



Solar Energy Division



History and Objectives

Formed in 1966 to:

- Promote the art, science, and practice of mechanical engineering in the field of solar and renewable energy
- Represent and support the interests of the Division's membership to the ERB and COE
- Foster research, development and publication of information within our Division's scope
- Provide suitable recognition for engineering achievements in the field of solar and renewable energy.



Technical Committees

- Conservation and Solar Buildings
- Fundamentals and Theory
- Heating and Cooling
- Photovoltaics
- Solar Chemistry and Bio Conversion
- Solar Ponds and OTEC
- Solar Space Applications
- Solar Thermal Power
- Testing and Measurement
- Wind Energy

Scientific & Engineering Disciplines

- Heat transfer and fluid mechanics
- Systems analysis and integration
- Structures
- Controls
- Electric power and electronics
- Resource assessment
- Chemistry and biology
- Optics

Conferences

- International Solar Energy Conference
 - Annually in spring/summer, many partners
 - Every 4 years in Hawaii
 - About 100 papers/year from SED
 - 2005 Special Topic is “Solar Energy: Bringing Water to the World”
- Wind Power Conference
 - Annually in Reno in January
 - Partnered with AIAA
- Sessions at IMECE
- Open to other ideas and collaborations

Publications

- Journal of Solar Energy Engineering
 - Quarterly transactions
 - 70 articles (500 pages) per year
- Annual Conference Proceedings
- Division Newsletter

Awards

- Graduate Student Award
 - for research in a solar-related area (annual)
- Yellott Award
 - for life-time achievements in solar energy activities (bi-annual)
- Best Papers
 - for outstanding technical papers and presentations (annual @ Conferences)



Student Competition

- ASME “Solar Splash” Solar Boat Competition
 - 30 teams, national and international
 - Solar/electric boat design, construct, and compete
 - Annual 5-day competition in Buffalo, NY