



CELDi News

Newsletter of the Center for Engineering Logistics and Distribution
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Russ Meller
Center Director

CELDi: On the Path from Good to Great!

As many of you are aware, CELDi is approaching its sunset from National Science Foundation (NSF) funding in 2012. To prepare for that transition, a strategic planning committee of Directors and Members has been meeting regularly with the theme of using this event to transition CELDi from “good to great” (based on the book of the same title by Jim Collins).

Through this process we've created a vision for the transition that involves three key elements: (1) attracting members directly to the new CELDi, (2) capitalizing on our research strength to compete for large Federal grants, and (3) leveraging our educational foundation to deliver high-quality short courses. Success in all three elements would simultaneously allow us to realize a greater impact and at the same time serve a larger set of members. In addition, this will provide mechanisms to replace most of the funding from NSF instead of transferring that obligation to the members.

To that end, we have organized our strategic planning committee into three sub-committees (improving recognition, increasing member value, and future university relationships). Each sub-committee has identified opportunities and actions to move us towards our goal. We have synthesized this into a strategic plan.

The strategic planning committee will be presenting our plan to the Center Industrial Advisory Board (IAB) in Chicago for their feedback. Coming out of the meeting we expect to have a new CELDi name, tagline, boilerplate description, and a clear sense of purpose related to future actions. We are excited to

hear what the IAB thinks and appreciate those of you who can attend in person (we will also be sending out instructions to CELDi members who cannot attend, but would like to participate via conference call). Once the plan is finalized, we will be making it available via the CELDi website.

This is an exciting time in the life of CELDi. I'm personally energized by the possibilities of change and growth. Thanks to all that do the work that makes an opportunity like this possible.

Russ

CELDi Industrial Advisory Board Meeting November 5, 2009

The meeting and lodging is the

Crowne Plaza O'Hare

5440 North River Road
Rosemont, IL 60018

www.crowneplazaohare.com



Please make your lodging arrangements right away and identify yourself as a CELDi attendee to receive the conference rate.

For online reservations: https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=1459339

Or call 1-888-233-9527



November 4, 2009

2:00p-4:00p Strategic Planning Committee
7:00p-9:00p Welcome Reception

November 5, 2009

7:00a-8:45a Industrial Advisory Board Business Meeting
9:00a-2:00p CELDi Conference – All Attendees
2:00p-3:00p Closing IAB Session

2009 Institute of Industrial Engineers Annual Conference and Expo Awards



Several affiliates of CELDi were recognized at the 2009 Institute of Industrial Engineers Annual Conference and Expo during the Honors and Awards Ceremony. Dr. Russell D. Meller was presented the Award for Technical Innovation in Industrial Engineering. This award, shared with Dr. Kevin R. Gue of Auburn University, recognizes "significant innovative contributions to the industrial engineering profession." Dr. Meller also received the Fellow Award that "recognizes outstanding leaders of the profession who have made significant, nationally recognized contributions to industrial engineering."

Two CELDi members, Dr. Satish T. S. Bukkapatnam at Oklahoma State University, and Dr. Maria Mayorga at Clemson University, were awarded IERC 2009 Best Track Papers. Bukkapatnam, along with Hui Yang, was recognized for a paper in the category of Manufacturing and Design titled "Recurrence-Based Performance Prediction and Prognostics in Complex Manufacturing Systems." Mayorga and coauthors Chanta and Wiecek were honored for their paper in Operations Research titled "A Bi-Objective Covering Location Model for EMS Systems".

Dr. Kevin M. Taaffe of Clemson University was honored with the Excellence Award from IIE as the outstanding advisor for the Mid-Atlantic Region. Thomas Yeung, a former CELDi research student, also received the Golomski Award.

Freight Movement Model for Oklahoma Provides Research Experience for Teachers



Faced with little opportunity to provide supplemental learning experiences for students, teachers like Mark Thomas from Stillwater High School, in Stillwater, Oklahoma, are looking for ways to incorporate real-world learning exercises into their classrooms. Working with Mr. Thomas, Dr. Manjunath Kamath and Dr. Baski Balasundaram, from the School of Industrial Engineering and Management at Oklahoma State University have developed teaching modules that introduce topics typical to Industrial Engineering and Logistics. Dr. Kamath and Mr. Thomas are using the Freight Movement Model for Oklahoma project to create teaching modules that introduce students to networks and wide-scale data analysis. These modules have been implemented in Mr. Thomas' Algebra 2 classes with great enthusiasm and success by the students.

The modules are designed so that students can easily see and understand a concept using as little as ten to twenty minutes of class time and so that teachers can quickly formalize their own understanding of a topic. Among the



Mark Thomas at the CELDi meeting in North Carolina in April 2009.

topics included are: Hamiltonian and Eulerian paths, minimal spanning trees, shortest paths, maximum flows, max flow/min cut duality, minimum cost flows and linear programming models of network flow problems.

During this coming year, the modules will be formalized and placed online so other teachers may easily access and utilize this material in their classrooms. This Research Experience for Teachers project was supported by a supplemental National Science Foundation grant to CELDi.



A Final CELDi Note:

Our CELDi Program Coordinator, Karen Standley, is moving onto another position at the University of Arkansas. CELDi has been blessed by the dedication and service of Karen Standley since its inception and I know that I speak for everyone associated with CELDi when I say, "thank you, Karen!"

We are pleased to welcome Kelley O'Callaghan into the position of CELDi Program Coordinator. Kelley brings with her experience working at the University of Arkansas in the Engineering Dean's office, the King Fahd Center for Middle East and Islamic Studies, and the Department of Biological Sciences. She holds a B.A. in Business Administration from the University of Washington (with concentration in Middle East Studies) and has taken courses at the University of Arkansas towards an M.A. in Geosciences.

We are excited to have Kelley join us at a time of transition and new opportunities. I can see her making many contributions, especially on the marketing of the new CELDi.

Both Karen and Kelley will be in Chicago for the upcoming CELDi meeting. Please welcome Kelley warmly with your support as you thank Karen for her service.

