

Message from the Chair

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If you are like me, at the end of the school year you ask yourself did I give my students my very best or were there times when I was on automatic pilot. What is it that makes me do my very best? One major reason is involvement in our Engineering Design Graphics Division. Inspiration is easy; in fact it only takes one thing: one interesting paper; one vendor showing off the latest software, textbook, or gadget; one unique idea about better teaching; one member showing his or her enthusiasm about their presentation; or the excitement in the eyes of a new member.

As I was perusing through past journals one article caught my eye and I had to stop and read it. Our journal provides continuity and intellectual stimulation. Intellectual stimulation is a great reason for belonging to EDGD but what are some other reasons for belonging to EDGD. The following are reasons why I'm glad to be a member: our vendors keep us on the cutting edge; there is security knowing there is always someone that can help you answer a graphics problem; our meetings are fun with lots of conviviality, we get to travel to exotic places like Houghton MI; EDGD provides us with an avenue to promotion and tenure; it's great to see how other institutions teach graphics; EDGD has awards for great papers, presentations, and for service to the division; one of the most exciting highlights of one's career is hosting a midyear meeting; and finally when you want to discuss the latest graphics technology your audience doesn't find you boring or strange.

Our division cannot continue to be successful without the help of its members. Start out small by volunteering to moderate a technical paper session or volunteer to be on a committee. Take the time to recruit new members. Since our EDG journal provides continuity to our division from year to year support it by contributing papers and encourage others to submit papers. Run for a directorship. The director of membership recruits new members, the director of publications is the editor of the EDG journal, the director of programs facilitates the sites and programs at our midyear and annual conferences, and the director of communications keeps the division membership informed by keeping our web site up to date. If you would like to know the details of the division, run for secretary/treasurer. For a rewarding experience, consider hosting a midyear meeting. No matter how you volunteer, you get to know more members of the division.

Being chair has been a rewarding experience. My job was made easy because of all the support I received from the directors and a special thanks to Aaron Clark who took over

for me when I wasn't able to perform my responsibilities and to Norma Veurink and Kathy Holliday-Darr for answering all my questions.