2007 North Central Conference
Paper Presentation Competition

**TOPIC:** “Eminent Domain and the Engineer's Ethical Responsibilities”

The following can be used to stimulate, but should in no way limit, the discussion:

1. What is an engineer's ethical duty? To protect individual citizen's property or to promote development on that said property for the benefit of the public at large?
2. What ethical issues may arise if an engineer works for a developer or municipality who is attempting to obtain citizen's property?
3. Should Engineers Advocate Public Entities to use Eminent Domain Power for Economic Development?
4. Does an engineer have an ethical role in eminent domain cases?

**RULES:**
1. Papers are not to exceed 2,000 words in length, must be written by only one person, and should not have appeared in any publications other than in school or chapter/club publications. Reference citations of the papers should conform to the official *ASCE Authors’ Guide to Journals and Practice Periodicals*, which can be found on the ASCE Publications website [http://www.pubs.asce.org/authors/index.html](http://www.pubs.asce.org/authors/index.html). A complete bibliography should also be included, if appropriate.

2. Authors must be undergraduate students and both ASCE Student Organization members and ASCE national student members in good standing at the time of submission to be considered.

3. One electronic copy of the paper should be submitted to TJ Bates at tjbates@mtu.edu. Papers must be received by Friday, March 2, 2007 @ 5:00pm.

4. Each author will be expected to make a 5-minute* oral presentation on the paper. Up to five minutes of questioning by judges will be allotted following each presentation. (*Allowance of + or – 5 seconds without penalty.)

5. The paper portion of the competition constitutes 50% of the final score, while the oral presentation accounts for the remaining 50% of the score. A detailed breakdown of the scoring procedure is outlined on the scoring summary sheet.

**SELECTION:**
Winners will be selected by a panel of three (3) judges to be identified by the host school. Prizes for winners are as follows:

- 1st Place $100.00
- 2nd Place $ 60.00
- 3rd Place $ 40.00

*Note: Submission for the ASCE Student Conference Paper Competition does not constitute an entry for the National Daniel W. Mead Student Contest. While the paper topic is the same – and the same paper may be submitted for both contests – they are two separate events and require two separate submissions. For a complete set of rules for the 2007 National Daniel W. Mead Student Contest, please visit [http://www.asce.org/inside/stud_chapacts.cfm](http://www.asce.org/inside/stud_chapacts.cfm).*