

Kansas Professional Engineer News

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November 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Wayne Nelson, PE



November is here and the holiday season is heading at us like a runaway train. I hope everyone has taken time to say "Thank you" to our military veterans. Thanksgiving (as I write this) is just two weeks away and of course Christmas and the New Year are just six and seven weeks out. Let me say "Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year."

Travis Lowe and I have been busy with chapter visits; at this time all but two visits have been made. We also attended the events surrounding NSPE President Tom Roberts's visit to Kansas City. The events included a private dinner and a joint meeting with the KSPE Eastern Chapter, MSPE Western Chapter, and a group of UMKC engineering students. Karla Waters and I presented a program to the Kansas State University Chapter of the Society of Women Engineers.

Slade Engstrom, Chairman of the Membership Committee, has developed a heat map of professional engineers in the state of Kansas and tied them to the local chapters. This model has been shared with NSPE so they might help us in our recruiting activities. Slade's work on this project is "Top Drawer".

The Annual Conference will be June 6-9, 2018 in Manhattan. The Conference Planning Committee has been meeting monthly since the end of July. We are currently four to five months ahead of last year with 90% of the speakers lined up and all but one track in place. Great work to the team members working on

this project.

David Pope (Chief Engineer for the Division of Water Resources, Kansas Department of Agriculture, retired) represented KSPE at the Funding for Conservation Work Group September 27 in Alma, KS. The event was attended by a variety of groups interested in water, agriculture, and environmental issues. Please read the report David has provided of the meeting elsewhere in the newsletter. KSPE is fortunate to have a wealth of expertise on water issues and be able to bring that knowledge to this group. The next meeting for the group is scheduled for December 4 in Topeka.

The Government Relation Committee will be meeting later in November to identify issues and legislative priorities. In short, the legislature will have to deal with the ruling from the Kansas Supreme Court on public education funding. I'll refer you to Travis's report for the intimate details of what may or may not happen. Remember to visit with your local and state representatives. Engage them at your community events, social gatherings, or the grocery store. You don't always need to talk politics or issues, but it helps to have that personal interaction when you need to discuss those items.

I look forward to visiting with all of you in the near future.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Travis Lowe



KSPE Members,

Happy Thanksgiving from your association! This year has flown by but we are excited about the new opportunities that lie ahead for KSPE. First, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the association that comes in so many ways.

By November, we are a third of the way through our new fiscal year. The Board of Directors is committed to making sure we finish the fiscal year with a strong positive ending balance. Annual income must exceed expenses; this is non-negotiable. Since KSPE is a non-profit organization and not a company, we do not have the luxury of selling products for a profit. KSPE essentially gains net revenue in one of two ways—sponsorships and membership dues.

We want to give a big thank you to all of our annual sponsors that have signed up so far. This is so important to us. It is good advertising for the firms and goes a long way to ensuring the financial success of our association. We urge all firms, groups, and individuals, to consider some type of annual or conference sponsorship. KSPE Treasurer Jessica Rhein would be the first to say that each one is very important and makes a difference. More information on how to sponsor is on our website. You can also call or email Elsie in our office.

The second aspect is membership growth. Included in this newsletter is a report from Membership Committee Chairman, Slade Engstrom, that displays where KSPE can grow. Roughly just 11% of licensed professional engineers that live in Kansas are members of KSPE. This is not uncommon, as “they” say trade associations usually only get 10-15% of possible membership from an industry. But when did KSPE decide to settle? If each member just recruits one new member, we could be at 1,000 members. Slade’s chart goes into good detail about where

chapters can pick up growth. The Board of Directors has a more detailed version of this report; if you would like a copy, let us know.

Dues revenue is important and we need to expand our membership base. KSPE does a lot in Topeka every year to protect the industry. Tell them the story of KSPE of helping protect Qualifications Based Selection for state highway projects when it was recommended to be eliminated. Let them know KSPE stopped a \$450,000 reduction to the KanGrow Engineering Fund that is important for the future of the profession. There is so much happening on their behalf and we need them on our team. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

President Wayne Nelson and I have had the opportunity to attend several chapter meetings this fall. This is important as it gives us an opportunity to meet members and provide updates on association news. Several chapters are hosting legislative breakfasts or dinners. This is great. Building relationships at the local level is very important. As we look ahead to the 2018 legislative session, we have no way to know if a new attack will come against our industry. NSPE states that 22 states are battling harmful legislation to professional licensure. Kansas needs a strong footing in case this ever happens. With your help at the local level and your support of the KSPE lobby team, we will make sure this is possible.

In closing, we want to thank all of the volunteers on the Board of Directors and committees that sacrifice their time. We also want to thank all of our sponsors and loyal members for their continued support. I also want to thank the staff for all the work they do behind the scenes.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Levi Bond
Amy Dietz
Rod Holcomb
Shannon Miller

KSPE WITH NEW MEMBERSHIP DATABASE AND WEBSITE

What this means for you

KSPE just obtained a new website and a new membership database. What this means for you is a simpler way of doing things! With this new membership database, you will log in to the website and be able to make changes to your account yourself. If you change companies, email addresses, or contact information, instead of emailing us these changes you will log right in and make them yourself! This will improve efficiency and accuracy. **Associate members as well as NSPE - KS members will be in charge of making their own membership changes to their account**, for NSPE - KS members even if you make that change with the NSPE website you will still need to make those changes with us on the KSPE website!

From the website you will be able to see all the upcoming events as well as being able to register online for the Annual Conference!

You can also renew your membership, pay it online, or request an invoice.

The content on the website should be very similar but more user friendly so if you haven't spent much time on the KSPE website now is the time to check it out!

As always as a KSPE member you will be able to see more information than the public. You must be logged in to see the Newsletters, the Legislative Reports, and Career Listings.

To get started

Log in to the new website with your email you used to log in to the previous website and then reset your password to whatever you would like by clicking reset password. They will email you a new password and then you can change it to whatever you would like from there. If you have any questions please email info@kansasengineer.org

FOLLOW KSPE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Be sure to check our [website](#) frequently for current events and items of interest of KSPE and our chapters. We also encourage you to visit and follow our Twitter and Facebook pages.

KSPE President Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/KSPEPresident>

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY?

Check out the employment page of the KSPE website! Take a moment to browse job advertisements from employers seeking qualified professionals at:

<http://www.kansasengineer.org/Employment.aspx>

Are you an employer interested in advertising a job opening with KSPE? Please visit www.kansasengineer.org to market your organization through our employment ads and newsletters.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT—THE OTHER 90%

By Slade G. Engstrom, PE, PTOE – TranSystems
Membership Committee Chair

While working as the membership chair for the Wichita branch, I was asked soon after taking the position what my goal for the membership expansion was for the year, and that historically we had set a target (e.g. adding 5 more members to the branch) for membership expansion. This target seemed a little arbitrary and made me wonder what the pool for the region was, and how are membership compared to the available pool. As a civil engineer, I thought we were fairly well represented, but understood that the other members were often not as active, but there may be a variety of reasons for this. Working with Amber at the time, we were able to get a list of the licensed engineers in Kansas, including address from the KSBTP for use in our membership study (Kansas does not license by discipline, so the list is all engineers), provided that we limit the use to myself and now Elsie's position, and only use it in aggregate form (we can't solicit individuals out of the database or compare name for name). Using this list I cross referenced it with our membership list, and broke it out by chapter. The following is a discussion based on the aggregate details for the state, individual branch details as well as recommendations for further discussion. There are some minor discrepancies between the datasets (e.g. if your KSBTP notices is set to go to your house, but your KSPE mailings go to your workplace).

Statewide Results

Table 1 and Figure 1 show a breakdown of the location of the potential engineering pool geographically. This data is from approximately July of 2016. The results essentially tell us that on a statewide basis, approximately 90% of the licensed engineers do not feel that KSPE is relevant enough to join at the current membership rates. Smokey Valley, Tri-Valley and Wichita areas are the top 3 for membership hovering around 30% on the KSPE to PE ratio. Chapter breakdowns further below will show results by county and further by zip code.

| Chapter | Licensed PEs in Area | KSPE members in area | % KSPE to PE | Potential Members |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Eastern | 2549 | 118 | 5 % | 2431 |
| High Plains | 53 | 8 | 15 % | 45 |
| Smokey Valley | 157 | 48 | 31 % | 109 |
| Southeast | 55 | 4 | 7 % | 51 |
| Topeka | 686 | 116 | 17 % | 570 |
| Tri Valley | 138 | 43 | 31 % | 95 |
| Wichita | 523 | 135 | 26 % | 388 |
| Grand Total | 4161 | 472 | 11 % | 3689 |

Table 1: Statewide Results by branch and aggregate.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT—THE OTHER 90% CONTINUED

Figure 1: Heatmap of state wide potential membership.

Counties to look at expansion:

Smokey Valley- Saline, McPherson, Barton

Tri- Valley – Riley and Pottawattamie

Wichita- Sedgwick, Butler and Harvey

Topeka- Shawnee and Douglas

High Plains- Finney, Pratt and Rawlins

Southeast – Crawford, Montgomery and Neosho

Eastern- Johnson

I believe in order to take the next steps as an organization we have to answer the following question both at the state level and individually as the chapter level:

How do we engage the other 90%?

This is the root of our issues, and each chapter and as a state we need to examine how we develop our membership and how do we bring greater value to our members. KSPE is the only organization dedicated to protecting the licensure of professional engineers, and needs to do a better job telling our story (how many bills and laws have been changed in the last year due in part to our lobbying efforts)? I believe there are a few fronts we can improve, one is simply developing (or redeveloping national materials to fit our local needs) a marketing materials to target new membership. In addition engaging the chapter leadership to identify companies and government engineers who aren't members and meeting with them to solicit feedback on how to make the organization or chapters more relevant to their organizations, we should be working with the schools with engineering programs to develop relationships with students prior to joining in the workforce.

Lastly, I do believe that with the information above, we should develop an engagement plan (similar to how and why I started down this track, and track our progress, key questions that the plan should address is "How many members should we have?" and "What timeframe should we achieve this membership goal?").

From my perspective we should be opposite (we should have greater than 90% on the KSPE to PE ratio). While this seems like a lofty goal, I believe that is where we should set our sights. The second question is a little harder for me to answer. Given our current membership, this goal would be a long term goal (20 years or so), with much of the gains coming in the later years since initial investments in developing the engagement materials and retooling (if necessary) the local meeting structures have to be the first steps in the process.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT... TRAVIS LOWE

Member Spotlight: KSPE Executive Director Travis Lowe

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Kansas.

What is your employment history? In January, I start my eleventh legislative session in state politics, which includes work in three major government relations firms with two years serving as Legislative Director for the Kansas Senate President.

Tell us about your family. I am the oldest of four sons that are six years apart from top to bottom, so we are very close. I have been blessed with two outstanding parents that just celebrated their 35th anniversary. I am engaged to be married to miss Taylor Schettler in 2018.



What is your greatest accomplishment to date? It is hard to single out one specific moment but honestly, I am just thrilled to be working in a career that I love and found a person that I will cherish for the rest of my life.

One fun fact about you: I am an Eagle Scout.

What do you like to do with your free time? I love to travel and be outdoors. My family also owns an elk ranch in southeast Kansas and I love it.

FAVORITES

Restaurant: La Hacienda Ranch in Dallas, Texas. (It's worth the drive)

Vacation Spot: Grand Cayman Island or St. Thomas (depends on the day)

Sports Team: Dallas Cowboys

Song or Music Artist: Tom Petty

KSPE REPORT ON FUNDING FOR CONSERVATION WORK GROUP MEETING

KSPE was invited to participate in a “Funding for Conservation Work Group” meeting on September 27, 2017, with David Pope, PE, representing KSPE. The meeting was attended by representatives of 15 or so organizations with interests ranging from agriculture, water, conservation, grazing, and land trusts to recreation, wildlife protection, wetlands and streams, and environmental education. It was noted that water and natural resources help power the Kansas economy and a significant portion of the world’s food production, while providing opportunities for a rich quality of life, including some of the nation’s best outdoor recreation opportunities, all from our state’s rich soils, vast grasslands, abundant open space, and waters above and below the surface.

The group discussed the status of these natural resources, including the importance of water to meet our long-term needs for public water supply, agriculture, industry and various other uses. The discussion also noted various threats to our natural resources, including impaired streams, reservoir sedimentation, groundwater depletion, contamination, loss of wetlands, loss of top soil, poor condition of pastures and other concerns. A significant portion of what’s left of our nation’s historic native grassland ecosystems is in Kansas. Many Kansans, especially youth, lack the understanding and opportunities to enjoy, and advocate for, the state’s wealth of natural assets.

Also discussed was a bold and foundational proposal to fund future natural resources stewardship in Kansas through dedicated tax revenues, perhaps through a constitutional amendment, to ensure proper use as intended. The proposal would split the revenue into thirds to target water programs, land conservation and recreation opportunities, with education needs addressed across all three sectors. The group discussed urgent needs to fund programs ranging from research, technology, conservation easements, water conservation, water quality and agricultural productivity to wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation, environmental education and invasive species management. The group recognizes this will be a major challenge and long-term endeavor, especially under current economic conditions. However, there seems to be interest in further considering such a proposal, including exploring the education and public support needed and learning from experiences in other states with special funding mechanisms.

PE CIVIL, PE MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL POWER ENGINEERING PE AND FE EXAM PREPARATION

Studying for a PE Civil, PE Mechanical, Electrical Power Engineering PE, or FE exam? Webinars are available for exam prep. The Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers and the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers are partnering to provide webinar exam prep classes. Courses are taught by licensed PEs and certified EITs and are available via live webinar, so students from anywhere in the county can participate live from their location – with the instructor and students from other areas of the country.

More details are available on the MnSPE website, including registration forms, announcements for each course, dates, deadlines, materials information.

KSPE members receive a discounted cost for exam prep courses, but you MUST note that you learned about the course 'Via my NSPE State Society' during the registration process.

Please [Click Here](#) to view the website.

FIFTEEN FREE PDHS AVAILABLE ON NSPE WEBSITE FOR NSPE/KSPE/CHAPTER TRI-LEVEL MEMBERS

NSPE membership includes 15 free professional development hours that you can conveniently earn through online seminars. These courses are available free to NSPE members. The 15 courses for 2017 are:

- [Building Your Pipeline of Success](#)
- [Defining Roles and Risks for Professional Engineers and Construction Managers](#)
- [2016 Design-Build EJCDC Contract Documents](#)
- [Ethics of Autonomous Vehicles: Who's in the Driver's Seat?](#)
- [Engineering Ethics: Conflicts of Interest](#)
- [Engineering Ethics: Conflicts of Interest and Confidentiality Questions](#)
- [Engineering Ethics: Employer/Employee Relations](#)
- [Engineering Ethics: Licensure and Professional Practice Concerns](#)
- [Engineering Ethics: Public Health and Safety and Communications Issues](#)
- [Engineering Ethics: Misrepresentation](#)
- [Future Trends in Engineering: Rail and Manufacturing](#)
- [Pending Robot Revolution](#)
- [Real and Perceived Concerns About Hydraulic Fracturing](#)
- [Weathering the Storm](#)
- [When Ethics Are Ignored: Lessons from Forensic Engineers](#)

For more information, please visit: <http://www.nspe.org/resources/pe-institute>. NSPE is an accepted provider in most states. At the end of each seminar, a quiz is available to meet professional development requirements. To find out about your state licensing laws for continuing education requirements, [contact your state/territory licensure board](#).

THANK YOU KSPE 2017-2018 PARTNER SPONSORS

PLATINUM PARTNER SPONSORS



GOLD PARTNER SPONSORS

TranSystems Corporation
316-303-3000

SILVER PARTNER SPONSORS

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Affinis Corp
(913) 239-1120

HNTB
(913) 491-9333

Olsson Associates
620-670-5100

SAVE THE DATE
2018 KSPE Annual Conference
June 6-8, 2018
Hilton Garden Inn
Manhattan, KS.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2017

February 6

NSPE—KS Eastern Chapter Mathcounts competition

2018

June 6-8

KSPE Annual Conference

Manhattan

Highlights from the 18th Annual EFK Fundraiser Golf Tournament

The 18th Annual Engineers' Foundation of Kansas Fundraiser Golf Tournament took place on 10/6/17 with a Shotgun Start at 9:00 a.m. at Colbert Hills Golf Course in Manhattan.

Revenue from the event is used to support activities of the Engineers' Foundation of Kansas, including MATHCOUNTS competitions and grants to the three Kansas engineering colleges to be used for student and faculty development. Thank you to the sponsors for the commitment and support that was demonstrated to the Engineers' Foundation of Kansas and congratulations to the winners from this year's tournament:

1st Place

HNTB Corporation

- Ryan Robinson
Aaron Frits
Greg Weathed
Jeff Bell

2nd Place

GBA

- Munsch Clarence
Mark Taylor
Jim Jarrett
Terry Cleck

3rd Place

Baughman

- Tyler Voth
Gary Janzen
Luke Peter
Autin Gottlob



KSPE PARTNER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Dear KSPE Members,

Thank you for your continued support of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers. This is a one-time request that will facilitate effective planning of the various KSPE events throughout our fiscal year, July 1 – June 30, and allow firms to more effectively plan and track their KSPE sponsorship investments. Please note that chapter activities and sponsorships are separate.

The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers’ Mission is “To promote, recognize and enhance the engineering profession by delivering professional development products and services, encouraging licensure, and advocating legislation and public policy for the betterment of human welfare and the profession.”

To that end, the KSPE Partner Sponsorship Program supports activities that deliver on this mission such as:

PE Licensure Ceremony – KSPE teams with other organizations to recognize individuals who have recently passed the PE exam by sponsoring a winter and summer ceremony.

KSPE Annual Conference – The KSPE Annual Conference offers various professional development and networking opportunities over the course of the nearly three-day conference and includes a golf tournament and Ice Breaker reception. KSPE Partners will receive complimentary registrations based upon their partnership level.

For as much as \$2,500 or as little as \$1,000, your firm can continue to support the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers and our efforts to promote the profession by becoming a KSPE Partner Sponsor. However, for those firms not interested in participating in the Annual KSPE Partner Sponsorship Program, KSPE would appreciate any sponsorship investment your firm deems appropriate. To participate in this manner, please insert a dollar amount in the “Other Amount” portion of the Partner Sponsorship form.

Below you will find an outline of sponsorship levels and benefits, an enrollment form is included on the last page of this newsletter. KSPE Partner firms will also be recognized at the KSPE Annual Conference events. These benefits will begin immediately upon commitment to the KSPE Partner Sponsorship program. ***The funds raised by the KSPE Partner Sponsorship Program solely benefit state society funded activities. Please remember to support your local chapter.*** KSPE appreciates any support your firm may have provided in the past, and we look forward to building on that relationship.

Regards,
Wayne Nelson, P.E.

2017-2018 President, Kansas Society of Professional Engineers

| Benefits | Platinum | Gold | Silver | Bronze |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | \$2,500 | \$2,000 | \$1,500 | \$1,000 |
| Recognition at PE Licensure Ceremony (two per year) | ◆ | ◆ | ◆ | ◆ |
| KSPE Annual Conference | | | | |
| Recognition | ◆ | ◆ | ◆ | ◆ |
| Three Complimentary Registrations | ◆ | | | |
| Two Complimentary Registrations | | ◆ | | |
| One Complimentary Registration | | | ◆ | |
| Two Complimentary Golfers | ◆ | ◆ | ◆ | |
| Advertisement in bi-monthly newsletter | Business Card Ad with Link | Business Card Ad with Link | Business Name with Link | Business Name and Contact |
| Advertisement on KSPE website | Business Card Ad with Link | Business Card Ad with Link | Business Name with Link | Business Name and Contact |
| Complimentary Job Postings | ◆ | ◆ | ◆ | |



PARTNER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

- Platinum Partner \$2500
- Gold Partner \$2000
- Silver Partner \$1500
- Bronze Partner \$1000
- In Kind \$ _____

Contact Information

Company Name _____
 Representative _____
 Address _____
 City, State Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 Email Address _____

Payment Information

Check Enclosed
 Bill Me
 Visa MasterCard Discover

Card Number _____
 Exp Date _____ Signature _____

Advertising

Platinum and Gold: Please forward your business card size ad (Horizontal 3.5" wide by 2" height) to amber@kansasengineer.org.

Please return completed form at your earliest convenience to:

The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers
 825 S. Kansas Avenue, Suite 500, Topeka, KS 66612
 785-233-2121

info@kansasengineer.org

Bartlett & West



Project Engineer Opportunity

We value collaboration.

We truly believe that we employ the best, and because of this we encourage employees to connect and share ideas. We value diversity of thought, opinions and styles. Most things don't happen at Bartlett & West through a top-down approach, but by groups coming together to try to build something better than it was yesterday.

Position Summary.

Assist in designing civil engineering projects including focus areas of public works, regional water systems, energy, land development, transportation and/or railroad projects. The position includes training under a Registered Professional Engineer to increase functional and technical knowledge and skills.

This position has a focus in water and wastewater projects. Project work will involve: pipeline distribution systems, elevated/ground storage, municipal or regional water supply systems, irrigation and water diversion structures, water treatment plants, wastewater treatment plants, pump stations and wastewater collection systems.

To learn more and apply for the Project Engineer opportunity visit www.bartwest.com.

Bartlett & West is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, status as a protected veteran or status as a qualified individual with disability.



TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Bartlett & West is committed to helping clients build stronger, smarter, more connected infrastructure. We invest in and leverage our own technology to solve problems and deliver innovative solutions that meet our clients' needs.