Welcome to the Practice Periodical!

As the newest Communications Director, I want to welcome you to the ASEM Practice Periodical. The topic of this issue revolved around the 2016 IAC, which was held in beautiful Charlotte-Concord, North Carolina. I want to extend my personal thanks to everyone that attended and helped to create a very exciting conference for everyone that participated.

There is a lot of information to share throughout the year, and it is my intention that the Practice Periodical serves as a vehicle to stay in touch, share ideas and create conversations with engineering managers all over the world. The Society and all of its publications rely on contributions and lively discourse. You are invited to share your work, highlight your organization and bring each of us closer to your region. Feel free to send your blog posts, newsletter articles, webinar abstracts and book reviews to me via ASEM, Communications@asem.org.

I look forward to reading your feedback and contributions! ~ Trish Simo Kush

“Engineering Management: A Beautiful Profession”

By Tricia Simo Kush, CSM, PEM and Alice Squires, PhD, CSEP-Acq, PMP, PEM

One thing is clear when you get a chance to meet Major-General (Belgian Air Force) Albert Husniaux, ASEM’s 2016 Engineering Manager of the Year (EMOY) - he is a passionate man. His passions include his family, his colleagues, and the field of engineering management. When nominated for the EMOY award, he reported that he expressed disbelief.

He visited ASEM’s website to learn more about the society and to look over the list of past award recipients. Then, he shared, he realized the commitment that the award represented, that this was an important honor, and he knew that he needed to be in attendance to receive this honor. “It is an obligation to use your talents,” he told Alice Squires, ASEM’s Functional Director for Product Development, and me, Tricia Simo Kush, ASEM’s Director for Communications as we interviewed him.

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Reflections from the ASEM 2016 IAC Conference Industry Roundtable
by Ken Sexe

It has been an honor and a pleasure to moderate this year’s International Annual Conference (IAC) Industry Roundtable. This opportunity gave me the chance to interact with and learn from several of the most knowledgeable engineering management professionals from a myriad of industries. I left the Roundtable with a much better understanding of where ASEM has gone and where we can go in the future evolving ASEM towards the future needs of its members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the panelists for their energy, involvement, and patience they provided to me to ensure that we had a successful Roundtable.

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'Going Global - International Perspectives on ASEM'
Moderated by Simon Philbin. Panelists: Fernando Deschamps, Azam Ishaque, Alberto Sols and Steve Wang

At the 2016 IAC held in Charlotte and for a second year in a row, an international panel session was held as one of the concurrent sessions. The panel session included contributions from several panelists who are all involved in the international development of ASEM, including those involved in new international sections and other activities.

The session also included an initial presentation by ASEM’s International Director who provided a summary of a survey carried out in 2015 of ASEM’s international members as well as an overview of the Society’s strategy to improve international engagement. (continued next page…)

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The other panelists then provided their own insights on the steps being taken to increase the international reach of the Society. The panel considered the current challenges as well as opportunities for ASEM in regard to international development and expansion. Plus, session attendees had the opportunity to contribute their own views on how the Society can pursue a global agenda. This report provides a summary of the material that was presented during the panel session along with some brief conclusions.

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Perspectives on Engineering Management in South Africa
By Arnesh Telukdarie

South Africa (SA) is considered the powerhouse of the African continent. SA is home to some of the largest engineering companies in Africa with the best engineering skills and infrastructure. Key considerations for engineering management in SA include both historic and current demands. The engineering courses on offer include: chemical, mechanical, civil, aeronautical, metallurgical, agricultural, industrial, and mining engineering. There isn’t a core undergraduate Engineering Management course although industrial engineering is considered a close match.

Historically, SA has delivered engineering through universities and universities of technology. All institutions are State funded with very little private institutions in engineering. All programs are reviewed every four to five years by the Engineering Council of SA (ECSA). Graduates of these institutions follow a rigid development programme to be registered at ECSA once their undergraduate degree is completed. Engineering schools have been at the forefront of research with significant government funding and company funded projects. Research is diverse and researchers are globally recognized.

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Transition to the 4th Edition of the EMBoK for Certification as a Professional or Associate of Engineering Management
By James H. Schreiner, PhD, PMP, PEM and PDCE Functional Director

Effective 1 June 2017, the Professional and Associate Certifications in Engineering Management will officially transition over to materials covered under the recently published 4th Edition to the EMBOK. The EMBOK can be found via our ASEM Website (click here) and is available to members in pdf form simply by logging into the website (click here) using your membership login/password. Another exciting improvement is the delivery method improvement of the PEM/AEM, which is now fully digital thanks to the terrific efforts of PDCE committee members. If you are thinking about registering, or have any questions regarding the exam, please feel free to reach out to us at ProfessionalDevelopment@asem.org.