

ENGINEERING THE GREATER GOOD!

Dear Friends and Supporters of the ASME Federal Fellows Program:

I am writing you today as both an engineer and a former ASME Federal Fellow to celebrate the 44th anniversary of the ASME Federal Fellows Program.

It has long been my view that if we want good public policy, it has to be made by those who understand the issues. We need to apply the problem-solving approach used by engineers to understand the realm of solutions, as well as the law of unintended consequences, in the public policy arena.

Few elected officials have technical or scientific backgrounds. We often find ourselves in the position of having to rely on others to provide independent, non-partisan review and analysis of the scientific and technological implications of leg-islation.

ASME's Federal Fellows Program has filled that knowledge gap since its inception in 1973. As technology advances at an increasingly rapid pace, the need to incorporate non-partisan, unbiased technical expertise into public policy is all the more crucial. Public policy makers realize this need and are routinely requesting the assistance of ASME Federal Fellows at a level exceeding ASME's current ca-pacity and available resources.

Please join us in filling the knowledge gap in Washington, DC by supporting the ASME Federal Fellows Program.

Sincerely,

Lester Su Chair Committee on Government Relations

Engineering the Greater Good

Public policy matters. It affects all aspects of our lives,

including the quality of our environment, the safety of our food, the operation of our businesses, and the education of our children. Yet, few elected officials have technical or scientific backgrounds. As public policy deals with technological issues of increasing complexity, it is urgent that it be based upon sound scientific principles.

Legislators have identified a gap in the type of information Congress receives on science and technology (S&T) matters. It is not a lack of information that is the problem. Rather, it is difficult for decision-makers to understand the information and to gauge the validity, credibility and usefulness of the large amounts of information and advice received on a daily basis from various constituents, stakeholders and interest groups.

"Although we would like to believe that the scientific and technical advice and assessment provided from outside remains politically neutral, this is not necessarily the case. In general, groups tend to be slow in responding to real-time needs of Members of Congress or their staffers in terms of science and technology assessment or advice, they often do not know what is happening in the halls of Congress, and have their own agendas. We need unbiased technical and scientific assessments in a Congressional time-frame by those who are familiar with the functions, the language, and the workings of Congress.

"Why is this of such importance to Congress? I can think of three compelling reasons: science and technology pervade almost all issues before us, including many that are not recognized explicitly as technology issues; the language and technologies are specialized and complex, and require translation for Members and their staff; and, Members think science and technology are for scientists and technologists, thus avoiding science and technology themselves."

Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)
U.S. House of Representatives

For the past 44 years, ASME Federal Fellows have filled this knowledge gap by serving as key advisors to federal policy makers on energy, infrastructure, education, national security, technology development and other critical national and international issues which require general technical proficiency and specific mechanical engineering expertise.

In 1973, the first ASME Federal Fellow was charged with drafting a committee staff report on "Initiatives in Energy Conservation" which laid out the rationale for possible legislative action to ease energy prices in the wake of the Arab Oil Embargo. Initial hearings on automobile fuel economy standards and appliance

efficiency labeling followed and, in time, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act was signed into law. That same ASME Federal Fellow was also called upon to draft legislation and organize hearings on a new office to be established within the White House, an office to advise the President on all matters scientific in nature.

A track record of informing public policy for 35 years

Four four years later, the results of that first ASME Federal Fellow's efforts are clear: automobile fuel efficiency ratings, or CAFE standards, are in place and in the process of being raised to 35 miles per gallon by 2020. The appliance efficiency rating program – those yellow stickers on appliances large and small – has been expanded. And, that *new* White House office is the Office of Science and Technology Policy. You see, ASME's first Federal Fellow had the foresight to anticipate the prominent role technology would play in the development of public policy well in advance of the policymakers themselves.

The world has undergone tremendous change since 1973. Energy prices and supply remain at the forefront of public policy debate. However, new issues — climate change, homeland security, national security, health care, nanotechnology and STEM education – also dominate public policy debate.

ASME Federal Fellows have advised policy makers on critical security issues such as:

- The protection of critical infrastructure and assessment of potential threats by terrorists:
- Airport security radiation detection technology and biometric identification technology;
- The prevention of shipment of weapons of mass destruction into the U.S. via container ships; and,
- Consequence analysis for toxic inhalation of hazardous chemical releases.

To ensure that our nation stays at the forefront of competitiveness, ASME Federal Fellows have contributed their expertise to:

- The development of the 21st Century Patent System Improvement Act;
- The Digital Era Copyright Enhancement Act, the American Inventors Protection Act; as well as
- The National Nanotechnology Initiative and the America COMPETES Act.

Certainly not least among their many accomplishments, ASME Federal Fellows are working with policy makers to address 21st Century workforce preparedness by focusing on enhancing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education in grades K-12 through the development of a STEM teacher development program in partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Testimonials in praise of the ASME Federal Fellows Program

Members of Congress

"It has become increasingly important for Congress to include technical expertise involving public policy issues dealing with engineering and science. The ASME Federal Fellow supported my office by sending me technical memos, drafting press releases, working with my staff to develop legislation, meeting with constituents and outside groups, and acting as a liaison to committees to which I was assigned. Your program permits engineers to learn about the governing process while enabling Congressional offices to better understand engineering and technical information."

Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) U.S. Senate

"I was pleased to have an ASME Federal Fellow in our office. His knowledge of energy technologies and systems enables him to provide sound science and technology guidance on numerous energy and natural resource policy issues. ASME Federal Fellows are valuable to insuring that Congressional actions are informed by sound scientific information."

Senator Gordon Smith (R-OR) U.S. Senate

"The ASME Federal Fellow has been an invaluable addition to my staff, working on many science-based or technology issues. Members of Congress benefit greatly from the inclusion of Fellows because we now have experts to consult for technical and science-based advice."

Rep. Robert Andrews (D-NJ) U.S. House of Representatives

"The ASME Federal Fellows Program provides an invaluable resource for Members of Congress. Legislation and policy are created in areas such as energy, environment, national security and other areas that require some understanding of very technical subjects in order to make informed decisions that are good for our country. Sifting through the vast amounts of information that are available and being able to understand and distill that information into something that is useful is the key to developing sound policy and good legislation."

Rep. Heather Wilson (R-NM) U.S. House of Representatives

Federal Fellows

"The ASME Federal Fellows Program helped me better understand not only Congress but also the engineering profession, particularly the engineering design process. As a result of my experiences as a Fellow, the relationship between engineering and government became a central aspect of my academic career."

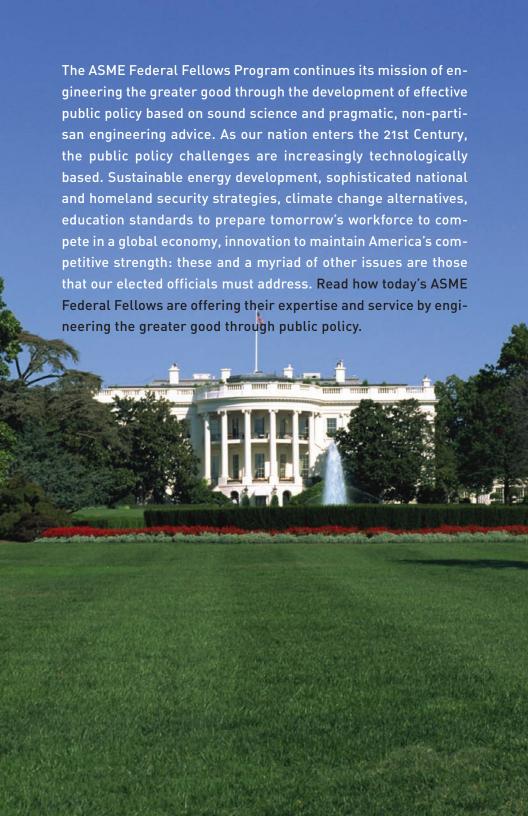
Barry I. Hyman ASME Federal Fellow, 1973

"First and foremost, the ASME Federal Fellows Program provides an unprecedented opportunity to develop a network of individuals throughout the public and private sector. A second strong benefit associated with participating in the Fellows program is the insight such an experience provides to the individual into the processes used to make decisions that affect federal funding in the Science and Technology arena. I believe such insight contributed significantly to the relative success the organizations with whom I have been associated have had in the pursuit of competitive solicitations for contract research and development activities from federal agencies."

Harry Armen ASME Federal Fellow, 1990

"More than ten years have passed since I completed my Fellowship. For me, it was a life-transforming experience providing great new professional qualifications as well as a gratifying opportunity to serve the public at the highest level. Smart Members of Congress seek Fellows every year. Surrounded by political science and pre-law majors, an ASME Fellow in a political office can easily become the wizard of the team, available to deal with a host of science and engineering needs. Members of Congress see an ASME Fellow as a contributor of precious real-world problem-solving approaches and knowledge."

Patrick J.A. Quinlan ASME Federal Fellow, 1996-1998 and 1999-2000



John G. Voeller, P.E.

2003-5 ASME White House Fellow

John Voeller was tagged to become an engineer by relatives from the age of three when he disassembled his first watch and tried to put it back together. His curiosity for all things mechanical, electrical, physical, chemical and mathematical has driven him through five different careers each fueled by a need to know and then achieve.

After the events of 9/11, ASME initiated an effort to bring together government, industry, academia and vendor communities to build a list of priorities that needed to be addressed by the nation. While working on these priorities with

ASME, John was asked if he would be interested in being an ASME Federal Fellow. At fifty-four years of age, this sounded like the most unusual diversion one could ever attempt, but the fear that people who have never designed, built, operated or maintained infrastructure would be making decisions about how to protect it suggested it might be good to be involved. John decided to divert his career once more to learn a new skill in a changing

world called homeland security.

As a Fellow in the Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP), John went from knowing almost nothing about government to providing input, guidance and solutions on national policy and direction. He went from someone who carried every silly stereotype about a "Fed" to one who developed an immense respect for their skills, knowledge and long hours.

Those who have completed an ASME Federal Fellowship seem to say almost the same thing — "it will change your life," — and it does. Completing an ASME Federal Fellowship provides exposure to the immense complexities of decisions that the average citizen or his/her news reporter believe are obvious and simple.

Once his Fellowship was concluded, John was retained by the Department of Homeland Security and asked to remain at OSTP to continue work on infrastructure science and technology across all sectors. His advice to anyone even remotely considering applying for an ASME Federal Fellowship is simple – "bulk up your flexibility, maximize your physical and intellectual energy and then, just do it! The world will look different to you in ways no other experience can compare!"

Donna J. Michalek, PhD

2002 Congressional Fellow Office of Sen. James M. Inhofe (R-OK)

"I grew up in New Hampshire," says Donna Michalek. "I can remember someone named Chip Carter asking my dad to support his father in the 1976 presidential primary. Such is life every four years in New Hampshire."

Donna's talent in math and science led her into the field of mechanical engineering, eventually earning a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering and going into academia because of a passion for teaching. During her first visit to Washington, D.C., Donna participated in a self-guided tour of the Capitol Building. "As I walked around the Capitol I kept thinking, "this would be such a cool place to work." So when an announcement seeking applicants for the ASME Federal Fellows program

came across my email inbox, I applied."

Donna spent her sabbatical from Michigan Technological University working in the office of Senator James M. Inhofe (R-OK). "It was an incredible and unforgettable experience." Senator Inhofe's two primary committee assignments were Armed Services and Environment and Public Works (EPW), and she was involved with issues for both committees. She was the primary contact person in the office for nuclear and water issues and staffed the Senator for EPW and Armed Services hearings.

Donna returned to Michigan Tech, where she is currently serving as Assistant Provost. "My time on Capitol Hill taught me some very important things about communicating with elected officials, which occurs more often than most people think at a state institution of higher education. Most faculty members are accustomed to making a point in a 20 minute conference presentation slot or a 50 minute class. Elected officials do not have that much time so one pagers and two-minute elevator pitches are the normal means of knowledge transfer. Donna has been transferring this skill to the faculty at Michigan Tech through a series of University-sponsored sessions she has organized to initiate interdisciplinary research using brief research presentations given by faculty.

"The many skills that I learned, knowledge I gained, and people I met during my fellowship year have helped me immensely in the administrative roles that I have assumed over the past several years. At the beginning of your fellowship year everyone tells you it will change you life, and it does!"

George A. Borlase, Ph.D, P.E.

2007- 8 ASME Federal Government Fellow

George Borlase has always been on a very nonlinear career path. After graduating from the US Coast Guard Academy with a BS in Mechanical Engineering, he served on a ship not as an engineer, but as a deck officer. Upon completion of his Master's degree in engineering at the University of Michigan, he worked at the Coast Guard Marine Safety Center, evaluating ship stability and investigating fishing vessel accidents. More recently, he joined the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab, working with physicists and mathematicians on national security and nuclear weapon security issues.

It was the experience of conducting his dissertation research on low Reynolds number fluid flow with the Food and Drug Administration and undertaking forensic investigations and performing regulatory reviews on ship construction, that made George realize he wasn't interested in focusing on only one area. "I was working on many different topics at different depths and enjoying the different experiences, especially in working in federal government and serving the public."

George jumped at the opportunity to be an ASME Federal Fellow and was selected to work at the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). "I was humbled and honored to start working here," he says. "There is a strong legacy of superb ASME fellows here, each of whom has made significant contributions to manufacturing and infrastructure protection policy."

George's various experiences served him well on a range of topics. He was assigned to lead the development of OSTP's National Science and Technology Summit, required by law to evaluate the health and direction of science and technology enterprises as they relate to American competitiveness. "Every day was something new and required me to reach into the proverbial tool bag to look at a problem a different way. Critical thinking skills and engineering approaches were invaluable in tackling every assignment. In addition,

I was developing new skills and learning about the prioritization and decision-making processes at the highest levels of government."

George characterizes his experiences this way: "The ASME Federal Fellows program is a wonderful chance to expand your horizons through public service. It's a challenging, yet rewarding, experience that positively changes how you see engineering, government, and public policy."

Johné M. Parker, Ph.D.

2006 Congressional Fellow,
Office of Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND)

Johné Parker's journey to becoming an ASME Federal Fellow began with a serendipitous chat with 2002 Fellow Donna Michalek at a conference poster session. Michalek was flying to Washington, DC to begin her fellowship at the end of the conference and "I thought, what a cool way to spend a sabbatical," Johné recalls.

A few years later, when Johné, an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Kentucky, was weighing options for her own sabbatical, she remembered that conversation with Michalek and decided to apply for the ASME Federal Fellows Program. "I was definitely looking for a unique sabbatical opportunity, and this seemed like an ideal way to use my existing skills in a new way and to learn new things. I was thrilled when I found out I was selected."

Johné worked in the office of Senator Byron Dorgan where she managed several key issues for the Senator, including the vetting and ranking of defense R&D appropriations requests. She also played a key role in the establishment of a Senate Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Caucus to educate policymakers on the benefits and policy challenges of this emerging technology. "RFID tech-



sition at the end of her sabbatical, and now she is paying forward her experience on the Hill in her research, teaching and service activities at the University of Kentucky. "I am honored to have been an ASME Fellow and privileged to have worked in Senator Dorgan's office. I expected to have an excellent experience in DC and the long-term effect on my academic career has exceeded even my high expectations. S&T policy is now an integral part of my portfolio; I'm able to explore multidisciplinary research opportunities and teach classes from a much broader perspective than I could have ever imagined prior to being an ASME Federal Fellow."

Jake Stenzler, Ph.D.

2005 Congressional Fellow, Office of Representative Robert E. Andrews (D-NJ)

Jake Stenzler lived almost his entire life in the suburbs near Washington, DC. Yet, he wasn't able to capitalize on the city and realize his full potential until he spent a year working on Capitol Hill as an ASME Federal Fellow. Jake spent most of his school days learning about math and science, eventually earning a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Penn State University. When a professor brought him to DC to ask members of Congress for increased science and engineering research funding, he caught "Potomac Fever."

Jake was finishing his dissertation on the fuel injection and combustion processes in gas turbine engines when he was awarded the fellowship from ASME. "I've always been interested in politics, law, economics, and other subjects that are not traditionally studied by engineers," Stenzler observes. "The Fellows program provided me with a unique opportunity to really make an impact on a larger scale."

Jake worked in the office of Representative Robert E. Andrews, advising the Congressman on legislation and policy in several issue areas including homeland security, energy, environment, transportation, and telecommunications. He wrote legislation, including bills, amendments, and resolutions and prepared appropriations requests for seven House Appropriations Subcommittees. Some of his accomplishments include collaborating to write language in the Coast Guard Authorization Act (P.L.109-241) and writing bill language that ultimately passed as an amendment to the FY08 House Homeland Security Appropriations bill (H.R. 2638).



Susan H. Skemp

2004-6 ASME White House Fellow Past President, ASME

Sue's first foray into engineering began in the 1960s when she joined Pratt & Whitney (P&W) as an engineering aide. "It was supposed to pay for my night classes. Turns out it was just the beginning of a very exciting career which has lasted for over 40 years." Had she listened to her physics teacher who told her women didn't belong in physics, she would never have been in on the forefront of the early years of space exploration. She used this introduction to high-performance engines as a stepping stone to a mechanical engineering degree.

When Sue ran as a candidate for President of ASME, one of her four stated goals was to promote a greater voice on issues affecting engineers, education, and public welfare. "Now more than ever, this an area in which we as engineers need to excel and accept our responsibility to provide sound technical advice." Upon completing her term as President and retiring from P&W, Sue took her commitment to the next level by serving as an ASME Federal Fellow in the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

"Hit the ground running" became Sue's mantra for the next two years. Many of the same issues Sue had dedicated her energy to during her professional career and in leadership roles with ASME became the same areas she now focused on as a policy lead at the federal level: providing technical advice in coordinating the federal investment in research and development in manufacturing innovation, engineering education, STEM, aerospace, and technology transition. Energy, alternative energy sources, and nanoscience/nanotechnology were specific areas Sue explored in addressing manufacturing R&D gaps and requirements for federal investment.

Her professional career has been a continuum from industry, to government, professional association, and now to academia. "This was a life-altering experience and one which continues to play a role in every facet of my professional career and personal life." In her new career as Executive Director for the Center of Excellence in Ocean Energy Technology, Florida Atlantic University, Sue Skemp deals once again in the area of public and global policy debate. Her advice to future ASME Federal Fellows: "maximize your experience, use your network to its fullest, and above all maintain your professionalism during your tour of duty."

Lester K. Su, PhD

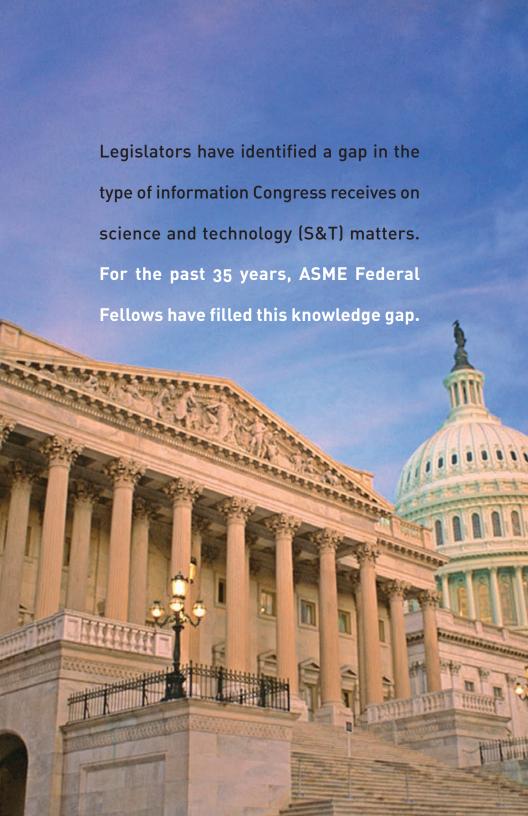
2000-01 Congressional Fellow Office of Rep. Vernon J. Ehlers (R-MI)

"I've been interested in politics almost as long as I've had any interests," Lester Su observes. During college, Lester worked as a summer intern in the district office of his congressman. Now a mechanical engineering professor at the Johns Hopkins University, where his research focuses on fluid mechanics and combustion, Lester says, "It's clear to anyone who knows me that I'm an engineer and a teacher."

So how did Lester end up as an ASME Federal Fellow? "I started working extensively with kids when I was in graduate school at Michigan," he says. At first he coached baseball, basketball and hockey teams, and then he moved into education, tutoring in math and reading programs for at-risk students. While he was a research fellow at Stanford University, he organized an afterschool science program at a charter school serving mainly low-income students. "I was spending a lot of time in public schools and thinking that I'd like to become more familiar with the underlying government process," Lester recalls. "I was especially interested in STEM education issues, which were beginning to get the attention of policymakers on the national level."

An ad for the fellows program in Mechanical Engineering magazine caught Lester's eye, and he was awarded an ASME fellowship in 2000. "I knew about Congressman Ehlers, that he was a scientist and professor with a PhD, that he worked on STEM issues extensively," Lester says. "I was very fortunate to land a position on his staff." In his year on the Hill, Lester contributed to STEM legislation introduced by Rep. Ehlers and rallied support for widespread increases in funding for research in engineering and the physical sciences.

Now back into academia, Lester views his ASME Federal Fellowship as a terrific experience. "I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to learn how things work in government from the inside and to have contributed to the advancement of STEM legislation. As both an engineer and a teacher, I am confident that the STEM legislation I worked on will be a catalyst for the next generation of engineers and scientists. I have a whole different perspective on how engineering research and education fit into the world at large."



ASME Federal Fellows Engineering the Greater Good 1973 – 2017

Henry Abeyta
Dennis M. Achgill

Iohn Ahlen

Matthew Allen

Daniel J. Alpert Arlan K. Andrews

Harry Armen Tim Athan

Kenneth R. Balkey

Anthony Barrett

William B. Bedesem

Thomas C. Bickel

Avtar S. Bining

Elden C. Boes

George A. Borlase Susan Ipri Brown

James M. Chavez

Ljiljana V. Ciric

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Daniel C. Deckler

Martin C. Edelson

Dennis Mike Egan

Robert A. Ellson

Earl H. Franklin

Lisa A. Gray

Philip Grossweiler

Prabhat Hajela

William C. Ham

Thomas M. Houlihan

Henry K. Hurwicz Barry I. Hyman

James W. Jones

E. Marcia Katz

Kevin Kennedy

Robert Kennedy, III

Dennis Kried Steven Kurtz

Rebecca Lankey

John Larson

Janos Laszlo

Gary L. Laughlin Connie L. Lausten

Stephen Lehrman

John D. Leland

Phillip J. Lengendre

Thomas Lo

Barry T. Lubin
Thomas J. Mackin

Leo Macklin

John A. Mayer, Jr. William McGill

Donna J. Michalek

Knox T. Millsaps

Michael Molnar

Vahid Motevalli

James C. Moxley

Burke E. Nelson

Johné Parker

Wayne B. Paugh

Darrell Pepper

Thomas D. Pestorius

Julie A. Pollitt

Patrick J. A. Quinlan

David K. Reese

Royce M. Reinecke

Archibald S. Robertson, Jr.

Richard T. Roca

Melvin Ross

Michael. B. Rubin

Susan H. Skemp

Garv Smith

Garrick J. Solovey

Roger P. Staiger, Jr.

Jacob Stenzler

Lester K. Su.

Julie Swisshelm

Mark H. Tennant

Olen D. Thompson

John Voeller

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Joseph D. Wendler

Jeffrey G. Witwer

Richard Woldin

Robert O. Woods

Hosts of ASME Federal Fellows 1973 – 2017

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ASME Federal Fellows Program over the past 35 years

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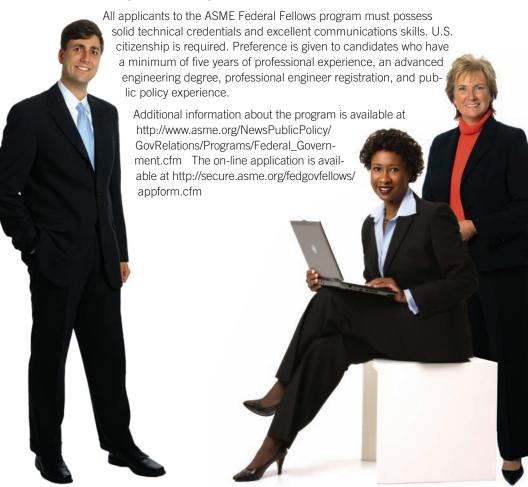
University of Wisconsin

Westinghouse Electric Company Worchester Polytechnic University

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY ENGINEERING THE GREATER GOOD . . . BECOME AN ASME FEDERAL FELLOW

The seven graduates of the ASME Federal Fellows program about whom you have just read are among the many program alumni who enthusiastically share their experiences as unbiased, non-partisan, problem-solving public policy advisors to legislators and regulators in the Nation's Capital. Each of them has contributed to engineering the greater good and, in the process, gained valuable experience and expertise outside of the traditional engineering curricula.

Did one or more of their stories inspire you? If so, give serious consideration to applying for an ASME Federal Fellowship. You, too, can become the "wizard" of the team, the "lab rat" transformed into an expert, or the catalyst for the next generation of engineers and scientists.



ASME Board on Government Relations

ASME's Board on Government Relations has provided financial and administrative support for the ASME Federal Fellows program since 1973. This enriching experience provides an opportunity for ASME members to shape national policies affecting the engineering community while providing a valuable public service to the nation. For additional information on the Board on Government Relations and its various programs and activities, visit http://www.asme.org/Governance/StrategicManagement/GovRelations/Board _Government_Relations.cfm or contact Kathryn Holmes, Director, ASME Government Relations at 202-785-7390 or holmesk@asme.org.

The ASME Foundation

The ASME Foundation funds leading-edge technical and human resource programs that promote the Society's efforts to improve the quality of life for all people. The ASME Foundation is a proud supporter of the ASME Federal Fellows program, having contributed towards giving engineers a voice in technology-related policy decisions. To assure that the ASME Federal Fellows program will be able to sustain its leadership role in applying a problem-solving approach to future public policy development, The ASME Foundation has initiated the "Engineering the Greater Good" campaign to raise operating and endowment funds for the program. For information on the campaign and how you can contribute to the endowment, please visit http://foundation.asme.org/ or contact Judith Kearney, Director of Development, The ASME Foundation at 212-591-7445 or kearneyj@asme.org.