



**ASME International  
Hudson Mohawk Section**

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# Newsletter

**October 2003**

## ASME Seminar

### *Re-engineering the Council on Engineering (COE)*

**Speaker:** Dr. Scarton, Associate Professor of  
Mechanical Engineering, RPI

**Date:** Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Time:** 6 PM Social Hour  
7 PM Dinner  
8 PM Speaker

**Place:** La Caravelle Ristorante at the Italian-  
American Community Center, 257  
Washington Avenue Extension, Albany

**To reserve your seat, contact Fred Willett**  
(willett1@asme.org or (518) 347-0271) by noon  
October 23<sup>rd</sup>.



Dr. Scarton is an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering at RPI and Director of the Laboratory for Noise and Vibration Control Research. He received his B.S. (1965) from Bucknell University and his M.S. (1966) and Ph.D. (1970) from Carnegie-Mellon University. After one and one-half years as a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow jointly at the Departments of Applied Mathematics & Theoretical Physics and the Engineering Laboratory at the University of Cambridge, England, he joined the faculty at Rensselaer in 1971. As well as being a former Hudson-Mohawk section chair, he is co-founder of the ASME Noise Control & Acoustics Division and is past Secretary of the National Nominating Committee. He is the recipient of the

1992 Rensselaer Center for Manufacturing Productivity and Technology Transfer Faculty Partner Award and the 1991 ASME Dedicated Service Award.

### Abstract:

Due to globalization, employment shifts, explosions in new and diverse technologies, changes in business and political practices, the world of the engineer has transitioned. Your professional organization has been proactive in adjusting and adapting; it envisions major changes to the structure of the Council on Engineering, American Society of Mechanical Engineers International. After considerable study, planning is now in the process of implementation. The COE oversees thirty five Technical Divisions, one Technical Sub-Division, eight Operating Groups, two Boards, and one Institute. It is in the process of re-engineering itself by rearranging this complex structure, without damaging its fundamental purpose, so as to represent the many diverse technical areas and interests of its members, in the context of industrial, academic, and governmental concerns. The change is now a work in progress. This talk will give the status of this evolutionary mission from the perspective of a recent COE Vice President, who remains as the COE Honors & By-Laws Chair to assist in this transition. The audience will be given a chance to react. "If it ain't broke, then why change it?" But, "If it is in need of repair or re-structuring, then how should it be implemented while still retaining the identity and interests of the ASME International?"

### Place:

La Caravelle Ristorante at the Italian American Community  
Center  
257 Washington Avenue Extension  
Albany

Menu Choices: Oven baked Scrod  
Chicken Sorrento  
Penne Siciliano (vegetarian)

### Directions:

Directions: From the west: take I-90 to the Crossgates Mall Road exit, turn right at the end of the ramp and stay straight onto Crossgates Mall Road. After a slight right, merge onto Washington Avenue extension on the left. Follow Washington Avenue Extension for about 1.4 miles, then turn right into Pine West Plaza.

From the north: take I-87 to the Crossgates Mall Road exit, turn right at the end of the ramp and stay straight onto Crossgates Mall Road. After a slight right, merge onto Washington Avenue extension on the left. Follow

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Washington Avenue Extension for about 1.4 miles, then turn right into Pine West Plaza.

From the south and east: Take I-90 to the Fuller Road exit (exit 2 towards UAlbany), Turn left onto Fuller Road and follow to Washington Avenue Extension. Make a slight right onto Washington Avenue Extension and follow for about 2.2 miles, then turn right into Pine West Plaza.

To reserve your seat, contact Fred Willett at 347-0271 or [willetff1@asme.org](mailto:willetff1@asme.org) by noon October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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## Message from the Chair

We started off our year in fine fashion with a first-rate tour of Selkirk Cogen. Thanks to Paul Kehoe for organizing and leading the tour. Turnout was light, but that made for a better tour for those attending. Those used to plant tours with a tour leader shouting over the roar of noisy machinery would have appreciated the state-of-the-art communications system and personal headphones that helped make this the best tour in recent memory.

This month we continue our series of lectures on ASME beyond the local section. Another former chair, Henry Scarton, will talk about his experiences at the national level of ASME. Next month we'll explore the world of cryogenic pumps. I look forward to meeting you at one of our meetings or hearing from you anytime, via phone or e-mail.

Fred Willett

## The Second AIAA/ASME Symposium

The second AIAA/ASME Northeast New York Aerospace/Mechanical Engineering Symposium is starting to be planned. This is an opportunity to get in on the organization at the beginning and help make it a reality. The meeting itself will be in April 2004 and should be bigger and better. In addition to technical paper sessions, we are planning to have a poster session, industry booths, and other

events. In order to achieve this, we can use help. The following committees are to be organized: Publicity, Technical, Arrangements, and Finance. The publicity committee will organize the overall publicity, including working with the media and AIAA/ASME headquarters and establishing and maintaining a symposium website. The technical committee will organize the paper presentation sessions, career talks, and company booths and will work closely with local industry and universities. The arrangements committee will work closely with the conference site for rooms, food, etc. Finally, the finance committee will be responsible for planning the budget and managing it. If you are interested in volunteering your time for the exciting event, please contact Mike Brilliant ([brilliant@crd.ge.com](mailto:brilliant@crd.ge.com), 518-387-6558), Andrew Hunter ([andrew.hunter@ps.ge.com](mailto:andrew.hunter@ps.ge.com), 518-385-5633), or Samhita Dasgupta ([Dasgupta@crd.ge.com](mailto:Dasgupta@crd.ge.com), 518-387-4604)

## Distribution of Section Newsletter

The Hudson Mohawk newsletter is posted at:  
[www.asme.org/sections/hudson-mohawk](http://www.asme.org/sections/hudson-mohawk).

Once each newsletter is posted on the Section's web page, an e-mail notification and link to the above website is sent to members who have e-mail addresses in the ASME member database. If you are an active member of ASME and did not receive an e-mail notification, please go to the ASME web site and update your membership information.  
<http://members.asme.org/myasme/login/myasme.cfm>

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## Employment Opportunity

Reliability Engineer: Responsible for identifying and troubleshooting bottlenecks in equipment and/or systems, applying preventive/predictive technologies, creating monitoring/performance metrics to evaluate program success. Contact: Organichem, Riverside Avenue Rensselaer, NY 12144

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