



# The South Dakota Engineer

March 2015

## This Issue

- President's Message
- SDES Chapter Awards
- SDES Winter Board Meeting Draft Minutes
- SDES Endowment Fund
- Welcome New Members
- NSPE News

### SDES

2014-2015

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

##### PRESIDENT

Todd (T.J.) Yerdon, P.E.

##### PRESIDENT-ELECT

Stacy Froelich, P.E.

##### VICE PRESIDENT

Brian Jenner, P.E.

##### SECRETARY-TREASURER

Philip Gundvaldson, P.E.

##### PAST PRESIDENT

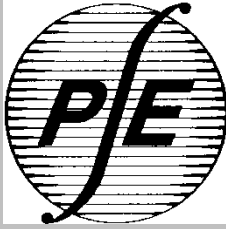
Myron Adam, P.E./L.S.

## President's Message – Todd (T.J.) Yerdon, PE

Hello everyone. Spring is quickly approaching which means the 2015 Annual Conference is right around the corner. The Central Chapter will be hosting this year's Annual Conference in Pierre, SD on April 8-10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The Central Chapter is working very hard at providing another quality conference with superior speakers and guests. The conference provides a great opportunity to network with other colleagues from across the state, and there are 11 PDH's available if you attend the entire conference. Again like last year, the annual awards presentations will be held during the Thursday lunch, and Kodi Jean Verhalen, the Vice President of NSPE, will join us to provide the state of NSPE address and to install the new officers. The reduced conference fee for early registration ends on March 16, 2015, so visit the SDES website soon to register.

In October, the State Board voted and approved to support the Roads are Vital Coalition. The Roads are Vital Coalition is the group working hard to increase transportation funding for the State of South Dakota. Visit [roadsarevital.org](http://roadsarevital.org) to learn more about this coalition and show your individual support for improving the funding for our roads within the state. Through the Design Professionals Coalition, the State Board is closely monitoring the current transportation bills being discussed in the State House and Senate along with other bills that could have potential impact to our organization.

During our last board meeting, the State Board approved the 2015-2016 SDES executive board nominations. Stacy Froelich will be our president, Brian Jenner will be president-elect, Phil Gundvaldson will be vice president and Steven Myer will be secretary/treasurer. Along with the SDES executive board, various state chair positions, chapter board positions, and chapter chair positions will be changing hands. I personally want to thank everyone for volunteering your time and energy to be responsible for these positions. Our state and chapters have been very successful due to the commitment made from our volunteers.



NSPE  
Leadership Toolbox

Have you remembered to pay your membership dues? If you need an invoice, please go to [www.sdes.org](http://www.sdes.org), where you can pay your dues online or contact Gail Boddicker at 394-6674 or [gail.boddicker@sdsmt.edu](mailto:gail.boddicker@sdsmt.edu) for a copy of your invoice.

As a reminder, if you wish to pay your membership dues by check, please contact Gail for a revised invoice – the invoice that you initially receive has the credit card transaction fees applied. If you pay by check, I will revise your invoice to deduct those charges.

It is a good idea to periodically check your records to be sure your contact information is correct. You can update your information online or contact Gail with the information.

I look forward to seeing you in Pierre on April 8-10<sup>th</sup> for the 2015 Annual Conference.

TJ Yerdon, P.E.

2014-2015 President



## South Dakota Engineering Society Engineers Week Chapter Awards

### CENTRAL CHAPTER ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Tim Bjorneberg, PE  
Pierre, SD



At the Central Chapter of the Engineering Society's Engineering Week Banquet, Tim Bjorneberg, P.E. (left in photo) received the Chapter's Engineer of the Year Award. Tim worked with the Department of Transportation for 31 years and is a member of The Transportation Hall of Fame.



## ENGINEERING A STRONGER PROFESSION

NSPE is on a mission of organizational innovation and development to effectively serve the licensed professional engineer and those on the licensure path.

*If you haven't already seen the video and other resources related to the Society's new Statement of Strategic Direction, check out [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org) and the link to "Mission: Engineering a Stronger Profession."*

FREE  
LEADER

WEBINARS

[click here for more info](#)

### Central Chapter Engineering Achievement Award Howes Dam and Buffalo Lake/SD Highway 34 Repair



### Central Chapter Engineering Achievement Award

At the Central Chapter of the Engineering Society's Engineering Week Banquet, the Department of Transportation received the Chapter's Engineering Achievement Award for the Howes Dam and Buffalo Lake/SD Highway 34 Repair. Pictured accepting the award on behalf of the DOT are Laurie Schultz and Kevin Goeden.

### EASTERN CHAPTER

The Eastern Chapter of the South Dakota Engineering Society (SDSES) held its annual awards banquet on Saturday, February 28, 2015, at the Downtown Holiday Inn – City Centre in Sioux Falls, SD. The Honorable Mayor Mike Huether provided the keynote speech to a group of 90 attendees representing a wide array of engineering disciplines.

### EASTERN CHAPTER ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Chad Hanisch, P.E. with Infrastructure Design Group based in Sioux Falls, SD was awarded the Eastern Chapter Engineer of the Year.

**EASTERN CHAPTER  
YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**

Michelle Carter, P.E. with HDR Engineering in Sioux Falls, SD was awarded the Eastern Chapter Young Engineer of the Year.

**EASTERN CHAPTER  
PROJECT OF THE YEAR**

Denny Sanford PREMIER Center represented by the City of Sioux Falls; and,

Bel Brands Wastewater Pre-Treatment Facility designed by Banner Associates based in Brookings, SD.

**EASTERN CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS**

The SDES Eastern Chapter is funding \$8,800 in Engineering scholarships in 2015, whose scholarship recipients were recognized at the Eastern Chapter banquet.

Nicholas Zolnowsky from Parkston, SD, the recipient of a \$2000 Engineering scholarship, plans to attend South Dakota State University and major in Civil Engineering.

Alex Spies from Watertown, SD, the receipt of a \$2000 Engineering scholarship, plans to attend South Dakota School of Mines & Technology and major in Mechanical Engineering.

Jamison French from Brookings, SD, the recipient of a \$2000 Engineering scholarship, plans to attend South Dakota State University and major in Mechanical Engineering.

James Hisek from Yankton, SD, the recipient of a \$1000 Engineering scholarship, currently attends South Dakota State University majoring in General Engineering.

John Miller from Minnetonka, MN, the recipient of a \$1000 Engineering scholarship, currently attends South Dakota State University majoring in Operations Management and German.

Emily Lawrenson from Beresford, SD, the recipient of a \$800 Engineering scholarship, plans to attend South Dakota State University and major in Civil Engineering.



**SOUTH DAKOTA  
ENGINEERING SOCIETY  
55<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**APRIL 8-10, 2015  
REGISTRATION IS OPEN**

Click on this link for the program and registration information.

**SDES January Board Meeting Draft Minutes**

**SOUTH DAKOTA ENGINEERING SOCIETY  
WINTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2015**

Members and Guests Present:

TJ Yerdon, President  
Stacy Froelich, President-Elect  
Brian Jenner, Vice President  
Philip Gundvaldson, Secretary-Treasurer  
Chris Bailey, BH Chapter President  
Steve Bareis, BH Chapter State Director  
Al Berreth, CE Chapter State Director  
Andy Bruels, CE Chapter President  
Kristen Gundvaldson, Eastern Chapter State Director  
Chad Hanisch, University & Public Relations  
Jason Kjenstad, Endowment and SDLTAP  
Gail Boddicker, Executive Director

President Yerdon called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Gundvaldson confirmed a quorum for the meeting.

The IRS is now inquiring whether non-profit tax-exempt entities have adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy to ensure that charitable funds are not being used for anyone's private gain. Hearing no conflicts from the board members in attendance, Yerdon proceeded with the meeting.

#### Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

Bareis made a motion to approve the October 8, 2014, board minutes, Bruels seconded the motion and the motion passed.

#### President's Report - President TJ Yerdon, PE

Yerdon provided a written report that highlighted:

Yerdon will request a meeting/discussion with the SD BTP to discuss their requirements how engineers should document their PDH's;

The SDES board voted to financially support the Roads Are Vital Coalition;

Steven Myer volunteered to assume the SDES Secretary-Treasurer position for the 2015-2016 term;

The CE Chapter has decided to discontinue a regional Mathcounts competition;

SDES endorsed Wes Philips for NSPE YEOY award. The final endorsement was submitted to NSPE early in January;

So that NSPE can begin communication with incoming House of Delegates members, please provide by April 30, 2015, but no later than June 1, 2015, the name of your State Society's delegate to the NSPE House of Delegates for the term beginning July 31, 2015 and ending July 31, 2017.

#### President-Elect's Report - President-Elect Stacy Froelich, PE

Froelich reported that the chapter members are planning for the 2015 annual conference. The conference will be held at the Ramkota in Pierre on April 8-10, 2015.

#### Vice President's Report – Vice President Brian Jenner, PE

No report.

#### Executive Director's Report – Boddicker

Boddicker provided a written report that highlighted:

Met with SDSMT students and provided information on NSPE/SDES membership;

Nominated Weston Philips, PE, for NSPE Young Engineer of the Year;

Met with Patty Mamola, Past President of NCEES;

Welcomed 13 new members since October SDES board meeting;

Finalized income and expenses for Fall PDH;

Design Professionals Coalition conference call on January 12, 2015;

Participated on North Central Regional and State Society Executive Director Conference Calls.

ALL REPORTS WILL BE SUBMITTED IN HARD COPY FOR DISTRIBUTION AT THE

MEETING AND IN DIGITAL FORM TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE ENGINEER.

Goal 1: Promote the competent, ethical, and professional practice of engineering.

Membership – Gail Boddicker, Executive Director

Boddicker reported that SDES membership is at 466 members. Although there were over 10 people that joined since the October board meeting, there were also the same amount of members that have dropped their membership. The total number of members remains at 466.

Goal 2: Enhance the image and stature of engineering professionals.

University and Public Relations

Hanisch will plan to continue to meet annually with SDSU students to invite them to become members of NSPE/SDES.

Goal 3: Provide education, professional development, networking opportunities, and other benefits to engineering professionals and students.

SDES 2014 Fall PDH Conference Final Report – Chris Bailey, PE

Bailey reported that the fall conference was a success in that the profit to the state was achieved as well as a profit of \$4938 to the Black Hills Chapter. The Chapter utilizes these funds for SDSM&T student scholarships.

SDES 2015 Annual Conference – Andy Bruels, PE

Bruels reported that planning for the 2015 conference is progressing. There will be 11 PDH's provided, they do not plan to have a tour, the awards will be presented at the noon luncheon, CRETEX will again sponsor the hospitality room, Kodi Jean Verhalen, NSPE VP Elect, will attend as the NSPE representative. Bruels also provided the draft budget. Gundvaldson made a motion to accept the draft report, Bareis seconded and the motion passed. Due to developing the budget, Froelich sustained from voting.

Gundvaldson reported that the Eastern Chapter is beginning to plan for the 2015 Fall PDH Conference and requested the list of annual conference speakers so that they do not duplicate the speakers.

Awards – Laurie Schultz, PE

Schultz contacted the chapters and asked that their state nominations be sent to her by March 1, 2015. There is still a need to replace Schultz as the Awards Chair as she will step down from the position following the 2015 conference.

Hanisch and Boddicker requested feedback from the SDES board regarding merging an awards program with ACEC/SD. The ACEC/SD members had met earlier in the day and had discussed that their awards program is struggling. The ACEC/SD members discussed the possibility of merging with SDES to hold one awards program. Although there was no action and no plans made, the ACEC/SD

members are inquiring whether SDES would be amenable to discuss merging the programs. The SDES board decided that they would be open to learning what ACEC/SD would develop for a new program.

The SDES board approved submitting a nomination for Molly Gribb, SDSM&T Professor and Head, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering for the NSPE Engineering Education Excellence Award. The award was established to recognize engineering educators.

Endowment Promotion – Jason Kjenstad, PE

Kjenstad requested that members provide him with any suggestions for disbursing the SDES Endowment available funds. There are IRS policies governing how the funds can be disbursed and Kjenstad will need to investigate with the Foundation to ensure compliance. Bareis commented that the BH Chapter members have appreciated the additional funds in order to provide an additional scholarship for SDSMT students.

MATHCOUNTS – Jesse Morris

The state competition will be held in Pierre on March 14, 2015.

Goal 4: Advocate the interests of engineering professionals and protect the public through an effective government relations program.

Design Professionals Coalition – Al Berreth, PE, Jeff Hines, PE

Berreth updated the SDES board on the DPC activities:

Last meeting of the group was March 2013. It was decided to go for now at least without a chair for the group and that Gail would be the central point of contact.

SB 1 is being introduced to change the fuel tax. It is expected to have changes before it is finalized. Farm groups are concerned about taxes on red fuel. We expect this to be one of the major bills of this legislative session.

HB 1029 is being proposed to update Green Buildings (LEED) to the 2013 standard from the 2008 standard in current use. This is for state buildings only.

Len Neugebauer reported that electronic stamping of documents is being held for more input and is expected to be introduced into the 2016 legislative session after more consultation and modification to accommodate input received.

Neugebauer is term limited and expects to leave the Board in April.

SB 2&3 deal with agricultural drainage areas and there is/was discussion of having PE signoff. Not a lot known at this time.

Justin Bell is good with current compensation but if lobbying efforts of any



significance are needed with SB1 then an increase may be needed.

Licensure – Brian Jenner, PE

No report.

SD Local Transportation Assistance Program – Jason Kjenstad, PE

Kjenstad represents SDES on the South Dakota Local Transportation Assistance Program (LTAP) and was able to attend the August meeting. The LTAP helps the counties, townships and small towns with understanding the highway and bridge technologies. The LTAP keeps local government officials informed about new publications, techniques, and training opportunities that may benefit their communities.

Kjenstad requested permission and it was approved to post the LTAP's educational information on the SDES website.

Goal 5: Align the structure, activities, and governance of the society to optimize support and resources for all programs.

Strategic Planning Task Force

No report.

Treasurer's Report – Phil Gundvaldson, PE

Froelich made a motion to accept the second quarter financial reports, Berreth seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Nominations – Myron Adam, PE/LS

At the October board meeting, the slate of officers, excluding the secretary-treasurer, was approved.

Since that meeting, Steven Myer, PE, accepted the request to assume the Secretary-Treasurer position for the 2015-2016 term. Jenner made a motion to approve Steven Myer for the Secretary-Treasurer position, Froelich seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The following members have been approved as the 2015-2016 SDES executive board:

Past President- Todd Yerdon, PE

President- Stacy Froelich, PE

President-Elect – Brian Jenner, PE

Vice President – Philip Gundvaldson, PE

Secretary/Treasurer – Steven Myer, PE

Chapter Activity Reports

Black Hills Chapter

President Bailey reported that the chapter is planning for the Engineers Week luncheon.

#### Central Chapter

President Bruels reported that the chapter is planning for the 2015 annual conference as well as Engineers Week activities.

#### Eastern Chapter

State Director Gundvaldson reported that the chapter has held monthly membership meetings, they are preparing for their Engineers Week activities, and that Jonathon Wiegand has agreed to chair the 2015 Fall PDH Conference.

#### New Business

##### Roads Are Vital

At the October SDES board meeting, the SDES board voted to support the Roads Are Vital activity in name only. After reviewing the SDES budget, it was decided that SDES would provide funding as well. Per an email discussion and vote, Johnson moved to support the Roads are Vital campaign by donating a total of \$1000 - \$500 from the Public Relations budget item and \$500 from the SDES checking account. K. Gundvaldson seconded the motion and the motion passed. Yerdon encouraged the board to register with the RAV website so that they receive updates on its activities.

##### NSPE National Conference

Yerdon plans to attend the conference as the HOD representative. Yerdon requested that Boddicker attend the conference; however, due to not knowing what the final agenda is, it was undecided how many days Boddicker will attend. This discussion will be tabled to the April meeting.

The 2015-2017 House of Delegate for South Dakota will be chosen at the April SDES board meeting.

The board requested that there be a conference call capability at the April meeting.

Jenner made a motion to adjourn, Froelich seconded the motion and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Boddicker, Executive Director

*(The above minutes will be enacted on at the April 8, 2015, SDES Joint Board Mtg.)*

## SDES Endowment Fund

***Mission Statement:***

*To provide financial support to various educational programs and various societies related activities as recommended by the South Dakota Engineering Society.*

Thanks to the generous support of SDES members, the SD Endowment Fund assets are over \$30,000. At the April 16, 2014, SDES board meeting, the board voted to distribute the funds that are currently available for distribution. The funds will be granted to the Black Hills, Central Chapter, and Eastern Chapter for scholarship awards.

With your contribution, SDES can continue to increase the number of scholarships we are able to award and thereby demonstrate your commitment to help provide a college education for future engineers. To contribute to the SDES Endowment Fund, go to the SDES website at [www.sdes.org](http://www.sdes.org).



**January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014**

**Fund: South Dakota Engineering Society Fund (308)**

Beginning Fair Market Value	\$29,949.58
Total Contributions	\$193.25
Total Distributions	(\$2,400.00)
Admin Fee	(\$298.89)
Total Earnings/Losses for the Period	\$854.90
Ending Fair Market Value	\$28,298.84
Principal Contributions Since Inception:	\$22,375.50
Grants Awarded Since Inception:	\$3,400.00
Available for Distribution	\$1,157.75

## Welcome New SDES Members

Black Hills Chapter	Central Chapter	Eastern Chapter
Mojolaoluwa Olalekan Ojoawo	Troy Roth	Luis Duque
Cody Schlechter		Eric Hanson
Kenneth Petry		Joshua Storm
		Meghan Danielson
		Adam Schleper
		Jason Van Winkle
		Colin Nelson
		Brian Eiesland
		Daniel Ostrem

## NSPE HAPPENINGS

This summer, join PEs from around the country for networking, continuing education, and discussions about "The Future of the Professional Engineer" in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

**THE FUTURE OF THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER**

National Society of Professional Engineers

WATCH NSPE.ORG FOR DETAILS

**NSPE 2015 Annual Meeting**  
July 15-19 | Seattle Marriott, Bellevue, WA

It's a career-enhancing opportunity you won't want to miss. Planned education sessions will cover topics such as the Boeing Dreamliner 787 project, BIM/2D design, climate change design implications, obligations of licensure and design/litigation avoidance, the controversial industrial exemption, ethical conduct for engineers, and many others. In addition, there will be an entire day of education tailored to young engineers and those just beginning their engineering journey.

Will you be part of the profession's future? Save the date and be sure to join NSPE at the Seattle Marriott Bellevue, July 15-19, 2015.

Major funding provided by **BOEING**

SHARE WITH COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS **#NSPE15**

Tom Roberts, P.E., Chair, 2015 Annual Meeting Planning Task Force and members have developed a robust program for the NSPE 2015 Annual Meeting.

## NSPE News for State Society Leaders

The National Society of Professional Engineers applauds CBS's *60 Minutes*' news story ("The Storm After the Storm," March 1, 2015) about altered professional engineering reports on homes damaged by Hurricane Sandy. The *60 Minutes* segment brought to the public's attention the important health and safety role that ethical and licensed professional engineers play in investigating structural failures caused by hurricanes and other natural disasters. Importantly, the *60 Minutes* story also highlighted the serious ramifications and consequences associated with the unlicensed practice of engineering. NSPE acknowledges that the issues reported in the *60 Minutes* story are under active investigation by federal and state authorities. NSPE, which has a more than 80-year history of dedication to the public safety, health, and welfare, eagerly awaits the results of those investigations.

Watch "The Storm After the Storm" at <http://www.cbsnews.com/60-minutes>.

Access leader resources at [www.nspe.org/toolbox](http://www.nspe.org/toolbox).

David Siegel  
Communications Director  
National Society of Professional Engineers  
1420 King St.  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
[www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org), 703-684-2876

XX

NSPE Executive Director's Report to the BoD, February 16, 2015  
TO: NSPE Board of Directors  
FROM: Mark J. Golden, FASAE, CAE, Executive Director  
Executive Director  
RE: Board Update: February 1 – 15, 2015

Although it is another week before the official start of the 64th National Engineers Week, President Harve Hnaituk and I begin our official duties in this annual celebration, as judges and sponsors in the Future City Final Competitions. On Sunday, the 15th, we will be evaluating the 38 final entries from across the country, and selecting the winner of NSPE's Special Award for the model and concept that best addresses "protecting the public's health and safety through competent engineering practices." On Monday, the 16th, we will be part of the

preliminary judging to select the national finalists in the overall competition. The final judging and awards presentations are on Tuesday, the 17th, and NSPE will again have the honor of presenting its \$6,000 second place prize to the winning team.

It is important to remember that while EWeek and the Future City competition have grown into a program of national stature that is possible only through the broad support of the entire engineering community, it all started with NSPE's establishment of National Engineers Week in 1951, and our careful stewardship of the program, helping it to grow into the asset for all that it has become.

### 1. Member Value

The Annual Meeting Task Force and subcommittees continue their work developing the annual meeting program for Seattle, July 15 through 19, 2015. Continuing the evolution of this meeting, the 2015 convention will offer a strong, high quality and diverse program that offers value to both the rank-and-file member and the engaged, volunteer leader. Three concurrent tracks and general sessions with marquee, outside speakers make this a don't miss event. Early marketing has started, and will pick up in intensity and frequency, in all media and social networking channels, in the weeks ahead. As the board discussed in January, we are also intensifying both the formal and informal governance activities, and encouraging states to be sure both their volunteer and staff leadership attend.

Applications are being accepted for the \$6,000 George B. Hightower, P.E., Fellowship, awarded annually to a current student or a diplomat of an ABET-accredited graduate engineering program. NSPE's Professional Engineers in Construction established the fellowship in recognition of the contributions that Hightower made to the construction engineering profession.

NSPE Executive Director's Report to the BoD, February 16, 2015; pg. 2 of 4

Hightower's dedication to professionalism, ethics, and construction engineering resulted in him serving as a founding member and the first national chairman of PEC.

NSPE is committed to bringing its members web seminars and workshops that incorporate the ABC's of continuing education in an affordable, beneficial, and convenient manner. NSPE's spring program of webinars gets underway February 25th with a 90-minute program on "Legal Issues Unique to Design-Build." Additional webinars will be held live throughout the spring with sessions on

“Engineering Ethics: Conflicts of Interest” (March 18th), “Fast Future: Ten Uber-Trends Changing Everything in our Business World” (March 19th), “Engineering Ethics: Misrepresentation” (April 15th), “The Seven Secrets of Super Successful Project Managers” (April 16th), and “Engineering Ethics: Employer/Employee Relations” (May 13th). Programs will be captured and added to NSPE’s library of on-demand, online programs.

For more information on these, and other programs offered through our state societies, visit the PE Institute website.

And if your state society has not yet added its offerings to this list, be sure to do so right away. The process is simple and free to our state affiliates as a benefit of NSPE’s three-tiered member partnership. The form for adding your programs can be found [here](#).

NSPE’s daily email digest of engineering-related stories from the general press, Daily Designs, continues to be a highly valued member service. If you have been following it each day, you may have noticed that NSPE is being more diligent and aggressive in leveraging the marketing potential of this vehicle, changing up the NSPE-specific messages included in each day’s edition to include promoting the PE Institute, the upcoming annual meeting, EJCDC contract documents, and more. The click-through rates on these items are high, indicating the effectiveness in reminding members of available services.

## 2. Advocacy

NSPE Senior Manager of Government Relations Arielle Eiser, acted as a representative from national HQ during the Texas Society of Professional Engineers’ PE Day at the state capitol in Austin. A wonderfully successful event held every other year (Texas’ state legislature is in session only 140 days every other year), TSPE’s PE Day at the Capitol brought nearly 100 PEs from all across the state to visit all 181 Texas state legislators (150 Representatives and 31 Senators). Seasoned advocates and newcomers alike met with their elected representatives to advocate on issues of importance to the professional engineer, such as QBS and STEM education. This was an excellent opportunity to educate representatives and senators about the vital role that PEs play in protecting the public health, safety and welfare and to explain how their legislation can impact a PEs ability to do this important work.

The Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers has introduced statutory language in both the House and Senate to modify MN Statute 326. The legislation

specifies that no additional license or certification is required for licensed PEs to do work already covered under the scope of the Minnesota PE license. The language will likely be heard later this month. A summary of the proposals can be found [here](#).

NSPE Executive Director's Report to the BoD, February 16, 2015; pg. 3 of 4

NSPE-PAC Chair Jeff Elliott, P.E., F.NSPE sent the NSPE-PAC 2016 Election Cycle kickoff email to all NSPE members. To learn more about NSPE-PAC and contribute today, please visit [here](#).

NSPE worked with US Representative Paul Tonko (D-NY) and lead cosponsors Rep. David McKinley, P.E. (R-WV), Rep. Joe Kennedy (D-MA) and Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL) on the February 10th introduction of H.R. 823, the Educating Tomorrow's Engineers Act. NSPE is a longtime major supporter of this legislation which emphasizes the importance of the "E" in STEM at the K-12 level. NSPE GR staff is continuing to work with Rep. Tonko's office to secure more cosponsors in an attempt to incorporate the legislation into the current No Child Left Behind Act rewrite. NSPE will keep members updated on the progress of the legislation.

### 3. Content

In my last report I mentioned the February 3rd webinar on the American Association of Engineering Societies/Department of Labor project to develop an Engineering Competency. For those of you who were not able to attend the webinar, a website has been set up where you can access the webinar recording, the chat transcript, the presentation slides, the survey link, and the draft Engineering Competency Model. NSPE was very well represented on the webinar, and the draft document shows a great deal of influence from the NSPE Engineering Body of Knowledge document.

The AAES Lifelong Learning Working Group (of which NSPE is a member) has invited responses to a survey on the competency model as well as general comments, emailed to the Department of Labor staff managing the project: [Frugoli.pam@dol.gov](mailto:Frugoli.pam@dol.gov) or [bertsche.alyce@dol.gov](mailto:bertsche.alyce@dol.gov). Responses are due by March 15, 2015.

### Collaboration

Top Hollywood producers are teaming with the National Academy of Engineering, the University of Southern California's Viterbi School of Engineering (USC Viterbi), and the MacGyver Foundation to engage the worldwide public in a competition to



crowdsource ideas for a scripted TV series featuring a female engineer as the leading character. Less than 20% of engineering bachelor degrees currently go to women and recent trends have been declining. White House officials have asked “what could Hollywood and our creative talent do to help make engineers and entrepreneurs the rock stars of the 21st century?” Much like CSI did for forensic science, positive portrayal of engineers in popular culture can help young people consider themselves in such a role. The NAE will launch the program with an informational program on February 19th at the National Academy building. We will be monitoring the program and looking for opportunities for meaningful engagement.

#### 4. Member Engagement

The National EWeek Foundation’s DiscoverE Global Marathon will be held March 9-11th, engaging women in engineering world wide in three days of virtual events, coinciding with the International Women’s Day. Registration and additional information can be found [here](#).

NSPE Executive Director’s Report to the BoD, February 16, 2015; pg. 4 of 4

#### 5. Professional and Leadership Development for the Licensed Professional Engineer

The Phase 1 Leadership Institute Development Task Force has held two conference calls and established an aggressive schedule of conference calls in order to complete their assignments and report back to the board by its April conference call.

#### 6. Finance, Administration, Operations and Staff Alignment

You will shortly be receiving meeting materials for the February 25th Board of Directors conference call, including a detailed budget and work plan for upgrades to the membership database system, as the board discussed it in Florida. We are very excited about the flexibility and additional marketing and operational intelligence these long-overdue upgrades will make possible.

#### 7. Governance

Also on the BoD agenda for the 25th will be the final report and recommendations from the Regional Directors Best Practices Task Force, completing the task force’s work a full two months ahead of deadline.

Finally, please remember that access to NSPE leadership resources is always

available to you in the Leadership Toolbox at [www.nspe.org/toolbox](http://www.nspe.org/toolbox). You will need to log in with your user name and password.

You can also review a detailed calendar of NSPE and state society events on the website at: [www.nspe.org/AboutNSPE/Events/index.html](http://www.nspe.org/AboutNSPE/Events/index.html).

## Special thanks to the following firms for their support of the South Dakota Engineering Society:

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SDRMCA—Jody Titze, PE, 605-274-0145, [www.sdrmca.org](http://www.sdrmca.org)

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