43%	3%	1%	1%
2008	67%	32%	1%	0%	0%	37%	49%	0%	14%	0%

\*CSAC/CSAB actions are shown as the ABET equivalents for 1998–2001: NGR (6V), IR (6VR), IV (3V), SC, and NA.

**NGR Actions for General Reviews**

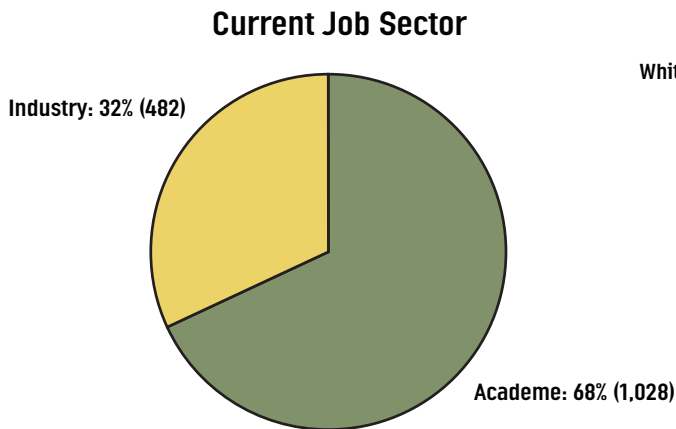
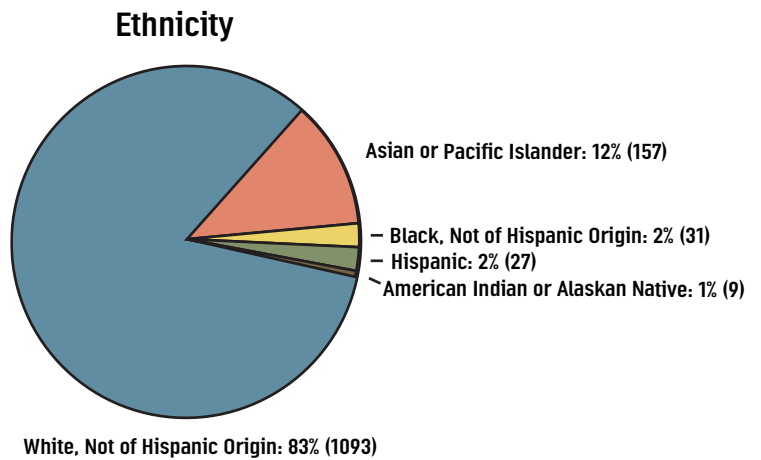
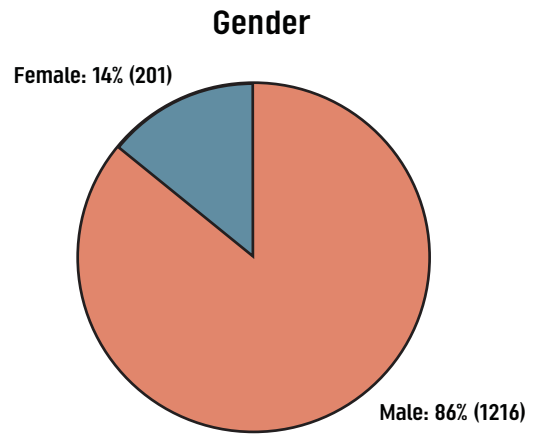
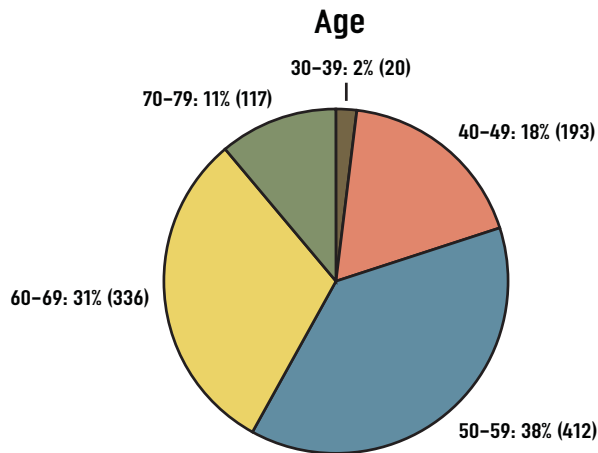


**IV Actions for General Reviews**



# Statistics

## Part C Volunteer Pool Characteristics\*



\* Data are self-reported and are current as of the time of publication.

# International Activities Council

## Chair

Phillip E. Borrowman  
Hanson Professional Services, Inc.

## Members

Sylvia Alexander  
Michigan Department of Transportation

Henry R. Bauer, III  
University of Wyoming/Retired

Gilbert J. Brown  
University of Massachusetts Lowell

Patricia D. Daniels  
Seattle University

David K. Holger  
Iowa State University

Roger M. Zimmerman  
Engineering Analyses, LLC

## The Role of the International Activities Council (INTAC)

As international accreditation activities are assumed by the commissions, the role and future operations of INTAC will be determined by the ABET Board. Certainly, until all interim substantial equivalency actions are complete, the review of those interim reports and actions to be taken will remain the role of INTAC. Most of the actions and operations now done by INTAC on a recurring basis will, in the future, be done on a non-scheduled basis and could be handled by *ad hoc* committees assigned by the ABET Board or Executive Committee. The future operations of INTAC or a standing committee or council similar to INTAC will be determined by the ABET Board.

## Training for Evaluators Conducting Non-Domestic Visits

The online training module for program evaluators conducting non-domestic visits was completed in summer 2008.

## Seoul Declaration

The Seoul Declaration was signed by the initial signatory accreditation agencies in Korea, Australia, Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States (ABET). The Seoul Declaration is a multinational, mutual recognition agreement among agencies responsible for accreditation or recognition of tertiary-level computing and IT-related qualifications. These agencies have chosen to work collectively to assist the mobility of computing and IT-related professionals holding suitable qualifications and to improve the quality of tertiary-level computing and IT-related education.

## Consultancies

ABET and the recently formed ABET Foundation recognize the need for providing assistance to programs and institutions seeking guidance in their outcomes based assessment and accreditation processes. How that assistance is provided without a conflict of interest is being determined. Maintaining the quality and

integrity of the ABET accreditation process is paramount when providing that assistance.

ABET has taken on the role of mentoring other accreditation agencies and improving their processes using memoranda of understanding. ABET intends to remain flexible to allow the mentoring to respond to the issues and needs of each individual agency. In each case, ABET usually mentors other accreditation agencies and helps to improve their processes in preparation for the agencies to become full signatories to an accord. This activity fits well within ABET's mission.

## Acknowledgments

The technical professions are indebted to the dedicated service of volunteers who contribute their time and effort in serving on international evaluation teams and the INTAC. The efforts of program evaluators, team chairs, consultants, INTAC members, and member society representatives provide a great service to the

**“ABET has taken on the role of mentoring other accreditation agencies and improving their processes using memoranda of understanding.”**

professions, ABET, and our constituent institutions. It is important to thank all of our volunteers who make possible the outstanding ABET leadership in quality assurance of educational programs that is recognized internationally.

The INTAC also recognizes and appreciates the effective and supportive work of the ABET staff members who ensure timely coordination and management of the myriad tasks and communications necessary to support the work of the ABET volunteers and the INTAC membership. The extra complexities of international evaluations require attentiveness and special effort, and thus, sincere thanks go to the staff for their fine work and care.

# Charting Tomorrow

*Charting Tomorrow* was held at the Seelbach Hilton Louisville Hotel on Thursday, October 30, and Friday, October 31, 2008. At the outset, ABET sought to convene a different kind of meeting — to provide a forum for knowledge sharing and discussion that would influence ABET’s future direction. The conference used questions as thought-starters for discussion and introduced expert speakers who would frame the context and imperatives for finding the best answers.

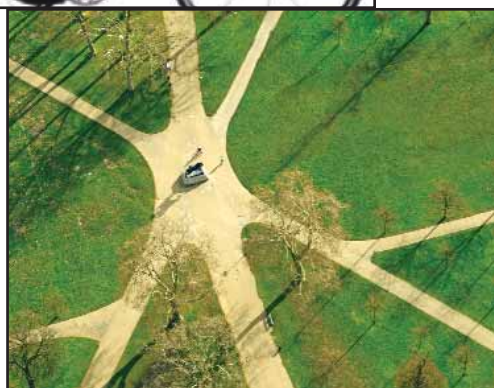
James J. Duderstadt, the author of *Engineering for a Changing World: A Roadmap to the Future of Engineering Practice, Research, and Education*, served as the keynote and offered a provocative view of the future of technological education based on the find-

ings of his report. Then, participants broke into concurrent, area-specific “Anticipating Needed Competencies” sessions, followed by concurrent sessions about “Adapting to Millennial Learning Models” and “Organizing to Improve the Pipeline.” On Friday afternoon, there was a guided discussion about “Rethinking Quality Assurance: Implications for ABET Policies, Procedures, and Processes,” and finally a wrap-up panel when ABET’s leadership listened to comments about the preliminary findings and other concerns that the participants had. A monograph documenting the meeting’s outcomes was distributed to all ABET participants and key constituencies after the meeting’s conclusion.



## On Adapting to Millennial Learning Models

- Faculty will need to evolve from professors to learning managers, by being collaborative, having broad knowledge, and integrating coaching and counseling into teaching formats while creating new ones made possible by the students themselves.
- In a future of “knowledge co-creation,” faculty members will be instructional design partners with emerging technology companies, such as gaming companies. These faculty are continually considering their curricula and teaching plans — seeing limitations of the current methods and the opportunities to meet an emerging need with a solution in the interest of learning.
- Administrators can support the evolution of faculty as learning managers through the implementation of technological infrastructure, and support of mentoring and coaching environments.
- ABET can provide a vehicle for assuring quality in the way in which new developments are vetted and upgraded into competencies, in evaluating outcomes, and in supporting institution and faculty alike in collaborating with additional stakeholders in new learning paradigms.
- Faculty have to decide what of all possible technological education content is leveraged by new technology (i.e. gaming technology) and what is not best leveraged this way.



## On Organizing to Improve the Pipeline

- Redistribute the load carried by faculty.
- Ignite employer accountability.
- Modernize STEM brands.
- Methodically provoke culture change.
- Rewind the issue to the beginning and highlight the need to engage parents, early childhood educators and counselors (pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grades) and thereby provoke culture change.
- Capture the attention of a society that depends on the sciences, technological advancement, computer proficiency and engineering innovation for its livelihood.



## Increasing the Number of Underrepresented Minorities

- Demand that our systems provide all students with a quality educational experience.
- Demand that every classroom has a qualified teacher.
- Have the courage to confront barriers and be admitted to and receive support from our finest educational institutions.
- Work closely with each other at each point along the spectrum from pre-K to graduate school.
- Do all these things with a sense of urgency.
- Finally, realize that action has the greatest impact on these problems and that this is marathon, not a sprint.



Meeting participants convert the “pipeline” model for entry into and matriculation through STEM fields into a “pathway.”



2008 ABET Annual Meeting participants considered how “millennials” learn and co-create knowledge.

(Right) Left to right: 2006 President Richard C. Seagrave, 2007 President William S. Clark, 2008 President L.S. “Skip” Fletcher, and 2008 President-Elect and 2008 Annual Meeting Chair Joseph L. Sussman listen to constituent feedback.

(Below) Facilitators Karen Hinchliffe and Jen Comeau consult before Friday morning’s concurrent sessions.



# Award Recipients

## Linton E. Grinter Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Linton E. Grinter received the first Distinguished Service Award from ABET’s predecessor, the Engineers’ Council for Professional Development (ECPD). The 1972 ECPD Executive Committee not only bestowed the award but decided that henceforth the award be called the Linton E. Grinter Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Grinter showed an outstanding record of leadership, both within the academic arena and as a member of ECPD. Recipients of the Linton E. Grinter Distinguished Service Award, ABET’s highest honor, are those ABET volunteers who follow in Grinter’s footsteps and who surpass even the highest service expectations of the organization. They are acknowledged for outstanding contributions to the technical disciplines through their work in ABET-related activities.

Linton E. Grinter	1972	William H. Corcoran	1982	William Sangster	1990	Richard P. D’Onofrio	1999
William L. Everitt	1973	Richard G. Cunningham	1983	Irene C. Peden	1991	Winfred M. Phillips	2000
R. Harold Hazen	1975	George Burnet	1984	Edward W. Ernst	1992	Edwin C. Jones	2001
William Phelps Kimball	1976	Leland J. Walker	1985	John W. Prados	1993	L.S. “Skip” Fletcher	2002
M.R. Lohmann	1977	Paul F. Allmendinger	1986	Leslie F. Benmark	1994	Lee W. Saperstein	2004
Ernst Weber	1978	James H. Mulligan, Jr.	1987	Stanley M. Brodsky	1995	Jerry R. Yeargan	2006
Robert B. Beckmann	1980	Richard Ungrodt	1988	Robert R. Furgason	1996	Richard C. Seagrave	2008
Gene M. Nordby	1982	Richard E. Grace	1989	Albert T. Kersich	1998		



2008 ABET’s Award Recipients (from left to right): Fellow Carl McHargue, Fellow Mario Gonzalez, ABET Accreditation Manager Ellen Stokes accepting for Fellow Daniel Hodge, Grinter recipient Richard C. Seagrave, Fellow Robert Laurensen, and Fellow Mark Pagano.

**Fellow Carl J. McHargue, D.Eng.** — “For outstanding service to ABET as The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society representative, for excellent leadership and guidance during the transition to Engineering Criteria 2000, and for stellar work on the International Activities Committee in serving the international engineering community.”

**Fellow Mario J. Gonzalez, Ph.D., P.E.** — “For his long-term diplomacy as an advocate for ABET in the international accreditation community, and in the recruitment and retention of groups under-represented in engineering education.”

**Fellow Daniel B. Hodge, Ph.D., P.E.** — “For his commitment to quality improvement in all aspects of ABET accreditation and for his leadership in development of an integrated and unified approach across all commissions.”

**Grinter Recipient Richard C. Seagrave, Ph.D.** — “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.”

**Robert M. Laurensen, Ph.D., P.E.** — “For his long term contributions to continuous improvement of ABET processes and procedures through the Engineering Accreditation Commission and the implementation of the Partnership to Advance Volunteer Excellence (PAVE).”

**Mark A. Pagano, Ph.D.** — “For outstanding contributions within the Technology Accreditation Commission and, through the Technological Education Initiative, to the broader technology community.”

## ABET Fellows

The Fellow of ABET award recognizes individuals who have given sustained quality service to the ABET-related professions, in general, and to education in the ABET disciplines, in particular, through the activities of ABET.

M. Dayne Aldridge	1999	Richard Grace	1988	Irene C. Peden	1988
Paul Allmendinger	1988	Linton E. Grinter	1988	C. R. Pennoni	2004
Donald K. Anderson	2000	Arnold J. Gully	1988	Arnold M. Peskin	1993
L. Bryce Andersen	1994	Jerrier A. Haddad	1993	George D. Peterson	1993
Carl D. Avers	2001	Carl Hall	1988	Winfred M. Phillips	1993
W. David Baker	2002	Newman A. Hall	1988	Kenneth G. Picha	1988
Eleanor Baum	1994	E. Franklin Hart	2003	John W. Prados	1988
George C. Beakley	1989	Walter Hartung	1988	Stanley I. Proctor	2000
Robert B. Beckmann	1988	Richard R. Hazen	1988	Christian Przirembel	1996
Leslie F. Benmark	1992	Robert A. Herrick	2006	Robert L. Reid	1988
Theodore A. Bickart	2004	W. Scott Hill	1988	David R. Reyes-Guerra	1990
Della T. Bonnette	2007	Daniel B. Hodge	2008	V. Thomas Rhyne	1992
Phillip E. Borrowman	2007	David K. Holger	2006	Harriet B. Rigas	1989
Daina M. Briedis	2007	David E. Hornbeck	2004	Paul E. Russell	1988
Stanley M. Brodsky	1988	William G. Howard	2001	Leo W. Ruth	1988
George Burnet	1988	Durward R. Huffman	1992	William M. Sangster	1988
Francis J. Cashin	1994	Ira D. Jacobson	2000	Lee W. Saperstein	1994
Stephen R. Cheshier	1989	Edwin C. Jones	1989	Robert M. Saunders	1988
John T. Christian	1995	J. B. Jones	1989	Susan O. Schall	2007
William S. Clark	1996	Russel C. Jones	1989	Robert E. Schmidt	1995
Susan E. Conry	2005	Larry A. Kaye	2005	Richard C. Seagrave	1999
Frank E. Cotton	1991	Albert T. Kersich	1991	Robert L. Seale	1989
Richard G. Cunningham	1988	Robert D. Kersten	1990	Leighton E. Sissom	1989
Patricia D. Daniels	2006	Charles V. Kirkpatrick	1988	Richard F. Strickland	1995
Richard P. D'Onofrio	1988	James G. Knudsen	1988	Joseph L. Sussman	2002
E. Leon Dunning	1988	Robert M. Laurenson	2008	Roland E. Thomas	1992
Robert L. Echols, Sr.	1991	Doris K. Lidtke	2006	Walter E. Thomas	1988
Fred W. Emshousen	2000	Melvin R. Lohmann	1988	A. Joseph Turner	2007
John W. Enell	1992	James D. McBrayer	1996	James P. Todd	1988
Robert English	1998	Hugh E. McCallick	1988	Richard J. Ungrodt	1988
Edward W. Ernst	1988	Carl J. McHargue	2008	David A. VanHorn	1988
L.S. "Skip" Fletcher	1991	Gordon H. Millar	1988	Sam H. Wainwright	1997
Richard Forberg	1988	Ralph A. Morgen	1990	Leland J. Walker	1988
Larry R. Foulke	1995	James H. Mulligan, Jr.	1988	Ernst Weber	1988
Lyman L. Francis	1988	Raymond F. Neathery	1993	John A. Weese	1997
Robert R. Furgason	1990	Larry D. Nixon	2005	James R. Welty	2001
C. B. Gambrell	1989	Gene M. Nordby	1988	David R. Wilder	1989
Gordon H. Geiger	1988	Allen I. Ormsbee	1995	Ronald J. Williams	1988
Donald W. Gentry	1988	Mark A. Pagano	2008	Lawrence J. Wolf	1990
Joseph J. Gershon	1988	Robert H. Page	1992	Robert L. Young	1988
Joseph A. Glad	1999	Elinor S. Pape	1996	Stuart H. Zweben	2005
Jay Goldman	1998	Demetrius T. Paris	1994		
Mario J. Gonzalez	2008	Edward A. Parrish	1997		



## President's Award for Diversity

The President's Award for Diversity recognizes U.S.-based educational units, individuals, associations, and firms for extraordinary success in achieving diversity and inclusiveness or for facilitating diversity and inclusiveness in the technological segments of our society.

Tulane University's Industrial Hygiene Program in its School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and its partners in a cooperative program at Xavier University of Louisiana	2005
The University of Maryland Baltimore County's Graduate School	2005
The University of Texas at San Antonio's College of Engineering	2005
Florida International University's College of Engineering and Computing	2006
Pace University's Ivan G. Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems	2006
The University of Texas at El Paso's College of Engineering	2006
California State University, Los Angeles' College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology	2007
Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee's Information Technologies Division	2007
Lee Snapp	2007
The College of Engineering and the Office of Diversity Initiatives at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach	2008
The School of Engineering and Applied Science at The George Washington University	2008
The CyberCity Technology Summer Program at James Madison University	2008
The Multicultural Engineering Program at Northern Arizona University and Its Director Fonda Swimmer	2008



**2008 President's Award for Diversity Winners (left to right) Fonda Swimmer of Northern Arizona University, Harry Reif of James Madison University, Martha Pardavi-Horvath of George Washington University, 2008 ABET President L.S. "Skip" Fletcher, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Joanne Detore-Nakamura, Maj Mirmirani, and Lisa Davids.**

**The Multicultural Engineering Program at Northern Arizona University and Its Director Fonda Swimmer** — “For their long-term and collaborative efforts to aid African-American, Hispanic, Native American, female, disabled, and first generation students in engineering, computer science, and construction management in enhancing their academic performance and reaching their full potential.”

**The CyberCity Technology Summer Program at James Madison University** — “For the development and operation of a successful hands-on, project-based university campus summer program for underrepresented high school students and their teachers that increases awareness of information technology skills and careers and enhances the students' aspirations for a college education.”

**The School of Engineering and Applied Science at The George Washington University** — “For its commitment and achievement in hiring female faculty and in recruiting, retaining, and graduating a significant number of women in undergraduate and graduate engineering programs while providing the graduates with leadership skills and opportunities as they enter engineering practice.”

**The College of Engineering and the Office of Diversity Initiatives at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach** — “For the successful, broad, and ongoing spectrum of initiatives, including K-12 Outreach, Bridge Programs, Curriculum Enhancement, Faculty Development, and Work-Life Balance, to attract women to science, math, and engineering, to retain them through graduation, and to support them as they embark on their professional careers.”

# ABET Leadership

## Presidents

1932-35	C. F. Hirshfeld
1935-38	Charles F. Scott
1938-40	John P. H. Perry
1940-43	Robert E. Doherty
1943-46	Everett S. Lee
1946-49	James W. Parker
1949-52	Harry S. Rogers
1952-55	L. F. Grant
1955-56	Thorndike Saville
1956-58	M. D. Hooven
1958-61	William L. Everitt
1961-63	Ralph A. Morgen
1963-65	W. Scott Hill
1965-67	Linton E. Grinter
1967-68	Arthur W. Weber
1968-70	Ernst Weber
1970-72	Melvin R. Lohmann
1972-74	Richard A. Forberg
1974-76	Robert B. Beckmann
1976-78	Paul F. Allmendinger
1978-80	Richard G. Cunningham
1980-83	Leland J. Walker
1983-85	Gordon H. Millar
1985-86	Gene M. Nordby
1986-87	Gordon H. Geiger
1987-88	Russel C. Jones
1988-89	Francis J. Cashin
1989-90	Edward W. Ernst
1990-91	Leslie F. Benmark
1991-92	John W. Prados
1992-93	Albert T. Kersich
1993-94	Robert R. Furgason
1994-95	Jerrier A. Haddad
1995-96	Winfred M. Phillips
1996-97	Stanley I. Proctor
1997-98	Eleanor Baum
1998-99	C. R. "Chuck" Pennoni
1999-2000	Lee W. Saperstein
2000-01	Joe R. Fowler
2001-02	Jerry R. Yeagan

2002-03	Larry D. Nixon
2003-04	John D. Lorenz
2004-05	Richard O. Anderson
2005-06	Richard C. Seagrave
2006-07	William S. Clark
2007-08	L. S. "Skip" Fletcher

## Secretaries

1932-34	C. E. Davies
1934-36	G. T. Seabury
1936-37	H. H. Henline
1937-38	A. B. Parsons
1938-39	S. L. Tyler
1939-40	C. E. Davies
1940-41	G. T. Seabury
1941-42	H. H. Henline
1942-43	A. B. Parsons
1943-44	S. L. Tyler
1944-45	R. L. Sackett
1945-46	W. N. Carey
1946-47	H. H. Henline
1947-48	A. B. Parsons
1948-49	S. L. Tyler
1949-50	C. E. Davies
1950-51	W. N. Carey
1951-52	Edward H. Robie
1952-53	C. E. Davies
1953-54	N. S. Hibshman
1954-55	S. L. Tyler
1955-56	William H. Wisely
1956-57	E. O. Kirkendall
1957-58	O. B. Schier II
1958-59	N. S. Hibshman
1959-60	F. J. Van Antwerpen
1960-61	W. H. Wisely
1961-62	E. O. Kirkendall
1962-64	L. K. Wheelock
1964-66	Carl Frey
1966-68	W. Scott Hill
1968-71	Sydney B. Ingram

1971-72	M. S. Peters
1972-73	Paul F. Allmendinger
1973-74	Carl W. Hall
1974-75	R. M. Saunders
1975-76	W. P. Kimball
1976-80	H. K. Rigsbee, Jr.
1980-84	R. J. Ungrodt
1984-88	D. A. VanHorn
1988-89	Leslie F. Benmark
1989-90	John W. Prados
1990-92	Jerrier A. Haddad
1992-94	Richard F. Strickland
1994-95	Stanley I. Proctor
1995-98	Lee W. Saperstein
1998-2000	Allen I. Ormsbee
2000-02	John D. Lorenz
2002-04	Richard C. Seagrave
2004-06	James H. Dooley
2006-08	Janet B. Perper

## Treasurers

1932-58	United Engineering Trustees, Inc.
1958-63	S.W. Marras
1963-65	Ernest Kirkendall
1965-73	J.A. Zecca
1973-77	J.W. Enell
1977-80	R.H. Page
1980-82	Gene M. Nordby
1982-86	Leighton E. Sissom
1986-89	Robert L. Young
1989-91	Albert T. Kersich
1991-94	Jay Goldman
1994-2000	Sam H. Wainwright
2000-06	Allen I. Ormsbee
2006-Present	Daniel Bradley

## Executive Directors

1973-93	David R. Reyes-Guerra
1993-2008	George D. Peterson

# ABET Staff

(As of September 30, 2008)

## Accreditation

- Accreditation Director – Maryanne Weiss
- Accreditation Manager – Ellen Stokes
- International Accreditation Specialist – Sherri Hersh
- Assistant to the Accreditation Director – Beth Mundy

### Applied Science

- Adjunct Accreditation Director, Applied Science – Amanda Reid
- ASAC Administrative Assistant – Elayna Lambert

### Computing

- Adjunct Accreditation Director, Computing – Doris K. Lidtke
- CAC Administrative Assistant – Norma Belton

### Engineering

- Adjunct Accreditation Director, Engineering – M. Dayne Aldridge
- EAC Administrative Assistant – Stephanie Jackson

### Technology

- Adjunct Accreditation Director, Technology – David Hornbeck
- TAC Administrative Assistant – Dorothea Lindsey

## Governance

- Executive Director – George D. Peterson
- Deputy Executive Director – Kate Aberle
- Executive Assistant – Rachele Daucher
- International Relations Coordinator – Daniela Iacona

### Operations

- Associate Executive Director, Finance and Operations, and CFO – Lance Hoboy
- Office Manager – Jennifer Knode
- Office Operations Coordinator – Deanna Williams

### Finance and Accounting

- Accounting Manager – Jessica Silwick
- Staff Accountant – Kim Turner
- Accounting Clerk – LaTasha McKinney

### Information Systems and Technology

- Information Systems and Technology Director – Frank Sarlo
- Lead Software Engineer – Hwan-Kyung Chung
- Web Applications Developer – James Ashby
- Senior PC Support/Desktop Specialist – Jaye Brebnor

## Professional Services

- Associate Executive Director, Professional Services – Gloria Rogers
- Assistant to the Associate Executive Director, Professional Services – Regina Crites

### Communications

- Communications Specialist – Keryl Cryer

### Meetings and Member Services

- Meetings and Member Services Manager – Donna Clark
- Professional Services Administrative Assistant – Hope Joseph-Nelson



# More Information

## Upcoming Events

**2009 Summer Commission Meeting and  
Institutional Representatives' Days:**  
July 14 - 19, 2009  
Arlington, VA

**2009 Annual Meeting:**  
October 29 - 30, 2009  
San Antonio, TX

**2009 Fall Board of Directors Meeting:**  
October 31, 2009  
San Antonio, TX

## Further Resources

**ABET Headquarters:**  
111 Market Place, Suite 1050  
Baltimore, MD 21202-4012  
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Fax: 410.625.2238  
[www.abet.org](http://www.abet.org)

**ABET Online - [www.abet.org](http://www.abet.org):**

Accreditation Criteria  
Workshop Schedules

How to Become an ABET Volunteer

Annual Meeting Information

*CommunityMatters* Newsletter

Publications List and Order Form

Society Portal

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ABET is a federation of 29 professional and technical societies representing the fields of applied science, computing, engineering, and technology:

American Academy of Environmental Engineers (AAEE)

American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM)

American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)

American Institute of Aeronautics  
and Astronautics, Inc. (AIAA)

American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)

American Nuclear Society (ANS)

American Society of Agricultural and  
Biological Engineers (ASABE)

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and  
Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE)

American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE)

ASME

Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES)

CSAB, Inc.

Health Physics Society (HPS)

IEEE, Inc.

Institute of Industrial Engineers, Inc. (IIE)

International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE)

ISA

Materials Research Society (MRS)

National Council of Examiners for Engineering  
and Surveying (NCEES)

National Institute of Ceramic Engineers (NICE)

National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)

SAE International

Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME)

Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and  
Exploration, Inc. (SME-AIME)

Society of Naval Architects and  
Marine Engineers (SNAME)

Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)

The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society (TMS)

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