Chair’s Column: P. Ruby Mawasha, Wright State University

Welcome to the spring issue of the North Central Section Newsletter! I hope that 2010 is going well for everyone. Winter has been unusual due to snow and some difficulty with travels to say the least, but since this is called the Spring Newsletter, spring is just around the corner, and you are already adjusting to the Daylight Savings Time!

Speaking of spring, the Spring North Central Section Conference to be held in Pittsburgh, PA is coming up soon. You should check the conference website regularly for the opening of “early bird” registration. It is being hosted by University of Pittsburgh. The conference is on March 26 and 27, 2010. The official website is http://www.asee-ncsection.org/. Information is also included with this newsletter. I know they are planning an exciting and informative program. In addition to a full Saturday of technical sessions, Friday afternoon has posters and lab tours planned. Of course do not miss the Opening Reception on Friday as well. This is a great opportunity to interact with colleagues.

Since I’m on the subject of spring conference, let’s look ahead. In 2011 we’re off to Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, MI. Mount Pleasant, MI is a beautiful place to visit, so we will have an exciting site for the upcoming conference. If your institution is interested in hosting our spring conference in 2012 please let me know!

Each year at the section conference business meeting (at lunch on Saturday of the conference) elections are held to fill vacancies on the executive board. This year there are three vacancies and nominations are being accepted for (1) Vice Chair - this is a one-year term; (2) Unit Director Administration- this is a two-year term; and (3) Unit Director Industry- this is a two-year term on our Board. If you are interested or wish to nominate a colleague, please contact our Past Chair Robert Ward at r-ward@onu.edu. This is an excellent opportunity to become involved with your section.

Also, during the Saturday business meeting, we will talk briefly about “Creating a Culture for Scholarly and Systematic Innovation in Engineering Education,” a task force chaired by Leah Jamieson and Jack Lohmann (1. http://www.asee.org/about/board/committees/EEGE/upload/CCSSIEE_Phase1Report_June2009.pdf). The focus of the task force is to create “a vibrant engineering academic culture for scholarly and systematic innovation in engineering education to ensure that the U.S. engineering profession has the right people with the right talent for a global society.” At our section conference we can toss around ideas on how the North Central Section can participate in this important project. We must have a quorum (one-half of the members registered for the conference) to move ahead with elections and other important matters related to our section so please attend Saturday’s lunch and business meeting. The best to all of...
you as another academic year flies by. I look forward to seeing many of you in Pittsburgh for the spring conference.