



# OOAE

## Ocean, Offshore and Arctic Engineering Division Newsletter

Cengiz Ertekin, Editor

Winter '01 – '02

### Chair's Report



Cengiz Ertekin

This has been a very productive year for the OOAÉ Division despite the very difficult times we have been experiencing in the latter part. I have had the pleasure of working with a dedicated

group of volunteers who have gone well beyond the call of duty; you will see the amount of time many of them have put into the OOAED matters as you read through this issue of our newsletter. Our goal is a simple one to state: to serve the members of our academic and professional community better. Nothing can make us more satisfied in this endeavor than to accomplish this goal.

Many articles in this issue, written by the members of the Extended Executive Committee of the OOAED, attempts to inform you of, and to receive feedback on, some of the projects we have been working on, inline with our vision for the long term prosperity of our division.

Let me review some of these projects, certainly in no order of importance:

1. After the completion of a very successful OMAE 2001 Conference held in Rio de Janeiro (see the article by Denby Morrison) last June, the preparations for the International OMAE 2002 Conference in Oslo are going very well; we have received more than 400 abstracts

in 7 symposia. To learn more about OMAE 2002, promises to be an outstanding conference, see the article by OMAE 2002 Chair Arvid Naess and the TPC Chair Subrata Chakrabarti. I am sure you have already noticed that we are almost completely 'electronic' this year in any and all OMAE conference communications, from submission of abstracts to final registration. The creation of the OMAE 2002 web site ([www.asmeconferences.org/omae02/](http://www.asmeconferences.org/omae02/)) by ASME staff is of no small task by any means, and we owe our gratitude to all at ASME who have contributed to this project, of which we are quite proud. Thanks are especially due to Ramon Johnson, who is the administrator of our division at ASME, for accommodating our special needs in this regard, and to my mentor, in charge of this project on the OOAED side, Subrata Chakrabarti, who has been so patient with all of us in seeing that the site works perfectly. OMAE 2002 web site is one of the first of its kind in the business; visit it.

2. We have established a new Ocean Engineering Technical Committee, and the first Ocean Engineering Symposium with almost one hundred papers will be held as part of OMAE 2002. With this new symposium, we will be filling the void in technical areas of interest to most of our members. However, being so young, the activities of the Ocean Engineering Symposium will certainly need to be reviewed and

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OMAÉ 2002

### International OMAE 2002 Conference...



Arvid Naess

The OOAÉ Division of ASME International, in cooperation with the Norwegian Society of Chartered Engineers, is proud to welcome the international community of engineers and

scientists of the ocean, offshore and arctic engineering fields to the 21st Annual Offshore Mechanics and Arctic Engineering Conference (OMAÉ 2002), to be held in Oslo, Norway, 23–28 June 2002. OMAE 2002 is cosponsored by over 20 international professional engineering societies.

Since the first offshore oil production started in Norway more than 30 years ago, the country has established itself as one of the major offshore oil nations in the world, both in terms of technology and production volume. Norway has become a leader in the development and implementation of new technologies offshore, making it an ideal location for the

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## Chair's Message

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- revised after OMAE 2002; suggestions by the members of the ocean engineering community on this issue will greatly be appreciated; feel free to contact Dan Valentine or me on this issue.
3. As part of the Ocean Engineering Symposium, a "mini symposium" on water waves, ship waves, and marine hydrodynamics will be held during OMAE 2002 to honor the scholarly contributions and teachings of Prof. John V. Wehausen of U.C. Berkeley. The EC member Dan Valentine has graciously initiated this meeting. Thank you, Dan!
  4. The EC member John Robinson has analyzed membership statistics of OOAED. This analysis reveals a number of interesting facts about us; see his article, "What is Ocean Engineering?"
  5. We have been actively developing projects that should be of interest to our student members, the most important group of members as they represent our future. Bob Randall leads the student activities committee with his great enthusiasm and initiatives; we are very lucky to have Bob among us. He reports here on the first OOAED Graduate Student Paper Contest and the first International Student Offshore Design Competition that OOAED co-sponsors with SNAME.
  6. The Houston Chapter of OOAED has been very active. Thanks to the diligent works of James Maher, Rick Weiss, Sam Nasr, Charles Dalton, Phil Grossweiler, and Steve Barras, under the leadership of John Halkyard, a number of projects, some of which are of continuing education in nature, are undertaken; see John's article.
  7. An exciting project on a Joint Pipeline Committee, involving four technical divisions of ASME, including OOAED, has recently been initiated by the Pipelines Systems subdivision Chair, Mike Yoon. Terry Jones and Mamdouh Salama represent OOAED on this committee, and we look forward to strengthening our relations with other divisions in the area of pipelines; see Terry's article on the issue.
  8. The *Journal of Offshore Mechanics and Arctic Engineering*, *Transactions of ASME*, a prestigious journal of OOAED, will have theme, or special, issues from time to time. This is done in response to your suggestions. One such issue is scheduled for publication in May, and another theme issue will follow this. See Stephen Liu's article on JOMAE.

These are some of the projects on which we have been working. I will report to you more in the next issue of our newsletter on some other continuing and new

projects. It should be ready for mailing sometime in April. And please do not hesitate to contact one of the officers of the division or myself (see the OOAED Roster) if you have any suggestions or comments on how we can improve serving you better. Also, please consider serving in one of the committees of OOAED; we need your help. Thank you for your support and encouragement. We always look forward to your visit of OOAED web site at [www.oaee.org](http://www.oaee.org).

*Cengiz Ertekin, OOAED Chair*

## The New Ocean Engineering Symposium and the John V. Wehausen "Mini Symposium" on Water Waves



*Dan Valentine*

In lieu of the traditional workshop of an OMAE symposium, is the mini symposium that was organized to honor Professor John V. Wehausen of the University of California at Berkeley.

The new OE symposium was established in conjunction with a new technical committee (viz., the Ocean Engineering Committee) as a consequence of the recent merger of the former OE and OMAE Divisions. The goal of the OE Symposium is to bring together individuals interested in communicating ideas on ocean, marine and naval sciences and technologies. Some of the areas of interest are ship waves and resistance, underwater vehicles, propulsion devices, drag reduction, cavitation, seakeeping, maneuvering and control (ROV, AUV, etc.), vibrations, acoustics, underwater technology (diving, life support), linear and nonlinear waves and wave mechanics, wave interactions with structures, flow-structure interaction (moorings, buoys, offshore structures, etc.), aquacultural engineering, and computational mechanics.

The OE symposium provides an opportunity for the community to bring us up to date on current progress, and to share this progress with recently graduated engineers. A complete list of topics

included in the OE Symposium can be found at: <http://www.oaee.org/omaesympoia/oesymposium.htm>

The main event of the OE Symposium is **The John V. Wehausen (Mini) Symposium on Water Waves, Ship Waves and Marine Hydrodynamics**: A celebration to honor the contributions of Professor John V. Wehausen. The principal goal of this symposium is to honor the significant accomplishments of Professor John V. Wehausen in the fields of linear and nonlinear water waves that have guided our community in the investigation of these phenomena. In addition, the goals are to review the present state of wave mechanics and the future of this field of investigation from the point of view of naval architecture, ocean and offshore engineering. This symposium shall provide guidance for those of us interested in continuing to advance this field of investigation at the outset of this new century and new millennium.

Professor Wehausen has graciously accepted our invitation to honor him at the OMAE 2002 Conference in Oslo, Norway in June of 2002. The call for participation by his former students and colleagues, and others intimately interested in the subject has led to what shall prove to be a major event.

Within the topical area of water-wave mechanics of the J.V. Wehausen Symposium, there are papers on surface waves, internal waves, ship waves, wave interaction phenomena and shallow-water waves. Papers on computational simulations, theoretical models, laboratory investigations and field studies of nonlinear waves and nonlinear wave interactions that provide insight into dynamics are also included.

The members of the OE-JVW Symposia Organizing Committee are Subrata K. Chakrabarti, R. Cengiz Ertekin, Joseph L. Hammack, Daniel T. Valentine, and Ronald W. Yeung. The author of this article takes this opportunity to formally thank his colleagues for helping organize this important event.

*Daniel Valentine, OE Symposium and JVW Workshop Co-Coordinator*

**Strengthen your  
profession; become  
a primary member  
of the OOAE Division!**

## International OMAE 2002 Conference

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OMAe conference. Stavanger was host to OMAE 1991, so it was considered highly appropriate to bring the conference back to Norway in 2002.

OMAe 2002 conference will be an exciting one. The current increased deep-water offshore activities are well reflected in the contents of the abstracts submitted to the OMAE 2002. Structures of interest in deep water application are Floating Production and Offloading Systems (FPSO), SPAR, Tension Leg Platform (TLP), Single Point and Spread Mooring Systems (SPM) and 4th generation semisubmersibles. Special emphasis is placed in the deep-water riser development including Steel Catenary Riser (SCR) and the problem associated with them, such as Vortex Induced Vibrations.

The scientific programme will consist of about 400 papers presented in 7 Symposia and a mini-Symposium on Water waves dedicated to celebrating the accomplishments of an outstanding hydrodynamicist, Professor John V. Wehausen of University of California at Berkeley. In addition, dedicated workshops and special sessions on topics like 'Hot Spot Stress Analysis', 'Vortex Induced Vibrations of Risers', 'ISO Standards', 'Nonlinear Hydrodynamic Calculations', and 'Fatigue Technology' are under development. These workshops encourage and stimulate dialog among the participants. The conference will be composed of the following symposia:

- Offshore Technology
- Safety & Reliability
- Materials Technology
- Pipeline Technology
- Ocean Space Utilization
- Ocean Engineering, and
- Polar and Arctic Sciences & Technology

These symposia include all the important aspects of design, development, material, reliability, operation and maintenance of offshore and ocean space structures, and pipelines. It also covers several aspects of arctic structures. The overall subject matter of the conference is quite varied. The conference includes papers that are of equal interest to the researchers and the practicing engineers alike. There is a good balance of theoretical and practical papers this year. The ASME website allows one to review the breadth and depth of the OMAE 2002 papers that will be presented at the conference.

An International Advisory Committee of top academic and industry leaders has contributed to the continuous work on improving and developing the OMAE conference.

The conference will take place on the campus of the University of Oslo, which has excellent facilities for hosting a large international conference. The campus is only a 15-minute train ride from downtown Oslo, where the conference hotels are located.

Oslo, as the capital of Norway, has a lot to offer also in terms of tourist attractions: The Viking Ship Museum, The Kon Tiki Museum, The Polar Explorers' Museum (Nansen and Amundsen), The Vigeland Sculpture Park, several national galleries and museums, are among the exciting places that the conference participants can visit.

Stay on top of the latest news by visiting our web site: [www.ooae.org](http://www.ooae.org).

Arvid Naess  
OMAe 2002 Chair  
Subrata Chakrabarti  
OMAe 2002 Technical Program Chair

## What is Ocean Engineering?



John Robinson

of working in the ocean environment" drew blank looks from everybody. I therefore began describing myself simply as a Mechanical Engineer. People understand that. And it was easier.

But, what is an Ocean Engineer? What does he/she do?

The curriculum had its beginning in the mid-60s at universities such as MIT, Florida Atlantic University, University of Rhode Island and University of Hawaii. It was started in response to the Navy's need for engineers specially trained to work in the ocean. If you are old enough, you will remember the loss of the USS Thresher or some of the early *Man in the Sea* saturation diving projects. You might have read about the then secret projects involving submarine design. At the same time, the oil industry was going offshore as the search for energy moved out to the continental shelf and arctic seas. And it has moved into progressively deeper and deeper water.

OOAE Division was formed by merging the OE and OMAE Divisions of ASME. The expansion of programs within the new OOAe Division therefore included technical areas that reflect the needs of the Ocean Engineers. This can clearly be seen in the newly established

Ocean Engineering Symposium to be held during OMAE 2002 in Oslo, with approximately 100 abstracts submitted already as of writing of this article.

Given these roots of our profession, what have we become? Membership statistics for the OOAe Division give us some interesting and surprising answers.

Over 25% of the OOAe Division are students. OOAe had 242 student members as of October 1. This is a clear indication of a continuing interest in ocean technology. Hopefully, the student members will maintain their ASME membership and interest in the OOAe Division as they go on to their careers.

Division interest selections on ASME membership renewals show that 10% of us elected Petroleum Division as our division of secondary interest. Obviously, there is a close relationship between the OOAe Division and offshore oil industry. But we are not a one-industry division. Other secondary division selections, in order of occurrence, were Design Engineering, Applied Mechanics, Management, Pressure Vessels & Piping and Fluid Mechanics. And many people who selected those particular divisions as their primary division also chose OOAe as their second or third choice. Clearly, we are a group with diverse interests.

Most of us live in Texas. That is another indication of the ties we have to the offshore industry. But there are also groups of us that live in California, Virginia, Florida, Maryland, and Connecticut. These states have significant ocean related government installations. Therefore, a significant number of us work either for the government or government contractors in something other than oil related careers.

Job function selections show that, after students, the next largest groups are Consultants and Managers. They are followed closely by System Designers and Product Designers. This is yet another indication of the diversity within our ranks.

There you have it. We are mostly student-consultant-manager-designers who work in petroleum-government-product design and reside in Texas-California-Northeast.

With such a diverse and widespread membership, it is a challenge to develop programs to satisfy everyone's interests. However, OOAe Division has a lot to offer. We publish a respected technical journal. We put on a major international technical conference every year. This year we will co-sponsor a student design contest with SNAME. We offer scholarships and have a graduate student paper contest. All of these programs exist because of the efforts of a few volunteers. I urge each of you, whether student, manager, consultant, designer, or educator, regardless of

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## What is Ocean Engineering?

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your industry or location to get involved with OOAEE. Review a student paper. Mentor a design team. Write a paper for the annual OMAE Conference. Organize a local chapter. Coordinate a conference session. Do you live near a piece of ocean engineering history? Nominate it as an ASME Historical Landmark. Are you an industry pioneer? Write down or dictate your experiences so they can be saved for future engineers. Big or small, no volunteer will be turned down. Visit your OOAEE web site and contact anyone in the Division leadership. Volunteer and help guide the future of your profession.

John Robinson, P.E.,  
Membership Committee Chair

## International Student Offshore Design (ISODC) Competition

The OOAEE Division of ASME and the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME) are cosponsoring the International Student Offshore Design Competition (ISODC) for the academic year (September 2001 - August 2002). The intent of the competition is to develop an appreciation of the design process, encourage teamwork, and establish mentor relationships between students and the offshore industry professionals. Undergraduate design course projects (capstone design course) are the primary focus of the competition. However, thesis and independent study projects are also eligible. The design requirements, competition rules, and submission requirements can be found or linked from [www.oaee.org](http://www.oaee.org). The initial entry registration is due on or before February 28, 2002, which can be accomplished at the SNAME web site ([www.sname.org](http://www.sname.org)). The SNAME contact person is Lars Ronning at [isodc@acma-inc.com](mailto:isodc@acma-inc.com). The OOAEE Division's committee coordinating with SNAME includes Bob Randall, Mike Bernitsas, John Halkyard, Charles Dalton, and John Robinson. The final student design project is due June 28, 2002 and the top five designs will be announced August 30, 2002 with the winner announced September 15, 2002. Awards include \$1500, \$750, and \$500 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, and award plaques will be presented to the top five design projects. This exciting student design competition is off to a great start and all academic programs are encouraged to participate.

Robert Randall, Student Activities Committee Chair

## OOAEE Division's Graduate Student Paper Competitions



Robert Randall

**2000-2001 OOAEE Graduate Student Paper Competition Results:** The 2000-2001 Graduate Student Paper Competition has been completed. John Robinson organized the judging committee consisting of Terry Jones, Don Davis, Robert Latorre, and Robert Bea. The winner for the doctoral level paper was a tie between **Anouck Girard** and **Ayman Mahfouz** and the winner at the Masters Level was **Todd Gregory** and **Raymond Rojas**.

The winners received a \$500 cash award and a certificate from ASME and a plaque was sent to the university department of each award winner. In addition, the winners will be reimbursed for travel expenses from a pool of \$1,500 if they can attend OMAE 2002 in Oslo. The efforts of all student participants are very much appreciated and congratulations are extended to the winners. The contribution of the judging committee is very much appreciated. Ramon Johnson and his staff at ASME headquarters arranged for the distribution of the awards, plaques and certificates, and their efforts are greatly appreciated. The recognition of the graduate students in this competition will hopefully encourage more students and more universities to participate in the 2001-2002 competition, see below.



Doctoral Level co-winner  
Ayman Mahfouz



Doctoral Level co-winner Anouck Girard (center) with advisor Prof. K. Hedrick (right) and Prof. Ronald Yeung (left).



Masters level winners Todd Gregory (left) and Ray Rojas (right) with their advisor Prof. Kwok Fai Cheung at the presentation of the OOAEE Awards.

**2001-2002 OOAEE Graduate Student Paper Competition:** The Ocean, Offshore and Arctic Engineering Division has organized a Graduate Student Paper Competition. Entries must be the result of work completed while a student (full or part time) enrolled in a university, college, or institution during the 2001-2002 academic year (September 1, 2001 - August 31, 2002). Competition is in two categories (Masters Level Research or Design Project and Doctoral Level Research). Graduate student dissertation/thesis/report must be in an ocean engineering area (e.g. offshore structures, subsea systems, coastal structures, mooring systems, ocean instrumentation, floating structure dynamics, hydrodynamics, water waves, underwater acoustics, coastal processes, ocean resources, and related design areas). A faculty advisor must endorse the participation forms. The participation forms and competition guidelines may be obtained from the OOAEE web site ([www.oaee.org](http://www.oaee.org)). The deadline for receiving participation forms is December 15, 2001 that has been extended to March 15, 2002, and the final papers are due June 15, 2002. The winners will be notified on or about September 15, 2002. If more information is needed, please contact Bob Randall (979-845-4568 or [r-randall@tamu.edu](mailto:r-randall@tamu.edu)). A \$500 cash prize, certificate, and plaque will be awarded to the winners.

Robert Randall, Student Activities Committee Chair

Table 1. The winning papers in the 2000-2001 OOAEE Division's Graduate Student Paper Competition.

Author	Title	University	Advisor	Level
Girard, Anouck	Relative Dynamic Positioning of Ships and/or Offshore Platforms Using Nonlinear Dynamic Surface Control	University of California at Berkeley	Prof. K. Hedrick	Doctoral
Gregory, Todd & Rojas, Raymond	Feasibility of a Cold Seawater Facility	University of Hawaii	Prof. K.F. Cheung	Masters
Mahfouz, Ayman	On-line Prediction of the Hydrodynamic Parameters in the Coupled Heave and Pitch Motion Equations for Underwater Robotic Vehicles Using Measured Responses at Sea	Memorial University of Newfoundland	Prof. M. Haddara	Doctoral



## An Outstanding Conference...

The 20th International OMAE Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 2001, achieves outstanding attendance, and excellent technical and business content.

The 20th OMAE Conference was held in the glorious and technically charged, venue of Rio de Janeiro. As Brazil is a leader in production from deep and ultra-deep water, the technical content was stimulated by the venue. Papers and special sessions covering a wide array of technical topics including coastal, offshore, reliability, materials, pipelines, and safety. The location was further conducive to topical luncheons that emphasized Brazil's experience in the offshore areas. A remarkable presentation was also given on the events surrounding safety and accident offshore, including recent finding from the P36 incident.

OMAEE has built a reputation for a venue to not only exchange technical ideas, but also to mingle with colleagues in an informal setting. The social functions arranged by the local Brazilian hosts achieved this wonderfully, and we have fond memories of the main function, under a full moon overlooking a Rio marina.

The local organizers also had an extensive exhibit that added to the theme of the conference.

Well over 500 participants from government, business, industry and universities contributed to yet another outstanding value for the time spent together on the OMAEE conference.

*Denby Morrison, International Conference Committee Chair*

## OOAED Houston Chapter Activities

**Marginal Field Workshop:** The Houston Chapter of OOAED sponsored a half-day workshop at OMAEE 2001 in Rio on "Optimal Development of Marginal Fields in Deepwater". About 60 people participated in the workshop. Five topics were presented followed by a lively discussion:

- Drivers in Deepwater Marginal Field Development (Mike Curole, Shell)
- Drilling Challenges (Irv Brooks, Chevron)
- Subsea as Part of the System (Denby Morrison, Shell)

- Infrastructure (Jim Maher, CSO-Aker)
- New Approaches / Flexibility / Reducing Risks (Ed Horton, CSO-Aker)

This workshop is being expanded into a six session course to be held on Thursday evenings in Houston starting on February 28, 2002. A distinguished group of speakers have committed to participate in this course, which will include coverage of all the key functional areas (reservoir characterization, drilling, completions, subsea, facility selection, export, construction, HSE and regulatory issues) as well as discussions from both the major operators and the independent operators point of view on the development of marginal fields in deepwater. The final session will be devoted to Case Studies. Steve Barras of CSO-Aker is Chairman of the Workshop Committee. *Anyone interested in more information can contact him at (281) 588-7504.*

**Scholarship Awards, Summer Job Placement, and ISODC:** The Houston Chapter has awarded three student scholarships. They are:

- Monte Jones, Sr. at the University of Houston, received \$500.
- Helmi al-Jamal, MS Candidate and PhD aspirant at the University of Houston, received \$1000. Helmi is doing research on Vortex Induced Vibration of Marine Risers.
- Erin Snavelly, Jr. at Rice University, received \$500.

Unfortunately, we were unable to place any students in summer jobs this year. We will be trying again next summer! Charles Dalton is helping to administer the International Student Offshore Design Competition that is a joint venture between OOAED and the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, see the article by Bob Randall in this newsletter.

*John Halkyard, OOAED Houston Chapter Chair*

## Joint Pipeline Committee

On September 29, a meeting was held between representatives of the ASME's Pipelines Subdivision, the Petroleum Division and the Ocean, Offshore and Arctic Engineering Division. Also in attendance were Frank Adamek, ASME Vice President, Energy Resources Group, and Sam Zamrik, ASME Vice President, Materials & Structures Group.

The purpose of this meeting was for each of the three ASME technical groups that were represented to become better acquainted with their capabilities and needs, and to explore areas where they can collaborate with one another. Sam

Zamrik also expressed the opinion that the Pressure Vessel and Piping Division would be interested in participating. At a later date, the NDE Division also expressed an interest in participating. Each of these divisions has activities in various aspects of pipelines with many areas of overlap.

The primary conclusion of this meeting was to form a Joint Pipeline Committee with one technical and one Executive Committee representative from each Division. This committee would further develop the goals and operational plans for the group. Potential areas of cooperation include:

- Joint long range planning
- Workshops, short courses and tutorials which would be portable between two or more conferences
- Joint efforts for publications

The first meeting of the Committee is tentatively scheduled for March 9, 2002 during the ASME TEC meeting in Houston. Terry Jones and Mamdouh Salama will represent OOAED.

*Terry Jones, OOAED Representative to JPC and Pipeline Technology Symposium Coordinator*

## Announcing the New OOAED Discussion Forum!

OOAED is pleased to announce the newly formatted discussion forum created specifically for the ocean, offshore, and arctic engineering industry. The new OOAED discussion forum gives individuals the opportunity to post questions or comments as well as read and reply to existing comments. This public forum can be viewed by anyone and will often have posted questions from members and non-members alike seeking information related to the ocean, offshore, and arctic engineering industry. To post or reply to comments, users need to register as "forum users" by simply entering their email address and creating a username. Once registered, users are invited to share their engineering knowledge with the ocean, offshore, and arctic engineering industry. Please visit the new OOAED discussion forum at: <http://ww2.asme.org/cforum2000/viewtopics.cfm?Forum=28>.

*Ramon Johnson, ASME Staff*



# Journal of OMAE



Stephen Liu

As a refereed technical journal, *JOMAE, Transactions of ASME*, is unique in that the publications reflect the leading edge R&D activities in the broad fields of offshore engineering

(related to energy exploration), ocean engineering and polar & arctic engineering. These activities include pipelines, materials, safety and reliability, and ocean space utilization, which go far beyond the narrower scopes of many other well-established journals.

*JOMAE* publishes around 300 pages of archival-quality papers per year. A high percentage of the manuscripts come from the annual International OMAE Conference Proceedings. Those publications in the proceedings that are recognized as distinguished and deserving to be published in an archival journal are recommended for further review by the rigorous *JOMAE* editorial board. The number of independent submission varies between 20 to 30 percent of the published papers. Priority handling is given to these independently submitted manuscripts. In addition to the regular issues, themed issues are programmed from time to time to address special needs or advances. An exclusive issue on numerical and physical modeling of ships and offshore structures has been prepared and will be released for May 2002.

Because of the quality publications in areas of critical importance, *JOMAE* enjoys excellent reputation among the scientists in the field. It is certainly my privilege to head the editorial board of this prestigious publication. I would like to wholeheartedly thank the OMAE Division for its unqualified support and the enormous dedication of the following individuals. They are Mike Bernitsas, Ron Riggs, Ernesto Indacochea, Masao Toyoda, Sander Çalisal, Stephen Jones, Arvid Naess, Robert Bea, Krish Thiagarajan, Solomon Yim, Subrata Chakrabarti, and Antonio Fernandes.

Stephen Liu, Editor of *JOMAE*

Visit the OMAE 2002 web site at <http://www.asmeconferences.org/omae02/>

# OMAE 2002 Conference Web Site

In August of 2001, ASME introduced a web-based conference planning tool for the **21st International Conference on Offshore Mechanics and Arctic Engineering (Oslo, Norway)** that provides authors and conference organizers the opportunity to plan and manage their own conference through a central source. The tool mimics the process currently being used by most ASME Technical Divisions and will enable them to interact with their conference program and organization in a unique and efficient manner. This "do-it-yourself" tool was initially set-up by the ASME staff and then structured by the organizers around their specific technical program and conference organization. By using the full functionality offered by the tool, every aspect of conference planning can be executed by the respective parties: authors, reviewers, session organizers, and symposium coordinators. Some of the tools many features are: a central site for full conference planning, on-line submission of abstracts and final papers, on-line determination of acceptance, on-line review process, creating and posting of preliminary and final programs, availability of author guidelines and applicable forms, author assistance and support, author biographies, up-to-the-minute conference statistics, on-line registration and hotel information and much more.

For more information, please visit the OMAE 2002 conference web site at [www.asmeconferences.org/omae2002](http://www.asmeconferences.org/omae2002).

We would like to acknowledge the following individuals from the ASME staff for their contributions in the planning, development, and maintenance of the conference web site:

- Paul Poots, Information Technology Analyst
- Cynthia Clark, Managing Editor, Technical Publishing
- Siu Lan Zhang, Applications Specialist
- Manoher Narahari, Contract Programmer
- Michael Tesler, Applications Specialist
- Patrick O'Connell, Director, Information Technology
- John Bendo, Manager, Engineering Programs
- Lauren Postyn, Manager, Meetings and Exhibits Department
- Deborah Johnson, Production Coordinator, New Media
- Ramon Johnson, Administrator, Engineering Programs

Ramon Johnson, ASME Staff

## ERB News Update

At the 2001 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exhibition (IMECE) held this past November, Frank Adamek, Vice-President of the Energy Resources Board (ERB), presented a summary of ERB activities to the ASME Council on Engineering. This report included the activities of the four divisions of the ERB (Ocean, Offshore, and Arctic Engineering Division, Petroleum Division, Solar Energy Division, and Advanced Energy Systems Division) since the fiscal year began in June of 2001. Here are a few of the highlights from the report (activities of the OOAED are not included as they are covered throughout the newsletter):

William Worek has been selected as the incoming Vice-President of the Energy Resources Board, term effective June 2002.

The Energy Committee published a position statement presenting ASME's recommendations to the U.S. governments concerning U.S. energy policies. This document, which was formed, discussed, published and approved in only four months, was sent to members of the 107th Congress this past summer. View the position statement at <http://www.asme.org/gric/ps/2001/01-30.html>.

In July of 2001, the ERB held a workshop to discuss the COE Strategic Plan. The brainstorming session focused on methods to re-structure the COE to better suit its mission of becoming a knowledge-based organization.

The Advanced Energy Systems Division launched their new division website. Visit [www.asme.org/divisions/aesd](http://www.asme.org/divisions/aesd).

The Petroleum Division began its Corporate Relations Initiative, which seeks to partner with corporations in areas of recruitment, participation, and the dissemination of knowledge throughout the petroleum industry.

The Petroleum Division also launched a Young Engineer Intern Program to help retain and attract young engineers to the petroleum industry.

The Solar Energy Division is well under way in developing the technical program for their Solar 2002 conference to be held June 15-20 in Reno, NV. The SED was pleased with the attendance at the previous 2001 Solar Forum, which attracted 1200 participants.

The Solar Energy Division has revitalized its Journal of Solar Energy Engineering, creating a significant increase in technical paper submissions.

In addition,

We are pleased to announce that Frank Adamek was selected as the incoming Senior Vice-President of the Council on Engineering at the 2002 IMECE this past November. His term will be effective June 2002 - 2005.

Ramon Johnson, ASME Staff