

The 2005 / 06 school year has started off better than could have possibly been dreamed of. The Naval Architecture group was me with increased interest in the Naval Architecture option, switch of the guard, traveling to a far off distant land and guidance from a knowledgeable sage.

In typical fashion, Professor Jon Mikkelsen coordinated an introductory meeting of people interested in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. Over 20 students attended and included their contact information for further contact involving course availability. Students from all over Canada and Denmark were eager to study at UBC.

Later in September, the current Student Section Chair, Stephen Gatz had a SNAME BBQ in which numerous students and recent graduates attended. Topics ranging from aspects of design, the future of the Naval Architecture option at UBC, the growing interest, both domestically and globally, in ocean energy and SNAME engulfed the evening. Also during the meeting, new executives for the Student Section were elected. They include:

Alicia Lenis - Incoming Student Section Chair  
Michael Burgess - Student Section Vice Chair  
Jen Alloway - Student Section Financial Guru

This is an exciting time at UBC due to the strong Student Section and a revitalized Naval Architecture / Ocean Energy program that Prof. Mikkelsen and the students will be participating in. A fun time was had by all, and all agreed that Steve needs to pay more attention to the food while cooking on the BBQ.

Through extensive fund raising, and generous donations from the PNW SNAME Section and local industry, UBC was strongly represented at the SMTC&E in Houston. The trip was eye opening to the extensive marine industry in associated with SNAME. UBC was not only represented well, but also made a significant impression. Jen Alloway was on the record setting, student design competition assisting in the design and construction of the Scrambler, a water-proof, self-righting, egg-evacuation system. Also, Stephen Gatz was elected to the SSC as the Communication Chair. We all made valuable contacts and enjoyed the expo and banquets. We left with strong conviction to return to the SMTC&E in Ft. Lauderdale for 2006 and soliciting enough funds to bring the entire Naval Architecture group from UBC.

Not content to let things lie dormant, the Student Section invited the David W. Taylor Award recipient, Mr. Robert Allan from Robert Allan Ltd. to offer some insight, history and predictions of the BC marine design and construction industry. We had a successful Pizza and Pop Presentation in which over 70 students attended. The UBC Student Section offers a hearty degree of thanks to Dr. Bruce Dunwoody and Mr. Robert Allan for their time and input. Please see the article by SNAME Student Section Vice Chair, Michael Burgess.

