Will Schleter Promoted to Senior Lecturer

The University of Tennessee implemented an advancement process for lecturers this year that is similar to the promotion process for tenure-track professors. The review process was rigorous, requiring a peer teaching review and a comprehensive dossier. We are pleased to announce that Will Schleter was in the first class to be promoted to Senior Lecturer. Congratulations to Will!

ASEE Conference Report

Engineering Fundamentals presented a paper and poster at the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Annual Conference, June 10-13, in San Antonio.

- Richard Bennett presented a paper authored by himself, Will Schleter, and Raj Raman (Iowa State University) titled “A Success Enhancement Program after the First Test in Freshman Engineering.” The paper described and analyzed our success enhancement program, whereby students can earn points back after the first test based on completing specified enrichment activities. The study concluded that very early intervention is needed, sometimes prior to the first test. The paper is viewable at http://ef.engr.utk.edu/efd/publications/success-enhancement/3721.pdf.

- A poster entitled “Effects of an Early Homework Completion Bonus,” authored by Richard Bennett and Will Schleter of Engineering Fundamentals, and Taimi Olsen and Stan Guffey of the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center, was presented at the ASEE conference, after its favorable reception at the NSF Grantee’s Conference last March. The positive effects outlined in the presentation greatly derives from the bonus system, which encourages students to discover engineering for themselves and disincentives procrastination. Improved preparation for lecture and recitation, and reinforcement of learning are also benefits identified by some students in the mid-semester survey. The poster and paper can be viewed at http://ef.engr.utk.edu/efd/rigee/.

Betsy White Attends WEPAN Conference

Lecturer Betsy White attended the 2012 Women in Engineering Pro-Active Network (WEPAN) conference, June 25-27, Columbus, Ohio. Conference sessions focused on recruitment and retention in engineering, specifically for minorities and females. A highlight of the conference was a tour of the Ohio State University Engineering Education and Innovation Center, which provided an inside look at the structure of their first year engineering program.

Engineering Fundamentals Looking for Academic Support Specialist

Our Support Specialist, Frances Nichols, received a full scholarship to pursue a PhD in Information Sciences, and is leaving August 1. We thank her for all her contributions this past year and wish her the best in her endeavors. We are currently searching for a replacement. Interested applicants can find information on the UT Human Resources website, http://hr.utk.edu/recruitment/ requisition 50125089.