Much has happened since our last newsletter and we are pleased to share an update as to the activities now in progress, new initiatives undertaken, and recent accomplishments. Following this update, the purposes of these pursuits are discussed and how we’d like to see the future of the Canino School of Engineering Technology evolve.

—Academic Programs—

**ABET Self Study** — Our four ABET accredited engineering technology programs (Air Conditioning, Civil, Electrical & Mechanical) are being evaluated for reaccreditation with self-study reviews now in preparation. A “Team Visit” is planned for fall 2008.

**Automotive Certification** — The Automotive program will host a campus visit in March for NATEF certification. New tooling and documentation for this certification are in place and student performance on related national exams has been particularly strong. This certification will open the door to extensive further industrial support.

**Enrollment** — The numbers of applicants are climbing steadily. With four baccalaureate programs in place and five more in preparation, our certificate and 2-year programs remain central to our mission. Taken together, this array differentiates SUNY Canton from other four-year institutions by enabling midcourse adjustments to academic goals as students gain more education, experience and perspective.

**Planned Programs** - A number are in development that build upon CSOET’s traditional strengths and expand its foothold with four-year programs.

- **Auto Technology (4-yr BT)** – will enable students to attain master certification (NATEF – National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation) and differentiate SUNY Canton from other institutions.
- **Powersports (2-yr AOS)** – extends the capabilities of the current Motorsports certificate program and will attract additional students.
- **Architecture (4-yr BT)** – high demand for architectural programs coincides well with CSOET strengths in Civil Technology, Construction, HVAC and Energy.
- **AC, Civil, Electrical, & Mechanical Engr. Tech. (4-yr BT programs)** – Each program will be expanded to support a four-year degree as well as the original AAS degree. This will provide graduates with more flexibility, greater access to technical electives, and, when accredited, place them on a path toward engineering licensure.
- **Electronic Communications (2-yr AAS)** - Efforts are in place to revive this program; it fits well with added faculty strengths and a growing but unmet demand exists for communications graduates; both radio frequency and digital communications.
- **General Technology (2-yr AAS)** – A flexible program that will be fully compatible with all ABET accredited 4-yr programs.
- **Electrical Field Services (1-yr Cert.)** – In partnership with National Grid, a program is being developed to prepare individuals to become linemen; there is a profound and growing need for qualified new hires.

—Activities & Events—

**ASCE and the Steel Bridge Design Competition** – The ASCE Student Club will participate again in the 2008 ASCE Student Steel Bridge Competition to defend their streak of wins at the regional level. SUNY Canton took first at the 2007 regional competition at Cornell University, and seventh at the national competition in California.

The Club toured a construction site to observe the challenges of heavy rain and construction traffic; they witnessed poured wall and column footings in all stages from forming to completion. Other activities included participation in an ASCE meeting at Clarkson and volunteering effort for the Ogdensburg Boys and Girls Club Expo, a fundraiser benefiting 1,000+ youth with programs and other services.

**Women-in-Construction** – A Women-in-Construction day (Saturday, March 22) will acquaint women with career opportunities in construction related fields. Contact Colleen Stone for information (315 386-7378, stonec@canton.edu).

**Women-in-Engineering** – On Thursday, May 22, CSOET will again host a Women-in-Engineering day. Several hundred participants are expected, and if you know a young woman interested in an engineering technology career, they should contact the Admission’s Office (1 800 388-7123, or admissions@canton.edu) for information.

**Motorsports Club** – Students are working on a flat track racing bike and the club has received extensive support from various individuals and organizations. The bike is modeled on a 1946 Indian Scout and will complete by this summer.

**Nevaldine Renovation** – Architectural work is under way to start a renovation of Nevaldine this summer. This will be the first of a three-phase renovation project and there is quite a bit of excitement regarding the anticipated upgrades.

**H.O.T. Experience** – CSOET faculty members are offering a series of 30-minute Hands On Technology experiences for non-technology students to learn about CSOET programs. Some of the titles include: Making Concrete Explode, CNC Machines, Match Wits with your Mechanic, and Get Electricity from the Sun.

**2008 Alumni Reunion** – Alumni Weekend will host HVAC, Automotive and Electrical Alums on June 13-15. Please call 1-800-811-6727 or email alumni@canton.edu for information.

**Grant Funding** – The Canino School of Engineering Technology has considerable talent among its faculty and staff members, and much progress has been made to solicit various funding opportunities to upgrade laboratories, support faculty development efforts, and engage students in research projects. Thus far, CSOET has submitted almost $2 million in grant applications with a 24% success rate. These new sources of support are helping students immensely.

—People—

**Faculty** – Four new faculty members have joined CSOET. Dr. Rashid Aidun has a background in materials science, Robert Boak in building construction, Dr. Lawretta Ononye with physics and electrical engineering, and Raghu Ramanathan with electrical engineering. These individuals bring excellent experience with them and are already contributing much to the CSOET mission.
With so much going on at the School, it may useful to address several questions that sometimes arise; perhaps this will help the reader better understand what we are doing, why we are doing it, and how CSOET might best grow and develop over the next several years.

**Why are 4-year programs for AC, Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Technology being introduced?** Three reasons exist for the new programs: 1) Current students frequently request that option and often continue their education elsewhere completing a Bachelor of Technology degree. 2) Engineering licensure is important for many of our graduates and an ABET accredited BT degree provides a shorter path toward license examination in New York and 27 other states. 3) The two-year programs, as currently configured, offer the student almost no flexibility to pursue technical specialties or even to change majors.

**What will characterize CSOET’s 4-year programs?**
- **A Common First Year:** students will be grounded in mathematics, physics, mechanics and electricity, and they will work in project teams to tackle open-ended design challenges that will acquaint them with the various academic paths open to them within CSOET. Students will also be introduced to state-of-art laboratory equipment and the basic concepts of instrumentation and control.
- **Teamwork & Leadership:** Students will participate in project teams annually, practice project planning and professional communications, and gain leadership experience.
- **Decision Skills:** All graduates will have completed coursework in project management, economic decision analysis, and information flow in organizations. These topics will be practiced in team projects.
- **Electives, Internships, Cooperative Education:** All students will have at least five technical electives, and through them the opportunity to pursue a semester-long internship experience in industry for college credit; probably to occur during the junior year. This will also provide students the opportunity to develop a specialization or even to pursue a second major.
- **Capstone Experience:** Seniors will conduct a capstone project that will demonstrate their understanding of engineering technology and their ability to participate in and lead team efforts.

**What will happen to our 2-year programs?** These programs are key to SUNY Canton’s mission and its future, but there is need for change. Students will be accorded greater flexibility through increased course electives, and these programs will become better aligned with the current needs of many industrial recruiters. It is a goal that at the completion of any 2-year program, graduates will have the opportunity to commence work or to select from several baccalaureate programs which can be completed in two additional years. This alone differentiates SUNY Canton from traditional 4-year institutions.

**Why is leadership and professional communications being emphasized?** Our alumni, as well as corporate recruiters, repeatedly cite this as central to career success and growth; as more students graduate from 4-year programs, their academic conditioning should prepare them for problem solving, teamwork, and leadership growth.

**How can CSOET alumni and friends help students realize their full potential?** Alumni help immensely by identifying job opportunities, expanding CSOET’s reputation for excellence, through financial contributions, and by mentoring students. The Office of Career Services coordinates a Career Fair each semester as an opportunity for students to network with industry recruiters. Fall 2007 was the first fair to which high school students were invited to talk with prospective employers about career opportunities. Over 50 employers attended including the high-tech Novelis aluminum manufacturing company in Oswego, Cives Steel in Gouverneur, and Cannon Design in Grand Island.

Alums seeking to recruit SUNY Canton students should contact Career Services (315-386-7119, careers@canton.edu) for assistance and information regarding the next Career Fair. Those who wish to support students but aren’t in a position to hire, the campus has launched a new web recruiting service through which alumnae/i can register to offer advice and mentoring to students at different levels from anonymous emails to face-to-face contact. The service is called JOBS 4 ROOS and can be accessed at www.myinterface.com/canton/mentor.

As much as has already been accomplished at SUNY Canton, we are well poised for significant further growth. I believe this because we have outstanding faculty and staff, capable and well-motivated students, outstanding support, and because it is clear that our nation’s economy needs capable technical talent who have hands-on experience and good analytical skills. It is my goal to have the Canino School of Engineering Technology be recognized as the leading school of its kind; our alumni, faculty and students make that goal plausible. Please let me know how you like this update, what you wish to see included in future newsletters, and how you would like to assist.

Regards,
Dave Wells