



Kansas Professional Engineer

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KSPE Joins Sebelius in Recognizing Engineers Week

The following KSPE leaders recently joined Governor Kathleen Sebelius in a proclamation signing ceremony recognizing National Engineers Week: Left to right ... KSPE executive director Ron Gaches; KSPE President Jay Freund, PE; PEC Chairman Ed Sexe, PE; Membership Committee Chair and Topeka Chapter State Board member Amy Martens, PE; PEI Chairman Don Taylor, PE; KSPE Government Relations Committee Chair Mike Lackey, PE; Vice President Tom Mulinazzi, PE, PhD.; PEG Chairman Jerry Younger, PE; and Past President Charles Stryker, PE.



State of Kansas *Proclamation of the Governor*

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, Engineers have used their scientific and technical knowledge and skills in creative and innovative ways to fulfill society's needs; and

WHEREAS, Engineers face the major technological challenges of our time — from rebuilding towns devastated by natural disasters to designing an information superhighway that will speed our country into this new century; and

WHEREAS, Engineers are encouraging our young math and science students to realize the practical power of their knowledge; and

WHEREAS, We will look more than ever to engineers and their knowledge and skills to meet the challenges of the future;

NOW THEREFORE, I, KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, do hereby proclaim February 16-22, 2003,

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

In Kansas and urge all citizens to join in this observance.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka under the Great Seal of the State this 10th day of February, A.D. 2003

BY THE GOVERNOR: Kathleen Sebelius

Ron Thornburg, Secretary of State

Brad Bryant, Assistant Secretary of State

MATHCOUNTS Update

By Ben Jackson

Sixty-eight schools comprising a total of 426 students are registered for MATHCOUNTS in Kansas. The number of registered schools in Kansas increased by one school in 2002-03. Six Chapters are conducting contests in February. Coordinators and contest dates follow:

Eastern – Stephanie Hale, Feb. 5th
Hutchinson – Sid Arpin, Feb. 15th
Smoky Valley - Matt Bryant, Feb. 8th
Southeast – Randy Timi, Feb 1st

Topeka – Don Taylor, Feb 15th
Wichita – Mark Borst, Feb 1st

The State MATHCOUNTS Contest will be March 8, 2003 at the Salina Bicentennial Center. Approximately 85 to 90 students will advance to the state contest based on the Chapter contest results. Registration of schools will start at 11:30 a.m. The contest will start at 12:15 p.m., and graders (answer sheets are provided!) are needed from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The graders will process a

total of about 450 tests ranging from two questions to thirty questions per test; your assistance with this task will be appreciated. The students will compete for trophies and the opportunity to represent Kansas at the National MATHCOUNTS Competition in Chicago, May 8 – 11, 2003.

Please notify Ben Jackson, jacksonbw@bv.com if you can assist at the state contest.

KSPE Constitution Changes

By Jay Freund, PE, KSPE President

As reported in the last issue of the Kansas Professional Engineer, the KSPE Board of Directors has reviewed recommendations from the Executive Committee regarding the KSPE Constitution. The review and the proposed revisions of the Constitution came out of a review of the KSPE Strategic Plan. As the Society continues to grow and mark the passage of time, the Strategic Plan needs to be modified to reflect the needs and goals of the Society. Changes in the Strategic Plan sometimes cause the need for changes in the organizational structure.

One of the more significant proposed changes to the Constitution is the revamping of the Executive Committee. We currently have six officers serving on the Executive Committee: Past President, President, President Elect, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer. In the past, the practice has been to find an individual who desired to serve on the Executive Committee with the ultimate goal of serving as president of the Society. A nominee for Secretary/Treasurer was placed before the membership for election and usually was voted into the position. In subsequent years, the person in the Secretary/Treasurer's slot was nominated to the 2nd Vice President's position, and so forth and so on, in the follow-

ing years until the individual completed his/her service on the Executive Committee as Past President. This sequence of "moving up through the chairs" meant that an individual had to be willing to serve a six year commitment to the Society, serving a one-year term in each officer position if successfully elected to that position.

A Strategic Plan review subcommittee and the Executive Committee recognized that personal and work-related commitments often times change faster than the time it takes to complete one's leadership service to the Society with our current methodology. Additionally, there are individuals who may be interested in serving on the Executive Committee, but have no desire to serve as president of the Society.

As proposed, all the positions that we currently have will remain the same with the exception that we will have a separate Secretary and Treasurer. The total number of officers on the Executive Committee will be seven. The Vice Presidents, if successfully elected, will serve a two-year commitment to the Society and will be free to move off of the Executive Committee should they desire. We will also have the flexibility to allow someone to serve in the Treasurer's position for more than one year, should they desire to do so and

provided the membership continues to elect them to the post.

Although it is not written into the Constitution, the anticipated leadership path through the Executive Committee will be from Secretary to President Elect to President to Past President. This path produces a four-year commitment. Should someone serving in the capacity of Vice President or Treasurer desire to become more involved, there is nothing in the Constitution that would prohibit that individual from having his/her name placed in nomination by the Nominating Committee and being elected to President Elect position by the membership.

A tremendous amount of effort went into developing the proposed revisions to the Constitution. This work has been spearheaded by Don Taylor, PE and Wade Culwell, PE, of the Topeka Chapter. They both did a wonderful job and should be heartedly thanked for their service to the Society.

The proposed Constitution will be on the KSPE Web Site in the near future. Be sure to keep an eye out for it and for your notification to vote on the proposed Constitution in the near future.

Membership Recruitment is Everyone's Job

President Joseph "Jay" R. Freund, PE, has reported that he is working on the challenge to bring new members and inactive members (individuals who were members, but let their membership lapse) into the Society. To date, he has successfully brought two inactive members back into the "fold" and is working on bringing a new member into the Society.

Jay reported that he approached two engineers, who he knew were members in KSPE at one time in their careers, and asked why they were not members. Both of the individuals he contacted indicated that they were members. When Jay told them

that they were no longer on the roster as members of KSPE, they were surprised. Further investigation by both members revealed that they intended to belong to the Society, but somehow their dues payment had not made its way to KSPE or NSPE.

Jay has also reported that he is working on another prospective member and hopes that he will have this individual join the Society in the next month or so.

How are you doing on your membership recruitment efforts? Have you talked with a new prospect? Have you contacted someone you know who used to be a member to see why they are no longer active? NSPE's

PE Invitational program is all about you contacting prospective members and inactive members to join the Society. NSPE reports that sometimes the simple fact that someone asked a person to join is reason enough for prospective members.

Jay says, "It really didn't take too much effort on my part to get these two 'strays' back into the Society." He also reported that he is not done with his efforts and hopes to have a few more "notches" on his new-member belt before the Annual Conference.

Kansas Water Office leads Drought Preparation

Everyone complains about the weather, but who does anything about it? As the KSPE Environmental Resources Committee learned February 7th, the Kansas Water Office is the lead state agency with responsibility for drought planning. ERC members learned that the Water Office has made substantial progress in preparation for continued dry conditions. According to ERC Chairman LaVene Brenden, PE, the Water

Office has done a good job of anticipating the inevitable, difficult choices that will have to be made should below normal moisture conditions continue.

Long-term Water Office staff member and former Assistant Director Clark Duffy was named Director of the agency by Governor Kathleen Sebelius in February. In a recent meeting with KSPE Executive Vice Presi-

dent Ron Gaches, Duffy described plans for creating technical advisory committees to assist the Water Office in its mission. Duffy expressed his desire that KSPE members participate on those committees. KSPE members interested in participating on a technical advisory committee should contact ERC Committee Chairman LaVene Brenden at 785-272-2252.

NSPE Young Engineers Advisory Council Update

The PEPP Young Engineers Advisory Council made history again, conducting their first face-to-face meeting on January 10 in San Francisco. Chairman Craig Miller and nine PEPP YEAC members met, including our own Randy Gorton (Eastern Chapter).

The group brainstormed enhanced membership benefits and outreach activities for

young engineers entering the profession, and will be working with NSPE state societies and the Membership Department. The PEPP YEAC group also actively participated in the NSPE Leadership Session, Consensus Congress, and PEPP Executive Board meeting during the NSPE 2003 Winter Meeting. Overall, the YEAC's participation at the meeting was a tremendous success.

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Professional Engineers: Racing to the Future

Plan now to attend the 2003 KSPE Annual Conference at the new Sheraton Hotel in Overland Park, June 11-13. Capitalizing on plans to host the Wednesday Icebreaker Reception at the new NASCAR track in neighboring Kansas City, Kansas, Conference Planning Committee Chairman Chris Price, PE announced the conference theme is "Professional Engineers: Racing to the Future."

Continuing the tradition of offering KSPE members a great value at the conference,

registration fees are being held to \$200. "The new Sheraton offers our members one of the premier conference facilities in the Midwest," according to Price. "The accommodations and service will be first class. We're finalizing plans for an agenda that will exceed even the quality of the facilities.

Conference details already confirmed include a Wednesday afternoon golf tournament at Dubs Dread Golf Course (near the NASCAR track), added continuing education opportunities on

Thursday and Friday, and special presentations by NSPE and KSPE leaders. In addition, an enhanced continuing education agenda for Professional Engineers in Construction is planned for Friday morning.

