

Invited Speaker

2007 ASEE IL/IN Section Conference

Biography of Gerald S. Jakubowski

Gerald S. Jakubowski, is the 13th president of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. He began his service at the college on July 1, 2006.

Jakubowski came to Rose-Hulman from Arizona State University where he served as vice president and provost at the ASU Polytechnic campus. While there he was responsible for leading the transition of the former Arizona State University East campus in Mesa into a premier polytechnic institution. Among the 30 programs offered to the 5,000 students on the campus are bachelor's degrees in science and engineering along with master's degrees in computing studies and technology.

In his first year as provost, he created an aggressive five-year academic development plan to provide new programs and facilities. He also developed new opportunities for the Mesa community to become involved with the campus and the development of its plans.

Prior to his appointment at Arizona State, he served 14 years as Dean of the College of Science and Engineering and professor of mechanical engineering at Loyola Marymount University (LMU), a private institution in Los Angeles, Calif. During his tenure at LMU, the academic quality and diversity of incoming freshmen increased. He was involved in university-wide, major capital fundraising campaigns that raised \$19 million for a new science and engineering building, created funding for significant renovations to other facilities in the college and raised support to create endowed faculty chairs.

Before becoming dean at Loyola Marymount, Jakubowski was interim dean of engineering, associate dean of engineering and professor of engineering in the Herff College of Engineering at Memphis State University. Prior to that position, he was assistant dean of engineering and associate professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Toledo. He also served as a faculty member at the University of South Alabama.

A native of Toledo, Ohio, Jakubowski earned the Ph.D. in engineering science and the master's and bachelor's degrees in mechanical engineering from the University of Toledo. His areas of engineering expertise include thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, heat transfer and energy. He is a registered professional engineer.

Jakubowski has been involved in engineering education developments on a national basis. He currently is chair of policy for the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. ABET is the recognized accrediting agency for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering and technology in the United States.

In 2001, he served as national president of the American Society for Engineering Education after serving as vice president and a member of its Board of Directors. The organization consists of 12,000 members committed to developing policies and programs that enhance opportunities for faculty. It also strives to increase student interest in pursuing a degree in engineering. He has served in many leadership positions in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Society of Automotive Engineers.

Jakubowski has received numerous honors. He was elected as a Fellow in the Institute for the Advancement of Engineering, the American Society for Engineering Education and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in 1994, 1999 and 2001 respectively. He received the Excellence in Engineering Education Award from the Society of Automotive Engineers in 1998. He has served twice as a NASA Faculty Fellow, and received honors for his teaching from the Society of Automotive Engineers and the University of Toledo.

The president and his wife, Lynn, live in Terre Haute near campus. He has a son and a daughter. Daughter, Jamie is a high-school mathematics teacher in Huntington Beach, Calif. Son Jerrold is an electrical engineer. He his wife, Kristin, a kindergarten teacher, live in the Philadelphia area. They have a daughter, Annabelle.

Jakubowski said Rose-Hulman's national reputation and the commitment of its campus community to the mission of the Institute were among the reasons he applied for the presidency

Invited Speaker

2007 ASEE IL/IN Section Conference

Biography of James L. Melsa

A distinguished scholar, an award-winning educator, and a visionary corporate leader, Dr. James L. Melsa has served as dean of the Iowa State University College of Engineering from 1995 to 2004. Previously, he spent 11 years at Tellabs Inc., Lisle, Ill., including appointments as vice president of strategic planning and advanced technology, vice president of research and development, and vice president of strategic quality and process management.

Melsa also was on the faculty at the University of Notre Dame for 11 years, serving as professor and chair of the electrical engineering department. He also has worked as a faculty member at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, and the University of Arizona, Tucson. During his years as an academic, Melsa conducted significant research on control and estimation theory, speech encoding, and digital signal processing; directed 20 masters theses and 16 Ph.D. dissertations; earned recognition as one of the nation's outstanding electrical engineering professors; and authored or co-authored 120 publications and 12 books.

He was named a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers in 1978 and received that group's Third Millennium Medal in 2000. He has previously served as President of the IEEE Control Systems Society and President of Eta Kappa Nu, the national electrical and computer engineering honorary. He was named a fellow of the American Society for Engineering Education in 2006 and is the 2006-2007 President-Elect of ASEE. He has an extensive record of service to national and international groups, including the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Association, the Iowa Business Council, and the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award (past member of the Board of Examiners and the Board of Overseers).

Melsa received his B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Iowa State (1960) and his M.S. (1962), and Ph.D. (1965) degrees from the University of Arizona, Tucson.