



American Society of Biomechanics Newsletter

Vol. 22 December 2009 No. 2

www.asbweb.org

From the President Tom Buchanan

This has been an exciting year for biomedical research. No matter what one thinks about the politics of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), there is little doubt that the infusion of an extra \$4.73 billion into the NIH for biomedical research has created unique opportunities that have kept many of us very busy. For the majority, they were just new opportunities to write furiously. For a few, the writing paid off and now there is a lot of work to do.

New opportunities. In a way, that is what biomechanics is all about. Those of us working in this field combine mechanics—a field of study that hasn't changed much in the past 100 years—with biology and medicine—fields where new ideas have half-lives measured in months. By applying the ancient and glacially-changing field of mechanics to something as new and volatile as modern biology, we are presented with new opportunities all the time! Our field has deep roots but new branches sprout forth every day. There is always something new to explore, some new area of application to be examined.

Of course, even though the fundamentals of mechanics do not change, the technology to implement it does. That enables us to move the field into new

areas like cytomechanics for understanding how cells respond to stress and strain, rehabilitation robotics for the neurologically impaired, rapid prototyping for prosthetic design and patient-specific modeling using new imaging techniques. There is even a new field of biomechanical tattoos (look it up on Google!).

Thus, if you feel like your research is in a rut and you are running out of new ideas, come the annual meeting and attend a session in a field outside your area. You may learn something and get new ideas for your lab.

This year the ASB Program Chair is Darryl Thelen and he has some fantastic ideas for our annual meeting, many of which are designed to get us to think outside the box. Look for symposia by leaders in the field in novel, cutting-edge areas and some mind-bending keynotes. The annual meeting that Dr. Thelen has in store for us will be a fantastic climax for our year's theme of *excellence in research*.

Like many professional organizations, the ASB works well because it has many people like Darryl who volunteer their time to keep things running. The ASB Executive Board does a fantastic job of advancing the mission of the society. They receive no remuneration for their efforts and put in many, many hours. They are a pleasure to work with and the society owes its success to their hard work. Please consider seeking new opportunities to participate more in the ASB.





ASB NEWSLETTER volume 22, number 2

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ASB Involvement

If you are interested in becoming more active in the Society (e.g., serving on a committee or chairing a conference session), contact Mike Madigan (mlm@vt.edu), Membership Committee Chair, with your name, address, phone/fax number, email address, and your desired involvement. This information will be included in a database which is periodically updated and distributed to the Executive Board.

Newsletter Advertising

The Editorial Board invites various businesses and corporations that have products or services of interest to members of the Society to advertise in the ASB Newsletter. Advertising space may also be purchased for job postings or other special announcements.

The current advertising rates are as follows:

1/4 page	\$100
1/2 page	\$200
full page	\$400
back page	\$600

If you are interested in learning more about advertising in the ASB newsletter, please e-mail William Ledoux at:

wrledoux@u.washington.edu

Back Copies of Newsletter:

All previous ASB newsletters have been converted into pdf documents and are archived on the [ASB website](#).



34th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Biomechanics

Providence, Rhode Island

August 18 – 21 2010

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Details at: www.asbweb.org

Meeting Chairs: J.J. Trey Crisco and Tom Roberts

Organizing Committee Head: Doug Moore

Program Chair: Darryl Thelen

Student's Corner

Becky Fellin

The recent ASB annual meeting at Penn State was a huge success in terms of both the numbers of students attending and the varied social activities for students. Impressively, over 105 women attended the Women in Science luncheon for roundtable discussions. The new Diversity luncheon had over 30 people in attendance. See the report of the Diversity Group happenings on page 16. The roundtable mentoring session was a success with about 35 students attending. There were five mentors to answer questions about specific topics including CVs, job negotiation and developing a research program. In addition, the ASB student mentoring program had 18 students who were paired with experienced researchers during the ASB meeting.

One important date for students to keep in mind is January 15, 2010, which is the ASB Graduate Student Grant-In-Aid Program application deadline. The Grant-In-Aid Program offers research funding for small equipment items, materials and supplies, and animal or subject costs. The money cannot be used for salaries or travel. To be eligible for the award you must be a student member of ASB or have an application pending by January 15, 2010. ASB anticipates awarding 3-5 grants of \$2,000 each for a one-year period. For more information see the Education Committee Chair's column on page 7.

Spring will be here sooner than we expect, and with

it comes ASB regional meetings. Once information about dates and locations for regional meetings are available, they will be posted to the ASB website. In 2009, successful regional meetings were held at the University of Florida and Washington State University. Thank you very much to those who organized the meetings, which greatly encouraged student participation. The regional meetings provide an informal setting for students to present their research. I recommend attending one if there is one in your area.

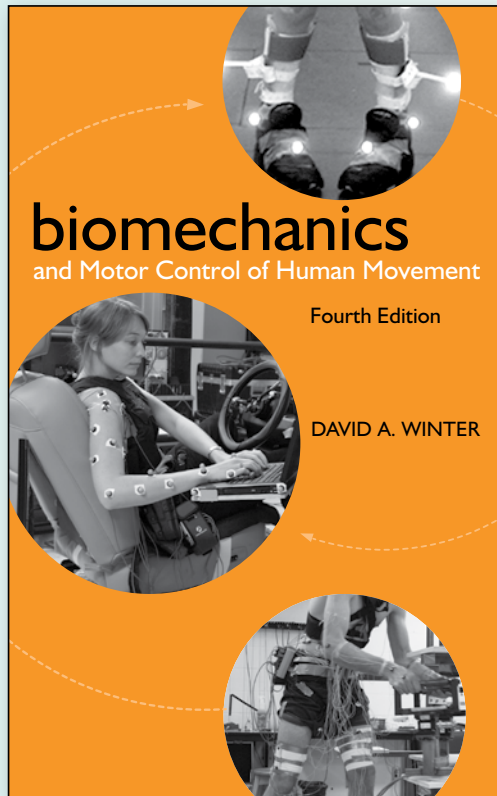
Another important date to remember is March 15, 2010, when abstracts for next year's ASB meeting are due. The meeting will be held in Providence, Rhode Island near Brown University's campus from August 18-21, 2010. The meeting will include multiple student activities outside the scientific program focusing on mentoring, diversity, and socializing. Many of the student activities held at the 2009 ASB meeting will return next year, although some will be in a different format.

My appointment as Student Representative will end at next year's meeting. Prior to the meeting a new representative to the executive board will be elected by the students. Please start thinking about running for this position. More details will follow in the spring newsletter.

Enjoy the upcoming holiday season. Good luck in the upcoming year with classes and research. Please continue to email me with suggestions about how ASB can better serve you (fellin@udel.edu).



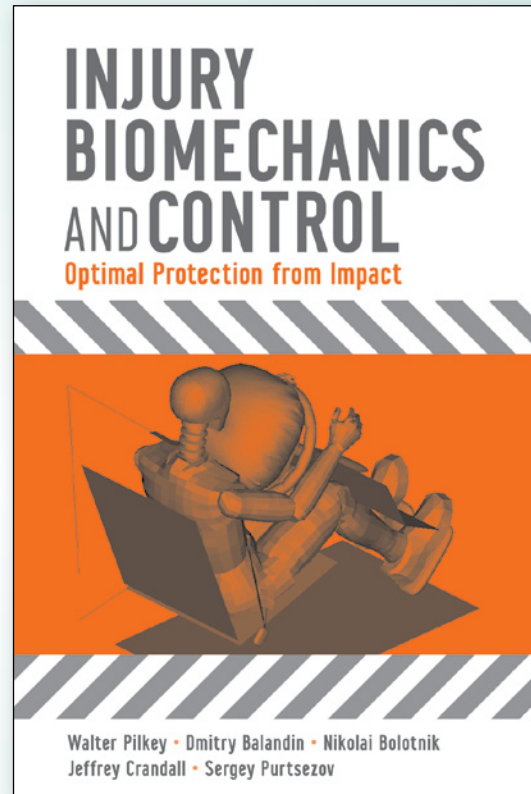
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Education Committee

Nick Stergiou

Unfortunately, I was not able to attend the meeting at Penn State due to some personal problems. However, I was told that the meeting was a great success and I would like to urge you to fill out your evaluation if you have not done so already. It is still available on the ASB website.

Graduate Student Grants-in-Aid of Research

The ASB Graduate Student Grant-in-Aid Program is our biggest item to discuss. The purpose of this program is to support ASB student members pursuing biomechanics research by offering a source of research funding. The grants are distributed on a competitive basis and are intended to offset the costs directly associated with conducting research. Funds may be used for small equipment items, materials and supplies, and animal or subject costs, but cannot be used to support travel costs or salaries. ASB anticipates awarding 3-5 grants of \$2,000 each for a one-year period.

To be eligible, an applicant must be a student member of ASB or have a membership application received by the Membership Chair no later than January 15, 2010.

Applications must be submitted in a single electronic file by e-mail (Word or ASCII text only, no PDF materials are acceptable) by midnight January 15, 2010. The email must have as the subject line: 2010 ASB GIA. The attached file should have the applicant's name as the file name (for example, LastNameFirstNameInitial Year.doc; i.e., StergiouN10.doc).



The application must include:

the name of the applicant and the title of the project

- a 150 word abstract
- the significance of and need for the research
- specific aims and hypotheses to be examined
- a succinct overview of the methods to be employed
- reference list
- an itemized budget (note that ASB does not pay indirect costs for the GIA)
- a curriculum vita of the applicant
- a letter of recommendation from a faculty advisor/supervisor
- the name and mailing address of the fiscal agent at the institution responsible for handling any grant funds provided, and the recipient title that should appear on the check.

Sections 1 to 7 of the application should not exceed seven double-spaced pages. Page margins should not be less than 2.5 cm and font size no less than 11 point (9 point for the references). Since applications are distributed electronically for review, neither letterhead graphics nor electronic signatures are required on the letter of recommendation.

The Education Committee of the American Society of Biomechanics will review applications, with funding distribution expected by June 1. Recipients must present at the annual ASB meeting in the year following receipt of a GIA. For example, those receiving funding distributed in 2010 will be expected to attend and present at ASB in 2011. Applications and inquiries should be submitted to:

Nick Stergiou, Ph.D.

Chair, ASB Education Committee

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Email: nstergiou@mail.unomaha.edu.

Email subject: 2010 ASB GIA

Conclusion

Regarding our 2010 annual meeting, you can still contact me to plan a tutorial or a workshop. I welcome your submission of names and topics of potential tutorials for 2010. Finally, if you have any issues or concerns that you would like to raise for the Education Committee, please contact me by phone or e-mail.

Secretary/Membership

Michael Madigan

Last night I watched game one of the 2009 World Series. There is nothing quite like the Fall Classic. The history. The suspense. The unexpected turns. The finality. Ever since 9/11, I get chills when I hear *God Bless America* during the 7th inning stretch in Yankee Stadium. In addition to the drama, these games are also a showcase for biomechanics. Split second reaction time. Hand-eye coordination. Muscle power. Precise motor control. Regardless of your interest in baseball, the World Series is a spectacle of biomechanics on display in primetime.

Let's get down to some business. First, I'll put on my Membership Chair hat. Our membership numbers are healthy. As of the end of October, we have eight emeritus members, 467 regular members, and 209 student members. These numbers are up from our last newsletter in June, but slightly down from the end of last year (496 regular members and 232 student members). Some of this drop is assuredly due to the economy, but we did have a large number of non-members register for the annual meeting at State College in late August. In fact, 221 out of 604 (37%) attendees were non-ASB members. I have no idea what this percentage has been in the past, but there was some general agreement among the Executive Board that this number was rather high. One of my action items for early 2010 is to try to recruit many of these individuals to join ASB. As for commercial members, both Tekscan and PhoeniX Technologies are registered at the level of corporate members. We greatly appreciate the support of these companies, and hope to add new commercial members in 2010.

Switching to my Secretary hat, a recent initiative of the Executive Board has been to develop a fellow status within ASB. The general idea of a fellow status is to recognize and encourage professional achievement and service. Past Membership Chair, Max Kurz, dedicated a significant amount of time and energy researching fellow status in other professional societies closely related to ASB including the American College of Sports Medicine, American

Physical Therapy Association, and the Canadian Society for Biomechanics. As a result, we now have a working draft for a fellow program, and it is currently being deliberated among the Executive Board. Stay tuned for further updates on this intriguing development.

This newsletter marks the beginning of my three-year term as Secretary and Membership Chair, and I'm pleased to be able to serve the society in this capacity. It also marks the end of Max Kurz's three-year term as Membership Committee Chair. On behalf of the ASB, I would like to thank Max publicly for his service and dedication. I believe he also served two consecutive terms as Student Representative prior to his term as Membership Committee Chair, so Max has earned a well-deserved break (at least from his ASB duties). We all also owe a big thank you to Paul DeVita. His term as Treasurer is not over for one more year, but with the recent split of the Secretary and Treasurer positions, he relinquished the Secretary duties that he had shouldered for the last two years. Thank you for serving ASB, Paul, and a personal thanks for helping me (and continuing to help me) come up to speed.

Enjoy the holidays, everyone.



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Treasurer Paul DeVita

The New Age is upon us. ASB no longer has a Secretary-Treasurer but distinct and unique Secretary and Treasurer Executive Board members. Apparently I couldn't handle both jobs which should not be news to anyone and as such I have been re-organized, re-categorized, and re-classified as, solely, Treasurer. [Michael Madigan](#) at Virginia Tech is the new Secretary for ASB. Michael provided immediate improvement in the office by completing the minutes for his first Executive Board meeting in less than half the time it took me. Of course it took me four months but less than half is still less than half and that's more than twice as good. Speaking of New Age, ASB also has a new Treasurer-Elect, that being [Gary Heise](#) at the University of Northern Colorado. Gary will become Treasurer at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Providence, RI in August 2010. As the Treasurer-Elect, Gary's primary responsibility is to sit back, enjoy the view, and calmly ride out the current downturn in the stock market and in ASB investments while I [Captain the Vessel](#) through the turbulent financial waters in which we currently find ourselves.

Speaking of finances, let's speak of finances. Our investments with Ameriprise Financial Services totaled \$132,169 at the end of the third quarter in 2009. This amount is a small 2.3% increase over the value from one year prior. However, the investments hit their lowest dollar amount in March 2009 at \$114,249. Between then and September 30, they increased 15.8%. As a reference, the investments reached their highest value of \$153,000 in November 2007. We had a slow decline in funds through most of 2008 but not being satisfied with anything slow, entered into a rapid decline in Dec 2008. Oh, happy day! ASB is however slowly recovering its total worth. We also have about \$23,000 in the bank for a total net worth of approximately \$155,000, give or take, more or less, just about.

OK, NEW AND IMPORTANT:

The Ameriprise investments are partitioned into three funds one of which is a Stock Market Certificate. This account is the principal for the endowment

supporting the [Hay Award](#) given annually at our conference. The Hay Award was initiated in 2004 by the Hay family and several ASB members to remember and honor the contributions of Jim Hay to our field and our Society. The endowment has increased over the years to ~\$14,500. This amount unfortunately does not generate sufficient funds to fully support the annual award dollar value of \$1,000. The Executive Board therefore has embarked on a **financial campaign to increase the endowment through an optional contribution within the 2010 membership renewal process**. All members will have the option of donating one of several pre-set gifts or a self-selected gift to the endowment through either the online renewal system or through the old-but-still-in-use paper renewal system. The Executive Board respectfully asks you to consider making a donation to the Hay Award endowment. Jim Hay was a giant in our field and is fully deserving of having an ASB award to honor his contributions.

Did someone mention 2010 membership renewal? Why yes, I did. To repeat a sentence from a previous column, I now write, "While you read this masterpiece we will be in the middle of our 2010 membership renewal push," (1). The push started on December 1, 2009 and continues at this very moment. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please go online (<http://asbmem.org/>) at this very moment...no, sorry, wait until you finish reading this sentence...to renew your professional commitment, your professional identity, yes, even your professional soul by renewing your ASB membership. Go. Go now.

Did you go?...Are you back?...

OK, presuming you are just about to go online, regular membership dues remain at \$60 and student memberships remain at \$15 both of which are bargains-galore. As of November 4, 2009 the 2010 rates for [Elsevier](#) journals increased about \$2 over 2009 rates but [Human Kinetics](#) did not raise their rates. The Elsevier rates will be stable through at least 2011. "It is of course advantageous to renew your membership prior to January 1 so that your subscriptions are not delayed, so that the ASB remains strong (i.e., strength equaling money) and

so that I don't have to worry about ASB generating enough money to pay for our Spring expenses (research grants, travel awards, regional meetings, hammocks for me and my loved ones...),” (1). So, once again, on knee genuflected to 90° (honestly, I am typing while kneeling) I humbly request that each ASB member renew his or her membership prior to Jan 1, 2010. As a further encouragement we will also award a free subscription to the journal of your choice to three members who renew during December 2009. We (I) will randomly select the winners on January 1, 2010 (in theory at least, presuming I'm not too hung-over) and start their subscriptions. Yehaaa! Yahoo! RENEW NOW, please. What's that you say? You are not going to renew now? That's fine, just [click me](#).

We presently have 468 regular members starting with Tom and ending with Dequan, 209 student members starting with Mostafa and ending with Chris and two corporate members starting with [PhoeniX Technologies, Inc.](#) and ending with [Tekscan, Inc.](#) current for 2009. We also remain at eight emeriti members who have lifetime memberships. Again I ask, doesn't this number seem low? “Individuals receive Emeritus membership through the [Executive Board](#) (the Bylaws state: Emeritus Members shall be those members of the Society who are designated Emeritus Members by the Executive Board of the Society). However, the Executive Board would certainly welcome any recommendations from the general membership for potential Emeritus membership,” (1). Please feel free to recommend to me or Michael Madigan who doubles as the Membership Committee Chair, or any Executive Board member individuals for Emeritus status in ASB.

Please visit the [ASB website](#) for information on the 2010 Annual Meeting in Providence, Rhode Island, August 18-21, 2010 and other meetings endorsed by ASB, among other things. Also, please contact me if you have any questions or problems with your membership or your renewal. Did I mention it's renewal time? Do I have to make another mind-bending instrument? I will you know...

(1) DeVita, ASB Dec 2008 Newsletter. (My Science Citation rate just went up by one).

Commercial Members

Commercial membership categories are aimed at encouraging affiliation by commercial organizations that market products which are used by the biomechanics research community, or companies that are otherwise engaged in activities that fall within the Society's general interest areas. Companies wishing to become a Commercial Member are encouraged to contact [Gary Heise](#), Treasurer-Elect.

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President-Elect

Jill McNitt-Gray

In accordance with the ASB Strategic Plan for 2012, the Executive Board of the American Society of Biomechanics has identified adopting a Code of Ethical Conduct as a worthy goal. Many professional societies have adopted such codes. While it is unclear whether ASB needs to replicate such extensive codes as the ones developed by engineering, medical, and other professional societies, it does seem potentially useful to consider some basic principles.

The need for this is especially noticeable in the area of translational biomechanics, whether it be in the areas of health care, ergonomics, or sports biomechanics. All of these areas of applied biomechanics face the challenge of deciding how and to what degree to apply imperfect knowledge of biomechanical systems to real-world situations in need of answers.

Given the diversity of disciplines represented by the ASB membership, we expect there are a variety of related questions and concerns that each of us encounters on a regular basis. To begin the dialog, we are forming a task force with representation from each of the ASB membership categories to establish an ethical code of conduct. Our aim over the next eighteen months is to develop a professional code of conduct for ASB members. We welcome input from the ASB membership throughout the development process.

We invite ASB members to provide constructive suggestions and comments regarding the process of establishing a code of conduct for ASB members. Please forward your comments to the ASB Task Force on Ethical Code of Conduct via Jill McNitt-Gray (mcnitt@usc.edu).

Thanks for your willingness to take part in the process.

Communications Chair

Zong-Ming Li

First of all, I would like to thank my predecessor, Dr. Andy Karduna, who has done a terrific job to keep our society in pace with our digital times. It is an honor and pleasure for me to continue this work in service of our ASB members. With hours of tutorage and pages of instructions from Andy, I have gradually increased my skills (still at the elementary level) at handling our ASB website and setting up electronic communication procedures. Through this process, I appreciate the great effort that has gone on behind the scenes with years of communications-related work by Drs. Jill McNitt-Gray, Gerald Smith, Gary Heise, Kathy Simpson and Andy Karduna.

The Communications Committee will continue to maintain the website to provide the latest information related to our society, and to communicate with other societies and connect to other websites of interest to our members. We will work with the meeting chairs to advertise our annual meetings and facilitate dissemination of meeting information to society members through the web. We will work with the Program Chair to publish meeting abstracts online. The Communications Committee is particularly thankful for Dr. Iain Hunter who has helped archive the abstracts on the web over the past few years and has agreed to continue to provide this important service to our members. We recently initiated the creation of a biomechanics video repository so that ASB members can download videos for educational purposes. Dr. Matt Seeley is spearheading this effort and we expect to assemble a broad collection of videos over time.

Even in a short time since I became the Communications Committee Chair, I have been pleased to receive several excellent suggestions regarding the contents and layout of our web pages. Please continue to give us feedback as we work to better serve our members.

Past President Irene Davis

The past Annual Meeting at Penn State University was a particularly memorable one for many reasons. First, Penn State University is the birthplace of biomechanics graduate education and hosted one of the very first annual meetings 30 years ago. For those of us who spent time in the Biomechanics Water Tower, meandering through its three floors elicited so many memories. The dedication of the Water Tower marker was particularly poignant, especially with the reunion of Dick Nelson, Dewey Morehouse and Peter Cavanagh. A heartfelt thanks to Bob Gregor, Steve Piazza and all of those who worked hard to make this historical event possible. The meeting itself was excellent, from both the scientific and social perspectives and kudos go to the organizers Jinger Gottschall, John Challis and Steve McCaw. A particular highlight for me was seeing our very own 2009 Borelli Award Winner singing karaoke with his Michigan contingency!which is the perfect segue into the awards this year.

I would like to first thank my predecessor, Rodger Kram, for overseeing the awards, along with all of the other ASB members who assisted with reviewing the applications and judging the presentations. The application pool was very strong this year and decisions were not made easily. ASB's highest honor, the Borelli Award, went to James Ashton-Miller. The Hay Award was presented to Doris Miller. Both winners gave great talks, chronicling their extraordinary and fruitful careers that were so worthy of the awards they received. The 2009 awards were as follows:

Borelli Award:

James Ashton-Miller, University of Michigan, "*Lessons Learned on Using Biomechanics to Prevent Selected Unintentional Injuries*".

Hay Award:

Doris Miller, University of Ontario, "*Ups and Downs of Competitive Diving*".

Pre-Doctoral Award:

Amy Silder, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "*The Influence of Prior Hamstring Injury on Musculotendon Morphology and Muscle Contraction*".

Mechanics".

Co-Author: Thelen

Post-Doctoral Award:

Jae Kun Shim, University of Maryland, "*3D Kinetic Synergies in Handwriting*".

Co-Authors: Hooke, Karol and Park

Clinical Biomechanics Award

Christine Draper, Stanford University, "*Patellofemoral Kinematic Differences Exist Between High-Load and Low-Load Conditions in Patients with Patellofemoral Pain*".

Co-Authors: Besier, Santos, Fredericson, Beaupre, Delp and Gold

Journal of Biomechanics Award

Michael E. Llewellyn, Stanford University, "*Orderly Recruitment of Motor Units by Optical Stimulation in Transgenic Mice*".

Co-Authors: Thompson, Deisseroth and Delp

Presidential Award

Monica Maley, McMaster University, "*Cumulative Knee Loading Relates to Pain Intensity and Knee Extensor Torque in People with Knee Osteoarthritis*".

Co-Author: Robbins

ASB Travel Award

Minoru "Shino" Shinohara, Georgia Tech University, "*Examination of Inter-manual Interaction Using a Bimanual Pinching Robot*".

Huub Maas, VU University, "*Sarcomere Length Distributions in Live Skeletal Muscle*".

I will be chairing the Awards Committee this year and would like to encourage members to apply for and/or nominate a deserving colleague for one of these awards. Applications for the Borelli, Hay and Young Scientist awards should be sent to me at mcclay@udel.edu by March 15, 2010. Information about these and all of the ASB awards, is available at <http://www.asbweb.org/html/awards/awards.html>. The travel grant is intended to foster collaborative research and interaction among scientists by helping to offset the cost of travel to a host institution. Only ASB regular members (i.e., not students) are eligible to apply. Travel and lodging costs may be requested. Budget requests can be up to \$1,000. The deadline for applying is March 15, 2010. Details are available at <http://www.asbweb.org/html/grants/Travel.html>.

I will also be chairing the Nominating Committee this year. Committee members Jonathan Dingwell (Univ. of Texas) and Young-Hui Chang (Georgia Tech) were elected at the Annual Business Meeting at Penn State and I thank both of them for their willingness to serve. This year we will be developing a slate of individuals for the positions of President-Elect and Program Chair-Elect. Please let any one of us know if you are interested in nominating yourself or a colleague for one of these important positions.

As I enter the last year of my tenure on the Executive Board, I am continuing to work on the initiatives I began that were aimed at promoting the Society. The first of these is the development of ASB Position Statements on topics related to biomechanics and health. I have formed a task force that includes Peter Cavanagh (Univ. of Washington), Robert Gregor (Univ. of Southern Calif), Ken Kaufman (Mayo Clinic) and Rodger Kram (Univ. of Colorado). All are Past-Presidents and represent different facets of the Society, and I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to work with them in this way. We will be working over the next year to develop the process for the development of these statements, and then work to develop the first ASB Position Statement. If you have ideas for a topic for a position statement, please feel free to contact myself, or one

of the task force members. I have also formed a task force of energetic individuals to work towards the establishment of a National Biomechanics Week. These include Clare Milner (Univ. of Tennessee), Andy Karduna (Univ. of Oregon), Gerry Smith (Utah State Univ.) and Jean McCrory (West Virginia Univ.). Once the week is established, we will be encouraging the membership to plan activities that will promote the field of biomechanics.

In terms of enhancing visibility of biomechanics at NIH, the meeting proposal Steven Stanhope and I submitted, titled *"Biomechanics and Rehabilitative Science: Building Transdomain Bridges to Translational Research"* received a fundable score from NIH and we are moving forward with plans to host the meeting next year. This will be a consensus-like meeting aimed at developing, scoring and prioritizing recommendations for funding in biomechanics and rehabilitation sciences. This will provide us an opportunity to help direct future biomechanics research. Look for an announcement on Biomch-I soon! Finally, our registry of reviewers for the NIH Center for Scientific Review is ongoing and is a good way to become involved in the grant review process. Please contact our Secretary, Michael Madigan, if you are interested in being added.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season!



i-FAB 2010 Seattle

We are pleased to announce i-FAB 2010 Seattle, the 2nd Congress of the International Foot and Ankle Biomechanics Community (i-FAB), which will be held at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, USA between September 16-18, 2010. Details found at <http://www.i-FAB2010.org>.

The Congress program will include lab tours, commercial exhibits, workshops, tutorials, keynote and invited addresses, extensive poster presentations, and opportunities to network with other professionals in the field. Activities on Thursday September 16th will be focused on clinical foot and ankle topics including a total ankle replacement workshop, clinically oriented keynotes, and free communications. Topics on Friday and Saturday will include modeling, cadaveric simulation, evolution and non-human primate feet, the diabetic foot, foot and ankle imaging, footwear, and kinematics. Full details of the Congress program can be found at <http://www.i-fab2010.org/Program.aspx>.

A social program for accompanying persons is being planned that will include tours and activities in and around the greater Seattle area. <http://www.visitseattle.org/visitors/>

Post-Congress biking, hiking, and kayaking opportunities will allow attendees to enjoy the mountains, rivers, and ocean of the Pacific Northwest.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Northwest

Advance Registration is US\$400 and a student rate of US\$160 is available.

Important Deadlines:

Abstract Submission: March 19, 2010

Acceptance Decisions: April 19, 2010

Registration Opens: January 4, 2010

Hotel Registration Opens: February 1, 2010

Early Registration Closes: July 1, 2010

i-FAB (www.i-fab.org) is an international community of clinicians and researchers who are interested in the biomechanics of the foot and ankle. i-FAB was organized in 2007 to improve the understanding of foot and ankle biomechanics, surgery, and footwear, and to foster greater integration among researchers, clinicians, and industry representatives. The 1st Congress (<http://www.i-fab.org/ifabconference.htm>), held at the Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli in Bologna, Italy in September 2008, attracted 170 delegates from all over the world.

We hope that you will join us in Seattle in September 2010.

Peter Cavanagh & William Ledoux



Lend a Hand!

Abstract reviewers needed for the 2010 Annual Meeting

To volunteer email your name and areas of expertise to Darryl Thelen (thelen@engr.wisc.edu).

You will need to be available to review ~ 20-30 abstracts between mid-April to mid-May of 2010.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Annual Meeting of the American Society of Biomechanics
August 18 to 21, 2010

The 2010 Meeting of the American Society of Biomechanics will be held August 18 to 21 in Providence, Rhode Island, a city of 170,000 that combines the charm of a small New England town with the energy of a thriving city. The organizers of ASB encourage the submission of abstracts on the full spectrum of biomechanics topics, including aging, biofluidics, comparative biomechanics, cellular and tissue mechanics, computational biomechanics, ergonomics, imaging, injury prevention, instrumentation, locomotion, molecular motors, motor control, neuromechanics, orthopedics, prosthetics, rehabilitation, robotics, sports, tissue engineering, and vehicle occupant safety. Both modeling and experimental work is encouraged at scales ranging from molecular to whole body.

The program will include three concurrent sessions, lab tours, tutorials, symposia, keynote lectures, best paper competitions (*Clinical Biomechanics*, *Journal of Biomechanics*), and honorary awards (Borelli, Hay, Young Scientist Pre-Doctoral, Young Scientist Post-Doctoral).

The abstract submission website will open on February 15, 2010 and abstracts will be accepted until 5:00 PM EST on March 15, 2010.

Meeting information is available through the ASB website (www.asbweb.org), including links for abstract submission, meeting registration, and details on the eligibility and nominating requirements for each of the awards.

Diversity Group

Becky Fellin

This year was the inaugural Diversity luncheon at ASB. Approximately 30 people attended and enjoyed lunch along with a productive discussion. Below are the key points raised during the luncheon:

1. As a minority and/or woman let your advisors and colleagues know that you're serious about your work, as evidenced by your behavior.
2. Communication is key, don't be afraid to discuss your weaknesses and your strengths, blow your own horn.
3. If you're in a situation where there is not a formal mentoring program, create your own. Be sure to look for mentors that are sincere, which may mean that you have mentors that are of a different race and/or gender.
4. Adopt a mentoring team, not just one mentor.
5. Just like design projects benefit from diverse backgrounds (electrical engineers, biomedical engineers, marketing, manufacturing, etc.) research can benefit from diverse ethnic backgrounds.

Things faculty and administration can do to support and increase diversity in biomechanics (and science in general):

1. As faculty, go and search out candidates of diverse backgrounds and let them know you are interested in them. Don't expect them to find you. One example of this in action is applying for Advance grants from the NSF.
2. Create opportunities for interaction. This includes projects and assignments that involve working with someone of a different race/ethnicity/gender/etc.
3. Attention must be given to retention. Formal "follow-ups" and support in the form of mentoring (senior and peer) is needed.

Several funding options were also mentioned. Students and post-docs should look for schools that have Advance grants and contact the Deans of those colleges directly as these schools have money specifically to increase the number of minorities in STEM fields. NIH can add supplements to ongoing

R01 grants to support minority students over and above the original budget of the grant. Additionally, the NIH F31 program is a pre-doctoral award for underrepresented minorities with 2-5 years of funding to complete a PhD (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-209.html>).

We plan to continue this luncheon at the meeting next year in Providence. We hope that you will join us. Both minorities and non-minorities are encouraged to attend. If anyone has ideas about improving diversity in ASB, please email Becky (fellin@udel.edu).

Diversity Committee

Alaa Ahmed	Brandon Govindarajoo
Tameka Clanton	Matt McCullough
Al Douex	Francisco Valero-Cuevas
Becky Fellin	Sai Vikas Yalla

Paid Job Advertisement

Assistant/Associate Professor in Biobehavioral Science

The Department of Applied Physiology and Kinesiology at the University of Florida invites applications for a full-time, nine-month tenure track faculty position at the rank of Assistant/Associate Professor. Individuals with training in all areas of Neuroscience (Biomechanics, Motor Control, and Exercise Psychology) are encouraged to apply. Priority will be given to applicants studying innovative research questions that can be integrated with the research programs of existing faculty in Biobehavioral Science. Applicants must hold an earned doctorate in an appropriate field, demonstrate evidence of high-impact scholarship as well as be successful in external grant funding. Responsibilities include: developing and maintaining a strong independent research program with additional interdisciplinary collaborations; teaching graduate and undergraduate courses; and mentoring graduate students. Professional, university, and community service is expected. The position is available August 2010; salary will be competitive and commensurate with experience and rank. Applications must be submitted on-line at <https://jobs.ufl.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=62215> and must include: (1) a letter of application, (2) statement of research interests and career goals, (3) curriculum vitae, (4) two relevant publications, and (5) name and contact information of at least three university-affiliated references. Application deadline is December 11, 2009. E-mail inquiries or nominations should be sent to: James Cauraugh, cauraugh@hhp.ufl.edu. The University of Florida is dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. **Applications and nominations from a broad spectrum of individuals including women, members of diverse ethnic groups, and persons with disabilities are encouraged.** All documents associated with this search are subject to Florida's 'Government in the Sunshine' and Public Records Laws.

A View From the Blue

Michelle Sabick

Although December is generally a time when people focus on endings—the end of the semester, the end of the college football regular season, and eventually the end of the holiday season—I am focused on new beginnings right now. A big part of the change for me is the fact that I am on sabbatical from my academic job this year. Stepping away from the normal rhythm of my professional life, which is dominated by the academic calendar of my university, has given me a bit of a different perspective. Even though I wasn't able to spend this academic year on some sunny Greek island (I am currently writing this column from my "regular" office with a view of the blue turf football field that gives this column its name), it is amazing how differently I view both my job and my future now that I have stepped out of the "rat race" for a couple of months.

For starters, I have truly realized how much of my time is spent in relatively unproductive and unfulfilling meetings and e-mail exchanges. When did all my colleagues become such bureaucrats? How did I not notice it was happening? Was I starting to become one myself? I am blown away by the number of appointments that appear on my calendar that I am "allowed" to ignore this year because I have my special once-every-seven-years dispensation. And that is just the start of it. The number of e-mail messages I can delete right now without a carefully considered response is incredible. If these exchanges are so important that I normally devote so many of my precious work hours to them, you would think my responses were somehow critically important and, yet, both the university and my research laboratory are functioning fine (and many would probably argue better) without me. Why have I been wasting my time?

One of the ways I am renewing myself this year is by focusing on the relatively few things that I do in my job that I truly relish—and they aren't necessarily what I would have thought they were six months ago.

As part of my sabbatical, I have been working on some projects that I would normally consider "outside my comfort zone", and these have truly been fun—terrifying in some ways—but fun. In actuality, these are the types of projects that I really should have been doing all along. After all, their lure is what got me into my chosen field in the first place. Somehow, I had gotten sidetracked along the way and ended up doing something else that was a little less terrifying, but not nearly as satisfying. The terror that I feel is really just a lack of confidence in my skills in areas where I haven't practiced in some time—or ever. But if I can just get over the initial terror and jump in head-first, it turns out that I really have something valuable to contribute. Because of this experience, I am truly renewing my focus this year on what I want to be doing for the next 20 years or so, even if it isn't "what brought me to the dance".



I would like to think that my renewed focus on the work I enjoy doing is a new beginning brought on by my sabbatical experience, but maybe it is really just a mid-life crisis. Either way, during my sabbatical I am developing some skills that I either didn't know I had, or that had lain dormant for an awfully long time, and that has been valuable indeed. Armed with the new knowledge I have of myself, I am confident that even if I end up going back to my "day job" and don't have any major career changes from this experience, the ways that I approach both my colleagues and my projects will never be the same. Here's to new beginnings!

Calendar of Events

William Ledoux

American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists

February 24 - 27, 2010, Chicago, Illinois

Abstract deadline - past

www.oandp.org/meeting2010

Orthopaedic Research Society

March 6 - 9, 2010 New Orleans, Louisiana

Abstract deadline - past

www.ors.org

Gait and Clinical Movement Analysis Society (JEGM 2010, Joint meeting of GCMAS & ESMAC)

May 12 - 15, 2010, Miami, Florida

Abstract deadline - December 18, 2009

www.amrms.com/ssl/gcmas/2010/

American College of Sports Medicine

June 2 - 5, 2010, Baltimore, Maryland

Abstract deadline - past

www.acsm.org/ or <http://tinyurl.com/lld9jp>

Canadian Society of Biomechanics

June 9 - 12, 2010 Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Abstract deadline - February 15, 2010

<http://csb-scb-2010.ca/>

International Society of Electrophysiology and Kinesiology

June 16 - 19, 2010, Aalborg, Denmark

Abstract deadline - January 15, 2010

www.isek2010.org/

American Society of Mechanical Engineers Summer Bioengineering Conference

June 16 - 19, 2010, Naples, Florida

Abstract deadline - January 15, 2010

www.asmeconferences.org/sbc2010

European Society of Biomechanics

July 5 - 8, 2010, Edinburgh, Scotland

Abstract deadline - past

www.lifelong.ed.ac.uk/esb2010/index.htm

International Society of Biomechanics in Sports

July 19 - 23, 2010 Marquette, Michigan

Abstract deadline - March 5, 2010

www.nmu.edu/isbs

World Congress on Biomechanics

August 1 - August 6, 2010, Singapore

Abstract deadline - March 1, 2010

www.wcb2010.net/

American Society of Biomechanics

August 18 - 21, 2009, Providence, Rhode Island

Abstract deadline - March 15, 2010

www.asbweb.org/conferences/2010/home_ASB_2010.html

IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society

August 31 - September 4, 2010, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Abstract deadline - tba

www.embs.org/conferences/index.html

International Research Council on Biomechanics of Injury

September 15 - 17, 2010, Hanover, Germany

Abstract deadline - December 22, 2009

www.ircobi.org/conference.htm

International Foot and Ankle Biomechanics Community

September 16 - 18, 2010, Seattle, Washington

Abstract deadline - March 19, 2010

www.i-fab2010.org

Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

September 27 - October 1, 2010, San Francisco, California

Abstract deadline - February 19, 2010

www.hfes.org/web/HFESMeetings/2010annualmeeting.html

International Society for Posture and Gait Research

June 18 - 22, 2011, Akita, Japan

Abstract deadline - tba

www.ispgr.org/conferences/japan-2011/conference-overview/index.html

International Society of Biomechanics

July 3 - 7, 2011, Brussels, Belgium

Abstract deadline - tba

www.isb2011.org

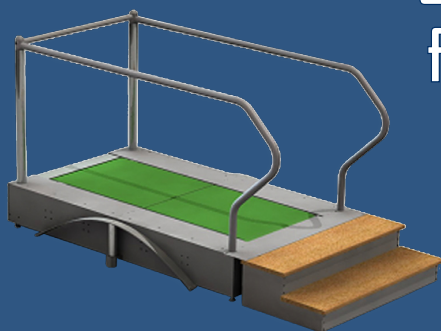
NOTE: For a more comprehensive international listing, please visit ISB's website at: isbweb.org/o/content/view/40/57/

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