Forging the Focused, Formidable Future of Fluid Power Education
By Liz Rehfs, CFPE, CFPS, Foundation Chair

During the past three years or so, the Fluid Power Educational Foundation has worked through a series of meetings, conference calls, and subsequent actions with a view to “re-inventing” itself for a promising new future. We began by restructuring our Bylaws to provide for a smaller and more nimble Board of Trustees, to enable more rapid responses to the changing economic and educational atmosphere.

Specifically, in the spring of 2012 at our joint meeting with the IFPS, the FPEF conducted a self-run strategic discussion which resulted in a concerted effort to reduce operational expenses. The Board determined that our operating and overhead expenses were in too high a proportion when compared to the dollar amounts given out each year in scholarships. It was a unanimous decision to increase the dollar value of our scholarships – not simply to get our “percentage in line” but also to bring our scholarship dollars to a position where they were more desirable in 2012 and beyond.

At our fall Annual Meeting, the Board conducted an even more intensive full day Strategic Planning session during which we developed an extensive five year plan for growth and greater educational outreach. As part of the development, we fine-tuned or “tweaked” our Mission Statement to now read:

The Fluid Power Educational Foundation will stimulate, advance, and support the science of hydraulic and pneumatic technology through educational initiatives at all levels.

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List Your Internship Opportunities With FPEF

The Fluid Power Educational Foundation actively pursues both funding for its own educational initiatives as well as related funding opportunities for students and professionals in the fluid power industry. We are constantly searching for more possibilities which have content related to the study of fluid power and its associated technologies including mathematics, science, and motion control. If you would like FPEF to list your organization’s internship opportunities or scholarships on our Web site, please email the secretariat at info@fpef.org
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The outreach of the Foundation has been discussed and we found that the number of Key Schools was dwindling – we had only 11 colleges or universities and 2 high schools still qualified and recognized as Key Schools. Clearly the Foundation’s mission is to reach a more significant number of students – in both traditional and nontraditional educational opportunities. By retiring the moniker of “key schools” and expanding our exposure to more schools, we hope to be able to offer more than 20 scholarships in the calendar year 2013. From there, we intend to expand the scholarship opportunities to include an increase of 20 scholarships per year, up to a total of 120 scholarships by the year 2016.

We have addressed the issue of cost versus scholarships awarded in order to bring our Foundation and its monetary policy more in line with nationally accepted standards of philanthropy. And, we will continue to honor our former key schools by indicating their long-standing history with the FPEF on our web site listing of schools. The Board is currently working on a comprehensive new system for “vetting” colleges and universities to be listed on our web site as places where fluid power education may be obtained.

The first additional approach of our new educational outreach, beyond merely increasing the dollar value of our scholarships from $500 to $2000, attempts to address at least in part the desirability of reaching education at all levels. We have approved a grant proposal with immediate impact, for students and prospective employees who may not qualify for scholarship-type opportunities. These grants for IFPS Certifications are now available, for need-based students in fluid power, for employees transitioning out of military service to private fluid power industry, and to educational instructors for their first IFPS Certification. These grants also include a one-year membership in the International Fluid Power Society.

Additionally, there are more new initiatives in the pipeline for the years 2013, 2014, and 2015. We don’t wish to put the cart before the horse and announce them prematurely! Suffice to say we intend to increase the impact and outreach of the Fluid Power Educational Foundation through new and expanding scholarship and grant opportunities in each of the next five years.

I want to thank the Board of Trustees for their confidence in me and for the opportunity to lead the Foundation into a new era of ever-expanding educational opportunities for traditional and nontraditional students alike. While I have frequently noted that this year was like trying to “lead the way through quicksand”, I do think that we are now coming out the other side with an impressive and important list of initiatives which will help the fluid power industry continue to encourage and retain the most qualified and best educated professionals.

Naturally, all of these new initiatives will mean that the Foundation is spending more money. That’s a good thing – it’s what we’re “in business” to do! But it also means that we hope you, our loyal and long-standing supporters, as well as many new ones, will find yourselves able to both increase and sustain your donations to our Foundation.
2013 Board of Trustees

The Fluid Power Educational Foundation is pleased to announce its new Board of Trustees. The following trustees will take office January, 2013.

Chair - James Simpson, CFPAI, CFPS, CFPM, Northwest State Community College
Vice Chair - Jean Knowles, CFPE, CFPS, Spencer Fluid Power
Treasurer – Dan Helgerson, CFPAI, CFPS, CFPECS, CFPM, CFPSD - Cascade Steel Rolling Mills, Inc.
Immediate Past Chair - Liz Rehfus, CFPE, CFPS, Crafting Solutions, Inc.

Trustees-at-Large
(term expiring, 2013)
Rickey Rodeffer, CFPAI, CFPM, CFPS, CFPMH, CFPMHM, The Boeing Company
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Jon Jensen, CFPAI, CFPPS, CFPECS, SMC Corporation of America
Randy Smith, CFPHS, Northrop Grumman Corp.
Patrick J. Maluso, CFPAI, CFPS, CFPMHM - Western Hydrostatics, Inc.

Your Donations At Work

I was honored to receive the Fluid Power Educational Foundation student scholarship. I am excited about the numerous opportunities awaiting me in the Fluid Power Industry. Thank you for this fantastic honor.

Andrew D. Gilbertson, Hennepin Technical College-Brooklyn Park Campus

As a student struggling with debt, this scholarship has been invaluable to me. Not only has it helped fund my education, it reinforced my interest in hydraulics. Dmitry Zhivotovsky, Centennial College

I would like to thank the scholarship committee. This scholarship means a lot to me. My electrical class alone will cost over $250 dollars for the text and equipment needed not to mention my other classes. Thank you so much for your blessings and helping me to achieve my goals and reach my dreams.

Maggie Finney, Hennepin Technical College-Eden Prairie Campus

I want to thank the Fluid Power Educational Foundation for the $500 scholarship. It helps so much with the cost of books and tuition. It is a great honor to be awarded the scholarship and I am proud to be part of the Fluid Power Program at Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie. Again, please accept my gratitude for receiving this award.

Nathan Shafer, Hennepin Technical College-Eden Prairie Campus
Thank You, FPEF Contributors

FPEF is supported entirely through tax-deductible, charitable donations from fluid power industry manufacturers, distributors, supporters, and benefactors. Without this support, none of the FPEF programs would be possible. If you would like to make a donation, please donate here or contact FPEF Headquarters at 856-424-8998 or info@fpef.org.

We sincerely thank and recognize our loyal donors.

List as of 1/1/2011 - 10/1/2012

Platinum ($10,000 +)
- The Mackey Foundation (2011)

Diamond ($2,500 - $9,999)
- Norgren (2011, 2012)
- SunSource (2012)

Gold ($1,000 - $2,499)
- Hydra Tech, Inc. (2012)
- JEM Technical Marketing Co., Inc. (2011)
- The Kaas Family (2011)
- The Knotts Company (2011)
- MAIN Manufacturing Products (2011)
- Parker Hannifin Corp./Parker Hannifin Foundation (2011, 2012)
- Schroeder Industries (2011)
- Stauff Corporation (2011)
- SunSource (2011)
- Wojanis Supply Company, Inc. (2011)

Silver ($500 - $999)
- Applied Industrial Technologies (2012)
- Caterpillar, Inc. (2011)
- HUSCO International (2011)
- Hydac Corporation (2011)
- Kraft Fluid Systems (2011)
- The Kaas Family (2012)
- Livingston & Haven, Inc. (2012)
- Motion Industries, Inc. (2011, 2012)
- Numatic Engineering (2011)
- Pacific PowerTech, LLC (2011)
- Robert & Marie Kraft (2011)
- Schroeder Industries (2012)
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- The Oilgear Company (2012)
- Valin Corporation (2012)
- Yates Industries, Inc. (2011)

Bronze ($250 - $499)
- Air Logic (2012)
- ControlAir, Inc. (2012)

Bronze (continued)
- Fluid Power Sales, Inc. (2011)
- The Groat Family Foundation, Inc. (2011)
- Gulf Controls Company (2012)
- Hydrotech, Inc. (2011)
- Livingston & Haven, Inc. (2011)
- Marti Wendel (2011)
- Morrell, Inc. (2012)
- Proclain Hydraulics, Inc. (2011)
- Remanco Hydraulics, Inc.-Super Swivels (2012)
- RHM Fluid Power (2012)
- Southwest Controls (2012)
- Sun Hydraulics Corporation (2012)
- Zinga Industries, Inc. (2012)

Patrons ($100 - $249)
- Allenair Corporation (2011, 2012)
- Hercules Fluid Power Group (2011)
- FCI Automation (2011)
- Hydrotech, Inc. (2012)
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Jensen (2011)
- Pneumadyne, Inc. (2011)
- Prince Manufacturing (2011, 2012)
- R M Wright Co., Inc. (2011, 2012)
- Ronald and Judy Hickmann (2011)
- Triad Technologies, LLC (2011, 2012)
- Webster Instruments (2012)

Friends ($1 - $99)
- Mr. Thomas Tallone (2011)
- Mr. Robert Kuna (2012)

Memorial Donations
- Wojanis Supply Company, Inc.
  - In Memory of James R. Wojanis (2012)
  - Marti Wendel
  - In Memory of Tina Lanney (2011)
  - Yates Industries, Inc.
  - Liz Rehfus
  - In Memory of Sophie Nagohosian (2012)