

Acknowledgements

First, let me add my welcome to those on the previous pages. I hope you find the Conference activities to rewarding and enriching, and I hope that you have an opportunity to enjoy the Tennessee Tech campus, Cookeville, and its area attractions. We are so glad you are here.

Before this year, I really didn't understand the complexities associated with hosting a conference, but now I have a greater appreciation for all the hard work and devotion required of the host institution. I offer a belated "thank you" to the hosts of the past.

While my title may be "Site Coordinator," most of the actual work was done by others, the people who really made this conference possible. I would therefore like to express thanks to:

- Dean Joseph Rencis and former Interim Dean David Huddleston for demonstrating a commitment to excellence in engineering education by offering our campus as host institution and supporting this endeavor with time and resources.
- The College of Engineering, its Departments, Chairpersons, and Staff for supporting our conference goals by providing volunteers for work and support for faculty attendance.
- The Millard Oakley STEM Center and its Staff for supporting our conference by providing staff, coordinating registration, and providing access to their facilities.
- Our Conference Planning Committee, including Sally Pardue (STEM, Assistant Chair), Jessica Matson (CEE, Assistant Chair), Ken Hunter (BE), Pedro Arce (CHE), Robby Sanders (CHE), Martha Kosa (CSC), Omar Elkeelany (ECE), Stephen Canfield (ME), and Ismail Fidan (MIT), for their efforts in planning and directing the conference.
- The ASEE Southeastern Section leadership for their efforts in developing and maintaining an excellent annual conference, including all the resources and support needed by a host institution.
- All the participants in this year's conference – attendees, student poster competitors, authors/presenters, moderators, and reviewers. Without you, there would be no conference.

I would also like to extend a special word of thanks to a few individuals who helped keep me from being overwhelmed by this process: Melanie Hutcherson (who helped keep me from forgetting), Donna Smith (who helped manage the money), Ruby Anaya (who edited this book), Marbin Pazos-Revilla (who organized our tech support) and Beth Smith (who managed all the last-minute details).

It has been an incredible year of preparation here at Tennessee Tech, and I hope that the conference experience exceeds your expectations. If there's anything I can do to make your experience better, please let me know.



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