

# KANSAS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER NEWS

MARCH 2019



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## STATE NEWS

### President's Message By Dennis Kuhlman, P.E., FNSPE

We are into March Madness! Brackets are being drawn, favorites picked, challenges are being issued, and trash talk is underway! Here's to your team winning it all!

Speaking of teamwork, your KSPE/NSPE team is in high gear preparing for spring/summer activities. KSPE is heavily involved in this year's Kansas Legislative activities, monitoring and providing input on potential legislation, state rules and regulations that impact us all. I hope that you have been receiving the weekly Legislative Update for our Topeka headquarters. If not, please let me or headquarters know so that we can rectify the problem. This legislative session seemed to start off slower than in the past, but it has picked up steam in the last week or so with KSPE weighing in on many bills and proposals.

The suggested changes to the KSPE Constitution and By-laws were completed, approved by the KSPE membership, and officially adopted. The current documentation detailing our KSPE organization may be found on our web page.

Within KSPE, we continue to focus on enhancing membership, since a large membership base makes it much easier to defend the importance of the PE at both the local and national levels. Students at the University of Kansas have moved forward to establish a student chapter. Through this development, there will be additional opportunities for Chapters to positively mentor student engineers graduating from our Universities. Hopefully, the future will find active student chapters within all of our ABET certified University programs.

## President's Message Continued

The program for this year's KSPE Annual Conference is being finalized and registration can be completed on the KSPE web page. I want to encourage all KSPE members to participate in the ORDER of the ENGINEER, which will be held on Thursday morning at the Wichita conference.

The Order of the Engineer was initiated in the United States to foster a spirit of pride and responsibility in the engineering profession, to bridge the gap between training and experience, and to present to the public a visible symbol identifying the engineer. The first ceremony was held on June 4, 1970 at Cleveland State University. Since then, similar ceremonies have been held across the United States at which graduate and registered engineers are invited to accept the Obligation of the Engineer and a stainless steel ring. The Order is not a membership organization; there are never any meetings to attend or dues to pay. Instead, the Order fosters a unity of purpose and the honoring of one's pledge lifelong.

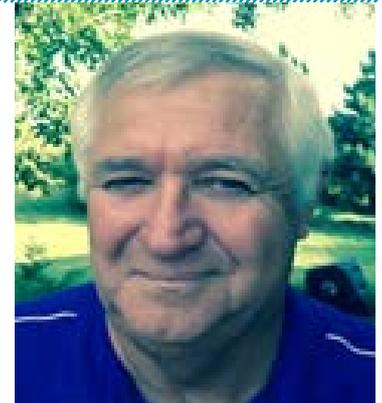
To those of you who have already been inducted, be sure to wear your Stainless Steel ring in support of all engineers. To those of you who have not yet been inducted, take the opportunity to become a member of the Order of the

Engineer and proudly wear the stainless steel pinky ring on the working hand as a symbol of your commitment as an engineer. The ring is a conversation starter that will allow you to inform others in your community about Professional Engineers and what we do everyday to benefit society.

As March Madness progresses, there are a couple of things that you as members should do:

1. Use this month to become a more visible supporter of Professional Engineering. Encourage those around you to become active members of NSPE/KSPE and those not yet licensed to become Professional Engineers. Plan on attending the KSPE Annual Conference June 12-14, 2019 in Wichita. The conference provides an opportunity to communicate with fellow engineers, attend technical sessions that earn continuing education credits in support of your license, enjoy social events with your fellow engineers, recognize your fellow engineers special achievements at the awards ceremony, and be initiated into the Order of the Engineer.

2. Plan on attending the 2019 PECON (NSPE National gathering), which will be held in Kansas City July 17-21, 2019. This location is so close that it is an event that you do not want to miss and this will provide an



opportunity for KSPE to have the largest contingent in attendance!

Challenges, whether on the basketball court or in our communities, make our profession exciting. Plan on coming to Wichita to share the Order of the Engineer, the KSPE Annual Conference to network with fellow Kansans (and share some trash talk during the EFK golf tournament...), and to KC for PECON 2019 to feel the passion and impact of fellow engineers from around the nation.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Yasmeen AlJawad, P.E.

Jeremy Baker, P.E.

Cade Been, P.E.

Brockton Burnett, P.E.

Aidan Canady, P.E.

Gabe Najera, P.E.

Joseph Roubinek, P.E.

Wyatt Risovi-Hendrickson, P.E.

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

By Travis Lowe



KSPE Members,

Greetings from KSPE World Headquarters! 2019 is off to a roaring start for KSPE. We have many updates to share. First we want to thank you for your continued support of KSPE that enables KSPE to provide and operate efficiently for you.

KSPE is working on multiple fronts. The 2019 Legislative Session has passed its halfway point with many issues of interest for the Society. The Session started with a new Governor, which always adds a bit of new flavor in Topeka. Many legislative issues have surfaced warranting attention, such as State Water Plan and State Highway Plan budgets, home inspection legislation, fire sprinkler legislation, KPERS legislation impacting state government engineers and 14 bills have been introduced relating to planning and possible funding for the next comprehensive transportation plan.

Our office is sending out weekly legislative updates on Fridays. We hope you take a few minutes to look them over. Our Government Relations Committee, led by Travis Stryker, is meeting monthly in the KSPE office to review the status of the legislative session. We usually have a legislator join us for lunch to discuss their view of our issues. Thanks to all involved for the support!

The Society has a lot of important events on the horizon. On March 20, the PEG Seminar will take place in Wichita. We are one of the only state societies with an active PEG division with its own seminar day, please take the day to attend, you can register online on our website. Our 2019 Annual

Conference will also be in Wichita on June 12-14. Registration will open on April 1. If you are not already a partner sponsor, please consider being a sponsor of this event. Hope to see you all there! We just finished the Water Quality Seminar on March 8, which is a combined day event with ACEC Kansas. We had over 100 people attend with a lot of positive feedback. Thanks to all that took the time to attend!

We just finished E-Week, which encompassed very exciting events across the state. The KSPE Eastern Chapter held its annual lunch in Kansas City with the MSPE Western Chapter, where over 500 people attended the event and lunch as a special guest. The Topeka Chapter held its annual lunch where Governor Kelly attended. It is great to see how much work volunteers spend to bring awareness to the profession. Thank you!

The same can be said about this year's MATHCOUNTS. Last month, chapters held local MATHCOUNTS competitions where the winners advanced to the state event on March 2 in Topeka. Congratulations to the winners and participants and thank you to the members that volunteered to help make these events successful!

We also want to thank everyone that voted for our bylaws approval process. KSPE just checked off a major box to complete the simultaneous task of updating our bylaws to reflect the new NSPE membership model changes and combine our constitution and bylaws into a single functioning document. The process is now complete. We owe a big thanks to the Bylaws Committee,

chaired by Kerrie Greenfelder.

Membership remains the most important action item for our society. Please talk about KSPE to your fellow P.E.'s. Mentor new and/or young hires in your department, schools and firms and press the importance of KSPE. Remember, for anyone joining the association or renewing after July 1, 2018, KSPE membership dues dropped from \$329 to \$299. We hope you help us retain and grow our membership by promoting the dues reduction and the benefits KSPE provides. While most associations are having to increase dues to account for rising costs and inflation, KSPE is reducing the dues. Please help spread this message.

With all the activity and news in this issue, KSPE is working hard on your behalf. There are many opportunities to get involved with KSPE. We appreciate your support to help promote and protect Licensed Professional Engineers.

See you soon,  
Travis Lowe

# GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY RECOGNIZES ENGINEERS WEEK IN KANSAS



STATE OF KANSAS



## PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, George Washington, the first President of the United States and founding father of our nation, was a distinguished military and agricultural engineer as well as an excellent surveyor; and

WHEREAS, engineers are keen analysts who utilize empirical scientific and technical data to formulate creative solutions that allow Kansans to enjoy cleaner air and water, safer transportation systems, more productive and efficient work environments and an improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, engineers adhere to a strong code of ethics and standards of conduct that promote personal accountability, ethical decision making, and quality work during the performance of their professional duties; and

WHEREAS, Engineers Week focuses on sharing the importance and excitement of the engineering field with young Kansans and emphasizes educating the next generation of engineers through an interactive website at [www.DiscoverE.org](http://www.DiscoverE.org) and by sponsoring programs such as the Future City Competition and MATHCOUNTS; and

WHEREAS, engineers throughout Kansas history have made countless contributions to humanity and continue to provide leadership in the ongoing quest to meet the many and varied technological challenges of the twenty-first century, and it is appropriate to recognize engineers' countless accomplishments and contributions during the week that we celebrate George Washington's birthday;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAURA KELLY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim the week of February 17<sup>th</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, as

### *Engineers Week*

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka  
under the Great Seal of  
the State this 1<sup>st</sup> day of  
February, A.D. 2019

BY THE GOVERNOR:

*Laura Kelly*

*Scott S. Smith*  
Secretary of State

*Arthur S. Moore*  
Assistant Secretary of State



# SAVE THE DATE!



**NSPE-KS**<sup>TM</sup> KANSAS SOCIETY OF  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

# 2019

Annual Conference  
**June 12-14**  
Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview  
Wichita, Kansas

# 2019

**NSPE-KS**™ KANSAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

## Annual Conference June 12-14

Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview  
Wichita, Kansas

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#### INCLUDES

- Recognition at all Events and in Program

### SILVER SPONSOR

#### INCLUDES

- One (1) Individual Conference Registration
- Recognition at all Events and in Program

### GOLD SPONSOR

#### INCLUDES

- Two (2) Individual Conference Registrations
- Special Recognition at President's Reception
- Recognition at all Events and in Program

### PLATINUM SPONSOR

#### INCLUDES

- Three (3) Individual Conference Registrations
- Special Recognition at Ice Breaker and Engineer of the Year Awards Luncheon
- Recognition at all Events and in Program

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GOLD SPONSOR

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PLATINUM SPONSOR

CONTACT ALISON CONNELL AT [alison@bhlandassociates.org](mailto:alison@bhlandassociates.org) OR GO TO [www.kansasengineer.org](http://www.kansasengineer.org) FOR MORE INFORMATION

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- Complimentary Golf Registrations

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**AWARDS LUNCHEON SPONSOR**

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- Recognition at all Events and in Program

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**KEYNOTE SPONSOR**

**INCLUDES**

- Recognition at all Events and in Program

**\$2,000**

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**INCLUDES**

- Recognition at all Events and in Program

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# KSPE PRACTICE CHAIR UPDATES

## PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE UPDATE

By Jeffery Hancock, P.E.

Professional Engineers in Private Practice (PEPP) Update –  
March 2019

The American Council of Engineering Companies – Kansas (ACEC-KS), recognizing a lack of professional training for corporate engineering company leaders, will be hosting a several continuing education classes in the future. These classes will likely focus on leadership, communication, and more detailed topics such as drafting scopes of professional work. Currently a committee is sifting through several proposals and determining best fits for member firms. These classes will be made available to any ACEC member firm. Look for emails from ACEC-KS in the future advertising these classes.



ACEC-KS recently tackled proposed Senate Bill 56, which would have required firms working with any State Agency on projects with a \$100,000 fee to implement a computer monitoring software package. The software package would monitor computer use of those working on State Contracts for verification that time billed to the State of Kansas was legitimately time on their project. The bill and even the idea were an attempt at transparency, something we all desire, but it lacked reasonableness and was fraught with logistical problems and privacy issues. Ultimately ACEC-KS and State Agencies raised enough concerns that the bill died before it even made it to committee hearings.

Many of you are Emerging Leader Program graduates and probably remember with great depth how much importance is put on having relationships with Legislators. The previous paragraph mentioned the death of a senate bill and I learned first hand the value of a relationship with my Senator and Representative through that process. Once I heard about the bill, I contacted both in my district, via email, and to my surprise both responded with phone calls the same day looking for more information. One had heard about the bill the other had not. The bill never made it to their desks, but I am confident if it had it was not going to get much consideration. Now I am assured that it is these types of relationships that make a difference. If you do not have such a relationship with your legislators, get one. In fact, get to know your local elected officials as well. These relationships can someday be of great value for our industry and you personally.

The NSPE-KS PEPP representative, exists to safeguard professionalism of engineers working in private practice throughout Kansas. If you have any issues or concerns you feel are compromising this professionalism, please contact Jeffrey Hancock, P.E. of SMH Consultants at 785-776-0541 or at [jhancock@smhconsultants.com](mailto:jhancock@smhconsultants.com).

# ENGINEERS' FOUNDATION OF KANSAS UPDATE



## ***Thank You!*** (in advance)

You take care of your spouse and family every day. You've made preparations to take care of your spouse and family if you die too soon. You take care of your church, your schools, your favorite charities. Some of you may have even made plans to take care of those institutions after you're gone.

But what are you doing now, and after you are gone, to support the profession that helped you take care of everyone else, including yourself? The time is now to "pay it forward" and say "thank you" to the engineering profession that helped make it possible to take care of all of these.

The Engineers' Foundation of Kansas needs your help to increase our funding for future engineering student scholarships and for supporting current valuable programs such as MATHCOUNTS and Future Cities.

There are many ways to contribute to EFK, below is just one option:

**<https://money.usnews.com/money/retirement/iras/articles/2017-12-04/how-to-donate-your-required-minimum-distribution-to-charity>**

Share your story with others! There will be several opportunities for us to advise everyone about other ways you can say "Thank You!" through EFK. Please consider helping us, so you can say "Thank You" to you!

Please contact **Greg Braden** at the EFK office if you would like to discuss further.

785-233-2121  
info@kansasengineer.org.

P.S. Don't forget to see if your company has a matching gifts program!

***"Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference."***

825 S Kansas Ave, Ste 500  
Topeka, Kansas 66612  
P: (785) 233-2121  
F: (785) 233-2206  
info@efkansas.org  
www.efkansas.org

# ENGINEERS' FOUNDATION OF KANSAS UPDATE



At the last board meeting, discussions were started regarding the University Engineering Initiative Act. The goal of the UEIA is to increase the number of engineering graduates to 1,365 graduates per year in 2021. The state provides \$3.5 million to each of the engineering schools with a requirement for each school to match this funding on a dollar for dollar basis from nonstate sources. Funding for the UEIA expires after 2021. The board feels this has been an important act of legislation and needs further support. We were recently made aware of an article questioning the need for more engineers in Kansas: <https://www.kmuw.org/post/kansas-spends-millions-more-training-engineers-jobs-higher-demand>

Some exciting action took place at the last KSPE board meeting. The board approved a change in the EFK bylaws whereas the past president of the board would remain on the EFK board to assist in the transition with a new president.

The board also approved the formation of a foundation recognition program honoring engineers who have made significant contributions or have had impacts on the engineering profession and engineer's careers. In addition to providing recognition for distinguished engineers, this recognition program is designed to increase financial support of programs undertaken by the EFK. Funds will be used to build a "permanent" endowment – proceeds from fund investments to be used to support EFK projects including UEIA, transportation and other economic and workforce development research projects. The details are still being worked out but would have four levels of membership.

#### EFK Membership Levels:

- Member (any annual contribution)
- Friend/Corporate Friend (\$500/Year for at least 10 years or one-time gift of \$5,000.)
- Colleague/Corporate Colleague (\$1000/Year for at least 10 years or onetime gift of \$10,000.)
- Fellow/Corporate Fellow (\$2,000/Year for at least 10 years or one-time gift of \$20,000.)

Wayne Nelson

**EFK**

**20th Annual Golf Tournament**

**September 13, 2019**

**Colbert Hills**  
**Manhattan, KS**  
**8:00 am Registration**  
**9:00 am Shotgun Start**



## KSPE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: KIRK PFANNENSTIEL, P.E.



**Kirk Pfannenstiel**

**Chapter:** Smokey Valley Chapter

**Education:** Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Kansas State University (2018)



### What is your employment/ education history?

- I started the work force back in 2010 working in my parent's welding shop pushing a broom around the shop and cleaning up scrap metal behind the shear. As the business became busy, I became skilled in welding, sandblasting and powder coating. I still work for them on the weekends or when I'm just hanging out in the shop. I am also the track welder at the RPM Speedway in Hays when no one else is available.
- I graduated high school in 2014 from Hays High School. In August 2014, I enrolled in my first semester at Kansas State University in the Civil Engineering program. I graduated from the program in December 2018.
- My first two years in college, I had a summer internship at PENCO Engineering in Plainville, Kansas. There I worked as a laboratory technician; trained to be a bridge inspector and became certified as a ASCE-1 concrete technician.
- During the school year I worked for a materials testing company in Manhattan, Robert Peterman & Associates. Dr. Peterman was one of my professors who taught me Mechanics of Materials. I worked as a handyman for him part time during the school year and for my junior year summer internship. I worked for Dr. Peterman up until I graduated.
- I also worked for KDOT for my Senior year summer internship in Phillipsburg, Kansas for a month before I got transferred to Hays for the remainder of the summer. I worked as a Technician, supervising multiple asphalt projects in western Kansas.
- I currently work at Kaw Valley Engineering in Salina Kansas. I am an EIT for the projects we work on, specializing in drainage and site design.

### Family

- I come from a family of seven: my parents, two older sisters, an older brother and a younger brother. My Dad, Leon Pfannenstiel, is the owner and operator of Leon's Welding & Fabrication LLC. in Hays, KS. And my Mom, Melinda Pfannenstiel, co-owns and works with my dad as office manager and human resources representative. My sister, Hanna, is a graduate of Fort Hays State University with a Bachelor's of Science in Diagnostic Medical Imaging as well as a graduate from KU Med with a certificate in ultrasound. She currently works for a clinic in Manhattan, KS. My other sister, Tara, is a graduate of Fort Hays State University with a degree in finance. She is the Vice President of Real Estate Lending at the Bank of Hays in Hays, KS. She is also the mother to my nephew, Carter, niece, Cady and wife to Cody Graham who has a degree in Animal Science and is the Sales Area Manager for LG Seeds. My older brother, Luke and his wife, Kim, runs his own oil truck and transport business, Rebel Tank Service, Hays, KS. They have three kids together – Trevor, Bentley, and Laney. My younger brother, Jarett, graduated from Hays High School and the Worldwide College of Auctioneering and



## KSPE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: KIRK PFANNENSTIEL, P.E.



is a professional and licensed auctioneer for land, livestock, auto vehicles, industrial/commercial misc. He currently works for Farmland Auction & Reality in Hays, Kansas.

- Our home is on a family farm south of Hays where a few head of cattle roam and a few crops grow on the home piece. My family is very active outdoors whether it's sports, hunting, racing, time on the lake or pond, or in our own backyard.

### **Greatest accomplishment to this date**

- My greatest accomplishment is graduating from K-State. My sisters set the bar pretty high with their success and smarts. This was the longest project I have worked on. It was a hard long journey.

### **One fun Fact about me**

- I'm a pretty good shot when it comes to a bird flying in the air and a pretty cool uncle.

### **What I do in my free time**

- In my free time, I like to do a number of things depending on the time of year. In the winter time, I enjoy hunting coyotes, pheasants, quail, ducks, geese, and deer. I also trap racoons, bobcats, opossums, and skunks. When I am not doing that, you will find me in the shop working on race cars, demolition derby cars, hunting wagons, or drinking beer with my buddies.
- In the summertime, you will find me outside most of the time. Fishing for whatever is biting at the time, hunting turkeys, and dove. I spend most of my weekends at one of two places, the lake or the race track. When I am not the track welder, I help out fellow racers whom I have competed against and my family who also race. Other than that, you will find me out at the lake spending as much time on the water as possible. And you cannot count out the Sunday afternoons watching NASCAR and recovering from the busy weekend by just grilling a steak.

### **Why did you become an Engineer?**

- It's a funny thing. I wish I could tell you that I always wanted to be a Civil Engineer but that is not the case. My mom saw potential in me to become something other than a welder. Something greater. When I decided engineering in general was the best thing for me, I said to the college recruiting lady, "Give me a degree that allows me to work with my hands and not be cooped up in an office". The only program that would fit me the best was the civil program and it stuck with me. It only took a semester to commit totally to the Civil engineering program.

### **If you weren't an engineer, you would be?**

- Oh, that is easy, a mechanic or a welder. That stuff is second nature to me, and both are good professions to be in.

### **Favorites:**

**Restaurant-** Taco Shop, Hays, Kansas

**Vacation Spot-** Cedar Bluff Lake

**Sports Team-** Kansas State University, Denver Broncos, Hendrick Motorsports, KC Royals

**Music-** Jon Pardi

# PEG SEMINAR



KSPE Spring 2019 Continuing Education Seminar Current Issues in Public Sector Engineering  
KSPE offers a yearly curriculum in Current Issues in Public Sector Engineering, beginning in the fall of 2014.

Previous programs focused on the following:

Fall 2014 - Financing of Public Infrastructure Projects; Selection of Design Firms

Fall 2015 – Media & Public Relations; Right-of-Way, Easements & Land Use Issues

Fall 2016 – Technical vs Political Solutions; Regulatory Requirements, KS Legislative Process

Spring 2018 – Autonomous Vehicles; Integrated Project Delivery; Wichita's Water Future; Roundabouts; ADA; Pavement Preservation Model

## Session #5 March 20, 2019 Wichita Water Center, 101 E. Pawnee

8:45 am – 9:00 am Coffee and Donuts

9:00 am – 9:05 am Welcome, Gary Janzen, P.E. - KSPE PEG Chair (City Engineer, City of Wichita)

9:05 am – 10:05 am Autonomous Vehicle Update, Tim Austin, P.E., Wichita Office Manager, Kaw Valley Engineering

10:05 am – 11:05 am Alternative Financing Options for Public Infrastructure Projects, Mark Elder, City Manager's Office, City of Wichita

11:05 am – 11:15 am Break

11:15 am – 12:15 pm Wichita 120 MGD Water Treatment Facility – Project Delivery and Financing

Bill Perkins, Utilities Asset Manager, City of Wichita

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm Lunch (to be provided)

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm Traffic Signal Optimization Program, Slade Engstrom, P.E., Senior Professional/ Assistant Vice President, TranSystems Corporation, Michael Barnett, Smart City Coordinator, City of Wichita

2:15 pm – 3:15 pm Wichita Kellogg & 111th Street Traffic Signal Removal – Public Safety Challenges vs. Business Access, Gary Janzen, P.E., City Engineer, City of Wichita

3:15 pm – 4:15 pm Bike Share Program/Evolution of Bicycle Master Plan, Scott Wadle, Senior Management Analyst, City of Wichita

Participants will receive a certificate of completion following each program.

Fees:

\$125 per six hour session for KSPE members

\$175 per six hour session for non-members

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

MARCH 2019 STATE NEWS

By Travis Lowe

## KSPE is Busy at the Statehouse

The second half of regular session is proving to be much more active for KSPE. Every session offers a bit of a different flavor compared to previous years. While last session held numerous conversations on water policy, this session has offered virtually none. Planning the next comprehensive transportation plan has spawned bills to six different legislative committees and a bill relating to a licensed Professional Engineer's role in home inspections has reignited battles of old. Governor Kelly's first bill signed into law repays KPERS payments delayed from 2016 with interest. The bill passed both chambers unanimously.

2018's Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force unveiled its report in January and was followed by the introduction of fourteen bills (seven in the House and seven in the Senate). One bill in each chamber (SB 186 and HB 2173) gives the authority to the Secretary of the KDOT to start steps to plan the next comprehensive transportation program. The other bills relate to possible funding sources. Two of the bills (SB 189 and HB 2372) increase registration fees for hybrid and electric vehicles. New revenue generated would be sent to KDOT and be protected from budget sweeps, per the Kansas Constitution. Another pair (SB 192 and HB 2369) would give the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) more authority to designate or construct toll projects. SB 188 and HB 2370 would phase in a three-cent increase for motor fuel and other fuels. SB 191 and HB 2368 would

provide an exception for the property tax lid for transportation projects. SB 187 and HB 2371 increases permit fees for oversize or overweight vehicles. KSPE is supportive of many of the bills and is providing verbal and written testimony in the committee hearings. At this point, only one of these bills have advanced but others may be considered in the coming days.

Governor Laura Kelly's proposed budget reduced transfers from the State Highway Fund to the State General Fund and pledges to halt all transfers by 2023. KDOT Secretary Julie Lorenz says the Kelly budget would allow four TWORKS projects to commence this year. This would leave 17 expansion projects remaining in TWORKS, however, Secretary Lorenz noted eleven of the planned projects still need to complete the Right of Way process.

A couple of radical bills were introduced (SB 56 and HB 2115) that would require professional service providers with state contracts over \$100,000 to use special computer software to track hours of work performed. The bills were hotly contested by KSPE and ACEC Kansas, along with numerous other organizations and will no longer have a hearing.

SB 168, which creates the Kansas Home Inspectors Professional Competency and Financial Responsibility Act, has generated a lot of discussion between licensed Professional Engineers, real estate agents and home inspectors. KSPE opposed the bill because of new requirements that would be placed

on licensed Professional Engineers who perform home inspections. However, KSPE is working with the other stakeholders to exempt Licensed Professional Engineers from education and testing requirements. This may happen in the coming days.

The KSPE Government Relations Committee, chaired by Travis Stryker, meets regularly to provide input in the process. Please take the time to review the KSPE legislative updates that are released every week during session.

Thank you!  
Travis Lowe

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# CHAPTER NEWS SECTION

## KSPE TOPEKA CHAPTER 2019 AWARDS



**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**  
Governor Laura Kelly

**OUTSTANDING TEACHER**  
Rebecca Unruh, Northern Hills Elementary School  
Laura Hirsch, Shawnee Heights High School



**OUTSTANDING CITIZEN**  
Michael White, Kansas Contractors Association

**YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**  
Andrew Wiederholt, P.E., Bartlett & West



**OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT**  
KTA Open Road Tolling Conversion - East Topeka Terminal  
(Kansas Turnpike Authority & HNTB Corporation)

**GOVERNMENT ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**  
Catherine Patrick, P.E., Kansas Department of Transportation

**ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**  
David Jacobson, P.E., Kansas Turnpike Authority



# KSPE EASTERN CHAPTER'S 36TH ANNUAL MODEL BRIDGE BUILDING CONTEST

The KSPE Eastern Chapter's 36th annual model bridge building contest was held on February 2nd at the Museum at Prairiefire in Overland Park, Kansas. There were 95 students from 7 area high schools that participated in the event. The event results were:

- 1st = Kenny Brown, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Efficiency=4630 (Another New Record!)
- 2nd = Grace Ludwick, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Efficiency=3968
- 3rd = Cole Haas, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Efficiency=2508

Kenny and Grace will be competing remotely in the 2019 International Bridge Building Contest in Baltimore, MD on April 6.

Thanks to all the volunteers and Terracon who helped make this a successful event.

Mark Johnston

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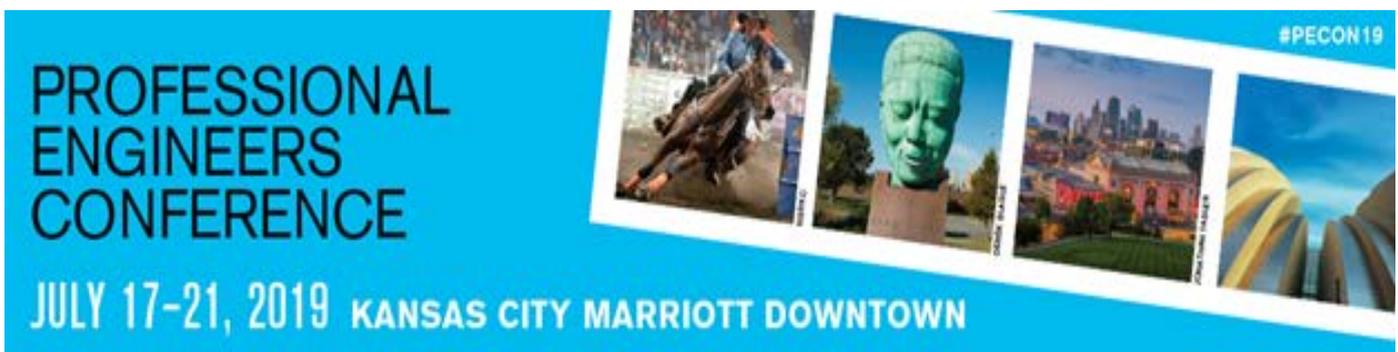
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# NSPE NEWS SECTION

# NSPE

## NSPE SAVE THE DATES!



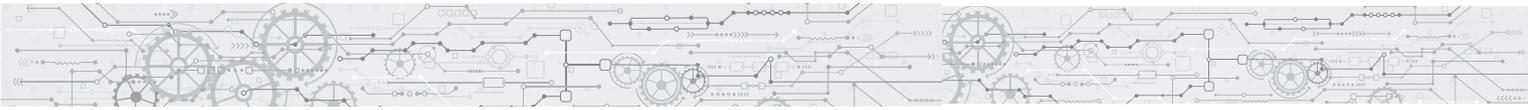
PECON 2019 in KANSAS CITY

SEE YOU THERE!

July 17-19, 2019 is your opportunity to show the rest of the country what professional engineering in Kansas City and KSPE/MSPE are all about. We are planning a great event with tours on Wednesday afternoon, welcome reception Wednesday evening, and professional development sessions on Thursday and Friday. Thursday evening will be an interesting dinner and tour of the National WWI Museum. After the conference, take advantage of the opportunity to see NSPE governance in action, as the House of Delegates Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday.

This PECON will be the inaugural session of a new leadership development program that is being prepared for new professionals (less than 10 years post licensure). Participants selected for the inaugural class will have the opportunity for networking with keynote speakers, mentorship from NSPE leaders, team problem solving, and leadership development activities along with the full conference program. This program will be limited to only 20 participants, so keep your eyes open for the upcoming application. We look forward to seeing you at #PECON19. Early Bird Registration will be opening soon and the deadline is April 30, 2019.

Gary Strack, P.E.  
Chair, PECON 2019 Task Force



# KSPE PARTNER SPONSOR PROGRAM



## PARTNER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

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

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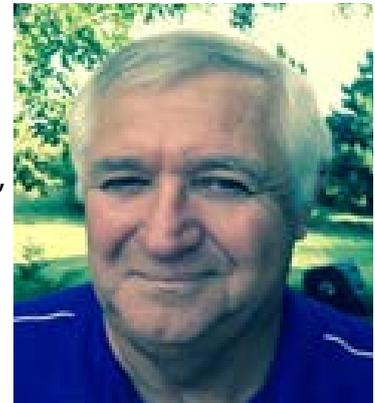
The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers  
 825 S. Kansas Avenue, Suite 500, Topeka, KS 66612  
 785-233-2121

[info@kansasengineer.org](mailto:info@kansasengineer.org)

# KSPE PARTNER SPONSOR PROGRAM

Dear KSPE Member and/or Supporting Firm,

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:

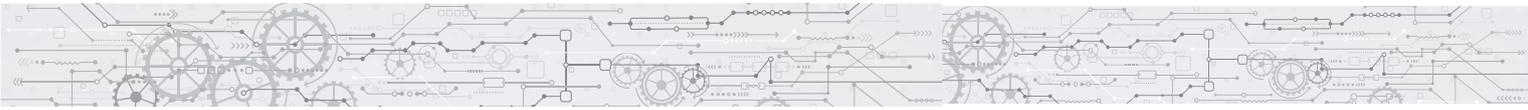
PE Licensure Ceremony – KSPE teams with other organizations to recognize individuals who have recently passed the PE exam by producing a winter and summer ceremony.

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. Platinum partners will receive three (3) individual conference registrations; Gold partners will receive two (2) individual conference registrations; Silver partners will receive one (1) individual conference registration.

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.

These benefits will begin immediately upon commitment to the KSPE Partner Sponsorship program or on July 1, 2018. 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 that past and we look forward to building on that relationship.

Regards,  
Dennis Kuhlman, P.E.  
2018-2019 President, Kansas Society of Professional Engineers



# KSPE FULL CALENDER OF EVENTS



Date	Event	Location
20 Mar 2019	PEG Seminar	Wichita Water Center
12 - 14 Jun 2019	KSPE Annual Conference	Wichita
17 -21 Jul 2019	NSPE 2019 PE Conference	Kansas City
13 Sept 2019	EFK Golf Tournament	Manhattan