

University Welcome



Office of the Dean • *College of Engineering*

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March 10, 2013

Dear 2013 ASEE Southeastern Conference Attendees:

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students of the College of Engineering and the entire Tennessee Tech University community, welcome to the 2013 ASEE Southeastern Section Conference. We are all very delighted about having you on our campus!

The theme for this year's conference is "E⁴ Efficient Effective Engineering Education." In light of the current economic climate, this topic has become a challenge for engineering educators. Resources have declined since 2008; undergraduate engineering enrollment has grown 17% while the faculty has remained flat. This poses the question "How can we effectively, efficiently educate engineers in this environment?" I am looking forward to hearing about your innovative solutions throughout the conference!

Cookeville is home to roughly 30,000 people and is located in the scenic Highland Rim of the Cumberland Plateau. Tennessee Tech is the only technological university in the state, with an enrollment of 11,500 students. The College of Engineering has 2,500 students and is the second largest engineering program in Tennessee. The College offers BS, MS and PhD degrees in Civil Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, along with BS degrees in Computer Engineering and Engineering Technology. Our vision is "21st Century Renaissance Engineers Revolutionizing Engineering to Solve Societal Problems." The mission of 21st Century Renaissance Engineers is to use innovation in both problem solving and technology, making the world a better place to live. They carry new discoveries from basic scientific research into technological products, devices, systems and services that benefit society at the state, national and global levels. Learn more about our strategic plan at www.tntech.edu/engineering/strategicplan/.

Before I close, I'd like to thank each of you for attending this conference and bringing your expertise to our gathering. You, as engineering education leaders, have the vision, the knowledge, the wherewithal and the experience to help us pave our way into the future. You are truly our greatest asset today and tomorrow, and we could not accomplish what we do without your support and leadership. Throughout this conference, I ask you to stay engaged, keep us proactive and help us shape the future and the direction of engineering education. We look forward to relaxing, sharing and learning alongside you.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph J. Rencis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Joseph J. Rencis, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASEE, F.ASME

Dean of Engineering and Clay N. Hixson Chair for Engineering Leadership