



Kansas Professional Engineer

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Leadership Orientation Sets High Expectations

More than 40 KSPE state and chapter leaders and members from nine of the ten chapters met in Topeka on Friday, August 26 to discuss how the Future Directions Task Force has reshaped the priorities of the National Society of Professional Engineers and strengthened the commitment to supporting local chapters and state societies.



KSPE President, Shawn O'Leary, P.E., addresses attendees at the Leadership Orientation.

NSPE Director of Membership Rob Bergeron shared with Kansas Society leaders how the national organization was shifting resources to better align with local members' expectations and needs. Top priority at NSPE is to become a more membership-focused, state-centric organization, where national staff and resources work collaboratively with state and local leaders to ensure all Society members benefit from Society programs. Central to this effort is the newly created State Outreach office that serves as a central information source for all state and local services.

Bergeron also described the expanded functions of the new Association Management System (AMS), which replaces the old legacy membership database with a state-of-the-art membership services tool that tracks members' utilization of NSPE services, provides on-line convention and meeting tools, facilitates all Society electronic communications efforts and permits members to update their membership records in real time. In addition, the new AMS will include web-based net forums for members to discuss current issues and exchange information unique to their interests.

NSPE has spent about \$750,000 on the new AMS, which became operational in July and is continuing to introduce new reports and services to states and local chapters. The old 24/7 membership database has been completely shutdown and chapters need to have a new password to directly access the new AMS. For information about access to the new AMS contact KSPE Member Services Manager Brandy Becker at (785) 233-2121 or email

brandyb@gbbaks.com.

KSPE will also see a new Engineering Times format in the coming months. Along with a new name, the publication will take on a new "magazine" style and focus more heavily on the needs of licensed Professional Engineers.

At the conclusion of the orientation, KSPE President Shawn O'Leary provided additional details about his priorities for the year. In addition to two transition goals (launching the new Engineers Foundation of Kansas Board and implementation of the Future Directions Task Force report), O'Leary noted three priorities for the year:

- Provide new Professional Engineers with greater recognition of achieving their license, beginning with the Spring 2006 licensees
- Create a coalition with other technical professions to resolve differences between the groups and bring unified programs to the legislature
- Address university professional licensure issues, including encouraging more students and faculty members to become licensed

President's Message:

By: Shawn O'Leary, P.E.

Following our traditional summer break from regular chapter and state KSPE business, the new year beckons. However, much has occurred in this "off-season" which will provide service to our members.

The annual NSPE conference in July, this year in Chicago, provided Ron Gaches and myself with solid information, national perspective and helpful motivation to springboard into the 2005/2006 society year. There are 52 other state societies facing many of the same challenges that we see in Kansas and yet KSPE continues to distinguish itself as a strong organization with active leadership.

I might also mention how well represented KSPE is by our Executive Director Ron Gaches, among the state executive directors from throughout the country. In fact, Ron was asked to serve as the president-elect of the state society executives

committee (SSEC), but declined in order to devote more time to KSPE.

The Future Directions Task Force (FDTF) Action Plan to revitalize NSPE was a topic of great interest, and was adopted by the NSPE Board during the conference. We have already begun to see positive impacts of this plan by virtue of state-centric services provided by NSPE including computer information programs and staff support. NSPE also put its (our) money where their mouth is by allocating \$750,000 this year toward implementation of the Future Directions Task Force action plan. There will be much more to come on this topic. The full action plan report is also posted on the NSPE web site for those members interested in reading the material.

Another focus of the past couple of months was our planning process for the "first in recent years" State and Chapter

Leaders Orientation Conference on Friday, August 26, 2005 in Topeka. All chapter and state leaders were encouraged to attend. It was an informal, yet highly beneficial, workshop to assist leaders in carrying out their society obligations this year. The best part – the orientation conference was FREE!

Finally, I will repeat my challenge to you from the annual state conference. Have you gotten involved in your chapter or state society? Have you recruited a new member to the society? If not, there is no time like the present. Let's have a great year in KSPE!

Are you Prepared for the Future?

Recent events in the Gulf Coast remind us of the need for preparedness and timely action. The best plans in the world do little to protect our interests if we don't execute them effectively when needed.

What are you doing to protect your professional interests? Have you maintained your Professional Development Hours?

Have you kept your technical skills current? Do you understand your clients and their ever-changing needs? Do you have a professional network that can help you achieve your career goals? Do you have any idea where to look for help?

Your local, state and national professional society can meet these and many other

needs. Check our online resources at www.nspe.org and www.kansasengineer.org for quick access to NSPE and KSPE programs and services.

Order of the Engineer Ceremony Scheduled

If you are an Engineering graduate and are interested in joining the Order of the Engineer, the next induction at Kansas

State University is scheduled for Saturday, December 10th, 2005 at 11:30 a.m.

To join, please contact Carol Hewitt at (785) 532-5455.

Kansas Dam Safety Program Upcoming Events

Kansas Dam Safety Conference 2006

Sponsored by the Division of Water Resources, next year's conference will feature both technical and non-technical sessions relating to dam safety issues in Kansas. Dam owners, engineers, watershed and municipality professionals, and others interested in dam safety are invited to attend. Registration begins October 1, 2005.

A field trip, EAP table-top exercise and stream obstructions workshop are featured choices for day two.

Stream Obstructions Workshop

The Kansas Stream Obstructions Work-

shop will be at 1:30 p.m. February 22, 2006 in Wichita at the Radisson Hotel. Topics will include rules and regulations, permitting, and technical sessions relating to stream obstructions, channel changes and levees. Attendee registration begins October 1, 2005. There is a \$10 fee to attend the Stream Obstructions Workshop. This workshop is in conjunction with the Kansas Dam Safety Conference; workshop attendees are not required to attend the Kansas Dam Safety Conference.

ASDSO West Regional Conference

The Kansas Dam Safety Program is proud to host the ASDSO West Regional conference. Join other dam safety professionals

May 7-9, 2006 in Overland Park, Kansas for an array of technical and nontechnical presentations. Vendors will also be on hand to exhibit the latest products and services. Registration information and a call for papers will be posted online within the next few months.

For additional information on any of these programs, please contact Beth Cooper at bcooper@kda.state.ks.us. Visit ASDSO online at <http://www.damsafety.org>.

Looking for Educational Seminars?

The Metropolitan KC Chapter ICC is sponsoring the presentation of educational seminars during two training sessions.

- **October 3-7, 2005:** IBC Architectural Applications, Solving Means of Egress, Special Uses & Mixed Occupancies, Hazardous Materials, Fire

Protection Systems.

- **November 7-10, 2005:** Performing Commercial Bldg. Inspections, Performing Residential Inspections.

Participants will earn continuing education credit. For more information contact

Bill Watson by phone, 816-513-1574 or see web site at <http://www.buildasitefactory.com/index.php?id=332>

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Applied Ecological Services is one of the premier ecological consulting and restoration firms in the U.S. has an opening for a Senior ecological engineer. This position plans, designs, and directs ecological engineering projects such as stream and wetlands restoration, watershed planning and storm water management. Strong project management skills, a Masters Degree in Environmental/Civil Engineering with an emphasis on water quality and hydrology and at least five years related experience. Experience with Vadose Zone Groundwater analysis a plus. Registration as a PE in Missouri and Kansas required within three months.

Send Resume to:

Applied Ecological Services
1904 Elm Street
Eudora, KS 66025
Or e-mail ted.hartsig@appliedeco.com

KSPE Fall Continuing Education Conference

Public Project Budgets and Innovative Financing

October 21, 2005

Emporia Water Treatment Plant

Conference Room

2910 W. 24th Avenue

Emporia, Kansas

8:00 – 9:00.....	Registration	
9:00 – 9:10.....	Introductions	Chris Price
9:10 – 10:00.....	Projects & Families: Balancing Life’s Demands	Martha Lynn
10:00 – 10:20	Break	
10:20 – 11:30	Innovative Financing for Public Works Projects	Elizabeth Garvin & Rick Biery
11:30 – 1:00.....	Lunch Program: ACEC/KCA “Project Elements Papers”	
1:00 – 1:10.....	Break	
1:10 – 2:00.....	Use of Municipal Bonds.....	Rick Ensz
2:00 – 2:50.....	KDOT Budgets and New Federal Transportation Funding.....	Terry Heidner
2:50 – 3:10.....	Break	
3:10 – 4:00.....	Financing Economic Development.....	Blake Schreck

A total of 6 PDH’s are being offered at this Conference and lunch is included.

KSPE Members: \$60

Non-Members: \$80

You may register online by visiting www.kansasengineer.org.

KSPE MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES 2005-2006 CALENDAR

2005

September 16	EFK Golf Fundraiser & Luncheon	Manhattan
October 7	Executive Committee Meeting	Topeka
October 10	Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day	Statewide
October 21	KSPE Professional Development Conference	Emporia
October 28	PE Exam Reception	Topeka
November 4	Executive Committee Conference Call	
December 2	Board Meeting	Wichita

2006

January 6	Executive Committee Conference Call	
January TBD	NSPE Winter Conference	TBD
February 3	Executive Committee Meeting	Topeka
February 4	Wichita MATHCOUNTS Competition	Wichita
February 8	Eastern Chapter MATHCOUNTS Competition	Overland Park
February 11	Topeka MATHCOUNTS Competition	Topeka
March 11	Board Meeting and State MATHCOUNTS Competition	Salina
April 7	Executive Committee Conference Call	
May 5	Executive Committee Meeting	Topeka
June 28-30	Board Meeting and Annual Conference	Overland Park