

Kansas Professional Engineer News

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

MAY-JUNE 2021

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KANSAS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER NEWS

Publisher

Travis Lowe, CAE

Contact

825 S. Kansas Ave., Ste. 500
Topeka, KS 66612
(785) 233-2121
travis@kansasengineer.org

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when you shop.**

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR KSPE PRESIDENT

Brian W. Scovill, P.E.

Time flies when you are having fun and the last year has flown by. Our last KSPE Board of Directors meeting for 2020/2021 will be held June 23 at the KSPE Annual Conference in Manhattan. That means changes to KSPE leadership are coming and this is my last newsletter.

At our last Annual Conference, I addressed our membership and communicated a couple of goals. Those were centered on communicating the value of KSPE and promoting membership. I remember thinking this would be particularly important in a time where we had fewer opportunities for face-to-face meetings and our standard operating manual for state and chapter events would be tested. Looking back, I'm proud to have been part of the KSPE leadership team that weathered the COVID-19 storm. In addition to taking on membership, our leadership team spent quite a bit of time on legislative issues and most recently on the subject of diversity.

I believe one role, if not the most important role KSPE performs for its members is the protection of the engineer's Professional License. It is without any doubt I can tell you, your membership

and the related dues protected your Professional License in the State of Kansas. Due to our lobbying efforts, KSPE successfully convinced the House to introduce a Substitute for HB 2066, known as the Universal Licensure/Military Spouse Bill. This substitute provided language allowing the State Board of Technical Professions to continue to measure professional engineer licensure by qualifications. Professional Engineers were the only licensed industry to receive this status. Furthermore, our lobbying efforts supported the University Engineering Initiative Act (UEIA). This extended additional funding to Kansas Universities to promote and enhance their accredited engineering programs. These are important accomplishments and would not be possible without your commitment to KSPE.

Another hot topic that has come up revolves around diversity and the Society's role in promoting and encouraging diversity within the Engineering industry. The suggestion by National to update the Engineer's Creed became a battleground for some divergent opinions. From what I read on the blogs most agree that diversity can be a good thing but opinions differ



on what role KSPE should play in that endeavor. I do not know what if any changes will come out of this but for now it appears NSPE is letting the dust settle while they review the survey results.

Change can be hard but is sometimes less painful if you help set expectations by communicating goals and getting buy-in. Then if we align our efforts with our goals the change will be seen as an achievement.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as the KSPE President. I'm excited about the future of KSPE under the fine leadership of Brian Coomes and the Executive Committee.

Finally, remember to get involved, tell our story, and share the value of KSPE.

Sincerely,

Brian W. Scovill, P.E.

KSPE 2020-2021 President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Travis Lowe, CAE



KSPE members,

Greetings from Topeka! We hope all of our members and their families are well and healthy. Summer is knocking on the door, which means our convention is just a few weeks away. We are excited to see everyone and share KSPE's activity at the state and chapter level. First, we want to thank our members for their continued support that keeps KSPE strong.

With the 2021 Legislative Session concluding last week, KSPE is able to take a step back and reflect on what transpired. Each year we see examples of why KSPE needs to be active in Topeka. In 2021, KSPE led an industry-wide effort to extend the University Engineering Initiative Act another ten years, providing \$10.5M of annual support split between the engineering schools of Kansas State University, University of Kansas, and Wichita State University. In addition, KSPE worked to protect engineering licensure in the Universal Licensure Bill by ensuring new engineer licenses must meet existing Kansas qualifications. It was an active year and we thank

the legislators and stakeholders that supported KSPE's position, as well as the Government Relations Committee for supporting the association lobbyists.

A request to all of our members—Use the above-mentioned examples as reasons why it is important to support KSPE. Whether you are licensed or on the path to licensure, KSPE is the organization protecting the license and role it plays in the state.

Registration is open for the 2021 KSPE Conference, scheduled for June 23-25 in Manhattan. The Conference Planning Committee and staff have planned a great schedule and we are excited to see our members. We have several joint sessions planned, along with specific industry tracks and seminars for young engineers. We will gather safely and hope you consider attending if you are able or feel comfortable.

On a closing note, we encourage everyone to stay active at the chapter level. Our success begins at the chapter level, and each chapter is working to re-establish

its footing as we get through the pandemic. Our society's mission is centered on licensure. It is what unites all of our members, regardless of discipline. Our young engineers on the path to licensure want the license to mean as much in twenty years from now as it did when they received it. With your help and continued support, we will work toward that goal in Kansas.

Thank you for your continued support!

See you soon,

Travis Lowe, CAE

Engineers' Foundation of Kansas Update INAUGURAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM: DON RATHBONE

by Wayne Nelson, P.E.



The EFK held our inaugural Recognition Program March 19, 2021, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Manhattan. Don Rathbone, Ph.D., P.E., Dean Emeritus, Carl R. Ice College of Engineering, Kansas State University, was honored for his contributions to the engineering profession not only in the state of Kansas, but nationally. The lineup of featured speakers included Kansas State University President Richard Myers, Dean Matt O'Keefe, Blake Flanders, President and CEO of the Board of Regents, and many more via pre-recorded video messages.

As Dean, Don expanded undergraduate enrollment, established multiple programs, research centers, laboratories, the engineering minority program and the addition of five new undergraduate programs.

Don's impact has extended well beyond the borders of Kansas. His service to the profession has been honored as a fellow to multiple organizations. Don served as chairman of the Professional Engineers in Higher Education Committee of the National Society of Professional Engineers, the National Board of Governors of the Order of the Engineer and numerous other national boards.

In Kansas he served on the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions, including a stint as the chairman. But Don's giving to Kansas really begins at home with his church and community, the United Way and the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation.

In further recognition of their contributions to engineering and STEM programs the goal of EFK is to name the Kansas MATHCOUNTS program in the name of Don and Lynne Rathbone.

The University Engineering Initiative Act (UEIA) is an issue the EFK has been supporting and following through the legislative session. Tom Roberts provided testimony to Senate and House committees. We are pleased this legislation did pass and was signed by the governor. Arvin Agah, Dean of Engineering at the University of Kansas, and board member of EFK, will be a panelist at the upcoming KSPE conference presenting on the UEIA.

The next board meeting of the EFK will be June 21, 2021.



2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



Promoting & Protecting the P.E. License

KSPE supports continued employment of licensed P.E.s in state agencies & local government, protecting the standards and meaning of the P.E. license, and preventing double licensure mandates. KSPE opposes elimination of licensure requirements for state technical & scientific positions where requirements are important to the health, safety and welfare of the public.



Addressing the Engineer Shortage

Extending the Kansas University Engineering Initiative Act (UEIA) to increase engineering graduates in Kansas. Over 70% of Kansas engineer consulting firms report there are still not enough engineers to meet their hiring needs. The UEIA is scheduled to expire in 2022.



Funding Our State's Infrastructure

KSPE supports protection of designated funds of the State Highway Fund and State Water Plan Fund. We also support completion of the T-WORKS comprehensive transportation plan and the commencement of its successor, the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Plan.



Project Design Procurement

KSPE supports Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) and opposes removal of the use of QBS for state projects that utilize P.E. services. KSPE also supports enforcement of K.S.A. 68-501 requiring County Engineers to be licensed P.E.s, and creation of a state-funded incentive program to ensure counties are equipped to employ a licensed P.E.



Professional Services Taxation

KSPE opposes the imposition of state or local sales taxes on the delivery of professional services by engineering, architecture and/or design fees.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Eastern Chapter

Kevin Sitek, P.E.
Bucyrus

Southeast Chapter

Ken Wohaska, P.E.
Neodesha

Wichita Chapter

Jerrold Bradley, P.E.
Wichita

Smoky Valley Chapter

Matt Rowe, EI/EIT
Salina

Nolan Barton
Student
Great Bend

PRACTICE DIVISION UPDATES

Professional Engineers in Industry (PEI)

Amy Martens, P.E.



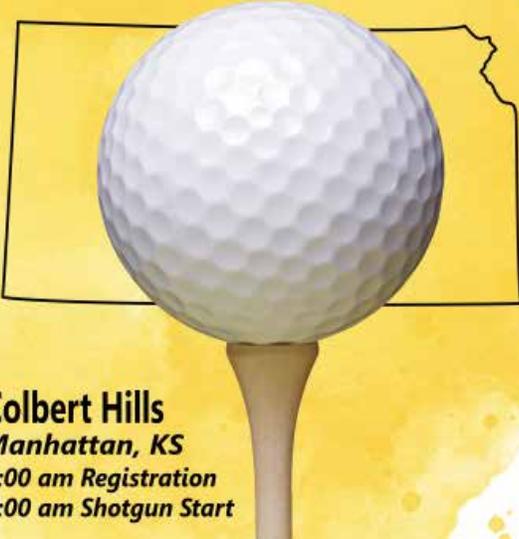
PEI will hold our annual practice division meeting during our KSPE Annual Conference scheduled for June 23-25, 2021 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Manhattan, Kansas. I plan to have a productive meeting to include updates to members on local and national issues impacting our profession as well as state and national society business. I hope you are able to attend!

Please contact Amy Martens, PEI Chair, at amy.martens@bcbsks.com if you have agenda items you would like to discuss or if you are interested in taking on a leadership role with PEI.

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.



EFK
22nd Annual Golf Tournament
October 1, 2021



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

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Calvin Reed, P.E.



KSPE Chapter: Topeka Chapter

Why did you become an engineer?

I grew up pretty naïve about what career options were open to me. I took an aptitude test in high school that indicated I should think about engineering. I really didn't understand what engineering was at the time, but once I got into college, I realized it was the perfect fit for me. I've stuck with engineering because of the problem-solving aspects and for the ideas of doing something for the greater good.

What is your employment/education history?

I graduated from K-State with my B.S and M.S. in Civil Engineering (minor in Geology). I've worked most of my career with the Kansas Department of Transportation, mostly focusing on bridge engineering. I've had a couple stints with consultants (Wilson & Company and most recently PEC).

Tell us about your family:

I have a wonderful supporting wife of nearly 20 years and four amazing (each in their own way) kids. They are my reminder of what I am working for and what we all have to look forward to.

What is your greatest accomplishment to date?

I can't think of one thing that I have accomplished that numerous others haven't played an integral role. One project that I have been proud to be a part of is the redesign and construction of the Wichita North Junction interchange. It is a tremendous project that will have a tangible benefit to the largest city in Kansas and the entire region.

What do you like to do with your free time?

Spend time with friends and family, go to kids' school events, DIY projects around the house...and occasionally go for a run or bike ride.

If you weren't an engineer, you would be

Data analyst/actuary?

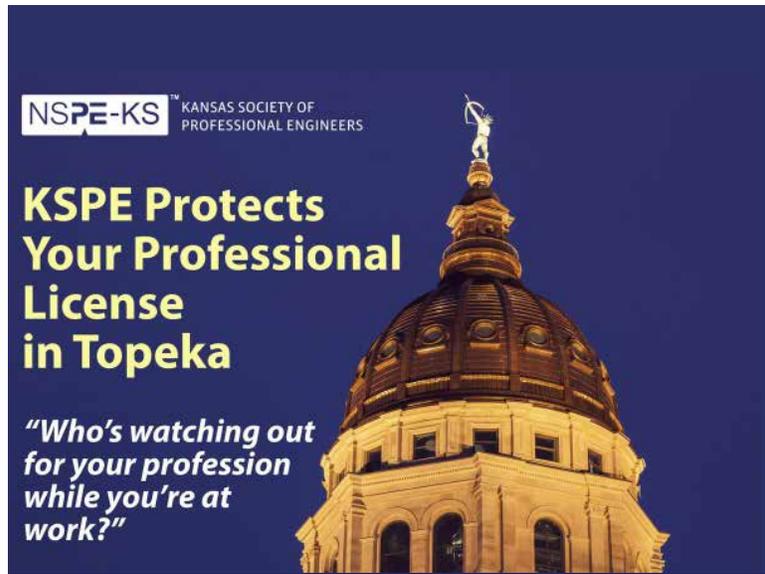
FAVORITES

Restaurant: Almost anything in Downtown Lawrence.

Vacation Spot: Rocky Mountain National Park

Sports Team: Kansas State Wildcats

Song or Music Artist: Generally mid 90's Alternative (Weezer, Radiohead, REM....)



UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE
23-25

2021 KSPE Annual Conference

Manhattan, KS • June 23-25, 2021

AUG
3-5

NSPE Virtual PE-Con

August 3-5, 2021

AUG
4

Professional Engineers Day

August 4, 2021



OCT
1

EFK Golf Tournament

Colbert Hills, Manhattan, KS • October 1, 2021

JUNE
15-17

2022 KSPE Annual Conference

June 15-17, 2022

2021 MATHCOUNTS UPDATE

by David Johnson, P.E.

Another year of MATHCOUNTS in Kansas is officially finished. After the virtual Chapter & Chapter Invitational Competitions, 33 students from 15 different schools out of 342 students & 43 schools advanced to the state virtual contest on March 25. The top 10 state winners follow:

MATHCOUNTS® OF KANSAS

1st Place	Arnesh Sharma, Pleasant Ridge Middle School	Eastern Chapter
2nd Place	Medha Goli, Lakewood Middle School	Eastern Chapter
3rd Place	John Schafer, Nativity Parish School	Eastern Chapter
4th Place	Sriram Srinivasa Kalki, Overland Trail	Eastern Chapter
5th Place	Bo M Lu, Robinson Middle School	Wichita Chapter
6th Place	Aashritha N Musti, Pleasant Ridge Middle School	Eastern Chapter
7th Place	Mahi Kohli, California Trail Middle School	Eastern Chapter
8th Place	Solon Xia, Frank Bergman Elementary School	Tri Valley Chapter
9th Place	Alex Y Guo, Lakewood Middle School	Eastern Chapter
10th Place	Matthew W Chen, Leawood Middle School	Eastern Chapter

The top four students plus coach, Sharad Sharma (Pleasant Ridge Middle School), will represent Kansas at the national competition from May 8 - 11. Like all other MATHCOUNTS events this year, the national contest will also be virtual. However, the national contest will be a bit different in that it will include both individual and team competitions. If interested in keeping tabs of national results and other information, visit www.mathcounts.org where updates will be posted.

Thanks again to all for your continued volunteer and financial support of MATHCOUNTS. Until next year, stay safe and be ready to support MATHCOUNTS and your local chapter coordinators in 2022!

David Johnson, P.E.

Kansas MATHCOUNTS Coordinator

2021 KSPE ANNUAL CONFERENCE June 23-25



Hilton Garden Inn

Manhattan, KS

Kansas Society of Professional Engineers 2021 Annual Conference

June 23-25, 2021

Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan, Kansas

Wednesday, June 23

- 8:00am - 11:00am **KSPE Board of Directors Meeting**
- 9:00am - 11:00am **EFK Board of Directors Meeting**
- 1:00pm - 5:30pm **Golf Tournament - Ron Gaches Seersucker Open**
Colbert Hills
- 5:30pm - 7:30pm **Icebreaker Reception and Golf Awards**
Colbert Hills

Thursday, June 24

- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm **Registration**
- 7:00 am - 7:45 am **Past Presidents' Breakfast**
- 7:30 am - 8:00 am **Continental Breakfast**
- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm **Vendor Showcase**
- 8:00 am - 8:15 am **Welcome to Manhattan**
Mayor Wynn Butler, Mayor, City of Manhattan
Matt O'Keefe, PhD, Dean of Engineering, Kansas State University
- 8:15 am - 8:35 am **KSPE Update**
Brian Scovill, P.E., KSPE President
- 8:35 am - 8:55 am **NSPE Update**
Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE, NSPE President-Elect
- 8:55 am - 9:15 am **Installation of Officers**
- 9:15 am - 9:30 am **Order of the Engineer Ceremony, KSPE Link #106**

Inductees make a solemn obligation to uphold devotion to the standards and dignity of the engineering profession.
- 9:30 am - 10:00 am **Break/Vendor Showcase**
- 10:00 am - 11:00 am **Keynote Speaker**
Lieutenant Colonel Ryan Pevey, Deputy Commander, Kansas City District, Army Corps of Engineers
- 11:00 - 11:50 am **Panel: University Engineering Initiative Act**
Arvin Agah, PhD, Dean of Engineering, University of Kansas
Blake Flanders, CEO, Kansas Board of Regents
Cameron McGown, P.E., Vice President, Transportation Group, HNTB Corporation
- 11:50 am - 1:00 pm **KSPE Awards Luncheon**

1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Track A

Why Asset Management is Critical to Engineering

Christopher Harker, P.E., ENV SP, CAMP, Transportation Group Manager/Principal Associate, Alfred Benesch & Company
Jarrod Russell, P.E., ENV SP, Project Engineer,

Track C: Young Engineer's Roundtable

KSPE 101

Brian Scovill, P.E., KSPE President
Travis Lowe, CAE, Executive Director, KSPE
Jeff Lackey, P.E., TranSystems

Track B

Water Update

Earl Lewis, P.E., Chief Water Engineer, Kansas Department of Agriculture

1:50 pm - 2:00 pm

Break/Vendor Showcase

2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Track A

Securing the Future – The Manhattan Levee Flood Risk Management Project

Reed Brown, P.E., Chief, Geotechnical Design and Dam Safety Section, US Army Corps of Engineers, KC District
Bill Heatherman, P.E., PhD, Stormwater Compliance Engineer, City of Manhattan

Track C: Young Engineer's Roundtable

PE Prep

Tom Roberts, P.E., F.NSPE
Additional Speakers TBA

Track B

National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) Update

Tim Barr, Project Manager, National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) Project at US Department of Homeland Security

2:50 pm - 3:00 pm

Break/Vendor Showcase

3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Track A

A Peek Inside Allegiant Stadium!

Lanson Nichols, RA, HNTB Senior Vice President – Sports Architecture
Pro Football Practice Leader

Track C: Young Engineer's Roundtable

Career Path Panel

Karen Becker, P.E., City of Manhattan
Jeff Hancock, P.E., SMH Consultants
Nathan Bergman, P.E., Bartlett & West

Track B

Ethics

Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE, NSPE President-Elect

3:50 pm - 4:00 pm

Break/Vendor Showcase

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

PRACTICE DIVISION MEETINGS-CONCURRENT

ACEC of Kansas Annual Meeting/Professional Engineers in Private Practice (PEPP)

Professional Engineers in Industry (PEI)

Professional Engineers in Government (PEG)

Professional Engineers in Higher Education (PEHE)

Professional Engineers in Construction (PEC)

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

President's Reception

8:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Pub Crawl

Friday, June 25

- 7:00 am - 7:50 am **Breakfast Buffet**
KSPE PAC Update
Travis Lowe, CAE, KSPE Lobbyist & Executive Director
- 7:50 am - 8:00 am **Break/Vendor Showcase**
- 8:00 am - 8:45 am **Becoming More Involved - Citizen Engineer**
Tom Roberts, P.E., F.NSPE
Keithen Meyer, P.E., Schwab Eaton
Travis Lowe, CAE, KSPE Lobbyist & Executive Director
- 8:45 am - 9:45 am **Legislative Panel: Industry Issues in Topeka**
Rep. Ron Highland, Chair of House Water Committee, Member of House Commerce Committee and House Tax Committee
Sen. Rick Wilborn, Senate Vice President
- 9:45 - 10:00 am **Break/Vendor Showcase**
- 10:00 - 10:45 am **KDOT / KTA Update**
Burt Morey, P.E., Deputy Secretary and State Transportation Engineer Kansas Department of Transportation
David Jacobson, P.E., Director of Engineering, Kansas Turnpike Authority
- 10:45 - 11:00 am **Break/Vendor Showcase**
- 11:00 am - 12:00 pm **Aggieville Redevelopment**
Brian Johnson, P.E., City Engineer, City of Manhattan
Mark Bachamp, P.E., Vice President, Olsson
- 12:00 p.m. **Adjourn**
- 12:25 - 1:00 pm **Tour of Aggieville - Group to meet on the north side of Kites at 615 N. 12th Street, Manhattan, Kansas 66502 for a quick tour of new projects in Aggieville. After the tour KSPE has reserved the north room of Kite's for lunch on your own.**

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

To make a room reservation for the 2021 Annual Conference, please [click here](#) or call 785.532.9116 and reference the group number KSPE2 to receive special rate of \$115.00 (single occupancy). Make your reservation before the cut-off date of 5/26/21 at the Hilton Garden Inn Manhattan, 410 South 3rd Street, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

REGISTRATION

Full Registration includes:

- One ticket for Icebreaker
- Awards Luncheon
- President's Reception
- Breaks/Vendor Showcase
- All Continuing Education Opportunities and PDH Documentation

YOUNG ENGINEER'S ROUNDTABLE

The Young Engineer's Roundtable will be held in conjunction with the KSPE Conference on Thursday, June 24. With your Young Engineer's Roundtable registration you are invited to attend the Thursday morning general sessions, Awards Luncheon, three Young Engineer's Roundtable sessions and the President's Reception on Thursday evening.

CANCELLATION POLICY

No cancellations will be accepted after June 14 due to hotel guarantee deadlines.

EVENT SPONSORSHIP/VENDOR SHOWCASE

Contact Alison Connell at the KSPE office at 785.233.2121, email alison@kansasengineer.org or click [here](#) if you would like to be a sponsor or vendor of the Conference. (Sponsorship packages include Conference registration opportunities).

TOUR OF AGGIEVILLE DEVELOPMENT

Follow up the final conference session with a tour of Aggieville - Group to meet on the north side of Kites for a quick tour of Aggieville. After the tour, KSPE has reserved the north room of Kite's for lunch on your own.

SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCOMMODATIONS

We will make every effort to meet your special needs. Please contact Alison Connell at the KSPE office at 785.233.2121 to request special accommodations.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

All conference registrants are invited to play in the KSPE four-person scramble golf tournament on Wednesday, June 23, at Colbert Hills, 5200 Colbert Hills Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502. If you know your foursome, indicate your preference for your team on your registration form. If a foursome is not indicated we will make sure you are placed on a team. A box lunch will be provided and a reception will be held in the clubhouse at the golf course after the tournament. Hole prizes will be awarded as well as team prizes.

1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start

\$150 Conference Registrants

\$175 Non-Conference Registrants

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