

State News for NSPE Members

President's Message

By Andy Meyers, P.E.



Thank you, current and previous NSPE-WI Executive Committee Members for welcoming me to your accomplished, experienced team. I must admit that taking the time out of our busy summers to engage in volunteer activities can prove difficult and even undesirable. However, there is no greater feeling than giving back to the community and (not to sound trite) during pandemic we all could use more community involvement. That's why the Executive Committee works to expand and maintain membership/involvement, not only on the state level, but also regional as well. Here are some of the highlights of how we plan to accomplish this season's efforts:

- We are working to reach more young professionals and our first step is forming a sub-committee to start planning the details.
- Some early ideas are to have more of a university presence to promote NSPE-WI
- And encourage (through faculty) taking the F.E. exam before graduating
- Possibly include a set of students to participate in an NSPE-WI sponsored event
- The E.C. is working on an automated system to send reminders to renew membership before they expire – stay tuned as you might hear/see more from us.

Tentatively, we plan to have at least (1) in-person event [beyond the 2022 Discovery Conference (more details on that below)].

If you have any ideas you would like to share on how to maintain and expand membership, please [contact me](#) or [John Brome](#).

2022 Discovery Conference Sneak Peek

The current plan for the 2022 NSPE-WI Discovery Conference is to remain virtual but include an optional/additional set of PDH opportunities through an in-person event. The D.C. Planning Committee wants your feedback on this idea. Please submit all your feedback to both Co-Chair members of the committee: [Mr. Fred Groth, P.E.](#) and [Mr. John Brome, P.E.](#)

WSPE's Tech Info Sharing Webinar Series*

By Phil O'Leary

Tuesday, October 5 at noon -1:00 PM
 Available statewide free to all WSPE members and sponsored guests

Automotive Power Electronics -
Current and future trends in the engineering of hybrid and fully electric vehicles and related infrastructure

Dr. Bulent Sariloglu
 Electrical and Computer Engineering
 University of Wisconsin-Madison

WSPE members: to register yourself and/or to sponsor a guest, [send an email](#). Please provide first and last name, email, home city, and preferred WSPE chapter. A Zoom link will be sent a few days before the webinar. Individual links are required.

*Hosted in October by the Southwest Chapter

Through this chapter collaboration, these free monthly on-line educational seminars are intended to provide WSPE members with at least one professional development activity each month from October to May. All WSPE members are welcome to participate. The hosting chapter will rotate monthly.

This is an opportunity for WI chapters to present technical projects or topics that are unique to their area. Phil O'Leary, WSPE Education V.P., will contact chapter Presidents regarding future scheduling and other details. The one-hour webinars will usually be on the 1st or 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon. In order to not conflict with the WSPE Discovery Conference, March and April will be skipped. PDH's will be available for self-reporting to licensing boards. Volunteers and suggestions for topics and speakers are welcome.

Contact info: [email Phil O'Leary](#) or call him at 608-438-4149.

WSPE Chapter Zoom License

By John Brome, P.E.

Just prior to our annual meeting last June, the WSPE State board agreed to pay for the Zoom license for each active chapter (now all 7 chapters of WSPE) with the understanding that each chapter may purchase their own Zoom license and, upon submittal of a paid receipt to the State Treasurer Kevin Fry, they will be reimbursed the license expense.

There are 4 Zoom video conferencing license options:

1. Basic - free but limited to 40 minutes
2. Pro - \$14.99/month/license - good for small teams
3. Business - \$19.99/month/license – small businesses
4. Enterprise - \$19.99/month/license – large enterprise

The logical choice for each chapter would be option #2 which, annually, would be \$180/yr/license. The reason that the State board is offering to pay for each chapter's licensee is to improve intra and inter-chapter communications; the key to maintain a healthy state organization.

For further information, go to [Zoom/Pricing](#) and please submit your reimbursement requests (with receipt) to [Mr. Kevin Fry](#).

MSOE Taking Action on Behalf of NSPE-WI

By Andy Meyers, P.E.

Through John Brome's persistence, MSOE is planning on promoting NSPE-WI membership on their campus's website. When we have the link (and permission to share) we will pass along during the next PE Matters issue. Here's the draft promotional statement MSOE plans to include:

Free! Join the National Society of Professional Engineers

Did you know that engineering students at MSOE are eligible to join the National Society of Professional Engineers for free? As a member you'll have access to a network of professional engineers in the Wisconsin chapter and throughout the nation, plus leadership training, multi-disciplinary networking, educational opportunities and more. [Learn more and join today.](#)

Professional Engineers Advancing Knowledge (MSOE Seminar)

From Andrea Moody, of the Milwaukee School of Engineering University, we at WSPE would like to make you aware of upcoming opportunities to earn up to eight PDH in one day by attending their one-day seminars.

Below is information, from MSOE's website, about their seminars that you may find helpful:

"Professional Engineers Advancing Knowledge (PEAK) education seminars are a collaborative knowledge exchange facilitated by MSOE with the goal of providing a cost-effective way for PE's to earn the professional development hours (PDH's) now required for maintaining professional engineer (PE) licensure in Wisconsin.

Three times a year Professional Education hosts alumni and industry professionals for a day of learning and networking. This collaborative knowledge exchange known as 'PEAK' (Professional Engineers Advancing Knowledge), is a cost effective and convenient way for P.E.'s to earn the required professional development hours for State of Wisconsin licensure. Up to 8 PDH's can be earned in a day.

Location
Rosenberg Hall
1235 N. Milwaukee St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Upcoming PEAK Mini Conferences:

- Join us soon: Date: [October 2, 2021 // 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. // \\$425 - \(in-person\)](#)
- Join us soon: Date: [Saturday March 19, 2022 \(in-person\)](#)
- Join us soon: Date: [Saturday June 2, 2022 \(Online\)](#)

To register for the upcoming seminar, [visit MSOE](#).

WSPE Executive Committee Officers for 2021-2022

President – Andy Meyers, P.E.
 President Elect - Fred Groth, P.E.
 Past President and National Delegate- John Brome, P.E.
 Vice President (Legislative) - Glen Schwalbach, P.E.
 Vice President (Membership) – Norm Arendt, PhD
 Vice President (Education) – Phil O'Leary
 Treasurer – Kevin Fry, P.E.
 Secretary – Multiple Write-Ins, but not yet confirmed
 Young Engineer Representative – John Mika, P.E.

Interesting Read on the Changing Milwaukee Industry

OnMilwaukee.com reports, "The 1957 Advance Boiler & Tank building at 1711 S. Carberry Dr. On Jones Island is a remnant of a moment of great optimism and opportunity in Milwaukee. It will soon be replaced by a major new development."

Read the full article: "[Urban spelunking: Advance Boiler & Tank site on Jones Island.](#)"
 Shared by [Robert Latta, NSPE-WI SE Secretary](#)
 Permission granted per the Author to [republish with the PE Matters Newsletter](#).

Another Interesting Read/Watch

PBS WI currently has a great special playing on their website for free. It discusses how some engineering failures led to 800 people dying on July 24, 1915, when the SS Eastland rolled onto its side in the Chicago River, only 20 feet from shore. You can [watch it here](#).
 Shared by [Andy Meyers, P.E.](#)

Supporting Organizations

WSPE would like to thank our current **Supporting Organizations**, including

Gold Sponsor



Silver Sponsor



Bronze Sponsors



Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Anti-Licensing Forces Miss the Point

Extreme anti-licensing bills have popped up in numerous states and are posing a threat to the rigorous and established professional standards followed by PEs, architects, and others who design and construct the built environment, [according to an op-ed in The Hill](#).

Lawmakers calling for these extreme measures don't differentiate between barbers and manufacturers, for example, and PEs and architects, say Tom Smith, executive director of ASCE, and Michael Armstrong, CEO of NCARB. "In their absolutist free-market view, reflected in the language of their model legislation, a visit to a barbershop or beauty salon should be treated the same as designing a bridge or water treatment plant."

The legislative proposals range from measures that would eliminate licensing entirely to so-called "Universal Licensing" bills that would require states to accept licenses from any state regardless of whether the out-of-state license had the same level of qualifications behind it.

NSPE Calls for PE Role in AI Risk Management

To protect the public from the potential dangers of artificial intelligence applications, NSPE is calling for the involvement of licensed professional engineers in the AI development process.

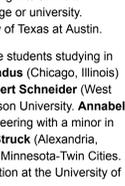
NSPE's [recommendations were submitted](#) to the National Institute of Standards and Technology in response to NIST's request for input on an artificial intelligence risk management framework. The recommendations advocate for professional engineers or certain certified individuals to be included within the risk management framework, which covers all levels of development and implementation.

"This individual would be responsible for making decisions related to protecting the public, including those who would use or potentially be affected by an AI application," wrote NSPE President Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE. "Oversight responsibility should include having the authority to approve or reject the process, methodology, or other characteristics of the specific AI project. Having a credentialed individual to ensure these considerations are made can reduce risk that an artificial intelligence application will fail."

Meet the 2021 Scholarship Winners

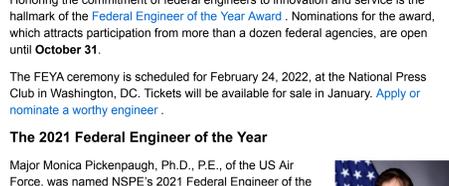
The [NSPE Education Foundation](#) recently awarded several scholarships to support talented students pursuing engineering. Meet the 2021 winners:

Markie Ash, of Waupaca, Wisconsin, is winner of the [Auxiliary Legacy Scholarship](#) and the [George B. Hightower, P.E. Fellowship](#). Ash is studying civil engineering with a structural emphasis at University of Wisconsin-Platteville. The \$2,500 auxiliary scholarship is awarded annually to a female undergraduate entering, or continuing, her junior year of a four-year ABET-accredited engineering program. The \$3,000 Hightower Fellowship is awarded annually to an engineering undergraduate or graduate student who is enrolled in, or graduated from, an ABET-accredited engineering program.



Justin Sivasothy is this year's recipient of the [Maureen L. and Howard N. Biltman, P.E., Scholarship to Promote Diversity in Engineering](#). The \$5,000 scholarship is awarded to a high school senior from an ethnic minority going into an ABET-accredited engineering degree program at a four-year college or university. Sivasothy, of Sugar Land, Texas, is attending the University of Texas at Austin.

The \$5,000 [Steinman Scholarship](#) has been awarded to five students studying in ABET-accredited programs this academic year. **Michael Kadus** (Chicago, Illinois) is studying industrial engineering at Purdue University. **Robert Schneider** (West Channahon, New York) is studying civil engineering at Clarkson University. **Annabel Sharnowski** (Novi, Michigan) is studying mechanical engineering with a minor in electrical engineering at the University of Michigan. **Noah Struck** (Alexandria, Minnesota) is studying civil engineering at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. **Jacob Witlin** (Ellicott City, Maryland) is studying fire protection at the University of Maryland.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: MICHAEL KADUS, ROBERT SCHNEIDER, ANNABEL SHARNOWSKI, NOAH STRUCK, AND JACOB WITLIN

Nominations Open for Federal Engineer of the Year Award

Honoring the commitment of federal engineers to innovation and service is the hallmark of the [Federal Engineer of the Year Award](#). Nominations for the award, which attracts participation from more than a dozen federal agencies, are open until **October 31**.

The FEYA ceremony is scheduled for February 24, 2022, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. Tickets will be available for sale in January. [Apply or nominate a worthy engineer](#).

The 2021 Federal Engineer of the Year

Major Monica Pickenpaugh, Ph.D., P.E., of the US Air Force, was named NSPE's 2021 Federal Engineer of the Year Award winner during a [virtual awards event](#) in February. As US Forces Korea's chief of construction, she directed \$5.7 billion of funded construction in the Republic of Korea. As part of a sharing agreement with the US, the construction program supports USFK commanders' defense efforts through critical projects.

