

The Southern Nevada Mechanical Engineer

Newsletter of the Silver State Section of
The American Society of Mechanical Engineers
www.nscee.edu/unlv/ASME/SilverStateASME.html

Joseph Lombardo, Director of National Supercomputing Center to Talk at Spring Dinner

The Year 2000 (Y2K) problem is often referred to as the software problem of the 20th century. Although awareness is increasing as we get closer to January 1, 2000, much of the population still believes the Y2K problem will affect only people like our upcoming speaker, Joseph (Joe) Lombardo. Mr. Lombardo is the Director of UNLV's National Supercomputing Center for Energy and the Environment (NSCEE). The true effect of the Y2K problem is a source of a wide range of speculation. Some believe that it will pass as unno-

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ticed as another Clinton scandal. Others believe that the Y2K problem will be the catastrophe that ends the current economic expansion and casts our global economy into recession or even depression. The true effect is mostly somewhere in the middle. The Y2K problem, however, is likely to affect aspects of our lives ranging from VCRs to our checking accounts.

Mr. Lombardo's presentation will define the concepts, terminology, and individual

aspects of the Y2K effort. Solutions, compliance definitions, testing, and costs will be addressed.

Joseph Lombardo is currently serving as Director of UNLV's National Supercomputing Center for Energy and the Environment (NSCEE). His responsibilities include fiscal, operational and technical administration of NSCEE. Between 1991 and September 1997, Joseph served as the Technical Consultant for NSCEE. Joseph has been a recipient and principal investigator of numerous grants awarded by Cray Research targeting compile time optimization on parallel and distributed systems. Prior to his position at NSCEE, he served as a technical development consultant for the Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI) and the Advanced Thermionics Research Initiative 2000 (ATRI) at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and UCLA's Center for High Frequency Electronics.

The Silver State Chapter of
the International Council on
Systems Engineering (INCOSE)
Presents
Electric Vehicles: The Complete Story

J. Burba, Ford Motor Company

Wednesday, May 20, 6 to 8 pm
Summerlin Community Center
Cost: \$7 (includes dinner)

Register by calling
Jesse Teal, 295-4054

ASME Spring Dinner Meeting Nellis AFB Officers' Club

The Year 2000 (Y2K) Problem

Mr. Joseph Lombardo
Director
UNLV National Supercomputing Center
for Energy and the Environment

Tuesday, May 12
Social at 6:30 PM.
Dinner at 7:00 PM.

Entrees:
Chicken Oscar with Hollandaise Sauce
or
Roast Rib of Choice Beef, Au Jus w/
Fresh Horseradish Sauce
\$17 - Students \$12

Please RSVP before May 8
by calling 295-4591 or 259-8143
or RSVP on-line at:
[www.nscee.edu/unlv/ASME/
SilverStateASME.html](http://www.nscee.edu/unlv/ASME/SilverStateASME.html)

Article C5.1.2

The following has been quoted from the constitution of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, revised to October 1981:
C5.1.2: The provisions of the Constitution, and Bylaws and Policies and Procedures established by the Board of Governors of the Society shall govern the procedure of all components of the society but no action or obligation of such components shall be considered an action or obligation of the society as a whole. The provision shall be imprinted on any publication issued by such components.

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SENATE RESUMES CONSIDERATION OF EDUCATION REFORM BILL, INCLUDING RESTORATION OF SECTION 127 EXEMPTION

The Senate has begun considering amendments to legislation (H.R. 2646) that would, among many other things, restore the Internal Revenue Code Section 127 exemption for up to \$5,270 in employer-paid graduate-level education expenses. Current law allows an exemption only for undergraduate expenses; graduate-level reimbursements from employers are taxed as personal income. ASME has long supported restoring the exemption.

Yesterday, the Senate rejected a Democratic amendment in the nature of a substitute, supported by the White House, which would have provided \$22 billion in federal funds to subsidize the interest costs on state bonds to build and modernize 5,000 public schools. An amendment by Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) that would

forgive up to \$8,000 in student loans for those who agree to become public school teachers also was rejected. Eleven additional amendments remain to be considered before the bill can move to a vote on final passage.

The centerpiece of the underlying bill is a provision to expand education savings accounts. The bill would allow parents and others who meet certain income restrictions to contribute up to \$2,000 in after-tax dollars per year (until 2002) to the education version of an individual retirement account. The accumulated principal and interest could be withdrawn tax-free for primary, secondary, and post-secondary education expenses. In 2003, the allowable annual amount would revert to today's level of \$500.

The President and many Senate Democrats oppose the legislation as a weakening of public education, and the President as recently as April 20 promised to veto the bill

as currently written. He called it "bad education policy and bad tax policy."

Senate Finance Committee Chairman William Roth (R-DE) disagreed. "This bill empowers families, it gives resources to the children, not to a monolithic establishment that has grown overbearing and antiquated on a diet of government subsidies," he said, apparently referring to the nation's public education system.

Prepared by Francis Dietz
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**Don't forget to vote for
your Silver State Section
Officers
Have a great summer! We
look forward to seeing you
in the Fall!**

-Silvers State ASME Executive Committee



The American Society of
Mechanical Engineers

Silver State ASME

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