



## SUMMARY REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Vol. 16, No. 2

Fall 2014

The ABET Board of Directors met on November 1, 2014, at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore, MD. This report summarizes the actions that occurred at that meeting.

### ABET OFFICERS INDUCTED

The 2014-2015 ABET officers are:

President – **Jamie Rogers**

President-Elect – **Lawrence Jones**

Secretary – **Michael Lightner** (*2<sup>nd</sup> term*)

Treasurer – **Craig Musselman** (*2<sup>nd</sup> term*)

Board Representative to the Executive Committee – **Wayne Bergstrom**

### NEW BOARD MEMBERS

**Irving McPhail** – NACME

**Kristen Constant** – WEPAN

**Thomas R. Hanley** – AIChE

**Paul Roden** – SNAME

**Cheryl Cardell** – Public Member

**Bruce Clemens** – MRS

**Stuart Zweben** – CSAB

**Stephen Phillips** – IEEE

**Phil Brown** - INCOSE

### NEW MEMBER SOCIETY

The National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME) joined ABET as an associate member. NACME will reinforce ABET's efforts to include the perspective of socioeconomic groups currently underrepresented in technical fields. A complete list of ABET's member societies can be found at <http://www.abet.org/member-society-list/>.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President **Monte Phillips** summarized ABET's activities and accomplishments in the past year. In the 2013-14 cycle, 145 new programs underwent initial review, including 97 from outside the US. The 2014 ABET Symposium exceed expectation with 703 attendees, 148 of whom were international attendees from 26 countries. Other activities reported on include the analysis of PEV needs for the next five years, development of the Learning Center, and conducting a comprehensive brand and reputation assessment.

### REPORT FROM THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE TASK FORCE

**Karan Watson**, Chair of the Governance Structure Task Force (GSTF) presented the proposed revised governance structure and the amendments to the ABET governance documents, specifically the Constitution and Bylaws, to reflect the restructure. The Board of Directors approved the revised governance structure and the amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws. The revised approved Constitution and Bylaws will be circulated to

ABET's member societies for ratification. These amendments require two-thirds ratification from the member societies to be implemented.

## REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

**Craig Musselman**, ABET Treasurer reported on ABET's preliminary financial results for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014. The preliminary results show a contribution to reserves of \$448k, an improvement of \$250k over than what was forecasted for the year at the end of August.

## ABET LEARNING CENTER

The ABET Board of Directors approved an increase in the authorized budget not to exceed \$930,000 for the build-out of the ABET Learning Center, which will be located on the third floor of ABET HQ. The Learning Center will be used for ABET's professional development offerings, workspace for staff, and can be made available for use by ABET Member Societies. The Finance Committee will oversee and approve expenditures.

## AMENDMENT OF ABET RULES OF PROCEDURE

The ABET Board of Directors approved the amendment of the ABET Rules of Procedure, Section 2.G.4 (Appointments and Terms). The amendment allows Commissioners to be re-nominated to the same Commission after a suitable interval, not shorter than one year. It also limits Commissioners from serving more than five complete consecutive annual terms on any individual Commission. It also allows, at any point, and with no interval, for a person to serve on a second Commission for up to five annual terms.

## REPORTS

Written reports for information only were submitted by the Global Council, Awards Committee, Strategic Plan Committee, and the Public Board Member Committee summarizing their work since the March Board of Directors meeting. Oral reports were provided by the Academic Advisory Council (AAC) and Industrial Advisory Council (IAC).

**Steve Cramer**, Chair of the AAC, presented an update on their activities since the last board meeting, including their recommendations for improvement in the accreditation process. **Dwight Beranek**, Chair of the IAC, also presented an update on the Council's activities since March. In the last six months, the IAC has been implementing its new governance system which better defines the roles and terms of the IAC and has recruited four new members.

## REPORT ON FEDERAL ISSUES AFFECTING ACCREDITATION

**Charles Hickman**, ABET Managing Director of Society, Volunteer and Industry Relations, updated the Board on current federal dialog concerning accreditation. The renewal of the Higher Education Act (HEA) will be delayed until at least 2015. The general political environment regarding accreditation issues remains hostile, mostly due to the lack of understanding among both elected official and legislative staff about the historic purposes of accreditation, the processes used to implement it, and the recent shift by many agencies to outcome measures and assessments.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring ABET Board of Directors Meeting – March 28, 2015  
Hyatt Regency – Baltimore, MD