Becoming More Involved as a Citizen Engineer

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Presentation Outline

Increase Member Involvement

- Highlight Survey Development
- Summarize Results / Conclusions
- Discuss Future Action
Citizen Engineer Defined

“2002 IEEE-USA”

“Being a Citizen Engineer Implies Recognizing and Acting On:

✓ Professional Responsibilities
✓ Public Responsibilities
✓ Enlightened Self-Interest”

2004 - Sherra Kerns ASEE President
Survey Focus

“Citizen Engineer”

“Participation in the political process is one (and only one) key aspect to being an effective Citizen Engineer.”

2010 & 2021 Survey Focus: KSPE Government Relations
Survey Rationale

“Citizen Engineer”

“If you are not at the table, you are on the menu!”
2006-10: Survey Development

ASEE Midwest Section & Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE)

Eleven Questions + 2 Open Responses:

- ✓ Voter Registration/Participation
- ✓ Federal & State Contact
- ✓ Local Official Contact

Educated Members 2006-11

ASEE Midwest Section & Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) Mtgs

Content Included:
✓ Information on Initiatives
✓ Barriers to Participation
✓ Information on Actions to Take

Workshops in 2006, 2009 & 2011
Statehouse Events in 2009 - 2011
2021: Survey Development

GRC approval to update KSPE member views. Added 4 demographic questions.

Fifteen Questions + 2 Open Responses:

- Demographics, Voter Registration/Participation
- Federal & State Contact
- Local Official Contact
- Future involvement?
- KSPE encourage member action?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KSPE Chapter</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wichita</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topeka</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-Valley</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoky Valley</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Plains</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
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## Who Completed the 2021 Survey?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licensed PE’s</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>8</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engineering Discipline</th>
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<tr>
<td>CE – 89</td>
<td>ME - 5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAE – 3</td>
<td>ARE – 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE - 4</td>
<td>ChE - 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other – 11</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engineering Sector</th>
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<tr>
<td>Consult – 75</td>
<td>Govt - 17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Const – 5</td>
<td>Ret - 17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Univ – 2</td>
<td>Other - 5</td>
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</table>
Result #1: Engineers are Registered to Vote & They Vote
Result #2: Engineers have increased their voting record.

Member Participation: Likert Scale (1-L/10-H)

5 Year Voting

Follow Issues
Result #3: Limited Federal & Contact w/ State Leg Dropped

Member Contact: Likert Scale (1-L/10-H)
Result #4: Contact with Local Officials has Dropped

Member Contact: Likert Scale (1-L/10-H)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>County Level</th>
<th>City Level</th>
<th>Local School Brd</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td></td>
<td>1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-10</td>
<td></td>
<td>8-10</td>
<td>8-10</td>
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</table>

Counts for each Likert Scale category are not shown in the image.
Other Conclusions

What should KSPE Do?

- Keep information flowing – be transparent & politically neutral
- Educate members on advocacy & its importance
- Host more interactive chapter sessions

There is Opportunity for More Member Involvement!
Future KSPE / Member Action

- Restart Targeted Workshops
- Provide Candidate Info & Dates/Times to Meet w/Officials
- Support KSPE PAC
- Identify & Assist Engineers to Run for Office
- Encourage Service on Advisory Boards

Support UEIA Goals
Issues Facing Kansas

❖ Federal Initiatives & Issues
  • Protect Role of Licensure in federal projects
  • QBS
  • Infrastructure Funding

❖ Regional / State / Local Initiatives & Issues
  • Protect PE License
  • PE License Requirements
  • Protect UEIA
  • QBS/Infrastructure Funding
Review the Issues

- Federal Initiatives & Issues
- Regional / State / Local Initiatives & Issues

Turn to a Partner:
Take 3 Minutes To Discuss & Summarize Issues important to YOU.
Barriers to Participation

Consider the *Citizen Engineer Survey*

In Groups of 4:

Five Minutes Discuss & Summarize Member Barriers & Reasons (Excuses?)
Be More Involved!

- Build Political Capital
- Become an Effective Advocate
  - Meet / Call / Write
  - Follow a few Rules
  - Know Names & Dates
- Use NSPE Resources
NSPE Advocacy Center

https://nspe.quorum.us/advocacy_center/
NSPE Resources

- My Officials - Down to the Local Level
- Committee Corner – YouTube & Updates
- NSPE Core Issues, Policies & Positions
  - Licensure, Technology, QBS, STEM, Infrastructure & Sustainability
- Training Modules, Best Practices, News

Follow: @NSPE & @kansasengineer
CONCLUSION

“Citizen Engineer”

“Being a Citizen Engineer Implies Recognizing and Acting On:

✓ Professional Responsibilities
✓ Public Responsibilities
✓ Enlightened Self-Interest”

We Must Pro-Actively Engage in the Development of Public Policy
MEMBER ACTION IS NEEDED

"Citizen Engineer"

“If we are not at the table, we are on the menu!”

Questions/Discussion??