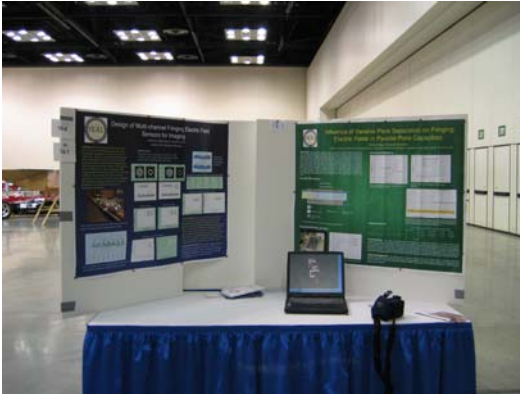


# The SEAL Times

The official newsletter of the Sensors, Energy and Automation Lab  
Electrical Engineering Department, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004

## ➤ All quiet at this side.



Two SEAL posters were presented at this year's IEEE International Symposium on Electrical Insulation at the Indianapolis convention center.



The 20 or so posters that were presented on that day had to compete with Indy 500 racecars and sizzling dance shows featuring skimpily dressed girls for the attention of the conference attendees. The SEAL posters had the multimedia presentation of the underground cable robot to their rescue. But apparently not quite enough. Maybe the robot should consider a new set of attire for the next video shoot?

*In reality, the photos were taken before the session started, and we had many interested visitors.*

## ➤ Awards

- **Abhinav Mathur:** - EEIC Scholarship
- **Eric Tran:** SEAL Scholarship for summer
- **Xiaobei Li:** IEEE ISEI Travel Scholarship

## ➤ Scholarship and Award Alert

- **Mary Gates undergraduate scholarship** – **deadline 10/10/04** [www.washington.edu/oue/mge](http://www.washington.edu/oue/mge)
- **ASNT Fellowship** – **deadline 10/15/04** <http://www.asnt.org/keydocuments/awards/awards.htm> for postgraduate students.
- **ASNT Engineering Undergraduate Award** – **deadline 10/15/04** for undergrads. <http://www.asnt.org/keydocuments/awards/awards.htm>
- **DEED Senior Design Project** – **deadline 10/15/04** [DEED@APPAnet.org](mailto:DEED@APPAnet.org)
- **Fannie and John Hertz Foundation Fellowships** – **deadline 11/01/04** for Ph.D. students who are U.S. Citizen only.
- **NSF Graduate Fellowship** – **deadline 11/05/04** for U.S. Citizens. <http://www.nsf.gov/home/deadline/eng.htm>
- **Amelia Earhart Fellowship Award** – **deadline 11/15/04** for postgraduate students only.
- **IEEE Life Member Graduate Fellowship** – **deadline 11/15/04** for postgraduate students only.
- **AT&T Labs Student Enterprise Award** – **deadline 11/15/04** for IEEE members only.

## ➤ Excerpt from Richard Hamming's lecture – EXPERT.

As our knowledge grows exponentially, we cope with the growth mainly by specialization. It is increasingly true:

**An expert is one who knows everything about nothing.  
A generalist knows nothing about everything.**

In an argument between a specialist and a generalist, the expert usually wins by simply: (1) using unintelligible jargon, and (2) citing their specialist results that are often completely irrelevant to the discussion. The expert is, therefore, a potential factor to be reckoned with in our society. Since experts are both necessary, and also at times do great harm in blocking significant progress, they need to be examined closely. All too often, the expert misunderstands the problem at hand, but the generalist cannot carry through their side to completion. The person who thinks they understand the problem and does not is usually more of a curse (blockage) than the person who knows they do not understand the problem.