



PUERTO RICO CHAPTER REGION XII



Activities' Report Summary 2003-2004
CHAPTER REGIONAL CONFERENCE
August 25 to 29, 2004 – Jacksonville, Florida

Alternate: Luis Gautier
Delegate: Jorge Gonzalez



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**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
2003-2004 CHAPTER REPORT SUMMARY
CRC MEETING –**

July 31, 2004

Dear ASHRAE Member:

Following is a summary of our Chapter Activities:

Chapter Programs

We have had a very good year with our monthly meetings thanks in great part to a variety of topics that proved of great interest to our members:

- ✚ Current technology from exhaust control for critical environments
- ✚ Submission of Local Permitting
- ✚ Validation Approach
- ✚ Continued Education for Engineers
- ✚ 21CFR Part 11
- ✚ Seismic Restraints
- ✚ Room Design for Pharmaceutical Applications

During this past year we also had the opportunity to get acquainted with the Mechanical Contractor Association (MCA) in one of the expectation sessions “How to Improve the Communication between the Consultant and Mechanical Contractor”. In that dynamic meeting, we surpassed our attendance expectations having more than 100 attendees.

As far as attendance, we average 50 people per meeting.

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T.E.G.A

We have been working closely with the PR Energy Government Affairs Department regarding the PR Energy Building Code. At the moment there is not an official code and Standard 90.1 is one of options they are looking at.

At this moment we are trying to coordinate some seminars for next year, not only to teach about the standard, but also to see if we can implement it as a code in PR.

Membership & Promotion

As of June 30th of 2004, we registered 43 new members achieving 159 assigned members. With this number we exceeded last year's record, surpassing our MBO.

Historian

Although we collected some information (pictures) our membership we were not very active on this Area.

Student Activities

This was our first priority for this past year surpassing our expectations. In addition to the Polytechnic University, we activated the University of Puerto Rico - Mayagüez Campus. During this cycle we had several activities with the students

We are also, in conversation with the Mechanical Engineering Department with the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico – Bayamón Campus to instate their chapter this year. They are very interested in providing training and/or seminars in the area of HVAC Application.

Research

Although this years numbers are impressive we were regrettably unable to surpass last year's record breaking numbers. Our goal this year was \$3,078 and we achieved \$2,540. We also completed our Full Circle Award.

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Treasurer

As of June 30TH 2004, the Total Fund Balance is \$2319.70. This year we had an average of 48% delinquency in Society Dues and 52% in Chapter Dues.

Chapter Problems

Some problems that we spotted during the last cycle and their possible solutions follow:

1. Chapter Program Support
 - a. Problem
 - i. Lack of support from the suppliers to sponsor the activities. Our costs to support an activity (local, food and drinks) are approximately \$1,000. Actual dues cannot sustain the activities.
 - b. Solutions
 - i. Increase chapter fees
 - ii. Provide only Hor'derves during the activity
2. Invitation to the activities
 - a. Problem
 - i. During the second semester we received some complaints about the invitation distribution system (invitation by web mail) even though it was announced previously in all the activities.
 - b. Solutions
 - i. Create a Webpage

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Innovations & suggestions

- Every year, during the first weeks of August, the College of Engineers celebrates its convention. During that time, they have an area for presentation booths for companies and suppliers. One alternative to attract new members is to participate & sponsor a booth.
- Some companies as an incentive, are willing to pay for the membership fees, but are then disappointed when employees fail to attend chapter events. Because of the situation mentioned above, other companies will close their doors to membership fees. One possible solution that could benefit all is as follows: Companies could cover membership fees to willing employees but conditioned to attend at least three chapter events during the year. This way companies feel as if their money and efforts are not wasted and will in turn provide us with an opportunity to capture the interest of new members. A similar approach can be taken with the Student Chapters at the universities, where the professor could assign extra credit points to attending students.

Closing Statement

I truly believe in what the ASHRAE Association stands for and will continue to participate regardless of my position within. I would like to thank everyone in the PR chapter for all of their support during this last year, especially the Board Members and Professors from the Polytechnic & UPR University, without them we could not achieved our goals. I believe that the “new blood” will keep the PR Chapter alive and integrated with the other associations.

Yours truly,

Miguel Pérez

President Puerto Rico Chapter 2003-2004.

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