



Kansas Professional Engineer

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Kansans Enjoy NSPE Winter Conference Highlights

Sunny San Diego was the site of the NSPE 2005 Winter Conference, but attendees from Kansas were busy in meetings most of the time rather than enjoying the weather. Key attraction of this meeting was the much-anticipated presentation of the Future Directions Task Force (more details about the FDTF later).

Attendees from KSPE included former NSPE President Jack Hinton, PE, former KSPE President and North Central Region VP Larry Emig, PE, current KSPE President Tim Austin, PE, KSPE President-Elect Shawn O'Leary, PE, and KSPE executive director Ron Gaches.

Among the many highlights of the meeting was the Leadership Development Workshop for State Engineering Society Leaders by Jack Schlegel, CAE, titled "The Challenge of Leading Effectively and Efficiently." Schlegel described the characteristics of "leading edge associations," discussed the "Keys to Success for Leading in Associations," and outlined the key responsibilities of a governing board (which would be applicable to any local, state or national board). He also examined the changing expectations of volunteers and led a discussion about ways to foster volunteer participation and effectively lead volunteers.

Other Winter Conference highlights included an update on the NSPE Association Management System (including a new membership data base), and an excellent communications workshop led by Rhea Blanken, CAE, titled "Communication is More Than the Sum of Its Parts. Got Any Parts Missing?"

The New Association Management System is a state-of-the art, comprehensive, web-based tool that will include a highly detailed membership database and multiple services that will be available to state societies and local chapters. Following a detailed assessment of AMS needs this past year installation of the new system is approximately 2 months ahead of schedule and will be completed later this year.

Functions of the new AMS will include Member Profile Management with details about contact information, membership history, and committee activities; online membership directory; online event registration and online shopping cart. State Society and Local Chapter functions will include downloadable real-time membership reports, updateable state and chapter demographics, state and chapter forums and online access to best practices resources. Details about the many AMS functions and local chapter participation will be available soon.

President's Message:

By: Tim Austin, P.E.

In January, Ron Gaches, Shawn O'Leary, and I attended the NSPE Winter Conference in San Diego. NSPE's Future Directions Task Force rolled out their proposed model for governance to create a more "state-centric" national organization. In theory, the "new" NSPE would be more responsive and flexible to address the membership needs.

As KSPE president, I am very supportive of a "state-centric" model of governance; however, significant questions remain as to what constitutes "state-centric." What does it mean? How will it be applied? My perception is that NSPE is becoming less of a national organization of individual members and becoming more of an affiliation of state organizations. There is a difference; especially, when addressing membership "needs" and membership "value."

Obviously, NSPE cannot be all things to all members. A healthy organization is one where members perceive that "value" exceeds costs. Unfortunately, the struggle at national is that an increasing number of members no longer perceive "value" for their national dues.

Recently, David Comstock, PE, with the assistance of Scott Uhl, PE, and Brandy Becker, completed a cursory study of the KSPE demographics. Our organization mirrors that which is happening across Kansas. Our membership is aging (i.e. Boomers) and

becoming congregated in the urban areas. In the near future, we will no longer have the financial capacity to afford our current arrangement for legislative and membership activities. A significant number of members will have retired and, as an organization, we are not replacing them with new members.

Recently, the Missouri Society launched an initiative to create a multi-tiered membership category in order to allow state only memberships. Missouri is faced with many of the same challenges of Kansas. KSPE along with several other states is supporting MSPE's efforts at the national level; however, this initiative is meeting considerable resistance.

The NSPE Board of Directors will be voting on this matter in April.

Regardless of the outcome, KSPE needs to look to the future of our state organization independent of national. To that end, the KSPE Board voted to create a task force to investigate state only membership options for our Society. I anticipate that we will be voting on an initiative at the June Board meeting.

"State-centric" should mean that each state organization has the ability to control its own destiny. The future of KSPE, of licensure in Kansas, and of the Professional Engineer mandates it.

KANSAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



"SECURING THE HUMAN ELEMENT"

JUNE 22-24, 2005
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL
WICHITA, KANSAS

Mark your calendar and join us this June in Wichita for continuing education, networking and socializing. Speakers will address engineering and management topics on public safety and security, including *FBI and Engineering*, *Computer Discovery in the 21st Century*, *Refinery/Chemical Plant Safety*, *Boeing Airport Security*, *Bioterrorism*, *787 Design*, and *Solutions for Homeland Security*, to name a few.

Registration fees are \$200 for members and \$300 for non-members. Details and registration are available at www.kansasengineer.org or by calling the KSPE office at (785) 233-2121.

Proposed Governance Structure Ensures State Representation

The current NSPE Board of Directors is comprised of 25 members; the president, president elect, past president and treasurer, each of whom has been elected by the membership; 12 regional vice presidents selected by the state societies; and five practice division vice presidents selected by their respective members. The Board also includes a young engineer representative (with voting powers), a NICET observer (non-voting), SSEC representative (selected by the state society executives), and the NSPE executive director (also non-voting). The Board meets quarterly and the seven-member Executive Committee handles issues demanding more immediate attention.

While the current Board is a nice size, there have been several concerns expressed about its operations, particularly the concern that it has become too disconnected from the state societies. The Future Directions Task Force set out to design a governance structure more responsive to the state societies and more streamlined in its routine decision-making.

The new governance structure calls for creation of a House of Delegates, which would be comprised of representation from each state society (53 members) and the Board of Directors and meet once per year. The Board of Directors would be comprised of 16 members.

The House of Delegates would total 69 members and meet once per year. The state society representatives would serve two-year terms and

would be limited to two consecutive terms. Each state society representative would have weighted voting power based on the number of state members. At the Summit meeting it was suggested that each state representative would have one vote for each increment of 500 members or partial increment, with a maximum of 6 votes. For example, Kansas with about 750 members would have two votes. Large states like Texas or Florida would have no more than six votes. In addition, each voting member of the Board would have one vote in the House of Delegates.

In many respects the House of Delegates would have the authorities of the full membership including:

- Elects the NSPE President-elect, Treasurer and 10 at-large members of the NSPE Board of Directors (who may or may not also be state society representatives)
- Approves all changes to the NSPE Constitution and Bylaws (2/3 majority required)
- Reviews, updates and adopts the Strategic Plan
- Reviews and makes recommendations of the NSPE Budget to the Board of Directors
- Sets and changes major NSPE policies

The Board of Directors would be comprised of 15 voting members plus the non-voting executive director. Board members would include:

- President
- President-elect (elected by House of Delegates)
- Treasurer (elected by House of

Delegates to a two-year term and could serve a maximum of two consecutive terms)

- SSEC Representative (elected by the State Societies executives)
- Ten at-large Directors (elected by House of Delegates to a one-year term and could serve a maximum of two consecutive terms)
- Secretary (NSPE executive director)

The House of Delegates could elect At-large Directors to represent various constituencies of the Society as they see fit. For example, At-large Directors could represent practice groups, geography, interest groups, young engineers, etc.

The Board of Directors would meet quarterly and have responsibility for:

- Approving the NSPE Budget and changes to the Budget
- Executing policies and implementing the Strategic Plan
- Making governance decisions to guide and direct on-going Society operations
- Appoint, monitor and annually review the NSPE Executive Director

The proposed governance structure would ensure each state society would have representation at the national level. The state representatives on the House of Delegates would elect national officers instead of officers being elected directly by the membership. The percentage of members who currently participate in the national elections is very low, less than 10 percent.

KSPE Supports Missouri State-Only Membership Initiative

Earlier this year the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers Board of Directors approved a Resolution to the NSPE Board of Directors seeking authority to create a State-Only membership program as a three-year pilot. The pilot program would permit the Missouri Society to market and sell a state-only membership and an NSPE-only membership in Missouri. The NSPE Board of Directors must author-

ize the Missouri state-only membership initiative before the Missouri Society can sell state-only memberships.

According to Missouri Society leadership, the state-only membership program is sought to provide a less expensive way to become a member of the state society, in an effort to stimulate new membership. The Missouri Society membership has fallen 18% in

the past two years.

At the request of the Missouri Society, the KSPE Board approved the following Resolution in support of the Missouri Society proposal and forwarded it to the NSPE Board of Directors. KSPE President Tim Austin, PE is planning to attend the NSPE Board meeting on April 23 and present the KSPE resolution.

Resolution Approved by KSPE Board

WHEREAS, The Missouri Society of Professional Engineers ("MSPE") has been struggling with declining membership; and

WHEREAS, MSPE is potentially facing financial insolvency; and

WHEREAS, MSPE created a task force to explore membership options; and

WHEREAS, MSPE believes that the best solution to address recruitment and retention of members is to offer a state-only membership category; and

WHEREAS, MSPE is proposing a pilot program to the National Society of Professional Engineers for a state-only membership program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers does hereby support the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers' request to the National Society of Professional Engineers for a pilot program that allows a state-only membership category.

Adopted this 5th day of 2005.

Attest:

Timothy R. Austin, PE
President

Chris Price, PE
Secretary

Emig Nominated for NSPE Awards

Larry Emig, P.E., Chief of Bureau of Local Projects, Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has been nominated by the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) for the 2004-2005 National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) Fellow Membership Grade. The Fellow recognition program was established in 1999 to honor active NSPE members who have demonstrated exemplary service to the profession, the Society and the community.

He has also been nominated for the

Professional Engineer in Government Award - Service in the United States (PEGASUS). This award is sponsored by the Professional Engineers in Government, an NSPE practice division and is awarded for outstanding contributions to the advancement and practice of engineering in state or local government.

Emig has been an active member of both the state and national society. His contributions to the Society date back nearly 40 years, from his earliest involvement as a volunteer with the

Topeka Chapter's Education Committee though his recent term as NSPE North Central Regional Vice President. Among his most important contributions

is creation of the Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day.



2005 State MATHCOUNTS Competition Results Report

Don Taylor, PE – Kansas MATHCOUNTS Chair

On Saturday, March 5, 2005, 22 teams plus 9 individuals met for the 22nd annual MATHCOUNTS competition at the Bicentennial Center in Salina. If you missed it, you missed a bunch of fun. This was the 3rd MATHCOUNTS competition for me this year and I am impressed by how well and how consistently they run. A really big reason for that is the quality of the volunteers we get to help. We had 8 members of the EFK board helping plus three chapter coordinators. All told, 26 volunteers made everything run smoothly. Thank You very much for sharing your time to help make the competition run smoothly! It can't happen without you.

Individuals

1. Kiran Kota, The Independent School, Wichita
2. Sam Ho, Washburn Rural Middle School, Topeka
3. Blake Saffels, Indian Woods Middle School, Overland Park

4. Matthew Sullivan, Antioch Middle School, Overland Park
5. Adam Rogg, Wichita Homeschool Pioneers, Wichita
6. Drew Hansen, Shawnee Heights Middle School, Tecumseh

Teams

1. The Independent School, Wichita – Naga Kota, Coach – Team Members Kiran Kota, Will Parker, Alex Perovich, and Mathew Werner
2. Indian Woods Middle School, Overland Park – Stanley Stern, Coach – Team Members Jake Darnell, Crystal Lu, Blake Saffels, and Grant Wilson
3. Oxford Middle School, Overland Park – Helen Hardgree / Julie O'Neil Coaches – Team Members Pierce O'Neil, Chris Ouyang, Sathuik Vasam, and Geoff Wehmeyer
4. Pittsburg Community Middle School, Pittsburg – Linda Knoll,

- Coach – Team Members Samantha Hightower, Joanna Liu, Nina Mathew, and Trisha Paul
5. Shawnee Heights Middle School, Tecumseh – Suzanne Jordan, Coach – Team Members Drew Hansen, Kelli Krueger, Dustin Mulligan, and Eric Strand
6. Wichita Collegiate School, Wichita – Carol Salter, Coach – Team Members Varoon Bashykarla, David Darland, Adam Grider, and Rebecca Waisner

The top four individuals are the Kansas MATHCOUNTS team at the upcoming nation competition on May 5 – 8, 2005, in Detroit. The Coach of the first place team is the coach of the Kansas team. Mark your calendars now... the working date for the 2006 Kansas MATHCOUNTS Competition is Saturday, March 11, 2006, in Salina at the Bicentennial Center.



First Place Individual Winner Kiran Kota, The Independent School, Wichita



First Place Team Winner The Independent School, Wichita – Naga Kota, Coach – Team Members Kiran Kota, Will Parker, Alex Perovich, and Mathew Werner

Licensed Engineers to Become Select Users of Professional Internet Domain

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (February 16, 2005) - After several years of discussion, professional engineers can finally join the ranks of doctors, lawyers and accountants as users of the .pro Internet domain, now specifically eng.pro for engineers. This new domain is exclusively available to professionals who certify they meet the requirements of their profession, and offers engineers a differentiated Web identity while providing professional credibility and secure communications. The National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), in partnership with RegistryPro, is pleased to announce the availability of the .pro and eng.pro domain names to licensed engineers on its Web site beginning February 21, 2005.

"It's a tremendous opportunity for professional engineers to clearly distinguish themselves as a discrete and select group of licensed professionals," said NSPE deputy executive director Arthur Schwartz, CAE. "In an era when electronic communication is taking predominant importance, having the eng.pro domain will surely raise the image, prestige, and visibility of licensed professional engineers."

NSPE has long been engaged in discussions with RegistryPro, the company that operates the .pro domain, and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) to allow engineers access to the domain. RegistryPro recently extended its registration to the engineering community, citing the strong ethics, asso-

ciation involvement, and public interest with which engineers practice their profession.

"Engineers delivered the Internet," said Michael DelCiello, general manager of RegistryPro and an electrical engineering graduate. "Now they get to use it - with their own signature on the Web."

Only licensed, qualified engineers and their firms are eligible to receive the eng.pro domain. To verify the credentials of engineers who apply, RegistryPro will rely on the standards set by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), local and state licensing boards, and third-party databases. In other countries, local and regional associations such as the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers and the Engineering Council UK will be called on to approve engineers.

Registration of an eng.pro domain name includes a Web address, digital certificate, professional validation, free additional services such as domain and e-mail forwarding, business-card Web page, and online domain control panel. To facilitate private and confidential communications, eng.pro bundles a digital certificate with every domain name. This provides the opportunity to send encrypted and non-repudiated e-mail, thereby protecting confidential client information. Other security services such as time-stamping and electronic notarization are also possible.

"Over time, I expect the eng.pro domain to become the prevailing standard that licensed professional engineers and engineering companies use to electronically communicate to the public, to clients and to peers, their legal authority to practice professional engineering," said Schwartz.

Qualified engineers or engineering organizations will be able to register either a second-level domain name (companyname.pro) or a third-level domain name (companyname.eng.pro); however, in order to register a second-level .pro domain, the applicant must have registered (or be in the process of registering) at least one other third-level domain.

Professional engineers interested in purchasing an eng.pro domain name can do so online at www.nspe.org. Until April 1, 2005, special introductory pricing is available for both NSPE members and non-members. For members, a third-level domain (yourname.eng.pro) is \$180; a second-level domain (yourname.pro) is \$80. For non-members, a third-level domain is \$220 and a second-level domain is \$95. After April 1, 2005, members will pay \$225 for a third-level domain and \$100 for a second-level domain. Non-members will be charged \$275 for a third-level domain, and \$120 for a second-level domain.

Kansas Chapter of American Public Works Association Scholarship Fund Auction

The Kansas Chapter of APWA is holding its annual Scholarship Fund Auction on Thursday, April 28, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Holidome in Salina. This is one of the activities at the annual APWA Spring Conference, a joint conference with the Kansas County Highway Association this year.

The auction will help fund APWA scholarships for engineering students at Kansas University and Kansas

State University, with the intent to support the significance of the public nature of the work that (civil) engineers do. Kansas APWA accepts scholarship applications from both campuses on an annual basis. Those applications are reviewed, and a winner is determined for each of the schools for that year.

The Kansas APWA has commitments valued in excess of \$14,000. A

listing of items available for auction can be found on the KSPE website at www.kansasengineer.org/APWA_AUCTION.pdf.

If you are interested in attending the event, or making a donation, please contact Andy Haney, Public Works Director, City of Ottawa, at (785) 229-3630 or email ahaney@ottawakansas.net.

Future Directions Task Force Sets New Course

Engineers like to tinker. When you see something not working as well as it should, you like to take it apart, examine the pieces and determine how to make it better. With a national membership that has fallen from a high of about 80,000 to a current membership below 50,000 in the past few decades, NSPE clearly is not working as well as it should. The Future Directions Task Force (FDTF) was created following the 2004 NSPE Winter Meeting for the purpose of figuring out what were the problems and establish a road map for putting NSPE on the right course. The NSPE Summit at the 2005 Winter Conference was an opportunity for a mid-term report of the Task Force and to solicit feedback from the many state society leaders in attendance.

Working with the most basic building blocks of the organization, the FDTF presented a new Mission, Vision, Goals and governance model to the Winter Conference attendees for their discussion and input. Components of the new NSPE were presented, discussed and voted on by those attend-

ing the Summit. These Summit decisions are not binding on the NSPE Board or the national society's members, but are guiding the Task Force in their remaining work leading up to their presentation at the 2005 NSPE Annual Conference in Chicago this summer.

A Mission Statement is a statement of purpose and provides direction for members, leaders, staff and the public. It should be general and not contain goals that are subject to change during the planning horizon. The following draft Mission Statement was approved at the Summit:

"NSPE, in partnership with State societies, is the organization of licensed Professional Engineers (PEs) and Engineering Interns/Engineers in Training (EIs/EITs). Through education, licensure advocacy, leadership training, multi-disciplinary networking, and outreach, NSPE enhances the image of its members and their ability to ethically practice engineering."

A Vision Statement is a description of what we aspire to become, not what we think we are today. The following draft Vision was approved at the Summit:

"NSPE is the recognized voice and advocate of licensed Professional Engineers."

Summit participants agreed with the three Organization Goals presented and discussed at the Summit:

1. NSPE/State Partnership – NSPE should be a "state-centric" partnership between national and the states.
2. Provide Value to Members – There should be a seamless delivery system at the national, state and chapter levels to products and services of real value to our members.
3. Membership Growth – Growth is fundamental and naturally follows from giving value to your members. Narrowing our membership focus to Professional Engineers and those pursuing licensure should broaden our opportunities to provide value to our members.