



## **PUERTO RICO CHAPTER REGION XII**



*Activities' Report Summary 2004-2005*  
**CHAPTER REGIONAL CONFERENCE**  
*Ft. Lauderdale Fl on August 18 - 20, 2005*

Delegate: Ricardo Esbri  
Alternate: Jacques Etienne



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**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT  
2004-2005 CHAPTER REPORT SUMMARY  
CRC MEETING –**

August 10, 2005

Dear ASHRAE Member:

Following is a summary of our Chapter Activities:

## **Chapter Programs**

We have had another very good year with our monthly meetings thanks to the grate support received from our growing membership and in great part to a variety of interesting and “HOT” topics brought to the Chapter meetings.

The following Technical session were presented in our monthly meetings:

- Fabric Air Dispersion using Fabric Ductsox
- Condensation prevention on Chilled Waters Systems. Sponsored by Owen Corning, Insulation Specialties.
- High Volume Low Speed Fans , HVLS, sponsored by Big Ass Fans
- Building Integration, sponsored by Andover
- Variable Air Volume Diffusers, Presented by Mr.Brian Rickard President t & CEO of Rickard Air Diffusion
- IAQ, Building Monitoring IAQ, sponsored by AirCuity

A very Important and Special Seminar inviting other associations such as MCA, ISPE and ASPE as held exceeding 250 attendants. The topic was Seismic Bracings for suspended Utilities in accordance with UCB-97 , Said seminar was sponsored by ISAT and organized by a committee formed between our ASHRAE PR Board Members headed by our President Eng.Luis Gautier, as well as members of MCA and Technical Industrial Sales,. Inc. Four (4) Contact units of continued education were dully accredited by the College of Engineers.

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Last but not least important, we had the pleasure of having RVC Firouz Keikavousi present in one of our monthly meetings, Firouz happens to be a very close, admired and beloved friend of our PR chapter. During the meeting he attended, Firouz kindly went over details of ASHRAE at Society level and was able to collect funds using “very creative” tricks and way only he can do!

We encourage him and other RVC's to keep PR in mind as destination when planning their agenda for the New Year, our chapter would highly appreciate it.

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

## **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 of 2005, we registered 259 assigned members. With this number we exceeded last year's record, surpassing our MBO. We had also 30 new Membership advancements.

## **Historian**

We were not very active on this area.

## **Student Activities**

On October, we attended to the Student Chapter inauguration at the University of Puerto Rico - Mayagüez Campus.

Also, during last year (November), we provided a seminar to the Mechanical Engineering Students at Inter-American University of Puerto Rico – Bayamón Campus. In the same we discussed the principles of HVAC and Application.

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*Eng. Miguel Perez during his presentation at Mayagüez*

## **Research**

Although this year's numbers are impressive we were regrettably unable to surpass this year goals. Our goal this year was \$3,163 and our challenge was \$3,564 and we achieved \$2,500.

## **Treasurer**

As of August 09, 2004, the Total Fund Balance is \$10,867.07. This year we had an average of 40% delinquency in Society Dues and 60% in Chapter Dues.

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## 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
3. Local
  - a. Problem
    - i. The activities are celebrated in a area far from San Juan. We received some complaints regarding this.
  - b. Solutions  
Change location

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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,

Luis Gautier

President Puerto Rico Chapter2004-2005.

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