

TRILATERAL SLC Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2001

Submitted by Charles H. Hamilton

This meeting was held at the 2001 EERI Annual Meeting in Monterey, CA. The attendees were Omer Erbay, Juan Caicedo, and Diego Lopez-Garcia of MAE; Ani-Natali Sigaher of MCEER; and Charley Hamilton, Tara Hutchinson, Annie Kammerer, and Sandrine Lermite of PEER. In addition, the Education Coordinators from all three centers were present. The primary purposes were to address items of concern to the three SLCs, to coordinate efforts among the students to improve the programs of the EERCs, and to follow-up on existing plans among the SLCs.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

The centers are still having the same problems. The majority of participants are still identified by enthusiastic faculty. The suggestion for the Education Directorates of the Centers to directly fund student participation in Student Day activities was made. This is already done at MAE and MCEER, and might lower resistance among faculty to student participation in student-only activities.

The Education Directorates at MAE and MCEER directly track student names and information, although they often have to resort to direct phone calls to faculty to identify students. PEER is relying on registration of research students by faculty advisors, while the Education Directorate directly collects and maintains information on EESC, Interns, REUs, and PEER Scholars.

MAE has begun getting an online research journal together. They have also started leveraging video conferencing to facilitate student participation in the SLC. An RA symposium was held the day before their annual meeting. Currently, the student chapter is designing a "doll house" for use on the mini-shakatables. A new student page has been developed and is located at http://mae.ce.uiuc.edu/student_corner.html.

MCEER has begun organizing "local" SLC meetings. The first was held in August of last year. It was coordinated with the EERI chapters at the various schools, and was an open-forum on the research. This was a students-only activity. It seemed to motivate students to present their research, but not much more SLC-level participation resulted. Student seminars have begun using video conferencing to increase the audience. Check out presentations on 13 and 23 February at around noon EDT.

PEER is having more success with self-replacement among SLC members than other Centers. The idea of an SLC column in the PEER Newsletter has spread to MCEER and MAE, and is now in practice there, as has the idea of a Student Day.

OVERVIEW OF SLC PARTICIPATION AT THE CENTERS

As last year, each center's SLC representatives gave a brief overview of how their center functions, what its mission statement and objectives are, and how the SLC fits into that picture.

JOINT SLC REU/INTERN RESEARCH JOURNAL

Progress has been made at MAE in developing a research journal, and it is being published electronically. PEER students have limited interest in peer-reviewing articles, and PEER will probably continue to publish its proceedings as an un-reviewed bound volume.

NEXT MEETING: To be planned by Deigo of MAE. Tentatively to be held at 2002 EERI Annual Meeting in Long Beach, CA. Might be hosted at 7USNCEE in Boston, MA. More to come.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: Progress on joint REU/Intern journal, development of programs at the three Centers, coordination with EERI student chapters