

## **The Great Success of 2006 IJME-Intertech International Conference**

The 2006 IJME-Intertech International Conference was held October 18-21 on campus of Kean University in Union, New Jersey. By all accounts the conference was a great success. Over 170 professionals representing over 100 universities/companies from USA and 20 other countries attended the conference. Kean University did an excellent job in hosting the conference in its modern facilities. Conference attendees included presidents (universities and companies), executive board members from ABET/NAIT, senior journals editors, deans, chairs, faculty, students and experts from industry. It was a first time that so many professionals from engineering, engineering technology, industrial technology, business and industry did come together in one place. The conference was sponsored by six (6) major international journals, several universities and organizations.

The conference statistics, acceptance rate and next steps in journal publications are listed below.

### **Conference Statistics:**

- A total of 320 abstracts were received from over 100 universities/colleges and companies within the USA and 22 other countries.
- 210 abstracts were accepted by the IJME review committee.
- 205 full papers were submitted.
- All 205 full papers were subjected to blind-reviews by two or more well-qualified reviewers representing over 80 universities/colleges and companies within the USA and abroad. Over 100 volunteer reviewers participated in the review process.
- 128 papers were accepted for the conference publication after respective division chairs and the IJME final review committee decided the revisions made by the author(s) were satisfactory.

### **Conference Acceptance Rate:**

The most important factor in determining the quality of a conference is its acceptance rate and the review process. Most tenure and promotion committees looks at these statistics to rate the quality of a conference for their faculty.

- The acceptance rate from abstract submission to number of papers published in proceeding was 40%.
- The acceptance rate for submitted full papers to published papers was 62%.

Both these numbers and the fact that the review process was rigorous and mirrored review process undertaken by a journal rather than a conference attests to the high quality of the conference. This was our goal from the beginning to publish journal worthy papers. Most reputable conferences have acceptance rates of 70% or lower and their review process is not as rigorous as journal review process.

### **Journal Selection Process:**

The most difficult and time-consuming task after the conference has been the journal selection process. Because of the high-quality of papers, the task has been challenging. The conference executive board met after the conference and decided that each division should form its own independent review committee and recommend a list of papers for journal publication. The criteria for selection and recommendation of papers for journal publication include the following factors:

- 1) The scope and content of papers should match the needs of the sponsoring journals. IJME is the most broad-based sponsoring journal and will dedicate several issues to selected papers from the conference.
- 2) Paper should be well-written and be rated highly by reviewers.
- 3) The topic of the paper should be of interest to readers of the recommended journal.
- 4) Papers selected after the conference could then go through the review process of the sponsoring journal as recommended by the conference selection committee.

This special issue of IJME consists of six (6) selected papers from the conference. These papers were selected by several independent review committees. We hope you enjoy this special issue and continue to support the Journal. As always, we welcome your suggestions and comments.

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