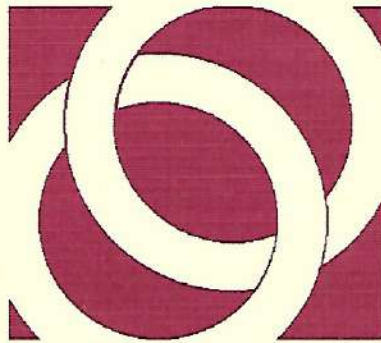


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a s e i

American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin



16TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

Theme

Technology Challenges in the 21st Century

SEPTEMBER 4-5, 1999

**WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER
Buffalo - Niagara Falls**

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

VISION

ASEI TO BE:

- A nationwide network of engineers of Indian origin
- A forum to assist members in advancing their careers
- A facilitator of Technology Transfer between U.S.A. and India
- A national professional organization with the goal of "service to its members"

ASEI ACTIVITIES

CAREER ENHANCEMENTS

- Provide Career Guidance and Counseling
- Facilitate Networking
- Assist in Skill Development through continuing Education Courses and Technical Seminars
- Encourage PE registrations

STUDENT AFFAIRS

- Providing Guidance To Students
- Establish Merit Scholarships
- Assist in Practical Training And Job Placement

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

- Establish a National Office
- Establish an Editorial Board and Publish Quality Newsletter
- Increase Membership
- Publish Membership Directory
- Increase Awareness of ASEI
- Facilitate Local Chapter Meetings

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

- Conduct Workshops on How to Transfer Technology to India
- Assist in Development of Rural India
- Provide Communication Channels for Retired Engineers
- Disseminate Opportunities in India for NRIs.

LIAISON WITH INDIA

- Establish working relationship with government and private organizations in India

CONVENTIONS & AFFILIATIONS

- Conduct Conventions throughout U.S.A.
- Cooperate with Other Professional Societies with Similar Goals.

LOCAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

- Conduct bimonthly meetings to promote discussion/participation on current events
- Communicate with ASEI National Office and other Local Chapters

Technology Challenges in the 21st Century

Convention Program

September 4, 1999 (Saturday)

- 01:00 PM** **GOLF OUTING**
Virendra Singh
- 01:00 PM** **TOUR OF NIAGARA FALLS**
Malini Sridhar
- 1:00 - 6:00 PM** **INFORMATION AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION**
Amitabh Gupta & Prakash Sen
- 6:00 PM** **ICE BREAKER**

September 5, 1999 (Sunday Morning)

- 7:30 - 2:00 PM** **REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP SERVICE**
- 9:00 - 9:45 AM** **OPENING SESSION**
- **Welcome**
Shyam Kumar, WNY-Buffalo Chapter President
 - **Convention Kickoff and Introductions**
Satish Mohan, Convention Chair
 - **Keynote Speaker**
Thomas M. Reynolds, Rep. US Congress, 27th District
 - **'Garage to Wall Street'**
Ashok Trivedi, President, Mastech Corporation, Oakdale, PA
- 9:45 - 10:45 AM** **ENTREPRENEURSHIP - KEY TO SUCCESS**
Chair: Dharendra Saxena, President, ASC Geosciences, Inc, Lakeland, FL
- **Legal Issues**
Chandler Sharma, Smith White Sharma & Halpern, Atlanta, GA
 - **Entrepreneurship: Starting and Growing a Business**
Ravinder Bansal, AirSep Corporation, Buffalo, NY
 - **Financing Issues**
Om P. Bhola and Dharendra Saxena, ASC Geosciences Inc., Lakeland, FL
 - **Linking ASEI Membership / FUN 2000**
Panel members
- 10:45 - 11:00 AM** **BREAK**

GET INVOLVED IN ASEI

and

Be True to Yourself

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self centered; *Forgive them anyway.*

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; *Be kind anyway.*

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; *Succeed anyway.*

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; *Be honest and frank anyway.*

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; *Build anyway.*

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; *Be happy anyway.*

The good you do today, people will often forget about tomorrow; *Do good anyway.*

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; *Give the world the best you've got anyway.*

-----source unknown

Courtesy

Saxena Family (Dhirendra, Anupam, and Jayant) - Lakeland, Florida

Bhola Family (Om and Gaurav) - Orlando, Florida

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September 5, 1999 (Sunday Morning continued)

11:00 - 12:00 PM MARKETING TECHNICAL SERVICES

Chair: Arun Jain, Professor, School of Management, SUNY at Buffalo, NY

• **e-Commerce**

Jay Nathan, Engineering Systems Solutions, Inc., Vienna, VA

• **Technology Transfer**

Vinay Hudda, Modi Rubber Ltd., Meerut, U.P., India

• **Desktop Market Intelligence**

Paramjit Singh, Productive Group of Companies, Cleveland, OH

• **Technology and Culture Barriers in the Market**

Vinay Pandit, Professor, St. Bonaventure University, NY

• **Web-Based Marketing**

Rohini Srihari, SUNY at Buffalo, and Cymfony, Amherst, NY

• **Value-Added Commerce**

Arun Jain Professor, School of Management, SUNY at Buffalo, NY

12:00 - 01:30 PM LUNCHEON [at Marriott]

Guest Speakers:

• **Is the Upper Membrane Permeable?**

Dr. Behruz N. Sethna, President, State Univ. of West Georgia

• **Past, Present and Future of Technology Publishing**

Mona Sharma, Founder, Silicon India

September 5, 1999 (Sunday Afternoon)

1:30 - 3:00 PM INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

Chair: Ramalingam Sridhar, Associate Professor,
Computer Science and Engineering, SUNY at Buffalo, NY

• **Strategic Planning of IT Infrastructure**

Kumar Madurai, Fisher-Price/Mattel, East Aurora, NY

• **Impact of IT and Enabling Technologies in Automation**

Ramalingam Sridhar, Computer Sci. & Engrg., SUNY at Buffalo, NY

• **Trends and Issues in Multimedia Computing**

Raj Acharya, Computer Sci. & Engrg., SUNY at Buffalo, NY

• **From University Research to International Product:
Experience in Developing a Software System**

Sargur Srihari, CEDAR, SUNY at Buffalo, NY

• **Role of Satellites in 21st Century Communications**

Ruplu Bhattacharya, Hughes Electronics, Germantown, MD

• **Using Virtual Reality in Civil Engineering**

Ravi Mehta, Mehta & Associates, Orlando, FL

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3:00 - 3:30 PM

EXCITING/SMART TOOLS AND PRODUCTS

Chair: Paramjit Singh, President,
Productive Group of Companies, Cleveland, OH

- **Decision Making with D-PIC Technology**
*Ali Abdulleil, Aliah Inc., Pittsburgh, and
Paramjit Singh, Paramount Contracting Company, Morrow, GA*
- **Holistic-online.com - An Exciting Website for Health**
Jacob Mathew, ICBS Inc., Akron, OH
- **'Textract' - Inside the Web Technology**
Rohini Srihari, Computer Science & Engineering, SUNY at Buffalo, NY
- **The High-Tech 3-in-1 Tandoor for Home Cooking**
Tim Flynn, Fly-ingh Inc., Cleveland, OH

3:45 - 4:00 PM

BREAK

4:00 - 4:45 PM

EMERGING ROLE OF ASIAN INDIAN WOMEN

Chair: Prashanti Reddy, Nortel Networks, Atlanta, Georgia

- **Engineering Careers for Women - Barriers and Misperceptions**
Ankur Mohan, Ph.D. Student, Material Sci. & Engrg., Stanford Univ., CA
- **Women in Technology**
Rohini Srihari, SUNY at Buffalo, and Cymfony, Amherst, NY
- **Juggling Priorities and Personal Resource Management**
Bina Ramamurthy, Computer Science & Engineering, SUNY at Buffalo, NY

4:45 - 5:30 PM

YOUNG GENERATION

Chair: Akshay Singh, Andersen Consulting, Buffalo, New York

- **Alternatives to Engineering**
Vivek Mohan, M.D., Resident in Orthopedics, Lennox Hill Hospital, NY
- **Leadership Skills**
Namrata Boveja, Sr. in Mech. Engrg., Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD
- **Cross Cultural Upbringing of Children in U.S.**
Paddy Sharma, Global Software Technologies, Chattanooga, TN
- **Yoga: A Way of Life**
Shamsher Prakash, Civil Engineering., University of Missouri, Rolla

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WELCOME

TO

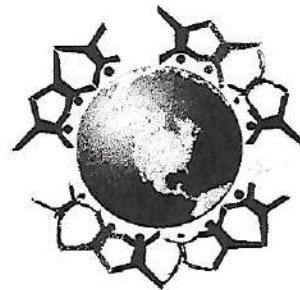
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September 5, 1999 (Sunday Evening)

5:30 - 6:30 PM SOCIAL HOUR (Cash Bar)

6:30 - 9:00 PM BANQUET

- **Welcome**
Virendra Singh
- **Address by Chairman, ASEI**
Gajanan Deshmukh
- **Guest Speaker**
Mr. Rievad V. Warjri,
Deputy Consul General of India and Consul (Commerce), New York
- **Guest Speaker**
James P. Hayes, New York State Assemblyman
- **Keynote Address:**
'Desirable Technologies for the 21st Century'
Laveen Kanal, Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland
- **Awards**
Gajanan Deshmukh and Shyam Kumar
- **Announcement: Millennium Convention in Orlando**
Dhirendra Saxena
- **Vote of Thanks**
Amitabh Gupta

9:00 - 12:00 PM ENTERTAINMENT

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President**



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Vice President**



**Shamsunder Raja
Secretary**



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Treasurer/
Finance Committee**



**Satish Mohan
Program Committee**



**Ramalingam Sridhar
Venue/Banquet Committee**



**Virendra Singh
Publications Committee**



**Ramji Gupta
Entertainment Committee**



**Ravi Mathur
Membership/Registration**



**Dharma Iyer
Program Publication**



American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin (ASEI)

A NONPROFIT, TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION, EST., 1983, <http://WWW.ASEI.ORG>

Western New York, Buffalo Chapter

5635 Kippen Drive, East Amherst, NY 14051.

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(716) 636-5567

shyamjindal@hotmail.com

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shamraja@juno.com

Treasurer

Dr. Amitabh Gupta
(716) 636-4672

gupta11111@aol.com

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WELCOME TO THE 16TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ASEI

On behalf of the Western New York Chapter at Buffalo, I wish to express the great joy in being the host of the 16th Annual Convention of the American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin (ASEI). Considering that WNY-Buffalo is the infant in the ASEI family, the joy turns into pride. I wish to share this joy and pride with each and every one of you.

Many of you have worked hard, provided financial support, traveled from far to share your knowledge, and to let us celebrate with you your success as engineers, educators, scientists and entrepreneurs. We are honored to be the host and part of this gathering whose ambitious and hard-working members are achieving the success as no other group can claim. Needless to say, our pride is well deserved.

As President of the WNY Buffalo chapter of ASEI, I wish to thank the ASEI National Board of Directors for trusting us with the honor of hosting the convention, the platinum, gold and silver sponsors of the convention for providing a large portion of the financial support, the Convention Committees, the session chair persons, the distinguished guests and the speakers at this convention. The fellow ASEI members and their spouses from the local and other ASEI chapters deserve my personal gratitude for making it happen. The WNY Buffalo chapter of ASEI is strengthened by your presence, participation and support.

I sincerely thank and welcome you all to the Convention.

Shyam Kumar

Shyam Kumar
President,
ASEI WNY Buffalo Chapter

1999 ASEI BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Dharam Agarwal



Shyam Kumar

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A MESSAGE FROM THE ASEI CHAIRMAN

September 05, 1999



On behalf of ASEI and WNY, Buffalo Chapter, it gives me the greatest pleasure and privilege, to extend a hearty welcome to the fellow members, guests and honorary speakers to the ASEI's 16th National Annual Convention and this wonderland.

It has been my honor to serve as the ASEI Chairman this year and the President the last year. The past several years has been exciting and challenging for all of us. I have thoroughly enjoyed my association with all the board members, the chapter executives and the members. We have made remarkable progress these past years largely due to your support and participation. Today ASEI is a common voice for the Engineers, the Architects, the IT professionals and the Alumni Associations of Indian origin. All chapters are hosting various activities on a regular basis. We welcome our newest member the University of Maryland College Park who have shown a lot of enthusiasm by sending half of their contingent to this event. We are also starting new Chapters in Cleveland, Boston, University of PA, and Pune, India. A new chapter was inaugurated last week at Old Dominion University, Norfolk VA. We are communicating with several sister organizations in various metropolises to merge with ASEI toward a common cause.

This year we established new goals and initiatives to reach out 250,000 fellow engineers through the FUN2000 fund raiser; alumni enrollment; technology transfer; student paper/poster contest; Government, University, and Business cooperation; and Web communication. It is heartening to see a good number of academicians, students, and businesses participating in this convention. I believe we are moving in the right direction as we enter the new Millennium. I would like to appeal to the corporations and entrepreneurs to donate their time and money. Your support will be greatly appreciated by all at ASEI.

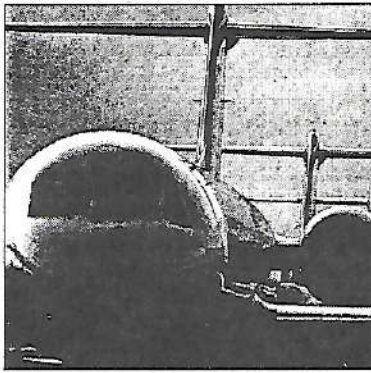
Today's Convention Theme is on "Technology Challenges in the 21st Century." We have invited renowned experts on subjects ranging from information technology, entrepreneurship, smart tools and marketing to social issues such as the role of Asian Indian women, the next millennium, the golden years and the young generation. During the evening banquet session, we will hear from the keynote and the guest speakers, which will be followed by awards, dinner and entertainment.

On behalf of ASEI board and members, I would like to congratulate and thank WNY Buffalo chapter, committee chairs, volunteers and sponsors for making this a memorable convention. Also, on behalf of Central Florida Chapter, I take this opportunity to invite you all to attend next year's convention in Orlando around the same time. Please take a moment and become member, get involved and recruit new members. Please visit ASEI website at www.asei.org for the latest news.

Regards,

G. K. Deshmukh
Gajanan Deshmukh
Chairman of the Board

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ALBANY 12224

GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR

September 4, 1999

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to the members of the American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin (ASEI) as you gather in Amherst for your 16th Annual National Convention.

"Technology Challenges in the 21st Century," the timely theme for your gathering, is certain to provide a professionally stimulating focus that generates a meaningful dialogue among your members. At the dawn of an exciting new millennium, it also captures the hopeful spirit of a future that will hold great promise for cutting-edge scientific and technological innovations. Our State and Nation are home to people from all over the world whose determination and hard work have contributed immeasurably to the fulfillment of the American Dream. As engineers who trace their ancestral heritage to India, your members have played an important scientific and technological role, most notably excelling in the fields of communications and computer science. Your past professional achievements should serve as a source of inspiration and pride as you continue to contribute to your respective fields of endeavor in the 21st century.

Best wishes to all for a successful meeting, and I hope you also have the opportunity to enjoy many of western New York's unique attractions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George E. Pataki". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "P".

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

August 16, 1999

Dr. Satish Mohan, Convention Chairman
American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin
5635 Kippen Drive
East Amherst, NY 14051

Dear Dr. Mohan:

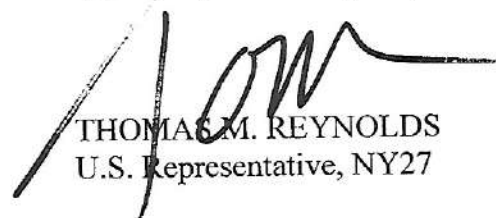
My sincerest best wishes to you and everyone attending the 16th Annual National Convention of the American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin. On behalf of Buffalo and Western New York, I want to welcome all the delegates to our community, and wish them an informative and enjoyable event.

This year's theme, "Technology Challenges in the 21st Century," is most appropriate as you hold your last convention of this millennium. Throughout this century, engineers and technologists have both improved our quality of life and helped bring our world closer together: opening new frontiers of technology in aviation, transportation, communication and medicine.

Likewise, the contributions of engineers and scientists from the Indian sub-continent have helped make these advances a reality, and I commend you and your membership for your innovation, hard work and dedication.

Again, my sincerest welcome and best wishes for an outstanding convention.

Warmest personal regards,



THOMAS M. REYNOLDS
U.S. Representative, NY27



County of Erie

DENNIS T. GORSKI
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

PHONE: 716-858-8500

August 19, 1999

Dr. Satish Mohan
Convention Chairman
American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin
5635 Kippen Drive
East Amherst, New York 14051

Dear Dr. Mohan:

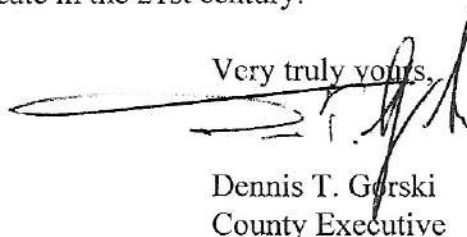
It is my pleasure to welcome the members of the American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin to Erie County and send my greetings to them on the occasion of your 16th annual convention.

As you discuss technological advances in the next millennium, I think it is important to recognize the strong foundation that you have laid. In this regard, I want to commend and congratulate those engineering professionals from India who have contributed so much to the development of new technologies, as well as businesses that have derived from those technologies. Your efforts have significantly added to the level of technology that this past millennium has achieved.

I have had the privilege of personally knowing several of you who have chosen Erie County to develop and grow your businesses. I very much appreciate the employment opportunities that you have created in Erie County and sincerely thank you for enriching the technological capabilities of this region. As you share the attractions of this community with your colleagues, please tell them about what a great place Erie County is to start or relocate their business.

I wish you a very successful convention and look forward to the many innovative technologies that you will create in the 21st century.

Very truly yours,



Dennis T. Gorski
County Executive

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<http://www.asei.org>

P.O. BOX 3327, Fairfax, Virginia 22038-3327, Tel: 703-273-2537; Fax: 703-273-5879



August 30, 1999

Dear ASEI Members, and Convention Attendees:

As the chair of this 16th Annual Convention of the American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin (ASEI), I had the opportunity to know many engineers, computer scientists, and entrepreneurs of Indian origin. It makes me feel very proud that as the newest group of immigrants to this great nation, we have done extremely well in high-tech research, and in business; several of us are CEOs of large corporations, owners of successful businesses, and are highly recognized in academia in teaching, in research, and in administration. Indeed, the so-called 'glass-ceiling' has been broken.

Now that we have done well in the scientific and entrepreneurial arenas, we should work on expanding our contribution to other areas of society, as a unified group. This is the American way: you come to this country, you adopt the ways, you prosper and you pay back through participation at every level. In fact, as some of us reach the golden years, we may consider entering the socio-political arena with the same degree of commitment as we have shown in our respective fields. Others, who came earlier, have done this, now is our turn. With 0.5% of the total population, we now have the critical mass to make a dent in the socio-politic structure of the society.

My job was made easy by my committee members: Ravinder Bansal, Shamsunder Raja, and Malini Sridhar who deserve special thanks. I must make special mention of Ravinder Bansal who generously offered his resources in contacting keynote speakers. Our ASEI Board Chairman, Gajanan Deshmukh was extremely helpful in identifying and contacting speakers, I am very thankful to him. In future, we should plan 3-day conventions, and include several family-oriented programs, perhaps on the format of the annual conventions of the American Association of Physicians from India (AAPI). Engineers and computer scientists of Indian origin number approximately 250,000, against 60,000 physicians in the US.

Today's technologies have influenced our mode of communicating with each other, the way we do commerce, and our day-to-day living. As these technologies continue to evolve in the 21st century, they will bring the associated problems such as: loss of privacy, home insecurity, computer viruses, high-tech crimes, and increasing unemployment of the non-technical work force. It is my hope that we do not lose sight of the potential problems and end up creating dinosaurs for our coming generations. The challenge is ahead of us and we have to overcome it. Throughout this convention, you will hear speakers addressing these issues, and bringing the message that we are capable of not only facing them but also overcoming them.

In closing, as the chairman of this 16th Annual ASEI Convention, I thank all the participants and wish you a very memorable experience to take home.

Sincerely,

Satish Mohan
Convention Chair

Notes

ABSTRACTS

Legal Issues

by Chandler Sharma, Smith White Sharma & Halpern, Atlanta, GA

The speech will cover three areas of interest to engineers and professionals. The first part of the speech deals with the different types of visas in the employment-based category, such as EB1, EB2 and EB3, the problems faced by the Information technology Industry pertaining to the shortage of people to fill the open positions, and the debate taking place in Congress concerning the issue of increasing the number of H-1 B visas. The second part will cover the numerous legal issues involved in starting a business, especially pertaining to people on temporary visas who are interested in forming their own company. Final part will discuss the strategy and the planning of legal contracts to avoid foreseeable disputes and claims and the best ways to prevent misunderstanding among the parties involved when a contract is drafted.

Entrepreneurship; Starting and Growing a Business

by Ravi Bansal, AirSep Corporation, Buffalo, NY

Starting a business must begin with adequate planning and capitalization. *Planning:* The product/service must first be rationalized from the point of view of market and economic sense, and its suitability to the infrastructure of the intended marketplace. *Raising capital:* The capital raised for the startup should be generous. A thorough business plan must at the very least include a discussion of the product rationalization, sales strategy, projections of revenues, profits and the potential return for the investors. *Startup:* During startup, capital is generally in short supply; its conservation should be the foremost goal. Most entrepreneurs often end up getting involved in every aspect. Obviously, chances of success improve greatly with the ability to do more with less, deal with multiple issues simultaneously, a "can do" attitude and a sense of urgency. *Growing the business:* A successful startup does not guarantee growth. Even under favorable market environments, an entrepreneurial operation must transform itself into a well-structured corporation. Recognition by the entrepreneur of his/her own limitations and the timely development of a professional team of manufacturing, sales, marketing and finance personnel will be the key to growth. The sooner the transition of the entrepreneur from a do-all to a leader/manager, the better it will be.

Financing Issues

by Om P. Bhola, P.E., MBA

Many small business owners have the perception that financing means taking whatever money you can get; the faster and easier you can get it, the better. Getting money for your business involves a variety of considerations, financial and non-financial. This paper is divided into three parts: sources of capital, how to obtain capital, and cost of outside capital. The sources of capital range from traditional sources such as friends and relatives to stock issues. The second part describes the preparations a small business has to make such as developing and submitting a business plan, collateral requirement, and application procedures required by various capital sources. Cost-of-outside-capital describes various costs associated with raising and securing capital. The position in the business life cycle influences every financing option, how to estimate the amount of money needed, and how to find money in your own back yard by tapping friends, family, and personal assets. However, every decision must be focused on the best financing options for the business. It is also important to understand that each financing option will require different preparation, initial expenses, and the cost of capital. A business running on a shoestring budget may face serious cash flow problems due to the initial expenses.

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K. Rangaswamy	Mechanical	'62
Om P. Bhola	Civil	'66



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ABSTRACTS (CONTINUED)

Electronic Commerce

by Jay Nathan, Engineering Systems Solutions, Inc., Vienna, VA

Since its inception electronic commerce (e-commerce) has exceeded all estimates of sales and growth. What was nonexistent just a few years ago now represents \$12 billion in sales in 1999 and by conservative estimates will be \$41 billion by 2002. E-commerce is only being held back from even faster growth by a set of barriers that are being quickly torn down. The fear of conducting financial transactions over the Internet in the general public is being allayed by new web security technology that makes sending your credit card number over the Internet safer than sending it over the phone. The variety of products that are being offered over the web is widening as buying books and music has turned into buying cars and mortgages. The Internet has become a mainstream marketplace encompassing all demographic groups, in addition to having a worldwide reach. In addition to mainstream, retail e-commerce has applications in industry in the areas of real-time parts ordering which increases time and cost efficiency. Computer giants like Microsoft and IBM are betting their future on e-commerce and are redirecting their focus toward this growth market. E-commerce is the future of commerce and will revolutionize the retail industry.

Desktop Market Intelligence

by Paramjit Singh, Productive Group of Companies, Cleveland, OH

Now you can, with a few key strokes and mouse clicks: 1) Profile your best customers in terms of 8 digit SIC numbers, number of employees and annual sales (when available); 2) Profile your competition the same way; 3) Seek prospects that match your best customer profile by zip, metropolitan city, county and state; 4) Analyze your sales territories for balanced potential using cross tabulation; 5) Benchmark market growth through accountability; and 6) Use Open Data system to enhance your market know-how with industry specific data available from specialized data providers such as: healthcare, education, information technology, law, religion and financial. These are excellent smart tools which allow you to plan your business growth in a cost-efficient manner with these three steps: a) Increase your market penetration with the existing products in the existing markets; b) Identify needs for new products in the existing markets; and c) Introduce your existing products into new markets

Technology and Culture Barriers in the Market

by Vinay Y. Pandit, St. Bonaventure University

The rapidly changing communication and information processing technology has created a new culture of its own. This new culture spans traditional cultural identities, is highly dynamic in nature, and is still without established or stagnating roots. The search for information, convenience and pleasure have so leveled the traditional cultural barriers that the focus has shifted from the loss of individual cultures to a single dominant culture. The movement now is along a multicultural asymptotic path toward a new culture. The traditional salad bowl versus melting pot debate must give way to a vortex of binding forces. Cultural barriers are only a memory of an older generation. The new forces of technological revolution have not only made the U.S. a furnace of homogenizing forces but has truly made the world a small place with widespread opportunities. These forces have not only shaped the consumer markets and industrial buyer behavior, but have also affected the entrepreneurial and corporate organizational cultures. Witness the number of ethnic corporate bigwigs in the new and emerging markets and the glass ceilings in the traditional ones.

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ABSTRACTS (CONTINUED)

Web-based Marketing

by Rohini K. Srihari, Computer Sci. & Engrg., SUNY at Buffalo, and Cymfony, Buffalo, NY

Electronic commerce will soon be the preferred method of business transactions. A key component of this new paradigm is web-based marketing. Entrepreneurs are jumping in droves to this new method of selling their products and services. They are quickly realizing however that web-based marketing is more than just converting their existing product and sales literature into web pages! Customers expect websites to be current as well as interactive. Such expectations place a responsibility on the vendor to maintain and improve their website to adapt to emerging technology. Customers prefer the convenience of ordering online which requires vendors to be savvy about web-based payment schemes, protection of confidential information, as well as providing tracking information about products ordered. Vendors must be prepared to handle the volume of business that may arise due to the instant publicity. Web-based marketing efforts are a complement not only to physical stores but also to virtual stores such as amazon.com and namaste.com, a site dedicated to selling Indian groceries, music and other wares online. The web-based marketing, is also employed for the selling of services from astrologers to wedding coordinators, thus making the web an ideal medium for individual with specialized skills to market themselves.

Strategic Planning of IT Infrastructure

by Kumar Madurai, Fisher-Price/Mattel, East Aurora, NY

Infrastructure is the 'plumbing' that exists in organizations to support the business applications. It encompasses servers, networks, desktops, operating systems, databases, middleware, and so on. Traditionally, business needs would be translated into systems initiatives, which, in turn, would spell out the technical requirements for implementation. In today's competitive world, businesses must plan, deploy, and implement systems projects in a few months, and sometimes, in a few weeks. The IT group can play a key role in providing a strategic benefit to the company with a 'responsive' infrastructure plan that aligns the technological objectives with the business objectives. Using examples of current trends such as E-Commerce, Business Portals, Data Warehouses etc., this talk will explore how to plan, proactively, all the elements that make up the infrastructure - hardware, software, people, and processes.

Impact of IT and Enabling Technologies on Automation

by Ramalingam Sridhar, Computer Sci. & Engrg., SUNY at Buffalo, NY

This talk will outline the impact of information technology on the future of automation. Automation is very well understood in the context of businesses and process industries. New technologies are revolutionizing the home automation industry. Automobile manufacturers are collaborating to define the automation in the automobiles. Future automobiles are designed to make it compete well with today's well-equipped offices, with full access to Internet. This talk will also address the device technologies that has made many of the IT revolution possible. The impact of ultra low power integrated circuit chips, design of systems on a single chip and the evolution of 100 million transistor chips are all contributing to this. This has also helped in the manufacturing of very powerful computers for very low cost.

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ABSTRACTS (CONTINUED)

Trends and Issues in Multimedia

by Computing Raj Acharya, Computer Sci. & Engrg, SUNY at Buffalo, NY

In this talk, we will present in a tutorial fashion issues in Multimedia Computing. The talk will include material on representation, transmission, storage, retrieval, manipulation and presentation of multimedia data.

From University Research to International Product: Experience in Developing a Software System

by Sargur N. Srihari, Director, CEDAR and Distinguished Professor, SUNY at Buffalo

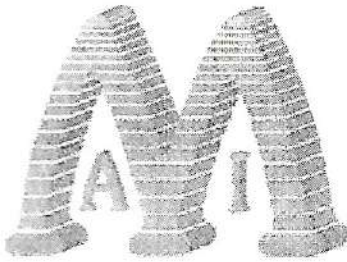
I will describe a fifteen year journey that took me from doing a survey project for the United States Postal Service to developing a software system that is used widely in the United States to sort mail. Some of the lessons learnt in the software development process will be described. These include the preliminary steps in developing computational theories and later steps of delivering software versions.

The Role of Satellites in 21st Century Communications

by Ruplu Bhattacharya, Hughes Network Systems, Germantown, MD

The 21st Century will present us new challenges for interconnecting people all over the world. A large fraction of the world population still live in regions without a well developed communication network infrastructure. Moreover, with the explosive growth of new applications like e-commerce, video conferencing and high-speed Internet access, the need for the day is "broadband" communications. High-speed access choices such as XDSL, cable, fiber, and satellites have a role to play in the coming century. But satellites have some inherent advantages. First, satellite coverage reaches even the most far-flung regions of the world. Second, startup costs and setup times tend to be a lot smaller in the case of satellites. A network solution based on VSATs (Very Small Aperture Terminals) can provide clients with a low-cost, fast-startup solution to their broadband connectivity needs. TV broadcasting over satellites is now common in the developed regions of the world, and seems to be the mode of choice for those regions that are not easily accessible. There is an increased demand for combined TV and Internet access, a need which is best suited for high-speed satellite connections especially when factoring in the ease of setup compared to that of cable. Many corporations now prefer to have their Intranets connected via satellite links capable of increased security, especially when many geographically separated sites need to be interconnected. In my talk, I will try and highlight the role that satellites will play in meeting the requirements of 21st century communications.

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Vice President

Engineering for the 21st Century

ABSTRACTS (CONTINUED)

Holistic-online.com - An Exciting Website for Health Information

By Jacob Mathew, President, International Cyber Business Services, Inc.

A website "Holistic-online.com" was founded by an Indian Engineer to provide the best information on alternative and integrated medicine and health. It contains a database with information on more than 2,000 herbs, their use, effectiveness, and possible interaction with prescription where possible. The site describes many therapies and herbs that have originated in India and in the Orient. Broad coverage of yoga, ayurveda, meditation, spiritual healing, aromatherapy, shiatsu, acupuncture, homeopathy and many other alternative therapies are provided. Artificial intelligence technology is utilized to develop on line diagnostic tests and evaluation. Holistic-online.com provides numerous tools for combating stress. This is a must visit site for all to learn more about stress and how to unwind from stress. With more than 1,500 pages, Holistic-online.com is one of the most comprehensive and objective websites on alternative and integrated medicine and health. In the talk, the webmaster will discuss ways we, as engineers, can utilize Holistic-online.com to lead a better healthy life. The emphasis will be on proven ways to reduce our stress.

'Textract' - Inside the Web Technology

by Rohini Srihari President, Cymfony, Buffalo, NY

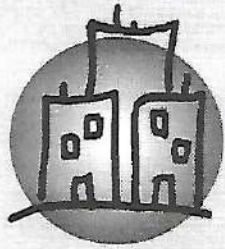
Tired of wading through pages and pages of search engine "hits" when all you want is a quick answer to a specific question? Can't handle the information overload and looking for a more intuitive way of visualizing the information? Textract 2.0 is an efficient engine for information extraction and data mining. It extracts key data items such as date, location, address, individual or corporate names, and monetary units. Textract works on free text and web pages, automatically classifying the extracted information into a database. The results are presented through an intuitive, searchable, and browseable graphical user interface (GUI). A key application enabled by Textract is question-answering: this will be available on our website in the near future. Textract 2.0 combines a conventional full-text search with our information extraction technology to deliver critical information to the desktop. It helps users to find the relevant information in more intelligent ways than those available by conventional search tools. With Textract, users are able to search based on general concepts as well as specific keywords or phrases. Finding requested information has never been made easier. More information on Textract is available at www.textract.com.

The High-Tech 3-in-1 Tandoor for Home Cooking

by Tim Flynn, Fly-ingh Inc., Cleveland, OH

Tandoori cooking has been practiced in northern India and Pakistan for centuries. In all that time little change has been made in the technology used in this style of cooking. Now comes FLY-INGH@TANDOOR, a space age thoroughly modern approach to Tandoori cooking. Our clay ovens are made from specialty formulated clays using the latest in ceramic knowledge. Our product uses modern ceramic insulation in conjunction with our clays to produce a lightweight completely portable oven for the home. FLY-INGH@TANDOOR ovens are capable of tremendous cooking temperatures without the excess weight, found in our competitors ovens. In Asia the tradition was to layer up thick walls using horsehair and mud to build up a solid wall around the clay oven this was to insulate and to support the clay vessel. Today with the advances made in ceramic technology we can make a Tandoor oven using the same technology which protects the astronauts on the space shuttle from the rigors of space and this allows us to provide unmatched quality. FLY-INGH@TANDOOR has the capability to produce tandoors of any size needed for the home restaurants and caterers.

Deal Breakers? *Never Again!*



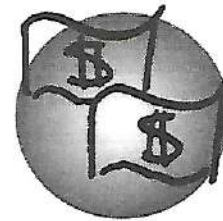
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ABSTRACTS (CONTINUED)

Engineering Careers for Women -- Barriers and Misperceptions

by Ankur Mohan, Ph.D. Student, Material Sci. & Engrg., Stanford Univ., CA

Women in engineering profession face many obstacles to advance to management and decision making positions in industry. It is also known that women have consistently matched or surpassed their male counterparts' scholastic achievements in science and mathematics, as measured by standardized tests and school grades. But the number of women in the engineering profession is still insignificant. This can be attributed to women showing lower self-confidence compared to men in these areas and thus less interested in pursuing any type of professional career. The fact that women in engineering are a minority itself contributes to the many challenges. Misperceptions regarding women in engineering effect a woman's confidence and her career, and also make it important for women to show support for one another and to inspire younger generations of women in engineering. Every woman or minority in this country has numerous hurdles to be overcome and challenges to face. As a graduate student, I have learnt so much from the experiences of my mentors and other women who have been successful in making their own niche in the workplace. I hope with all of the support and knowledge, carving a career path in engineering will be easier for future women engineers.

Women in Technology

by Rohini Srihari, SUNY at Buffalo, and Cymfony, Amherst, NY

As the impact of technology becomes increasingly pervasive in our daily lives, it is vital to promote the participation of women. While one of the major goals is to increase the number of women corporate officers in high-tech companies, there is a critical need to take a more grass roots approach. Technology is dominating many other traditional disciplines, such as teaching and nursing. It is necessary for women to be technology literate to succeed in these careers as well. Even for non-working women, the financial independence is tied to being technology astute, as illustrated by the growing number of women engaged in web-based investing. Finally, as more of the lucrative jobs move to the technology sector, women need to obtain the education and training to compete for these jobs. A prime focus should be the encouragement of high-school girls to pursue careers in technology. The following observation is revealing: in 1997, only 17% of students who took the Advanced Placement exam in Computer Science were females! In this talk, the above issues will be discussed, and resources for women in technology will be presented with inspirational case studies.

Juggling Priorities and Personal Resource Management

by Bina Ramamurthy, Computer Science & Engineering, SUNY at Buffalo, NY

Any person with a family, a career and other personal interests (hobbies) will commonly experience conflict in juggling priorities at home and at the work place. This is more so for women since many responsibilities on the home front such as gestation, childbirth and caring for the young inherently belong to women. Asian women face even more conflicts due to the deep-rooted customs and rituals in their culture and religion. As a result of all these what is a double life for a typical career woman becomes a triple or quadruple life for an Asian career woman. In this discussion we will focus on some methods that can be used to ease the process of juggling priorities. One juggles priorities when resources are at a premium. The resources under consideration here are time, physical strength and emotional strength. Efficient management of these resources is imperative for setting priorities and for juggling priorities. Tapping off the resources made available by the family and friends, formal or informal support groups, one's home and work environment can help immensely in easing the juggling act. This talk will illustrate using personal resource management to aid juggling priorities.

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ABSTRACTS (CONTINUED)

Leadership Skills

by Namrata Boveja, Sr. in Mech. Engrg., Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD

Characteristics of a Leader: *Confidence, Risk Taker, Dependable, Focused, Compromises, Responsible, Positive Attitude, Trusted, Delegation, Open Minded, Equality, and Personable*. Healthy Leadership: *The wellness wheel, Physical, Intellectual, Spiritual, Social, and Emotional Health*. Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership: *Challenging the Process, inspiring a shared vision, enabling others to act, modeling the way, encouraging the heart*. Ms. Boveja brings to this presentation her Leadership experiences: ASEI chapter initiation at UMCP, IBM Total Quality Management Program, Engineering experience, involvement with northern Area Recreational advisory Board.

Cross-Cultural Upbringing of Children in U.S.

By Paddy Sharma, Global Software Technologies, Chattanooga, TN

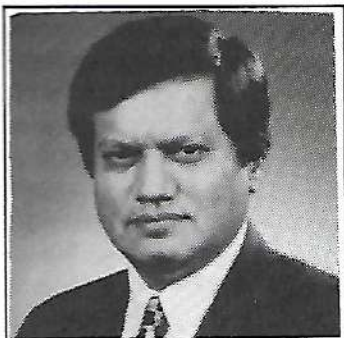
U.S. is melting pot of various cultures. Teenagers are growing up with the impact of western culture, peer pressures and media. Culture of their parents and of national original seems at odd with western cultural norms. It is important that positive influences of the Western Culture permeate through their personality fabric to ensure them not becoming alienated with mainstream and also not inculcating a love-hate attitude at the level of mutual relationships. Influence of role model, time management, objective settings and involvement of parents in lives of teenagers would be discussed and how to come up with optimum adjustment, keeping in mind teen's self-pride and personality. Role of religion and religious convictions in families would be discussed and how teens in families with strong religious convictions tend to handle stress and pressures of life much better.

Keynote Address: 'Desirable Technologies for the 21st Century'

by Laveen Kanal, Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland

The last two hundred years have witnessed immense changes brought about by industrialization, communication and computer technology. While there have been many benefits to human society, many changes have been less than desirable and sometimes quite bad. After a brief look back this talk examines emerging trends, especially in information technology, which, if properly steered, could help in inventing a more desirable future with technology.

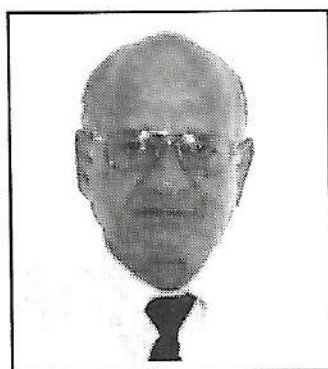
CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS/SESSION CHAIRS



Opening Session: 'Garage to Wall Street'

Ashok Trivedi, Co-Chairman and President, MASTECH

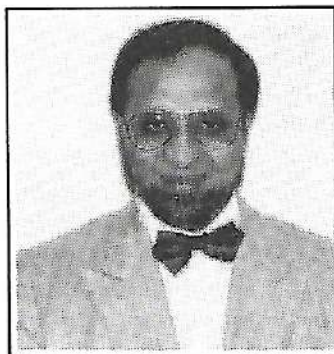
Ashok Trivedi is co-Founder of Mastech Corporation (NASDAQ: MAST), a worldwide provider of high value information technology services and solutions to large and medium sized companies. Mr. Trivedi holds an MBA from Ohio University as well as Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Physics from Delhi University in India. He also attended the Owner/President Management Program at the Harvard Business School. He has received Entrepreneur of the Year honors from Ernst & Young and INC magazine as well as the Free Enterprise Award from Robert Morris College. He can be reached at ashok@mastech.com.



Session: Entrepreneurship - Key to Success

Dharendra Saxena, President, ASC Geosciences, Inc, Lakeland, FL

Born in Allahabad, Mr. Dharendra Saxena earned his B. Tech. in Civil Engineering from IIT Kharagpur and M. Eng. from NSTC, Canada. He started ASC Geosciences, Inc., a Florida based geotechnical and geoenvironmental firm, in 1984 in the garage of his home. On its 15th anniversary, ASC has 70 plus employees and multimillion dollars in revenue. Author of many technical papers, Mr. Saxena received the outstanding service award from the Florida Engineering Society in 1996. He is also a fellow of National Academy of Forensic Engineers (NAFE), Florida Engineering Society (FES), and American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

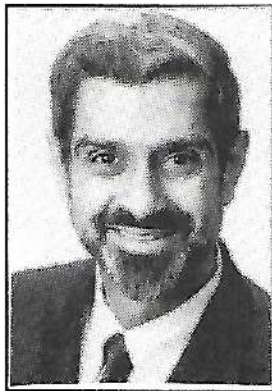


Session: Marketing Technical Services

Arun K. Jain, School of Management, SUNY at Buffalo, NY

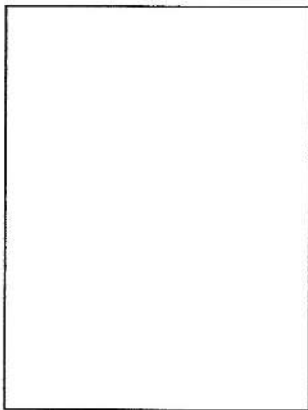
Arun Jain is Samuel P. Capen Professor of Marketing Research and Chairman, Department of Marketing, SUNY at Buffalo. He was educated at Allahabad University, Stanford University, University of California at Berkeley and the Wharton School of Management, Pennsylvania. A recipient of numerous awards including the coveted Chancellor's Medal for Excellence in Teaching and Research, Dr. Jain has taught executives around the globe including Japan, Korea, China, Singapore, India, France, Germany, Italy, England, Soviet Union and Mexico. He has published over seventy scientific papers and serves as a consultant to major domestic and multinational corporations.

CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS/SESSION CHAIRS (continued)



Luncheon: Is the Upper Membrane Permeable?
Dr. Behruz N. Sethna, President/CEO, State Univ. of West Georgia

Beheruz N. Sethna was named Honors Professor of the Year by the Students Honors Council. He is the first person from any ethnic minority to become President of a predominantly white or racially-integrated University or College in Georgia, and probably the first person of Indian origin to become President of a University in the U.S. Previously, he was Interim Executive VP for Academic and Student Affairs and Dean, College of Business at Lamar University, Beaumont, TX. Winner of the Washington Times Foundation national Service Award, he is an author of more than 50 scholarly papers and a book, *Research Methods in Marketing and Management*.



Luncheon: Past, Present and Future of Technology Publishing
Mona Sharma, Founder, Silicon India



Session: Information Technologies
Ramalingam Sridhar, Computer Sci. & Engrg., SUNY at Buffalo, NY

Ramalingam Sridhar is Associate Professor at SUNY Buffalo. His primary interests are in digital systems, VLSI and computer architecture with applications to DSPs, multimedia and vision. Dr. Sridhar received his B.E (Honors) from Guindy Engineering College, Madras, India in 1980 and MS and Ph.D degrees from Washington State University, Pullman. Dr. Sridhar is Conference General Chair for the 12th IEEE International Application Specific Integrated Circuits/System on Chip (ASIC/SOC) Conference to be held in Washington, D.C. (September 16-18, 1999). He has several patents and publications, and is an editor for several technical journals.

CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS/SESSION CHAIRS (continued)



Session: Exciting/Smart Tools and Products
Paramjit Singh, President, Productive Group, Cleveland, OH

Mr. Paramjit Singh is Founder/President of the Productive Group of Companies which includes Productive Sales Corporation, Global Associates, Business Decision, Pre-Paid Legal Services and TLC Adult Family Home, Inc. He has been actively involved in various organization in his community. He is Director, Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE) as well as ASEI, Member of the Minority Business Advisory Board and the Mayor's Asian Advisory Council, and Founder of Project SEVA (a NFIA venture) and Global Organization of People of Indian Origin.



Session: Emerging Role of Asian Indian Women
Prashanti Reddy, Nortel Networks, Atlanta, Georgia

Prashanti is a Telecommunications Engineer at Nortel Networks. She has been with ASEI for last 5 years, serving on ASE Board. She has an MS in Electrical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a BS in Electrical Engineering from Osmania University, Hyderabad. She is married and has two children ages 8 and 6yrs.



Session: Young Generation
Akshay Singh, Andersen Consulting, Atlanta. GA

Akshay Singh obtained an MBA from SUNY at Buffalo with majors in Corporate Financial Management and Financial Institution and Markets. His work consists of improving the business and profit models of clients through setting and implementing strategies and creating new, innovative business capabilities that create significant advantages in the marketplace. This is done both by creating new capabilities as well as aligning a firm's strengths and existing abilities more effectively to seize the opportunities existing in their marketplace. Andersen Consulting is focused on implementation of strategies and obtaining business results rather than simply providing management advice and counsel.

CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS/SESSION CHAIRS (continued)

Social Hour: 'Desirable Technologies for the 21st Century'

Laveen Kanal, Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland



Laveen N. Kanal received his BS and MS from the Univ. of Washington, Seattle, and Ph.D. from the Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. He worked for Canadian General Electric, General Dynamics/Electronics and Philco-Ford Corporation, and was a Visiting Prof. at Lehigh University and the Wharton School of Business. Currently he is Professor Emeritus of Computer Science at Maryland and CEO/Pres. of LNK Corporation, a company performing R&D in Image Processing, 3-D Virtual Environments and Intelligent Tutoring Systems. He has been elected a Fellow, of several Institutes and is a Receptient of the 1992 King-Sun Fu Award, the highest award of IAPR.

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- Host Monthly Meetings with Speakers who Provide Career and Academic Guidance
- ASEI Paper Contest Highlighting the Experiences of Engineering Students and Students from Other Technical Disciplines
- ASEI Poster Contest Illustrating the Projects from the Engineering Classes and/or recognize the Contributions of Professional Engineers and Scientists
- ASEI Scholarship Program
- DCCEAS Research Paper Contest Concentrating on Research Experience
- Engineering Carnival and Fundraising Event
- Stamp Union Table for Publicity
- Receive Coverage in the Diamondback Newspaper for our Activities and to establish a Presence
- Involvement with the Student Government Association
- Show an Indian Movie at the Hoff Theatre for Raising Funds
- Design and Develop an Updated Webpage to Reach Students and to provide Guidance in Establishing New Chapters at Other Universities
- Participate in the OMSE Multicultural Picnic for Fundraising and to Increase Membership
- Participate in the First Look Fair to Reach Perspective Members for the ASEI-UMCP Chapter
- Participate in the International Student Welcome Reception
- Participate in the Engineering Week Festivities
- Participate in the Emerging Leaders Conference
- Organize a Bowling Tournament and a Badminton Competition to Introduce New Members
- Plan a Field Trip to NASA to Explore Internship Opportunities
- Conduct Resume and Mock Interview Sessions
- Establish Strong Corporate Relations to Receive Financial Support and Practical Training
- Organize a Joint Annual Convention with ASEI-NCC
- Participate in the ASEI-NCC Picnic
- Participate in the ASEI Convention in Buffalo, NY
- Counsel High School Students and encourage them to Pursue Engineering
- Provide Free Tutoring to the Students
- Provide the Opportunity to Network with Professionals
- Promote the Image of India and Indian Professionals
- Gain Valuable Experience and Knowledge from Professionals
- Gain Valuable Leadership Skills and Contribute to Society

ASEI-UMCP is the First Student Chapter of ASEI

It was Established on November 20, 1998

Our Chapter Participates in Activities that Promote the Involvement of Students in Technical Disciplines

Our Chapter Also Enables Students to Receive Academic and Career Support

We have over 60 Highly Talented Student Members and an Outstanding Faculty Advisor, Dr. Kanal

We have also Received Tremendous Support from Mr. Gajanan Deshmukh and Mr. Shyam Kumar
Academics, Leadership, Active Involvement, Experience, and Service are Very Important to Us

We Seek Corporate Involvement in Planning Joint Events, Networking, and in Job Placement

Become a Sponsor of Our Chapter

For More Information, Please Contact

Namrata Boveja at nboveja@wam.umd.edu

1999 ASEI AWARD RECIPIENTS

ASEI ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Dhirendra S. "Sax" Saxena
ASC Geosciences Inc., Lakeland, FL

ASEI ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

Mr. Pradeep Tripathi
Tri-Path Consulting, LLC, Ann Arbor, MI

ASEI SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Mr. Manohar Singh
Paramount Contracting Company, Morrow, GA

ASEI STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Ms. Namrata Boveja
Mechanical Engineering, University of Maryland

ASEI MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Jason L. Pereira
Aerospace Engineering, University of Maryland

ASEI SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Shashank Mehrotra
Computer Engrg., Virginia Polytechnic Inst. & State Univ.

ASEI CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Name / E-mail	Address	Phone	Chapter
Kuldeep Gupta / kguptarita@aol .com	7 Huntington Parkway Baliston Lake, NY 12019	518-877-6468 (h) 518-485-8400 (o)	Albany, NY
Sathya V. Hanagud / hanagud@aerospace.gatech.edu	2536 Flairknoll Court Atlanta, GA 30345	404-321-3599 (h) 404-894-3040 (w)	Atlanta, GA
Pogula Sharma	3527 Stratford Court Martinez, GA 30907	706-855-1081 (h) 803-557-8367 (o)	Augusta, GA
Suresh Gupta	5110 Belair Road Baltimore, MD 21206	410-252-9008 (h) 410-325-4430 (o)	Baltimore, MD
Ashok Amin/	1205 Chesser Drive Huntsville, AL 35803	205-883-5676 (h) 205-895-6218 (o)	Huntsville1 AL
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D.S. Saxena dssus@aol. com	P.O. Box 6223 Lakeland, FL 33807-6223	941-648-5435 (h) 941-644-8300 (o)	Central Florida
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R. K. Rana anubhu_r@hotmail.com	284 Gulmohar Enclave New Delhi, India 110049	011-6854822	Delhi, India
Namrata Boveja pin_ky@mailexcite.com	20079 Dunstable Circle Germantown, MD 20876-6350	301-916-6222 (h) 301-496-9223	UMCP, College Park, MD

Following are under consideration either joining or starting ASEI Chapter:

Ravi Arora raviaroraasie@hotmail.com	9507 Kingpass Houston, TX 77075	713-991-6604	Houston
Suresh Vunnum svunnum@genetics.com	39 Royal Crest Dr., #2 North Andover, MA 01845	978-974-0885 (h) 978-623-2170 (o)	Boston
Paramjit\Singh psc4mkt@aol.com	2821 Broxton Rd. Shaker Hts. Ohio 44120	216-921-2093 216-391-4439 (F)	Cleveland, OH
M.Y. Thote dnyanesh@born5.vsnl.net.in	2/7, Shailendra Society Senapati Bapat Rd., Pune 411016	0212-356259/386621	Pune-Bombay
Seema Thomas seemat@seas.upenn.edu	Box 197 GTB, Univ. of PA 3650 Chestnut Street	215-417-4834(h) Philadelphia, PA 19104-6107	Univ. of PA

American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin (ASEI)
P.O. BOX 3327 Fairfax, Virginia USA 22038-3327, Phone/Fax: 703-273-5879, asej@asei.org
ASEI Board and Chapter Activities in 1998-1999

Gajanan Deshmukh, Chairman

Left to Right: Dr. Ravi Raut, Mr. Jagdish Agrawal, Mr. Manohar Singh, Mr. Ajeet Sood, Mr. Desh Deshmukh, Mr. Dharendra Saxena, Mr. Ravi Singh, Mr. Vipin Mehta, Mrs. Prashanti Reddy and Mr. Om Bhola



ASEI National Board Meeting December 5, 1998, Orlando Florida

The American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin (ASEI) organization has received an exemption from federal income tax (ID # 38-2468829) dated February 4, 1985. This exemption is applicable to all the active chapters of the ASEI. Following are 1999 elected board members with Committee Chairs

Chairman	Mr. Gajanan Deshmukh
Vice Chairman	Mr. Dharendra Saxena
Secretary	Mr. Ajeet Sood
<u>Executive Committee</u>	
President	Mr. Ravi Singh
Vice President	Mr. Vipin Mehta
Secretary	Mr. Rabindra Rout
Treasurer	Mrs. Prashanthi Reddy

<u>Board of Directors:</u>	
Mr. Manohar Singh	Mr. Shiva B. Anand
Mr. Jagdish Agrawal	Mr. Dharam Aggarwal
Mr. Paramjit Singh	Mr. Shyam Kumar
Mr. Baren Talukdar	Mr. Sudhansu Sinha
Mr. Kuldeep Gupta	Mr. VRS Hudda

<u>Standing Committees</u>	
Election	Chair Manohar Singh
Awards	Narsi Narsihman
Technology Transfer	Ravi Singh
Convention Liaison	National Executive
Membership & Fund Raising	Dhirendra Saxena
Constitution/Long Range	Ajeet Sood
Planning	
New Chapters	Gajanan Deshmukh
Publications	Gajanan Deshmukh
Student Affairs	Ruplu Bhattacharia
Employment Services	Rabindra Raut

Handbook Ajeet Sood

A list of the currently approved chapters and under consideration are:

Chapter	President
Albany, NY	Kuldeep Gupta
Atlanta, GA	Sathya V. Hanagud
Augusta, GA	Pogula Sharma
Baltimore, MD	Suresh Gupta
Huntsville, AL	Ashok Amin
Detroit, MI	Ravi Raut
New York, NY	Dharam Aggarwal
National Capitol	Murty S. Challa
Central Florida	Dhiren S. Saxena,
WNY, Buffalo	Shyam Kumar
Delhi, India	R.K. Rana
<u>Student Chapter:</u>	
UMCP	Namrata Boveja
<u>Under Consideration</u>	
Boston, MA	Suresh Vunnum
Cleveland, OH	Paramjit Singh
Pune, India	M.Y. THOTE
Univ. of PA	Seema Thomas

MICHIGAN

For 1999 the elected Executive members

President	Ravi K. Rout
Vice President	Amiya K. Samantray
Secretary	Yogesh C. Panda
Treasurer	Jyoti Satsangi
Seminar Chair Person	Yuvraj Krishnaswamy

Fund raising Jagadish Agrawal, Ramu
Ramamurthy, R. K. Rout
Public relation Hans Bajaria

Gautam Roy
Ravi Sharma
Rakesh Bhatia

Vikram Antin
Mallesh Hiriyur
Om Sharma

1999 - Looking Forward

First ASEI Seminar: was held on June 20, 1999 at Novi Civic Center

ASEI Family Night: Featuring Key note speaker, dinner, live entertainment, and scholarship award is scheduled for Sunday, September 12 (*tentatively*).

Second ASEI Seminar: Tentatively scheduled to be held on Sunday, Nov. 7.

1. Telecommunications in the new Millennium.
2. Are you Y2K ready?

Scholarships: Michigan Chapter is planning to award two scholarships to the graduating (High School) class of 1999. The candidate must be a child of an active member of ASEI, Michigan Chapter and must be registered in an accredited full time undergraduate engineering technology program. A committee has been formed to select the scholarship candidates. Please contact Jagadish Agrawal at 248-644-5171/jmagrawal@aol.com or Yogesh Panda at (734) 207-7936/yogipanda@hotmail.com for nomination forms and/or information.

Executive Body Meetings: Executive Body meeting is held on the second week of each month. Minutes are published and distributed to all the executive members of the Chapter. The plan is to publish the highlights of the minutes in the ASEI web page.

News Letters: Published semi-annually. This is the first news letter. The second one will be published in the month of October. **Any news item of ASEI interest is most welcome**

Membership Drive: A committee was formed to increase the membership of the local chapter under the chairmanship of Yogi Anand. The committee is looking into various options to encourage professionals and engineers of Indian origin, especially the second generation to become an active member in the chapter.

National Capital Chapter

Please see 15th Annual Convention Details at end.

For 1999 the elected Executive members

President Murthy Challa
Vice President Sudhansu Sinha
Secretary Ruplu Bhattacharya
Treasurer Arun Mehta
Directors:

Committees:

Advisory
Convention
Business Liaison
Elections
Awards
Membership
Newsletter
Public Relation
Seminar

Sunil Lingayat
Mallesh Hiriyur
Rakesh Bhatia
Chandrika Prasad
Hari Bindal
Murth Challa
Ruplu Bhattacharya
Vikram Antin
Ravi Sharma

After a successful Annual National Convention, NCC conducted General Body Meeting, Seminar and Annual Election Sunday, December 6, 1998 at Executive Office Building Auditorium, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD. Seminar topic was "Voodoo Medicine and The Laws of Physics and Expecting the Unexpected: Probability, Science & Strange Coincidences. Featured speakers were Dr. Daniel ("Chip") Denman, Manager of the Statistics Laboratory and Dr. Robert Park, Physics Department, University of Maryland. College Park, MD After seminar General Body Meeting and Election of the 1999 board members were held.

First Seminar: ASEI NCC held its first dinner seminar on "The Y2K Problem" for 1999 on February 26th at the Bombay Peacock Restaurant in Columbia, MD. The speakers presiding at this Dinner seminar were Sunil Lingayat, Director, ZMAX CORP., and Rakesh Bhatia, Manager of IT and Management Consulting, KPMG.

National Engineers Week: This year NCC members participated in "National Engineers Week" hosted by the D.C. Council of Engineering and Architectural Societies (DCCEAS) and volunteered as judges in Science competition, awards committee. NCC members also attended the Future Cities Competition and the Annual Banquet.

ASEI Science Fair Awards: This year NCC board approved a proposal made by Hari Bindal to start a "ASEI Science Fair Awards" (ASFA). During March 20th Montgomery County Area Science Fair ceremony, NCC judged and awarded a special trophy to a high school winner.

Second Seminar: On April 30th, NCC organized its second dinner seminar on "Buying and Selling Real Estate". Mr. Papi Khara of Remax Realtors and Mr. Harvey Spicer of George Mason Mortgage presented the art of good deal on real estate purchase and mortgage loans.

Annual Picnic: NCC hosted its Annual picnic on July 31, 1999 at Black Hill Regional Park, Boyds, MD Over 50 members with family and friends participated.

Annual Convention: NCC will be organizing its annual convention on Sunday, October 24th at the Greenbelt Marriott, MD. This years convention them is "Global Connectivity". Like every year this year it will have Technical and Business followed by Dinner and Awards and entertainment in the evening.

Atlanta Chapter

1999 office bearers

President	Sathya V Hanagud
Vice President	Mayoor
Secretary	Ram K Ramaswamy
Treasurer	Mr Parampal (Paul) Singh
Director:	Narsi Narasimhan
Student Liaison	TBA

During the year 1998, plant visits for the membership and their families were held at Ford Motor Company's Body & Assembly division and their manufacturing plant located in Hapeville (suburb of Atlanta). Sheet metal work, Assembly/Finishing operations with precision and skill by Robots in Ford's Taurus manufacturing line was an experience cherished by the membership. This was followed by a tour of Delta Airlines facilities at Atlanta's Hartsfield airport. Delta's Technical Operations Center, Engine shop and Physical facility gave us an insight into all the activities that go on in aircraft hangers before the aluminum birds show up at the boarding gates.

Bi-monthly meeting & Seminars:

Transportation/Logistics in the Corporate Supply chain Optimization by Dr. Bill Nulty, Senior Vice President, CAPS Logistics. He discussed how advanced mathematical optimization technology is being used successfully to improve corporate decision-making

ISO 9001 – Road Map to Registration and Life After by Wally Walia, Manager, Quality & Customer Satisfaction, Nortel He provided an insight into the quality processes and activities leading to securing ISO 9000 certification and what comes after.

Information Management for Current Business Decision-Making by Dr. Ram S. Sriram, Associate Professor, Georgia State University. He presented some interesting new ideas in strategic management accounting information systems and how they apply to management decision making

Among the recreational activities, the Annual Picnic at Stone Mountain Park and Golf outing had very strong participation. Members and their families were relaxed and, naturally, had a field day.

First Seminar: On April 24, 1999, ASEI Atlanta held its first seminar on "OUT OF THIS WORLD: Business Opportunities in Space", by Dr. Narayanan Komerath, Professor, Aerospace Engineering. This was held at Place Montgomery Knight Building Room 317, Georgia Tech. This well attended mind-boggling seminar presented opportunities in a Space-based economy, framed around a Georgia Tech student team's Plan for a start-up enterprise under the "NASA Means Business" program. Space-related business exceeded \$121B last year, and is projected to surpass \$500B in the next 5 years.

University of Maryland College Chapter

The first meeting and elections were held on Monday, *November 2, 1998* in the A. V. Williams building. Dr. Laveen Kanal, our Advisor counted the votes for following elected office members

President:	Namreta Boveja
Vice President:	Shivai Kaul
Secretary:	Sachin Bhatt
Treasurer:	Bindu Gambhir
Corporate Chairs	Shikha Gambhir and Jothi Naraynan
Activities Chairs:	Meera Ganeshan and Aman Baveja
Web Page Chairs:	Michael Chau and Jason Pereira
Fundraising Chair:	Shamim Rashid and Puja Singhal
Membership Chair:	Panna Shetty and Puja Singhal
ASEI Advisor	Gajanan Deshmukh
Academic Advisor:	Dr. Laveen Kanal

Our first officer's meeting for ASEI was held on *November 16*. We worked on completing the registration papers, planning upcoming events, establishing rules, and collecting membership forms and dues. We have received e-mails and/or phone confirmation of more than 50 students who are interested in joining ASEI. The next step in the Chapter initiation is to get the registration form handed in to the office of campus programs who will take a few weeks to process it. After that, it will be sent out to the SGA for recognition.

Our Second General Meeting was held on *December 2*, at 5:30 p.m. in room 3258 of the A.V. Williams Building. Our guest speakers were Mr. Gajanan Deshmukh, ASEI Chairman and Mr. Shiv Jindal, past-Chairman. Mr. Shiv Jindal will spoke about Engineers and Government Facility operations.

Our Third General Meeting was held on *February 5th, 1999*, from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in Room 1102 of the Stamp Student Union. Mr. Ruplu, Secretary, NCC chapter was the speaker.

Our 4th meeting was held on *March 12, 1999* from 6-8 p.m. in the Stamp Union Room 1102. Dr. Ravi Sharma of NASA-Goddard was the speaker. He is involved with NASA, ISRO and has made contributions to the Apollo

mission to the moon. He is also a motivated speaker with a wealth of knowledge. Mr. Deshmukh arranged the speaker for us.

The 2nd Officers' Meeting was held on *March 17, 1999*. We discussed the attendance policy, space allocation issues, activities, and fundraising ideas.

The last meeting of the semester was held on April 15, 1999 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Stamp Student Union Room 2146. The guest speaker was Dr. Shyam Bajpai of NOAA, who spoke about Remote Sensing Satellite Systems. Dr. Kanal also talked about his visit to California on Starters Boot Camp. We had Free Pizza to celebrate the official recognition by the Student Government Association and we have been allotted office space in the South Campus Dining Hall with other campus organizations.

Central Florida Chapter

ASEI-CFC was formalized and commissioned into action at the inaugural meeting on 2 May, 1998 at India Palace in Lake Buena Vista in the heart of Disney World, USA.

President:	Dhirendra Saxena,
Vice President	Vipin Mehta
Secretary	Vijay. Sheth
Treasurer	Om Bhola
Committee Chairs	
Awards	Anupam Saxena
Election	Vipin Mehta
Student Affairs	Bhanu Engineer
Long Range Planning	M. Krishnamurthy
Membership	Dhirendra Saxena

The 1998 activities included a monthly meeting on 31 October 1998. The speaker was Felix A. Soto Toro from the John F. Kennedy Space Center, who talked about the mission to Mars and the design team participation by some local scientists/engineers who are members of ASEI. On 5 December 1998 we also hosted the national meeting of the ASEI Board of Directors in Orlando that was well attended. Year 1999 activities of ASEI-CFC will include:

National Engineers Week (NEW) meeting of the chapter to be held on 27 February 1999 at the Far Pavilion restaurant. The speaker will be George P. Jackson of Jackson Retirement Planning, Inc. who will talk about Financial Planning. They are also sponsors of this meeting.

On behalf of ASEI-CFC, its corporate members, ASC Geosciences, inc. and Mehta and Associates, are also sponsoring the combined NEW banquet organized by all the engineering societies in central Florida. This banquet will be held at Adam's Mark Hotel in Orlando on the evening of 27 February 1999.

ASEI-CFC will organize a Transportation Summit Seminar in May 1999 that will give us some exposure and credibility and will be of special interest to engineers, FDOT, contractors, and attorneys who have interest in Transportation.

ASEI-CFC, under the Chairmanship of Dhirendra S. Saxena and support from the board and other chapters, is spearheading the FUN 2000 project. Its aim is to raise \$100,000 for the national goals and activities of ASEI by the Year 2000 Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida.

On August 14th 1999, ASEI-CFC hosted seminar on "Immigration and Naturalization Law" at Far Pavilion Orlando, Florida. The Guest Speaker was Stephen H. Davis, Esquire, Attorney at Law, Jacksonville, Florida

Western NY, Buffalo

President	Shyam Kumar
Vice President	Vinod Sharma
Secretary	Shamasundar Raja
Treasurer	Amitabh Gupta
	Vijayaraghavan Srinivasan

Directors:	
Shrikant Joshi	Ramji Gupta
Satish Mohan	Arun Acharya
Bhasker Chatrath	

WNY, Buffalo was selected to hold 16th National Annual Convention. It will be held in the Buffalo/Niagara Marriott in Amherst, NY, on September 4 - 5, 1999. The theme for this year's national annual convention is: "**Technology Challenges in the 21st Century**". Several meetings including the National Board Meeting on May 30th were held to make this most successful event. Following committees and members were chosen

Program:	Dr. Satish B. Mohan , Chair
Mr. Ravinder Bansal	Dr. Malini Sridhar
Mr. Shamasundar Raja	
Finance:	Dr. Amitabh Gupta, Chair
Mr. Shyam Kumar	Dr. Vijayaraghavan Srinivasan
Venue/Banquet:	Dr. Ramalingam Sridhar, Chair
Mr. Arun Acharya	Mrs. Sarmishtha Kumar
Mrs. Usha Mohan	
Publications:	Mr. Virendra Singh, Chair
Mr. Sushil L. Amlani	Dr. Venkatesha S. Arakali
Dr. Dharmarajan Iyer	
Entertainment:	Mr. Anil K. Bansal, Chair
	Dr. Ramji L. Gupta
Membership/Registration:	Mr. Ravi K. Mathur , Chair
Mr. Shrikant M. Joshi	Mr. Prakash K. Sen
Mr. Arvind K. Shukla	Mr. Ram K. Shukla

Several successful entrepreneurs of Indian origin have made financial commitments for the event, and several internationally known scholars are scheduled to speak. The

two day program combines seminars on subjects ranging from Information Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Marketing Technical Services, to social issues such as: Role of Asian Indian Women, Next Millennium and the Golden Years, and Young Generation. An other highlight of the convention is the alumni get-together from the leading engineering institutions of India.

New Delhi

ASEI India chapter held its first meeting of the year on 12th January 99 to form a committee to request US Associates & develop a process for Technological Transfer from US to Indian industry, institutions. A broad outline (white paper) of the process was drafted and presented below.

1-Silver hair service-experts who are no more attached to an organization (retired) and are an authority from different streams of management, technology & are visiting India. The India chapter may identify Organizations which can benefit from their knowledge & co-ordinate interactions. The Organization shall pay the cost of stay, local hospitality for the period the expert stays in India. In exceptional cases attempts may be made to charge to the Organization international travel cost also.

2 - Action in action scheme-if an expert is in service & visits India on a holiday or official visit. If the expert is willing & has time then specific theme talks or in company visits or talks may be organized in collaboration with professional bodies or institutions.

3 -Technology Transfer- IT, Environment Management & Infrastructure development are three prime focus areas for Indian industry. If members of US association intends to get into alliances for setting up operations, franchises then India Chapter may, coordinate & introduce them to relevant organizations, associations or individual.

4 -If an Indian residing in US intends to participate in social causes like village upgradation, children education etc. then the Indian chapter may facilitate the same.

American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin 15th National Convention a Success

The American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin (ASEI) recently held its 15th Annual National Convention at the Washington Dulles Airport Hilton, Herndon, Virginia on September 6, 1998. The event, which was also the 8th Annual Convention of its National Capital Chapter (NCC), was a day-long affair and included technical and business seminars centered around its theme of *Visionary Engineers in the Communications Age*, trade exhibits, general body meeting, and an evening banquet featuring awards,

scholarships and new chapter initiation ceremonies, and entertainment.

The ASEI once again maintained its tradition of featuring eminent engineers, scientists and top business executives for addressing the gathering. The first session covered technical topics and was chaired by Dr. Laveen Kanal, Professor Emeritus in Computer Science, University of Maryland, and Managing Director of LNK Corporation, a high-tech company. Mr. P.K. Prabhakar, Director, World Partners Co., a subsidiary of AT&T, discussed the use of Internet

Protocols (IP) in secure global business services. Dr. H. K. Ramapriyan, Assistant Project Manager, ESDIS, NASA-Goddard Space Flight Center, spoke of satellite remote sensing and the extreme demands future NASA missions will be placing on information systems. Mr. Ashok Saxena, CEO, Informatics/Sigmanet spoke on the importance of the World Wide Web in promoting a business. Dr. Arturo Silvestrini, Ex-CEO, EOSAT, Inc., spoke on satellite remote sensing developments accomplished indigenously by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), and his own involvement with the global marketing of the ISRO remote sensing imagery. A highlight of this session was the presentation of a model of the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite, IRS-1C, by Dr. Arturo Silvestrini to the ASEI in a gesture of friendship and goodwill. The model was originally presented to Dr. Silvestrini in 1995 by the ISRO as a token of appreciation.

The second seminar session was devoted to business topics such as Entrepreneurship, International Telecommunications, Future Telecommunications Technologies and Investment Opportunities in India. Mr. Satish Kumar, CEO, Microtech Tel, a long-term supporter of ASEI and himself a telecommunications entrepreneur chaired this session. Mr. Babu Metgud, President, Metcon Industries spoke about his varied experiences as an engineer, inventor, entrepreneur, and international investor. Mr. Metgud stressed that the Indian immigrant community should initiate a venture capital forum which would promote entrepreneurial projects. Mr. Paul Singh, CEO, PRIMUS Telecommunications, inspired the audience by the story of his rise to prominence in global communications. Mr. Singh also said there is plenty of capital for good ideas and that it is easy to start a telecommunications company. Mr. Gian Dilawari, Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer at Cable & Wireless, Inc., spoke next about the significant role his company is playing in telecommunications by laying intercontinental fiber optic cables and acquisition of MCI's Internet assets. Mr. Sudhakar Rao, Commerce Minister, Embassy of India, rounded off the session by talking about investment opportunities in India and how to get involved in policy making.

The seminar sessions were found very useful by the audience and led to many extended post-session conversations and discussions. As Dr. Narsi Narasimhan, a software entrepreneur from Atlanta put it: "I was really impressed with the panel of speakers I attended both the sessions and I enjoyed them very much. I am glad I decided to attend the convention. ..." The sentiments were echoed by Mr. Rakesh Bhatia, management consultant with KPMG Peat Marwick, who congratulated the ASEI-NCC for the "impressive organization".

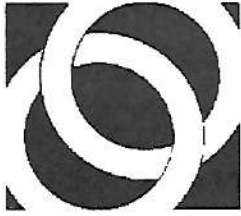
The evening session centered around a banquet and featured talks by government invitees including Congressman Thomas M. Davis, 11th Congressional District, Virginia, and Mr. T.P. Sreenivasan, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India and Keynote address by Dr. Raj Singh, a cellular visionary and CEO of Telcom Ventures and LCC International.. Congressman Davis spoke on how he is supporting the movement to increase the number of H1-B visas, and also urged the community to keep in mind that the US is the only country where an immigrant is accepted as a citizen in a short time. Ambassador Sreenivasan updated the audience on the recent developments in Indo-US talks after the nuclear tests, and stressed why India felt their necessity. Dr. Raj Singh echoed the advice given by Mr. Paul Singh - there is a whole world waiting there for those who venture boldly and maintaining good faith on yourself. The talks were followed by the presentation of the society's banner to the new chapters in Buffalo, Central Florida, and New Delhi.

The final item on the agenda was the awards ceremony where outstanding Indo-American engineers, entrepreneurs, and students are recognized. The "Entrepreneur of the Year" award was presented to Mr. Ashok Trivedi CEO of Mastech Corporation, an international software services firm, for the phenomenal growth of Mastech which has also been recognized by similar awards from Ernst & Young and Robert Morris College. The "Engineer of the Year" award was presented to Mr. Subir Chowdhury, Vice President, American Supplier Institute, an industrial consulting firm, for his internationally-recognized work in quality management. Mr. Shiv Jindal was presented with the "Service to the Community" award for his efforts in connection with the ASEI and the local India Cultural Coordination Committee. The "Student of the Year" award was presented to Mr. Jeysenkar Sriram, a graduate student in Industrial Engineering at SUNY-Binghamton. Several other gifted students also received the society's scholarships: Ms. Parul Kumar of Clarkson University - the ASEI Merit Scholarship, Ms. Namrata Boveja of University of Maryland and Mr. Tushar Halgali of Virginia Tech - the ANSTEC Scholarships, Ms. Vaidehi Srinivisan of Louisiana State University - the ADC Scholarship, and Ms. Swati Rout of the University of Michigan - the Kamallesh and Rita Dwivedi Scholarship. In addition NCC awarded community service award to Mr. Shiva Anand ASEI Web master and Ex. NCC president and Mr. Arun Mehta,

Treasurer for their contribution to the Society. The convention ended with a gala banquet and delightful Hindi melodies played by *Tarang*, a local entertainment group.

"We are very pleased with the way the convention turned out", said Mr. Gajanan Deshmukh, President of ASEI. "It is our flagship event and we are very gratified that members from our far off chapters such as Atlanta, Detroit, Albany, Central Florida, Augusta, and Buffalo were able to attend the convention. The panel of speakers we are putting together is getting better every year and was of extraordinarily high quality this year, including as it did such luminaries as Dr. Raj Singh and Mr. K. Paul Singh. Our thanks go to the speakers who liberally gave us their time on a beautiful long weekend and injected considerable excitement in our community." Talking of future ASEI plans, Mr. Manohar Singh, Chairman of ASEI said, "The ASEI has progressed rapidly this year by adding three new chapters. We have plans on the anvil for several more chapters, especially in the Silicon Valley and Bangalore. We invite all engineers and allied professionals to participate in our dynamic organization."

The ASEI is a non-profit organization of engineers, scientists, and computer professionals. Its principal objectives are networking, career guidance, technology transfer, business guidance, and promoting India's image as well as that of its professionals. ASEI has 11 chapters in the USA and one in New Delhi, and is linking with various professionals, institutions, and business organizations in promoting technical and business seminars. In addition, the society bestows awards for outstanding engineers, entrepreneurs, students, and community activists and also scholarships to meritorious students who are Indian by birth, ancestry, or relations. Complete convention details as well as other activities of the ASEI are available on their web page at www.asei.org



American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin (ASEI)

A NON-PROFIT, TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION, EST., 1983

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ASEI - *Why?*

Selecting a title for a message is quite a deliberate and painstaking task that all of us face many times. I selected this one because this has been asked many times by our perspective members. To answer this I scanned through some 50 editorial and presidential messages of several engineering journals. It was no surprise to note that this is not unique for ASEI but is common to many other engineering associations. Among all the messages the one I liked most is from William C. Zegel, President of Air and Waste Management Association. "As we think of associations, the image of a flock of flying birds comes to mind. A flock fly in a "V" formation when they are going any significant distance. Scientists tell us that this formation reduces the drag for the individual bird and the whole flock adds about 70 percent more to its flying range than would be possible if each bird flew on its own".

As the theme of this convention indicates engineers are the intellectual capital - the knowledge that runs the world. The quality of life and economic vitality of the world depends significantly on advances in engineering and application of technology. Today the technology is changing at a pace that takes one's breath away. In order to preserve and increase this capital, one needs to learn continuously, upgrade skills and adapt to new situations. It is no longer sufficient to go to work, do your job and go home. In a time of these drastic changes, it is the learners who will inherit the future and find themselves equipped to live in a world of future. These professional demands come at a time of upheaval in the employment landscape. Global competition has sparked a wave of downsizing in technology firms and destroying much of the job security that engineers used to take for granted.

The ASEI is a flock of engineers of Indian origin that share a common direction and sense of the Indian community and can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they will be flying on the thrust of each other. As the old adage goes "Birds of common feather flock together". The key to the formation is networking. Engineering professionals of Indian origin have contributed significantly towards our modern world, yet most people do not know much about them. And here lies the lack of flying in the "V" formation. It is incumbent on these professionals to think of where they have been and where they are headed. In addition to educating ourselves, we must also educate the public and the lawmakers about ASEI. Participation in ASEI is an investment in time and money that yields great returns. Benefits to the members are listed elsewhere in this souvenir. You can assign your own dollar values to these benefits. The equation works. The greater your level of participation, the greater your level of return. So start the process of involvement now.

About the Author

Dr. Chandrika Prasad, is Executive Director (acting), ASEI



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Corporate Membership

Special Advantages of Corporate Membership

- Up to \$ 150 credit for your first display advertisement in the ASEI monthly newsletter
- Exclusive access to a no-fee professional employment placement service
- A \$ 100 credit for your first display advertisement in ASEI's annual convention brochure
- Corporate Member discounted rates for exhibit space at annual and local conventions
- Listing in Member Directory as Corporate Member

Conditions of Corporate Membership

Membership is open to companies actively engaged in engineering, architecture and related arts and sciences. Annual dues are \$ 250. Dues are deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense for income tax purposes, but are not deductible as a charitable contribution.

Membership Agreement

I accept this invitation to become a Corporate Member of ASEI,
American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin, on behalf of:

Company Name

Division

Representative's Name

Title

Company Address

City

State

Zipcode

Email

Business Phone

Signature

Number of professional engineering/technical employees : _____

Please make your check payable to ASEI and mail to:

**ASEI- WNY CHAPTER
5635 Kippen Drive,
East Amherst, NY 14051**



American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin

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Membership Form

1. Name: Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms.

Last First Middle Initial

2. Type of Membership

A. Regular \$ 25/year B. Life \$ 250 C. Student \$ 10/year D. Corporate \$ 250/year

3. Spouse: Dr./Mr./Mrs.

Last First Middle Initial

4. Home Address:

Street

City State Zipcode

Phone

5. Self-employed ?

Yes No

6. Employer:

7. Office Address:

Street

City State Zipcode

Phone

Email

8. Years of Experience:

A: 0 - 1 B: 1 - 5 C: 5 - 10 D: 10 - 20 E: 20+

9. Highest Educational Qualification: (Choose only one)

A. Bachelors B. Masters C. Doctorate D. Post Doctorate

13. Which Year did you become an ASEI member ?

14. Amount enclosed:

\$ _____

15. Alma mater in India

_____ Class of 19 _____

16. Alma mater in USA

_____ Class of 19 _____

10 Educational Background:
(Choose all that apply)

- A. Aerospace
- B. Architecture
- C. Business
- D. Chemical
- E. Civil
- F. Computer Science
- G. Electrical/Electronics
- H. Industrial
- I. Mechanical
- J. Sciences
- Z. Other (specify)

11 Which of the following best describes your position ?

- A. Consultant
- B. Engineer/Scientist
- C. Manager/Director
- D. President/VP
- E. Professor/Associate/Assistant
- F. Programmer/Analyst
- Z. Other (specify)

12 Which of the following best describes your job function ?

- A. Accounting/Finance
- B. Administration/Mgmt
- C. Consulting
- D. Drafting/Design
- E. Education/Training
- F. Engineering
- G. Manufacturing
- H. MIS/DP
- I. Purchasing
- J. Quality/Process
- K. R & D
- L. Sales/Marketing
- M. Telecommunications
- Z. Other (specify)

Membership dues and other contributions to ASEI are tax deductible.
Please make your check payable to ASEI and mail to:

ASEI- WNY CHAPTER
5635 Kippen Drive,
East Amherst, NY 14051

American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin

Membership Benefits Guide

Networking

ASEI offers a unique opportunity to you to make contacts and network with fellow professionals who share your interests. Networking leads to mutually beneficial opportunities and relationships.

Convention

Each year ASEI holds a nationwide annual convention. Conventions and workshops are also held locally by each chapter. Recognition is provided to outstanding people through awards.

Local Chapter Meetings

Local chapters provide members the opportunity to meet each other, network, communicate/generate new ideas, attend career development seminars, build beneficial relationships and learn from each other. Chapter meetings are geared towards the needs of the members. Periodically, plant tours, mini-conventions and development workshops are conducted. Monthly programs emphasize business/consulting topics, career development topics or immigration/interviewing/resume topics, depending on the chapter membership interests.

Committees

Committees are charged with the responsibility to accomplish specific ASEI goals which are common to all chapters. Committees can also be looked upon as the R & D arm of the chapters. Committees develop programs or workshops that can be used at the chapter level or at annual conventions. Members are encouraged to actively serve on committees.

Career Enhancement

ASEI assists each member by career planning and enhancement assistance. Two key programs are customized workshops (at local chapter meetings and at the annual convention) and mentoring programs to personally discuss career issues.

Membership Directory

The ASEI directory can help you find fellow members. Information is also available on company affiliations and expertise. The directory is updated annually. ASEI sends a free directory to all members.

Employment Directory

Referral assistance is provided to members looking for work. Employers are encouraged to recruit ASEI members through job fairs and to meet their minority hiring goals.

Publications

ASEI plans to make available publications on relevant subjects such as career development, tech transfer and immigration to its members. These publications will be developed by ASEI committees.

Corporate Membership

Corporate membership is open to companies actively engaged in engineering, architecture and related arts and sciences. Benefits include up to \$150 credit toward your first display ad in the monthly newsletter, exclusive access to a no-fee professional employment placement service, a \$100 credit toward your first display ad in the annual convention brochure, discounted rates for exhibit space at annual and local conventions, and a Corporate Member listing in the membership directory.

Technology Transfer

ASEI assists Indian and U.S. companies by bringing together technology experts in the desired industry. Lists of experts, businesses and technical articles are maintained. Technology liaison is maintained with Indian organizations and with other associations in the U.S.

Trade Assistance

ASEI plans to acquire and catalog trade laws and policies. Facilitation assistance is provided to trade delegations from Indian or to U.S. companies.

Business and Consulting

This committee assists business and consulting firms in areas of mutual interest.

Student Affairs

ASEI assists students by providing scholarships, opportunities for contact with businesses (job search), in immigration matters (workshops) and other beneficial services such as resume writing, career planning and individual guidance and mentoring.

Newsletters

The newsletter is sent to all members and is intended to be informative and educational. It communicates key events and news.

Scholarships and Awards

Student scholarships are awarded based on merit and need. ASEI recognizes outstanding individuals for their professional and entrepreneurial contributions.

ASEI WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER - MEMBERSHIP LIST

LAST	FIRST	STREET	CITY	ST	ZIP	EMAIL	HOME	WORK	FAX
Acharya	Arun	85 Twilight Lane	East Amherst	NY	14051	arun_acharya@praxair.com	716-689-7892	716-879-2624	
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Bansal	Ravinder	9707 The Pines	Clarence	NY	14031		716-759-2219		
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Gupta	Ramji	17 Cherrywood Ct.	Williamsville	NY	14221	ramjigupta@aol.com	716-688-9166	716-687-5651	
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Mathur	Ravi	347 Davison Rd. #8	Lockport	NY	14094		716-439-5102	716-439-3606	
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Shete	Prakash M.	11 Robin Road	McKeesrocks	PA	15136		412-787-5029	724-746-9420	724-746-9420
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Thakore	Shailesh B.	18 Beachridge Drive	East Amherst	NY	14051	sjst@aol.com	716-688-1548	716-942-4020	

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Ram Reddy Nemula
Saleem Moazzam
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Bipin Mehta
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16th Annual Convention





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**congratulations to ASEI
on the eve of your
16th National Convention !**

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**Anu Saxena, P.E.
Executive Vice President**

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