



## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2005-06**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

At the Annual General Meeting held June 24, 2005 the members of the Foundation for Education elected the following Directors:

- Noreen Calderbank, P.Eng.
- George Comrie, P.Eng.
- Diane Freeman, P.Eng.
- Stephen Jack, P.Eng.
- Catherine Karakatsanis, P.Eng.
- Ken Lopez, P.Eng.
- Nick Monsour, P.Eng.
- Ron Sparrow, CGA
- Seimer Tsang, P.Eng.
- Derek Wilson, P.Eng.

At the first meeting of its new term on September 23, 2005 the Board of Directors appointed the following Officers of the Foundation:

- President            Stephen Jack, P.Eng.
- Vice President     Ken Lopez, P.Eng.
- Secretary            Derek Wilson, P.Eng.
- Treasurer            Ron Sparrow, CGA

*(Note: The Directors are retired at each annual meeting of the members of the Foundation, but are eligible to be re-elected if otherwise qualified. The Officers are elected / appointed by the Board at its first meeting after the annual general meeting. The Secretary and Treasurer of the Foundation need not be members of the Board of Directors.)*

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Participation of board members is essential in all aspects of Foundation endeavours. Two directors who have made significant contributions will be retiring in June 2006.

Nick Monsour (2000-2006) has been a frequent presenter at awards functions over many years and has agreed to continue as the Foundation's representative at the annual convocation at Royal Military College. Ron Sparrow (2002-2006) assumed the treasurer's duties in 2002 and managed to produce budget surpluses over the last 3 years.

The Foundation is grateful to PEO for providing office and meeting space, computer access, communications support services and a financial donation and to OSPE for providing administration support for the Professional Engineers Benevolent Fund.

In addition to board members who attended presentation ceremonies, the Foundation would like to thank the following regional representatives from local chapters who participated in awards presentations: Mike Watters (Laurentian), Jo-anne Moore (Carleton, Ottawa), John Van-Oostrom (Queen's), Richard Zytner (Guelph), Mathew Ng (Western).

Finally, the board would like to acknowledge a donation of \$9,300 from Brian Ross on behalf of EIC (Toronto) which resulted from it's now-discontinued professional development program.

## **ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS**

The Board of Directors met a total of four times since the last AGM.

The Board continued its focus on the following main objectives:

### 1. Fundraising

The FFE's first-ever industry fundraising campaign was launched in May-June 2005 which netted \$2800. Although the results were less than hoped-for we expect greater response for the 2006 campaign.

Member donations have remained static over the past few years with about 2000 members donating an average of \$40.00. Appeals in member fee renewals and increased publicity in *Dimensions* and *Society Notes* are key to increasing donation levels.

Chapter-organized fundraising events netted \$500 (from Lakehead). It's clear that a "champion" for this strategy is needed to secure greater chapter co-operation.

We were pleased to see Brenda Caplan, an FFE member, organize a *Mid-summer Dream Green Fee* auction with proceeds going to the Foundation.

A personal appeal was sent to PEO Past Presidents who, as life members do not receive annual fee renewals with our solicitation. This practice will be maintained.

### 2. Review of mandate

Concern over the effectiveness of the scholarship program has prompted the board to undertake a review to examine the basic criteria for the scholarships and whether the most deserving students are receiving Foundation support . Currently 50% of the undergraduate scholarships are awarded for highest marks and these students may be less inclined to pursue engineering careers. The review will be an on-going matter for the board over the next term.

### 3. Increasing our presence within the engineering schools

Scholarship recipients receive little information about the profession and why becoming a licensed P.Eng. is the right career move. The board is addressing this gap by increasing the number of award presentations where professional engineers can interact directly with recipients. FFE representatives made a record 11 presentations at engineering schools and gave out the Leaders for the Future scholarship at the

Engineers Without Borders Annual Meeting.

Discussion with university awards offices (eg. Queen's) are leading to changes that will create a greater role for the FFE in faculty administered awards programs.

The Board is investigating a means of ensuring that scholarship recipients are registered in PEO's Student Membership program

4. Raising member awareness of the Foundation's work

Several articles were published in *Engineering Dimensions* and OSPE's e-newsletter *Society Notes*.

Photos of award presentations and articles are posted regularly on the Foundation's website [www.penged.on.ca](http://www.penged.on.ca)

A semi-annual newsletter for Foundation members was approved by the board and is expected to be launched by summer 2006. The newsletter will also be posted on the FFE website.

5. Improving governance and administration

A new investment policy was approved to guide the FFE's investment management agency, Scotia Cassels, in placing our capital assets (now standing at \$940,000) for optimum return. The policy is patterned after PEO's recently approved policy.

We were pleased to welcome Pat Orr, as the FFE's first administrative support services person on contract. She assumed duties formerly provided by Brenda Caplan on a volunteer basis. The administrative workload is slowly growing and Pat will ensure that the work is carried out in a timely and efficient manner. Following the departure of Ron Sparrow, we anticipate PEO will appoint a staff member to replace the treasurer.

At last year's Annual Meeting it was noted that there was a problem with the membership by-law approved in 2003 that stipulates a membership cap of 50 and that the majority must be currently serving PEO councillors or OSPE board members. With the annual turnover of councillors and board members as well as changes in PEO and OSPE staff (both of whom are eligible for FFE membership), we realized it would become increasingly difficult to comply with this by-law. The board reviewed the matter and will bring a motion to the 2006 AGM.

6. Increasing chapter participation in regional presentations

Six chapters in centres outside Toronto where engineering schools are located agreed to act as official FFE representatives at convocations and other award presentations.

## **FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

Revenue Canada requires registered charitable organizations to comply with a disbursement quota which states that a minimum 80% of its receipted donations must be spent for charitable purposes. In 2005 the FFE disbursed 90% of its receipted donations on awards.

The FFE spends 16.6% of its overall budget on administration and fundraising. This includes a 5% service charge to PEO on member donations.

By holding operating expenses to a minimum, the FFE was able to produce a surplus of \$33,540. Foundation assets currently stand at about \$940,000. The board would like to see the asset level at \$1 million which would allow the interest from equity to offset a larger proportion of the scholarship commitments.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

The Foundation makes the following awards to engineering students in each of Ontario's 13 accredited engineering schools:

- **Entrance Scholarships (\$1000 each, 2 per school)**

Awarded by the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education, on the recommendation of the university's Faculty of Engineering to a secondary school student with the highest marks entering an accredited engineering program

**One scholarship is to be awarded to a male student and the other to a female student.**

- **Undergraduate Scholarships (\$1000. each, 2-8 per school based on enrolment)**

Awarded by the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education, on the recommendation of the Faculty of Engineering; half of the scholarships to be awarded to an undergraduate student of an engineering program who obtained the highest standing in the work of his/her respective year, and half of the scholarships to be awarded to an undergraduate student who has exhibited exceptional role model qualities through participation in the non-academic activities while maintaining above average marks

- **Gold Medal (no cash value, 1 per school)**

Awarded to the engineering student in his or her final year with the highest cumulative academic standing throughout the undergraduate term.

Award recipients are selected by the Dean of Engineering or an awards committee of the engineering faculty in each university. Every effort is made to arrange a suitable ceremony for presentation of the awards with participation by representatives of the Foundation.

This past year 2005-06, we participated in awards presentation ceremonies at the following faculties of engineering:

University of Toronto	Queen's University
McMaster University	Laurentian University
University of Western Ontario	Royal Military College
University of Guelph	Ryerson University
Lakehead University	University of Ottawa
Carleton University	

In total, 72 scholarships and awards were distributed in 2005 to the 13 accredited engineering schools in Ontario. Other than the Gold Medal no scholarships were presented at Queen's as the Foundation's scholarship program was transferred from the Office of Advancement to the Engineering Faculty.

One "Leaders for the Future" scholarship valued at \$2,000 was presented to an Ontario engineering student volunteering for an overseas assignment with Engineers Without Borders at the EWB AGM. The EWB scholarship was added to the FFE program in 2003.

### **BENEVOLENT FUND**

The Benevolent Fund received one application for assistance in late 2005 that was not reviewed until January 2006. The resulting award will appear in the 2006 statements.

### **NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2006-07**

The board has been reviewing two proposals that could create unique opportunities to modify and expand the scope of scholarships.

One proposal is to create a new scholarship for existing PEO members who take additional training to further their education and qualifications.

A second proposal is to re-orient the current scholarship eligibility criteria toward a bursary model that includes a financial need criterion. This model may include establishing endowments (to replace annual scholarship funding) that would be matched by the Ontario government through the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS).

These proposals and the ongoing activities of the Foundation will keep the board busy through 2006-07.

Finally, we are pleased to welcome Marta Ecsedi as the newest member of the Foundation.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board of Directors,



Stephen Jack, P.Eng.  
Chair

### **Excerpt from letter received March 2006 from University of Ottawa engineering student, E. Skaff.....**

*"It is with great thanks that I accept this scholarship, and I encourage you to continue making a difference for future scholarship recipients, as it is very rewarding to be recognized for one's hard work"*

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - 2005

UNIVERSITY	ENTRANCE		UNDERGRADUATE		TOTAL
	No.	Value of Each	No.	Value of Each	
Carleton	2	\$1000	4	\$1000	\$6,000
Guelph	2	\$1000	2	\$1000	\$4,000
Lakehead	2	\$1000	2	\$1000	\$4,000
Laurentian	2	\$1000	2	\$1000	\$4,000
McMaster	2	\$1000	4	\$1000	\$6,000
Ottawa	2	\$1000	4	\$1000	\$6,000
Queen's		\$1000	(see note 1)	\$1000	\$1,000
RMC	2	\$1000	2	\$1000	\$4,000
Ryerson	2	\$1000	6	\$1000	\$8,000
Toronto	2	\$1000	8	\$1000	\$10,000
Waterloo	2	\$1000	8	\$1000	\$10,000
Western	2	\$1000	4	\$1000	\$6,000
Windsor	2	\$1000	2	\$1000	\$4,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	24	\$1000	48	\$1000	\$73,000

Note 1 – Program transition year at Queen's – no scholarships awarded; \$1,000 used to cover account deficit

### **EWB SCHOLARSHIP**

A \$2,000 scholarship is awarded to an Ontario engineering student for outstanding leadership in an overseas volunteer assignment with Engineers without Borders.

### **MEDAL FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

In addition to the above scholarships, the Foundation presents a Medal for Academic Achievement at each of the 13 Ontario Universities providing accredited engineering courses.