

AESA, MICHIGAN SECTION
SECRETARY'S REPORT
2003

Here is the summary of progress made in calendar year 2002.

I. EFFORTS TO INCREASE NETWORKING

A. Contact: The Armenian Science and Education Fund (ANSEF)

Background: The ANSEF was created in the US to establish a fund to support scientific activity in the Republic of Armenia. ANSEF will operate in conjunction with the Fund for Armenian Relief (FAR), which will funnel tax-deductible contributions to the endowment. A board of Trustees will screen proposals for research support. Formally the ANSEF mission is to meet the following objectives.

- To preserve the scientific and intellectual capabilities of Armenia by promoting Armenian science and technical development
- To participate in collaborative programs which will insure the modern structure based on independent competitive science funding
- To enhance the involvement of Armenian scientists in international collaborations and intellectual exposure
- **Progress:** We have contacted key people of the organization and have been encouraged to participate. We have received some material from the organization.
Status: We have received some communication from key people. We plan to continue our efforts in this area.

B. Contact: Affiliate Council of the Engineering Society of Detroit

Background: The ESD Affiliate Council is comprised of national and international technical societies with chapters in Southeast Michigan honoring the engineering profession each year during National Engineers Week. Nominees are presented by each society, and the honorees are selected by past council presidents. Individual societies may also submit their own honorees who would be honored during the Annual Gold Award Banquet.

Progress: AESA, Michigan Section has been accepted for membership in December 1999.

Status: We have been recognized as a full-fledged member within the ESD. We are planning to get new members through association of ESD membership.

II. EFFORTS TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

An effort is underway to make as many public presentations as possible and to utilize mailing lists in addition to AESA, Michigan Section's membership list. There have been several occasions where we have utilized Cultural Association of Armenians from Istanbul (about 300). On another occasion we have utilized St. John's Armenian Church's mailing list (over 2000). We welcome the support of our members in the effort to increase membership.

III. EFFORTS TO HAVE JOINT PROJECTS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Efforts are underway to have joint projects with ANSEF organization as well as AESA, California. These efforts are continuing.

IV. EFFORTS TO IMPROVE PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF AESA, SECTION

AESA Michigan Section has created an initial brochure to introduce AESA, Michigan Section to the Armenian public at large. A recent mass mailing using these brochures was quite successful. Section gained three new members. Efforts are underway to create additional professional looking brochures.

V. EFFORTS TO CREATE A HOMEPAGE

AESA, Michigan Section has been successful in creating a homepage to report the ongoing activities of the Section. The homepage, although presently operational, has been somewhat limited in scope and content. More work is envisioned to streamline the contents and increase the frequency of updates.