
Education, Research & Development: Fostering Economic Growth 

July 23 – 28, 2006
Condado Plaza Hotel
San Juan, Puerto Rico

...Towards 100 years of history

100th of UPRM

...Hacia los 100 años de historia

Hosted by:

University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
ICEE 2006 Report

The ICEE 2006 conference was a great success! With over 500 participants (including accompanying persons and student presenters) from 37 countries, it provided a great opportunity for meeting new colleagues from all over the world and to compare the initiatives and approaches to common problems in engineering education. The conference comprised 419 full papers including many student papers, a total of 81 sessions, 4 panel sessions, one poster session, 4 special single-paper-sessions and 5 post-conference workshops.

The Cultural component of the conference included the Ballet Folklórico de Puerto Rico with a history of the music in Puerto Rico, a Pablo Casals exposition at the Museum of San Juan, the “Conjunto de Tiples” Guitar group, salsa and merengue lessons on the beach/pool area, a dancing demo by twenty (20) UPRM engineering students, and an optional tour to the El Morro Fortress and to Old San Juan with a presentation from the Alma Latina orchestra (all UPRM students).

On the last day of the conference, during the closing luncheon, we administered a questionnaire to participants to rate their overall experience. Enclosed you will find the results displayed graphically. The conference was dedicated to Al Soyster from Northeastern University and also posthumously to Isadore T. Davis (Raytheon). Both of these individuals have done above and beyond in their collaborations with the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, both individually as well as through their respective organizations.

We convey our gratitude to all individuals and organizations, including our sponsors, who made this international conference successful. ICEE 2006 in Puerto Rico will always be remembered as a memorable event. Thanks again for helping make ICEE 2006 one superb conference!

Cordially,

The ICEE 2006 Organizing Committee
Program at a Glance

*More photos at http://icee2006.uprm.edu*
Those of us, at the University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez, who worked with Isadore Davis and knew him personally, were both sad and shocked to learn of his untimely death. Isadore passed away last November from a stroke he suffered in the morning while getting ready for work.

With academic degrees in Mathematics, Physics and Engineering Mechanics, Isadore had a long career at Raytheon and had very recently joined Rolls Royce in Indianapolis. He had also been elected as Vice President, Institutional Councils of ASEE, and for several years was the Chair of the ASEE Corporate Member Council. His list of contributions is too enormous to be fully described in detail here, but he will always be remembered for the championship role that he played in promoting engineering and K-12 education, minority pipeline issues and accreditation in institutions across the United States.

At the University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez in particular, we owe a deep gratitude to Isadore Davis for his long partnership with UPRM while at Raytheon. Some examples of these affiliations are: the Learning Factory, Partnership in Spatial and Computational Research, the Industrial Affiliates Program, the Puerto Rico Techno-Economic Corridor, the Industrial Advisory Board of the College of Engineering, and the ABET EC2000 accreditation efforts.

We lost a good friend who, became a true role model, reflected courage, and overcame all racial barriers during the time when civil rights were still in nascent stages. While acknowledging that only 3 percent of American engineers are African American, he said “That doesn’t make me feel uncomfortable, I am who I am. I know who I am.”

We are very honored to have his wife, Ms. Wilda Davis, with us today. I would like to request that she please step forward and accept a plaque in Isadore’s honor.

Dedication presented by
Anand D. Sharma
ICEE 2006 Finance Chair
It is a privilege to honor a leader in engineering education, Dr. Allen L. Soyster. Currently Al Soyster is Professor and Dean of the College of Engineering at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. After completing his academic degrees in industrial engineering and operations research, Al initiated a journey in education and research that has been, and is, an example to many of us. That journey began at Penn State and was continued at Temple University, the Federal Government and Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

In 1981 Al returned to Penn State to lead the Department of Industrial Engineering. His vision, dedication and energy took the department to a leadership position around the world. By 1996 the IE Department was rank number four by the U.S. News & World Report. He led the efforts that resulted in naming the department as the Hal and Inge Marcus Department of Industrial Engineering.

Al Soyster stellar career and influence in engineering education continue to flourish at Northeastern. He became Dean of the College leading the development and implementation of a plan that included 10 key outcomes. As expected the College has seen tremendous growth and development under his stewardship.

Al’s relationship with UPR – Mayagüez began in the late 1980’s when he initiated his visits to UPRM. His initial efforts led to the recruitment of very talented faculty and students that wanted to pursue their doctorate degrees in engineering. Other initiatives emerged between the two Colleges of Engineering. In the early 1990’s Al assume the leadership of a collaboration to stimulate advances in manufacturing engineering education. He and his colleagues invited UPR-Mayagüez to join this effort and the Manufacturing Engineering Education Partnership: The Learning Factory was born. On February 21 of 2006 Al Soyster was the co-recipient of the Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education given by the National Academy of Engineering for the work in the Learning Factory.

As Dean of Engineering at Northeastern, Al continued his friendship, collaboration and support of UPRM’s College of Engineering. He stimulated the participation of UPRM as a core academic partner of an NSF Engineering Research Center, CenSSIS (Center for Subsurface Sensing and Imaging Systems). This partnership has opened numerous opportunities for research and graduate education for faculty and students.

Al’s relationship with Puerto Rico had an earlier beginning in a different venue. As many in Pennsylvania Al was a fan of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and definitely one of the greatest in the game, number 21 in right field, Roberto Clemente. Coincidentally today we honor Al in San Juan; tomorrow (July 25) will be the 35th anniversary since the city of Pittsburgh honored Roberto Clemente.

Dedication presented by
José Luis Zayas
Professor at Univ. of S. Florida
### ICEE 2006 Participants

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For a complete list of participants, please visit our website [http://icee2006.uprm.edu/participants](http://icee2006.uprm.edu/participants)

#### Overall Conference Evaluation

- **Excellent**: 28%
- **Very Good**: 41%
- **Good**: 16%
- **Fair**: 3%
- **Poor**: 2%
- **No Answer**: 10%

Note that a total of 69% of the participants found the overall conference Excellent or Very Good. Similar positive responses were found in the other twelve areas of assessment.
Content of sessions were helpful in career

Strongly Agree 25%
Agree 42%
Neither agree nor disagree 23%
Disagree 5%
Strongly Disagree 2%
No Answer 3%

Cultural Program

Excellent 32%
Very Good 20%
Good 16%
Fair 8%
Poor 5%
No Answer 19%

Program Structure (length of sessions, presentations, workshops)

Excellent 37%
Very Good 39%
Good 13%
Fair 6%
Poor 2%
No Answer 3%

Learned new things

Strongly Agree 36%
Agree 38%
Neither agree nor disagree 16%
Disagree 6%
Strongly Disagree 2%
No Answer 2%

Themes; special sessions, global nature of Engineering education

Excellent 36%
Very Good 39%
Good 11%
Fair 7%
Poor 2%
No Answer 5%

Conference Venue

Excellent 33%
Very Good 36%
Good 13%
Fair 7%
Poor 5%
No Answer 9%
*Painting on the cover is from an original acrylic, *Garita de El Morro*, by Dr. Sandra Cruz-Pol, ICEE Co-Chair.

**Some of the comments we received…**

“Just a quick note to congratulate you for a highly productive and most memorable conference”

“This has been the best conference I have attended in 14 years!”

“Everything that happened during the week was ideal. The conference ran like clockwork, the student assistants were everywhere and managed everything perfectly, the food and coffee were much appreciated, the hotel was beautiful, the conversations were interesting, and the entertainment was delightful.”

**Sponsored by:**

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- Virginia Tech
- Puerto Rico Convention Bureau
- GE

**Thanks for your Support!**