What is ABET, and Why is This Important to SNAME?

ABET is nonprofit organization that accredits college and university programs in applied and natural science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology. ABET is made up of 36 professional societies, and programs accredited by ABET meet the requirements established by these societies. In other words, graduates of ABET accredited programs are ready to go to work in the their respective professions.

SNAME is one of those professional societies. As such, we have a representative on the ABET Board of Directors.

ABET has four commissions:

- Applied and Natural Science Accreditation Commission (ANSAC)
- Computer Accreditation Commission (CAC)
- Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC)
- Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC)

Each commission is responsible for the evaluation and accreditation of college and university programs that fall under its area of responsibility. All members of the commissions are volunteers who have been appointed by their societies to be on the commissions.

SNAME is responsible for college and university programs in Naval Architecture, Marine Engineering, Ocean Engineering, Naval Engineering, and Marine Engineering Technology. As such, we have 2 commissioners on the EAC and 1 commissioner on the ETAC.

The Program Evaluators (PEVs) are the backbone of ABET. Under the direction of a commission member, these individuals visit colleges and universities to review the programs. Most years, SNAME is tasked to provide PEVs for 8 to 12 programs.

This is where we need your help!

SNAME needs more PEVs - especially those with industry/government experience. (College and university programs really appreciate and benefit from PEVs with “real world” experience).

ABET provides training for new PEVs, and pays for all of the travel expenses.

If you are interested in becoming a PEV, please contact me at the address below. I will also be at the SNAME Maritime Convention in September/October 2020.

Thank you.

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