

**Report of “Canadian Department meeting” as part of ECHEDA annual conference
(Hawaii, Turtle Bay, March 13rd, 2006)**

Six members from CHECE-DGEIC attended the ECHEDA annual conference this year from: U. Simon Fraser, Calgary, Royal Military College, U. McGill, U. de Trois-Rivières and U. Laval.

Here are the points discussed during our Regional Department meeting:

1. Our next conference will be in Ottawa on May 8th. We suggested the following to complete the agenda:

- discuss problems with recent accreditation visits by CBA/BCAPI

- Following “Globalization” presentation we had here at ECHEDA conference, an idea was to post student design projects on our new web site (that will soon come on the air) so that students can get experience about collaborative work without seeing their partners, working in different time zones, etc.

- possibly invite somebody to talk to us about time management issues.

- possibly invite IEEE Canada president since our meeting will be held just after IEEE Canada Regional meeting. X. Maldague invited Ms. L. Jamieson, next IEEE president, unfortunately she declined because her agenda is already full that day.

- present a report about this ECHEDA meeting.

2. We also discussed about the possibility for staff to exchange a course load. This practice is common in US, less in Canada. In some Canadian universities, this is a dean decision, in some others, it is the head or assembly decision. In some cases this involves a cut of salary. Some mentioned it is perhaps not good because students then get an inexperienced teacher. On the other hand if the teacher offers average or so teaching, students may end up with better service.

3. Membership to professional engineering association (OIQ in Quebec, PEO in Ontario, etc.) is also an issue regarding to accreditation since some staff do not care about paying the corresponding dues.

4. We all enjoyed this excellent ECHEDA meeting, too bad the weather was not so good with much rain!

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