

ALMA[®]

ASSOCIATION OF LOUDSPEAKER
MANUFACTURING AND ACOUSTICS
INTERNATIONAL

OUR MISSION

"ALMA is THE SOURCE of standards, news, networking, and education for technical and business professionals, in the acoustics, audio, and loudspeaker industry."



ALMA International Announces Education Initiative (AEI)

One of the key announcements at *ALMA International Symposium & Expo (AISE)* in January was the establishment of an ongoing initiative for the benefit of students, education institutions, manufacturers, and employers. The focus is the lack or limited availability of *electroacoustic specific education* for students seeking a career in electroacoustics. ALMA cannot solve the problem, but we can facilitate the conversation and help to make crucial connections between educators, students, and the perspective employers who need engineers that come to the job ready to be productive.

The ongoing initiative will address the issue on multiple fronts to accomplish several key goals:

- Engage educators and students in ALMA International
- Work with educators to develop content and reference materials to prepare electro-acoustic engineers to "hit the ground running" upon graduation
- Expose students to the electro-acoustic industry and encourage engagement
- Help graduates connect with possible employers
- Help member employers to connect with qualified candidates
- Foster a long term, ongoing member relationship with ALMA through engagement and participation

The initial methods ALMA has indentified to accomplish the above goals will include:

- Aggressively promote FREE educator and student memberships.
- Offer enticements to become recruiters for ALMA. (details coming soon)
- Engage educators to help assemble reference and education materials for students
Already begun and available on the ALMA website
- Engage and encourage students to post papers and resumes in newsletters and website
- Engage members to post career openings and to post resumes on the ALMA website FREE
- Offer career guidance articles during the year online
- Promote an ongoing plan to bring all of the above to AISE 2017 as a separate education focused track that will include:

1. A job fair at AISE
2. Grad students to present papers or presentations at AISE to provide exposure to possible employers
3. Seminars to help grads to plan for and address the needs of employers and employment in the industry
4. Annual award to outstanding educator contributor
5. Annual award for outstanding student contributor

The above is not the entirety of the effort. We expect the initiative to grow and evolve with the input and participation of our membership at all levels. Many great ideas were exchanged at the open Board Meeting after AISE in Las Vegas in January and will be considered.

ALMA International believes that everyone will be able to see the benefits of supporting and promoting the initiative. The first step is a request to our members at all levels to appeal to your alma mater, to students and contacts. Encourage educators and students to join ALMA. *Educators and students join for FREE*. This is about engagement. Talk about this initiative. It can work only if students and educators are on board and engaged. We will have some further announcements about this coming soon.

As always, ALMA welcomes member opinions and input. Please reach out with your thoughts and suggestions. Email: barryvogel@almainternational.org or call 602-388-8669 to chat about it.