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Aerospace Section

Marcia Rodney

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Aerospace Section

Marcia Rodney, Chair



The Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division encourages communication and cooperation among information professionals concerned with aerospace, aeronautical and related technologies. In addition, it fosters dialog with entities such as NASA, the AIAA and other important sources of technical data and bibliographical services.

It's never too soon to start planning for next June – SLA Annual 2007 - when we already have a leg up on aerospace because we'll be in the Mile High City of Denver, Colorado. I'm prejudiced, of course, because I work a short bus ride up the road in beautiful Boulder, but I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible here in my home stomping grounds. Colorado is, after all, the 4th largest aerospace state in the United States.

Chair-Elect Amy Smith of Raytheon has been working hard to plan a great program for you. You can put the Aerospace program on your calendar in ink because this June we'll be hearing from former astronaut Tom Henricks, now president of McGraw Hill's Aviation Week. Tom's going to be talking to us about how his career as an astronaut prepared him for a career in the information industry – now if that isn't a takehome, I don't know what is!

Amy will be telling you more about our keynoter in the months to come, and you'll read it in the program, but here's a teaser -- Astronaut Tom Henricks flew four Space Shuttle missions in less than five years to become the first person to log over 1,000 hours as a Space Shuttle pilot/commander. Accepted into NASA's Astronaut program in 1985, he became the only astronaut assigned to the Shuttle Program Office during the return flight phase following the Challenger accident. In 1991, Henricks became the youngest colonel in the United States Air Force (USAF).

Edna W Paulson, Principal Outreach Specialist for NASA CASI, has graciously agreed to speak at this year's Aerospace Business Meeting and demonstrate the Aerospace Database, discuss what NASA has to offer us, and review what they can and cannot do for us as users. Amy and I are both very excited about this, as many of us use this database quite often. Any tips, tricks and information we can get are going to be serious news-we-can-use.

And did I mention Colorado is the 4th largest aerospace state in the United States? We have arranged for a dynamite combo tour, co-sponsored with PAM and Sci-Tech, to the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) <http://www.ncar.ucar.edu/> and the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP) <http://lasp.colorado.edu/>. NCAR, nestled in the foothills in its I.M. Pei -designed award-winning building, and LASP, with its mission control center and ties to Cassini – well, more details are forthcoming as we get closer to the date, but definitely put SLA 2007 on your calendar. Oh, and if you noticed that this tour sneaks you up to my part of the world in Boulder....well, I did say I'm biased.

One bit of business. We are still looking for a chair-elect-elect, someone to succeed the ever-capable and resourceful Amy Smith. This person would serve as chair-elect of the Aerospace Section in 2007 and as chair in 2008. If interested, please contact David Hook at david.hook@mdacorporation.com or me at mrodney@ball.com. This is an excellent opportunity to work with other aerospace librarians, get to know other members of the Engineering Division board, and score serious points with your employer when it comes time for personnel reviews. So if you have any questions, email either of us, we'd be happy to talk with you.

It's been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your chair, and I am very glad to have had this experience. I look forward to working with and meeting many more of you, both in person in Denver and by email or by phone. SLA is one of the most supportive, professional communities it has ever been my good fortune to encounter.



See you at a Mile High!

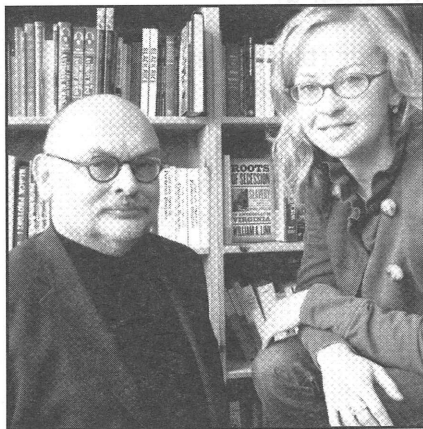
Marcia J. Rodney
Chair, Aerospace Section

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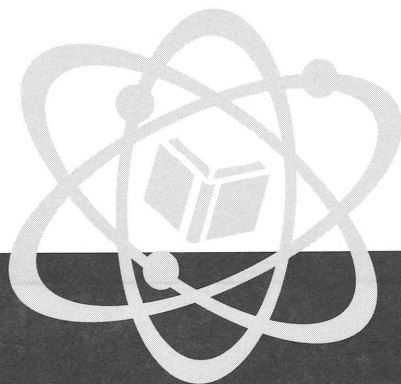
—Michael Powell, Owner, with daughter Emily Powell

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Call for Nominations – George Mandel Memorial Award

The Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division invites nominations from its membership for candidates for the George Mandel Award. The award, sponsored by AIAA and Dr. David Mandel, is given each year to the Aerospace Section Member who meets one or more of the following qualifications:

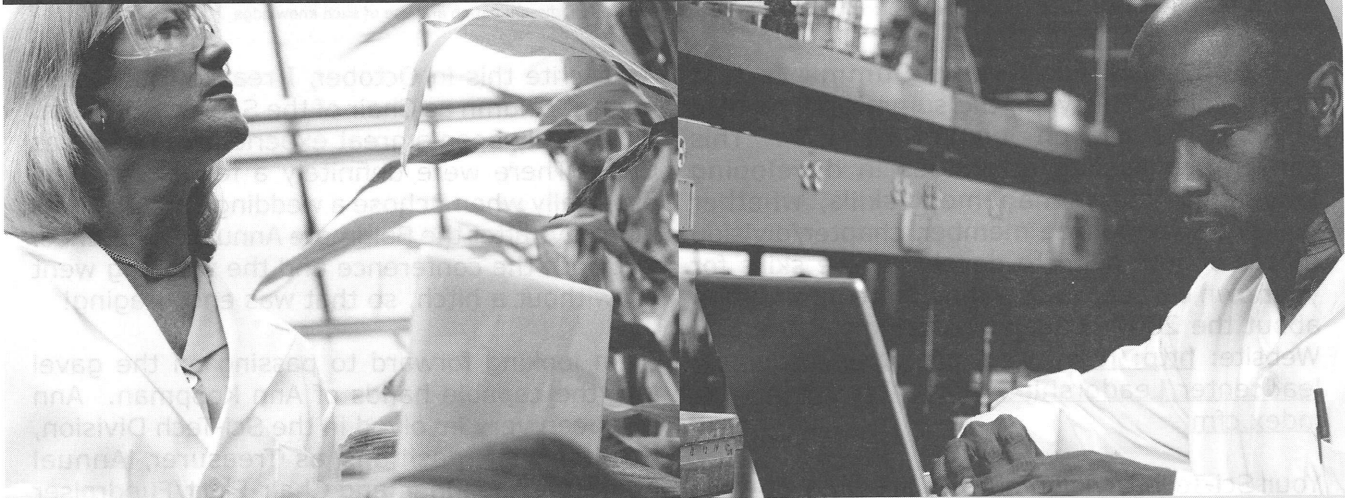
1. A nominee must have been a current member in good standing of the Aerospace Section for at least a year.
2. Current members of the nominating committee are ineligible to be nominated.
3. Past recipients of the award are generally ineligible for nomination, except for momentous contributions.
4. Nomination or application of an Aerospace Section member (either a peer or of oneself) should be based on at least one of the following criteria:
 - a) Present a paper at the annual conference, serve on the annual conference program planning committee, be a speaker or panel member (but not a moderator) of a program at conference, or lead a continuing education segment at conference.
 - b) Become or be elected as chair of the section, an officer of the Engineering Division, or a member of any of the boards or committees of the SLA, or have participated actively in or contributed significantly to Aerospace Section activities.
 - c) Make significant contributions to the profession through place of employment or publications.
 - d) Receive an award for outstanding service from his/her employer in the aerospace industry.

To nominate a peer, or yourself, for this award please send a brief justification to the Mandel Nominating Committee Chair, Eileen Dorschner by January 1. E-mail address (preferred) edorsch@mit.edu or by U.S. mail to :

Eileen Dorschner
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Aeronautics and Astronautics Library
Room 33-11
Cambridge MA 02139

For more information about the Award, please see:
<http://units.sla.org/division/deng/Aerospace1.html>

Questions can be sent to: edorsch@mit.edu



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