



Upcoming Events

Student Leadership Seminars (SLS)

October 16, 2010

Host: Harvard University
Cambridge, MA

October 23, 2010

Host: Penn State University
State College, PA

FUNDING AVAILABLE TO ATTEND!!!

2 PER STUDENT SECTION FUNDED TRAVEL, LODGING, REGISTRATION

<http://districts.asme.org/SLS>

Want your event listed?

Contact:

nathan.taylor05@gmail.com

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What is the Student District Operating Board?

The Student District Operating Board (SDOB) is your resource to connect with other student sections with the goal of enhancing student sections and improving the district's benefits and programs. The SDOB provides enthusiasm and direction to help make the district's ASME student sections function as a unit, and provide a outlet for student needs.

New SDOB Chair

Amey Khanolkar was elected as the new SDOB chair for the 2010-12 term after the two Student Professional Development Conferences were held in the district. A district-wide email for nominations was sent out, and Amey was elected from a pool of ten qualified and motivated candidates. Amey is a sophomore student of mechanical engineering at Drexel University. He has served as the secretary and presently is the treasurer of the ASME student section at Drexel. Amey says, "I am very excited about taking up the position of District A SDOB chair. It is a matter of pride for me to represent District A at the Student Sections Committee. District A boasts of some of the world's greatest engineering landmarks and reputed engineering schools. I will seek to improve communication between students in the district, to have joint events and other platforms for networking besides the SLS and the SPDCs. Being an active member of ASME provides students with a learning experience very different from that in a classroom. Together with student leaders, I shall work to expand our network within the district. Please contact me with any questions regarding ASME activities, starting your student section, hosting conferences, events, tours etc!



Amey Khanolkar

ameykhankar@gmail.com

CCSU Hosts Human Powered Vehicle Challenge

by Ben Haase, Student
Central Connecticut State
University, New Britain, CT

On May 7th through 9th Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) hosted the 2010 ASME Human Powered Vehicle Challenge East. During this event almost thirty universities participated from as far north as Canada and south as Venezuela.



The annual ASME Human Powered Vehicle Challenge East asked groups of students to design, build, and race vehicles that are solely powered by human effort; pedal-powered. At the competition students participated in one of two classes: speed or unrestricted. Throughout the three day event teams presented their designs, raced in a head-to-head sprint bracket, and competed in a two hour endurance race.

The competition started out on Friday at CCSU where all teams presenting their vehicles and performing a safety check. In the safety check, each vehicle needed to be able to turn within a 25ft radius, travel straight for 100ft, and stop within 20ft from 15 miles per hour.

Saturday and Sunday's events were held on Stafford Motor Speedway's half mile track in Stafford Springs, CT. On Saturday morning each class raced in a head-to-head bracket style sprint event. As teams were eliminated throughout the morning the fastest vehicles emerged victorious. That afternoon a utility race was held where vehicles had to traverse a course that involved going over speed bumps, making hairpin turns, and pulling into a parking space, pickup up "groceries" and then backing out to continue on. On Sunday morning an endurance event was held with all teams competing at once. An awards banquet culminated the event.

Many great teams and vehicles came out to the ASME 2010 HPVC East competition. This year's overall winner for the speed class was Missouri University of Science & Technology and for the unrestricted class was Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

For more information on the event please visit <http://www.asme.org/hpv>

Interested in hosting the Human Powered Vehicle Challenge? Contact hpv@asme.org

Thanks for Hosting National Events

The SDOB would like to thank Ben and CCSU for hosting the HPVC. This is a ASME national event that takes a lot of time and hard work from the host and brings distinction to the section and the district. We greatly appreciate your efforts.

This is the second year in a row that District A has had the honor of hosting this event.

-Nathan Taylor

Want to share your event?

Send a similar write-up and a pictures to the SDOB and it will be included in the next issue and shared with the students of District A.

Email to:

nathan.taylor05@gmail.com



Students Share Event Ideas

Melon Propellin' By Jenna Vastano

Rowan University's second annual Melon Propellin' was held on April 23, 2010 outside of Rowan Hall on Rowan University's Engineering Lawn. This is an event where teams of engineering students design and fabricate trebuchets to

compete with. The teams build their colossal-catapults out of anything from two-by-fours to leaf springs off of an old truck. This year's four teams were all assembled of Rowan University students only, and their entries were put to the test when the teams took watermelons and launched them at targets to receive points. This year's theme was Pirates, so teams had to hit treasure chests for points, as well as a giant pirate ship! But teams must beware: some targets are worth negative points!

This year, there were four rounds. For these rounds, if a team's trebuchet could only propel part of a watermelon, the teams were encouraged to go for it! Each team would receive either positive or negative points, depending on which target they hit. Each target had designated points set prior to the competition; however, each team was unaware of each treasure chest's point value. If only a piece of watermelon hit a target, points were still awarded. At the end of each round, the scores were announced. At the end of all four rounds, the top three teams moved on to the finals.

The finals consisted of three rounds, but the rules were a little different. The final rounds really put the trebuchets to the test: teams needed to launch large watermelons. If a team's trebuchet could only launch half a melon, the team only received half the points of the target hit. Also, it must be a complete melon. Example, it could not be enough pieces to make up a half of a melon, it must be connected. Each team was given three shots, and once again the points were added (or subtracted) and a winner is determined. In the downtime this year, we had a watermelon eating contest! The top three teams, as well as the winner of the watermelon eating contest, won monetary prizes, which ranged anywhere from \$25 to \$100.

The outcome was great! Not only did Rowan students support us, but we had local newspapers and television broadcasters do reports on the event! The event, however, doesn't get as great an outcome as our autumn version of the event, Pumpkin Chunkin'! It's the same concept, only the trebuchets are projecting pumpkins instead of firing fruit into the sky.

Overall, this is a great event to have! It gives us all a break from our work to explode watermelons for a few hours!

For any additional information, please contact myself, Jenna Vastano (Rowan University's ASME Student Chapter Social Chair, Public Relations Chair, and Melon Propellin' Coordinator), or Raymond Crouse, Jr. (Rowan University's ASME Student Chapter President). (vastan37@students.rowan.edu)

Student Benefits

Charles T. Main
Student Section
Awards



Student Section
Advisor Award



Nomination deadline: March 1
Nominate your Advisor!

[www.asme.org/Governance/
Honors/SocietyAwards/](http://www.asme.org/Governance/Honors/SocietyAwards/)

Scholarships and Loans

[www.asme.org/Education/
College/FinancialAid/](http://www.asme.org/Education/College/FinancialAid/)

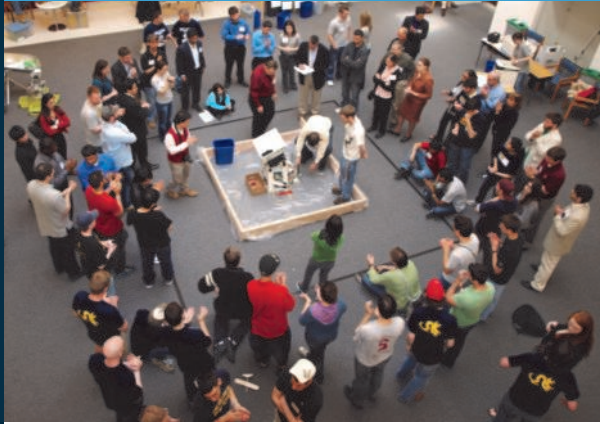
Section Resources

Website Template

[districts.asme.org/SDOB/
DistrictF/websitebuilder](http://districts.asme.org/SDOB/DistrictF/websitebuilder)

Facebook

[District A SDOB \(ASME\)](#)



Student Professional Development Conferences (SPDC)

Two SPDCs were held in April 2010
Drexel University and Union College

Student Professional Development Conferences are held every year in each district around the world. This year in district A (NE of the US, E Canada, & Puerto Rico) there were two held in April at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA and at Union College in Schenectady, NY. Students from around the district come to compete against their peers and network during this day long conference. These competitions are the Old Guard Oral Presentation, Technical Poster, and Technical Web Page Competitions and the Student Design Competition.

I helped plan the SPDC at Drexel, which we believe was a big success. We were able to host the conference by volunteering to the district leader Stan Halperson about a year prior. As a host we were responsible for handling all of the logistics for the day and finding judges. Most of our judges were found through out local Philadelphia ASME section of which our head judge, Fred Willis, was the chair of. The judges did a great job and the competitions all seem to go very smoothly. The Student Design Competition (SDC) is always entertaining to see what the students have created, this year the goal was a waste sorting robot.

Participating in the SPDC competitions seem like a lot of preparation and for some schools it is but if you would like to get your student section involved the easiest way is to find students that are already doing research or senior design and have them create presentations, posters, or websites around that. If you know of a group of seniors that need a design project let them know about the SDC and they could work on that and then compete for money. Hosting the competition was very rewarding and while it was a lot of work I would recommend anyone interested in hosting to do so.

Details can be found at <http://districts.asme.org/SPDC/>

For any additional information, please contact myself, Nathan Taylor (Drexel University ASME Former Chair) nathan.taylor05@gmail.com

Join the SDOB

Interested in helping to identify programs to improve student life in the district and unify the student sections within the district? Contact nathan.taylor05@gmail.com