

Kansas Professional Engineer News

The official publication of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers

July/August 2020

NSPE-KSTM

KANSAS SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

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Above: KSPE Executive Committee meets for their monthly meeting.



**KANSAS PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEER NEWSLETTER**

PUBLISHER

Travis Lowe

EDITOR

Rachel Nincehelser

CONTACT

825 S. Kansas Ave., Ste. 500

Topeka, KS 66612

(785) 233-2121

travis@kansasengineer.org

rachel@kansasengineer.org

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Select Engineers Foundation of Kansas as your preferred charity when you shop.



A Message From Your 2020-2021 KSPE President

I was very impressed with the resilience of KSPE's Annual Conference Planning Committee and BHL's staff. Within two months we shifted to a virtual format, had minimal technical issues, and last time I checked we had over 80 participants. Great job!

I have come to appreciate the flexibility of virtual conferences and NSPE's Virtual 2020 Professional Engineers Conference is just around the corner, August 3-7. They are offering 15 PDHs and keynote sessions featuring IBM's Global Chief Technology Officer and the Chairman of the NTSB. If you are not available, you can still register and access the knowledge and PDHs at a more convenient time. Additionally, NSPE is offering this conference free to engineering students.

As mentioned in my message during the KSPE Conference, I want to help our Professional Society communicate the value of KSPE and promote membership. To start, I asked the Executive Board members to work with a mindset centered on value and membership. We are also restarting the Membership Committee and Young Engineer Committee.

Membership is vitally important, and we rely on dues from each member to help cover basic costs of our organization. One significant cost includes our contract with BHL and Associates. BHL provides an Executive Director, Lobbyist, staff support, and critical financial and technical resources. We rely on BHL to act as our eyes and ears at the Statehouse on matters that affect our profession, livelihood, and the health and welfare of the public. They help us promote our profession and support STEM activities like Mathcounts, Model Bridge, grants and scholarships. They are also engaged with NSPE. This protects our membership benefits and enhances KSPE's influence on the national level.

While dues are important, we could not function without the active members. These volunteers are the heart of our organization. They are on the front lines of our activities, contributing their time, ideas, and leadership that molds our society's culture and puts a face to our mission. Of course, this includes the state and chapter leadership but active members go beyond the formal positions. All members who participate provide additional value that benefits themselves, our society, and ultimately our profession.

So, have you thought about getting involved? It could be as simple as attending a chapter meeting. If it's not for the speaker, consider the networking opportunities. If you are more interested in volunteering for a STEM activity, no problem. We can get you connected to a committee chair or event coordinator. Everyone is invited to participate so bring a colleague or friend and share the benefits of KSPE.

Get involved, tell our story, and share the value of KSPE.

Sincerely,
Brian W. Scovill, P.E.
2020-2021 KSPE President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

KSPE Members,

Greetings from KSPE World Headquarters! It is finally summer, which ushers in new opportunities for the Society every year. As the state and nation works to get back to normal, we hope all our members and their families remain safe.

We are extremely pleased with last month's virtual conference. Several dozen members registered for the event and viewed the webinars, which featured great topics. Feedback has been extremely positive, and we are thankful to everyone who participated to make it a success. We of course would have loved the opportunity to see everyone in person and socialize, but the virtual format afforded the opportunity to still install our new officers, recognize our award recipients and also allow attendees to earn up to five PDH credits. Our practice divisions met too, which saw a few new faces join the group discussions. Thank you again for the support and understanding as KSPE worked quickly to transition the format in the advent of the event. The Conference Planning Committee, led by Charlie Love, P.E. and KSPE staff, earned a big "thank you"!



As we start our new administrative year, the 2020-21 Board of Directors takes over, with Brian Scovill, P.E. installed as president. Brian and I will be visiting the chapters this fall; we hope everyone can make the time to attend and meet him. We are excited about Brian's vision for the Society, as he outlined in his message during the virtual conference.

We need volunteers for our state committees! Please consider signing up for the new 2021 Conference Planning Committee to help plan next year's event in Manhattan or the new Young Engineer Committee. We hope to have someone from each chapter to help lend a hand. Meetings are held virtually via Zoom, making it convenient for volunteers. Our website has the current list of committee rosters. Thank you in advance!

The next season promises to be very active for KSPE. In addition to the fall chapter meetings, KSPE will be holding two Professional Engineers in Government (PEG) seminars. The first, in Wichita, will be held this fall with the second to be a joint event with Missouri SPE in Kansas City on September 16. This is an affordable way to earn PDH credits while supporting the association and learning great topics. Please check our website for registration details.

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. Sometimes a little extra nudge is all they may need.

Remember, part of our mission is to promote and protect the license our members spend eight years learning, training and testing to learn. Help us promote National P.E. Day on August 5 and #LicensedPEday on your social media.

With all the activity and news in this issue, you can check out the ways 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
KSPE Executive Director

KSPE 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS START NEW ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR

The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers welcomes Brian Scovill, P.E. as its new President. Scovill was installed as President during KSPE's Virtual Conference in early June. Scovill is a civil engineer for the City of Leawood.

Outgoing President Jessica Rhein, P.E. handed the gavel over to Scovill, concluding her term as President and thus becomes immediate Past President, serving on the Executive Committee. Brian Coomes, P.E. of Pittsburg was installed as President-elect with Kiel Johnson, P.E. and Kerrie Greenfelder, P.E. as Vice Presidents. Jim Kowach, P.E. moves from Secretary to Treasurer while Jeff Lackey, P.E. joins the Executive Committee holding the role of secretary.

In addition to Executive Committee members, the 2020-2021 Board of Directors is comprised of a State Director from each of the seven chapters and chairs of the five practice divisions.



Officers



Practice Division Chairs



State Directors



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Eastern Chapter

Randall Gorton, P.E.
Brungardt Honomichl & Co.,
P.A.
Overland Park, KS

Allison Kerns, P.E.
Overland Park, KS

Cameron McGown, P.E.
Olathe, KS

Jennifer Taylor, P.E.
Buns & McDonnell
Overland Park, KS

Southeast Chapter

Aaron Florian
Olsson
Joplin, MO

Robin Philipp, P.E.
Olsson
Pittsburg, KS

Topeka Chapter

Keith Beers, P.E.
Everygy
Ozawkie, KS

Shannonn Kruse, P.E.
CAS Constructors
Topeka, KS

Jarrold Mann, P.E.
BG Consultants, Inc.
Lawrence, KS

Tri Valley Chapter

William Heatherman, P.E.
City of Manhattan
Manhattan, KS

Dustin Leakey
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

Michael McIntire, P.E.
City of Manhattan
Manhattan, KS

Keithen Meyer, P.E.
Schwab Eaton
Manhattan, KS

Wichita Chapter

Wesley Nyberg, P.E.
PEC
Wichita, KS

Virgil Miranda
Wichita State University
Wichita, KS

WELCOME!

NSPE-KS™ KANSAS SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

**KSPE Protects
Your Professional
License
in Topeka**

*“Who’s watching out
for your profession
while you’re at
work?”*



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Michael Snapp, P.E.



KSPE Chapter: Tri-Valley Chapter

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Geotechnical Engineering at Colorado School of Mines (2012), Master's Degree in Civil Engineering at Kansas State University (2015)

What is your employment/education history? I started with Terracon in Wichita, KS as a field environmental engineer after graduating from Colorado School of Mines in 2012. About six months after, I transferred to the Oklahoma City, OK office in the same role. After six months there, I decided to get my Master's Degree at Kansas State,

and continued to work part time for Terracon in Manhattan, KS. After receiving my Master's Degree, I had an opportunity to move back to the Denver, CO area and began working for a small firm as field geotechnical engineer. After a couple more years of the big city life, I decided that wasn't for me and an opportunity to work with Terracon in Manhattan, KS as a geotechnical engineer opened up and that's where I find myself now three years later.

Tell us about your family: I grew up in Dodge City, KS with my parents and older brother. I currently reside in Manhattan with my two-year old black lab, Bailey.

What is your greatest accomplishment to date? The greatest accomplishments to this date would be achieving my Eagle Scout Award and my Professional Engineering License.

One fun fact about you: I was adopted at birth and have a great relationship with my birth family.

What do you like to do with your free time? I enjoy most things outdoors; running, hiking, biking, hunting, fishing, camping. I currently spend a lot of time with my lab training and working her.

If you weren't an engineer, you would be a _____? Distiller.

FAVORITES

Restaurant: Local restaurant here in Manhattan, Taco Lucha

Sports Team: Kansas State, Royals and Chiefs

Vacation Spot: Lake City, Colorado or the Boundary Waters in Canada.

Song or Music Artist: Hootie and the Blowfish or Dave Mathews Band

WHY DID YOU BECOME AN ENGINEER?

I always enjoyed math and sciences growing up and also being outside and playing in the "dirt" (soil!), like all kids. But, I learned I could also make a career of it, and so pursued geotechnical engineering.

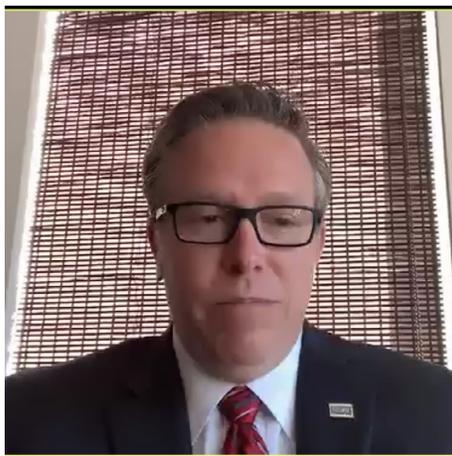
KSPE 2020 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE



Above: Congratulations to all of our 2020 award winners!

Thank you to our 2020 Conference Planning Committee!

- Charlie Love, P.E. – Chair
- Ryan Dametz, P.E.
- Chad Hall, P.E.
- Michael Heigert, P.E.
- Kristen Leathers, P.E.
- Cindy McCann, P.E.
- Tawn Nugent, P.E.
- Cody Porter, P.E.
- Ian Reekie, P.E.
- Jessica Rhein, P.E.
- Tony Rome, P.E.
- Anne Schroer, P.E.
- Adam Stodola, P.E., F.NSPE
- Travis Lowe – Staff
- Alison Connell – Staff



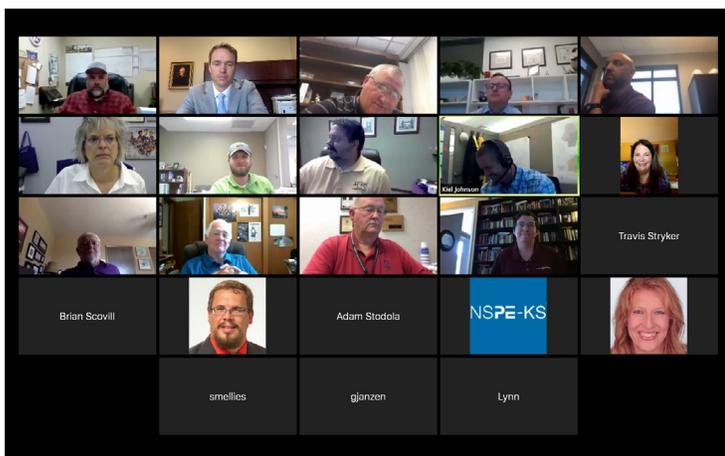
Above: KSPE 2020-2021 President Brian Scovill, P.E. gives his incoming President's Message.



Above: KSPE Executive Director Travis Lowe gives a legislative update to members.



Above: KDOT Secretary Julie Lorenz gave an insightful KDOT Update regarding the new transportation program.



Above: KSPE Board of Directors meet before the rest of the Virtual Conference continues.



Above: Practice Divisions also met virtually in June.

SUPPORT **KSPE PAC** TODAY!

What is **KSPE PAC**?

KSPE PAC is the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers' non-partisan Political Action Committee that supports candidates committed to our profession.

Members like YOU can help us with our efforts to lawmakers in Topeka.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE KSPE POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE OR "KSPE PAC".

No donation is too small to aid our efforts.

In 2019, KSPE PAC raised almost \$4,000



2020 GOAL: \$6,000

All 40 Senators and 125 Representatives are up for election in the 2020 elections.

KSPE PAC helps ensure champions of our industry stay in Topeka. KSPE PAC works with legislators to ensure they understand the roles Licensed Professional Engineers have in public safety and the state's future.

Our association has more than 500 members, but only a few have participated in this initiative. We are setting an ambitious goal of raising

\$6,000 IN 2020



How can I support?

Visit kansasengineer.org/KSPE-PAC or contact KSPE's Executive Director, Travis Lowe at travis@kansasengineer.org.

NSPE-KS™ POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE
KANSAS SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

PRACTICE DIVISIONS

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS IN INDUSTRY (PEI)

AMY MARTENS, P.E.

PEI held our annual practice division meeting virtually on Friday morning, June 5. We had a great meeting with updates to members on local and national issues impacting our profession as well as state and national KSPE/NSPE society business. We discussed PEI activities and future planning. We also discussed the PEI Chair role for next year. The group unanimously selected me to continue to serve as chair, so I graciously accepted this role for the 2020-2021 term. I look forward to continuing to serve KSPE and the PEI members!

PEI provides value to members in industry through the promotion of professional practices and policies, including support of the licensure process for engineers in Industry. Our mission includes offerings of educational and professional development opportunities and actions to increase the public awareness of the contribution of professional engineers in Industry.



PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS IN CONSTRUCTION (PEC)

MIKE HOFFMAN, P.E.

At our PEC meeting during the virtual Annual Conference, we discussed putting together a series of seminars that would initially be held remotely via Zoom or a similar platform. Our goal would be to make these PDH eligible and in the future depending on interest evolve these events into something like what the PEG group puts together every year. Initial ideas for topics included 3D modeling/GPS use in construction, drone use, various procurement models for projects, and risk management for engineers. Our goal is to hold the first of these seminars sometime this fall. If there are other topics that would be of interest to the membership, please send them to me at mike@alansexcavating.com.

Moving forward, our group is planning on holding quarterly Zoom meetings in order to discuss the upcoming seminars and any current issues that are affecting our membership. The first of these meetings will be held around the first week of August. If you would like to be included and are not currently receiving PEC information, please contact me at the email address above and we will make sure you are added to the group.



UPCOMING EVENTS

NSPE Virtual PE Conference

August 3-7, 2020

KSPE/MSPE Kansas City PEG Seminar

September 16, 2020

EFK Golf Tournament

October 16, 2020

2021 KSPE Annual Conference

June 23-25, 2021

Professional Engineers in Government

Kansas City Seminar

September 16 Kansas City, MO
2020



EFK
**21st Annual Golf
Tournament**
October 16, 2020

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

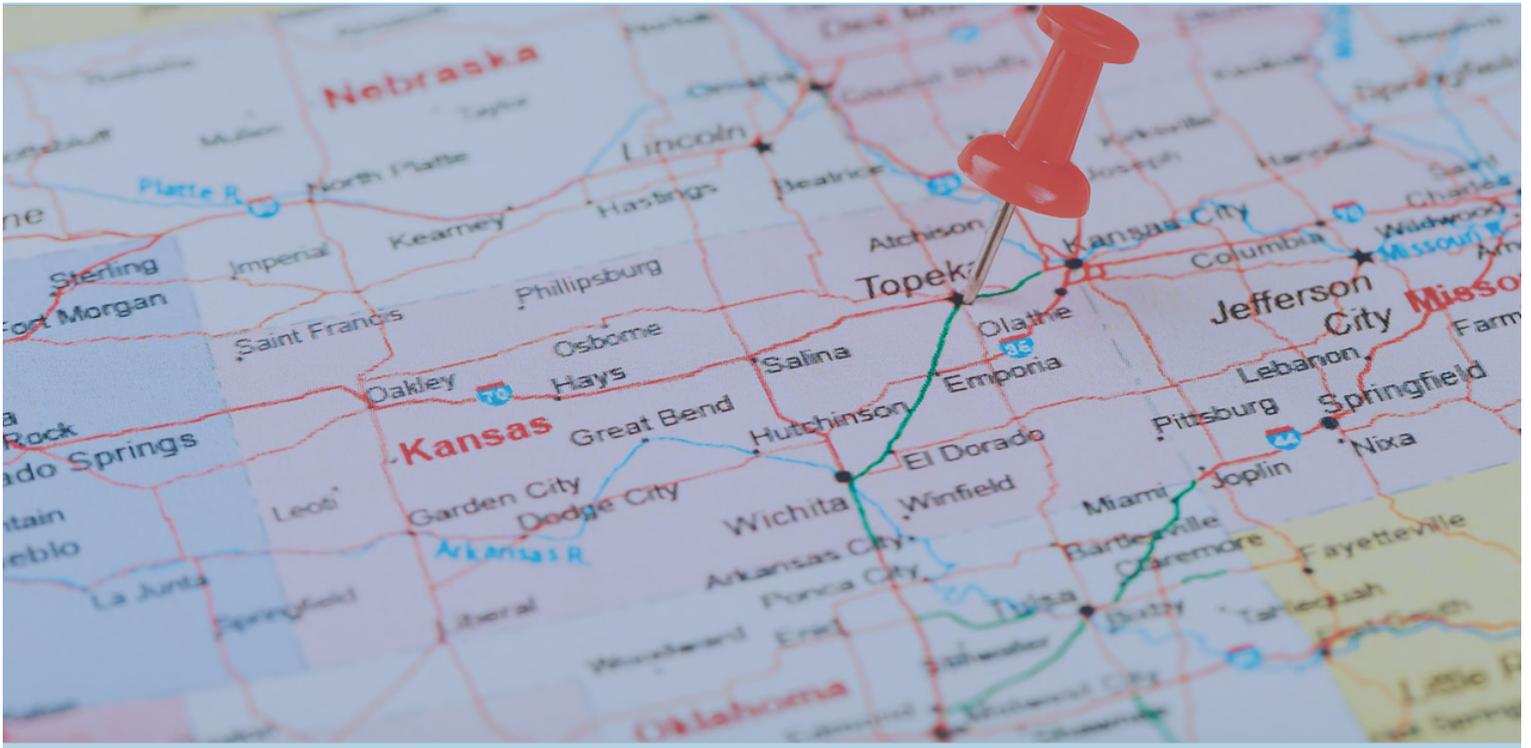
NSPE-KS KANSAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS



KSPE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
June 23-25
2021

Hilton Garden Inn Manhattan, KS

UPCOMING EVENTS



NSPE-KS™ 2020 PRESIDENT'S CHAPTER VISITS

| | | | |
|---------------|--|---------------------|----------------|
| Sept 24, 2020 | Southeast Chapter KSPE President Visit | 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM | Iola |
| Oct 1, 2020 | Wichita Chapter Legislative Breakfast & KSPE President Visit | 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM | Wichita |
| Oct 1, 2020 | High Plains Chapter KSPE President Visit | 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM | Garden City |
| Oct 15, 2020 | Eastern Chapter Legislative Breakfast & KSPE President Visit | 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM | Johnson County |
| TBD | Smoky Valley Chapter Legislative Lunch & KSPE President Visit | TBD | Salina |
| TBD | Tri Valley Chapter Legislative Dinner & KSPE President Visit | TBD | Manhattan |
| TBD | Eastern Chapter KSPE President Visit | TBD | Johnson County |
| TBD | Topeka Chapter Legislative Dinner & KSPE President Visit | TBD | Manhattan |

2021 KSPE ANNUAL CONFERENCE June 23-25



Hilton Garden Inn

Manhattan, KS

July 9, 2020

Dear KSPE Member and/or Supporting Firm,

Thank you for your continued support of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE). 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:

Legislative Advocacy- KSPE's advocacy work in Topeka includes a lobbying team that reviews all legislation introduced in the state Senate and House and advocates KSPE's legislative priorities. This includes protecting Professional Engineer license, which has come under attack in nearby states.

P.E. Licensure Ceremony – KSPE teams up with other organizations to recognize individuals who have recently passed the PE exam by holding a winter and summer licensure 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.

Enclosed you will find an outline of sponsorship levels and benefits, as well as a form to enroll. 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 that past, and we look forward to building on that relationship.

Regards,

Brian Scovill, P.E.
2020-2021 President
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



Did you know that you can post your company's career listings on our website?

Go to www.kansasengineer.org/Career-Listings
for more information

BECOME A KSPE SPONSOR!

CALL 785-233-2121

OR EMAIL RACHEL NINCEHELSE AT [RACHEL@KANSASENGINEER.ORG](mailto:rachel@kansasengineer.org)

GO TO www.kansasengineer.org/Sponsors

FOR MORE INFORMATION