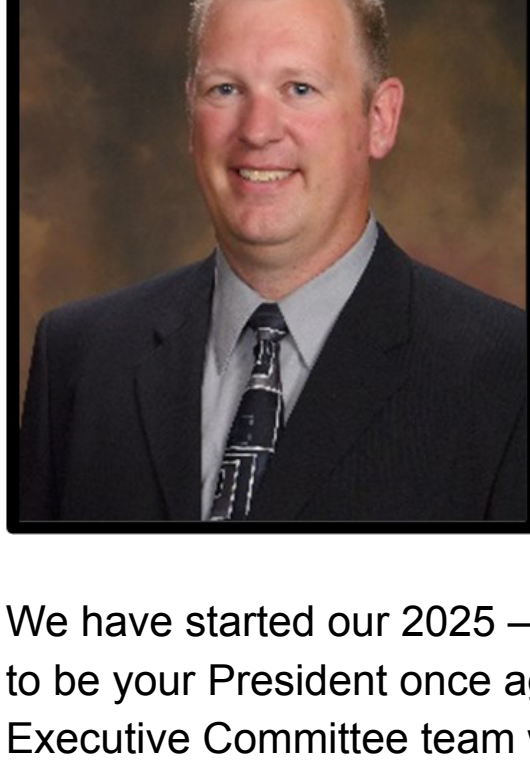


State News for NSPE Members

President's Message

By Keith R. Nikolay, P.E.



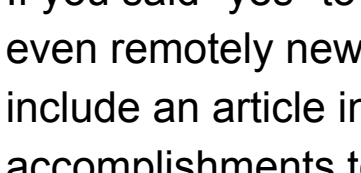
We have started our 2025 – 2026 NSPE-WI professional session and I am excited to be your President once again! This is my third tenure in this position. With the Executive Committee team we have in place and our Chapter leaders throughout the state, I feel this year will be something special. We have many great ideas in the coffers and dedicated individuals that truly want to make these ideas come to life.

As discussed at our annual meeting back in June, there were seven (7) goals I identified that will be my focus for this coming year:

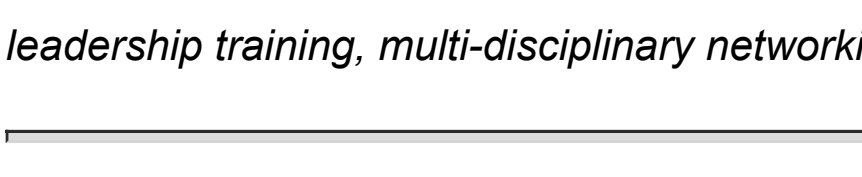
1. SE Chapter – Create committee to revitalize the Chapter and fill officer positions.
2. Hold monthly Executive Committee Meetings
3. Chapter involvement during the Executive Committee meetings, social media, and within our quarterly *PE Matters* newsletter.
4. Social media – Continue with weekly posting(s).
5. *PE Matters* – Coordinate and publish quarterly newsletters.
6. In-Person and Virtual Discovery Conference.
7. Focus to increase membership by 5%, which equates to 15 members.

To accomplish them, I will need some assistance from all of you. In an age where many organizations are shrinking in membership, I believe NSPE-WI brings invaluable education to the engineering profession and engineers want to make our world a better place. We are here to help them accomplish that.

We Need Your News!



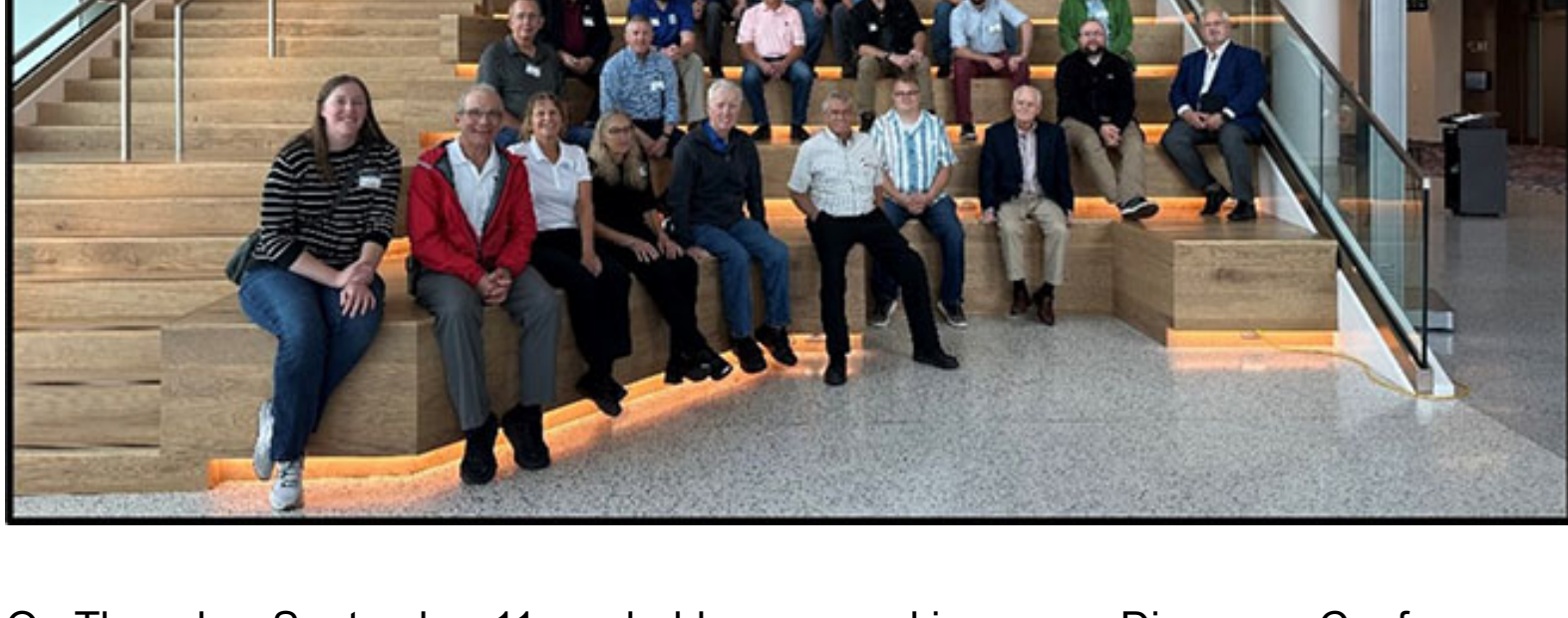
Is your Chapter hosting an event? Did your Chapter gain new members? Have you started your own business? Is your company taking on a really challenging project? If you said "yes" to any one of these questions, or would like to share anything even remotely newsworthy with the rest of NSPE-WI, let us know! We'd also like to include an article in the next *PE Matters* summarizing any recent changes or accomplishments to inform your fellow NSPE-WI members. Please contact Keith Nikolay at knikolay@coleman-engineering.com to share any news. We look forward to including your news in our monthly updates!



NSPE-WI Mission Statement: *NSPE-WI is an organization of licensed Professional Engineers (PEs) and Engineering Interns/Engineers in Training (EIs/EITs). NSPE-WI enhances the image of its members and their ability to ethically and professionally practice engineering through education, licensure advocacy, leadership training, multi-disciplinary networking, and outreach.*

2025 In-Person Discovery Conference = BIG SUCCESS!

By John Brome, P.E.



On Thursday, September 11, we held our annual in-person Discovery Conference at Mader's Restaurant in Milwaukee. Originally, Green Bay was tentatively chosen as this year's venue but access to the Packer Training facility, for our tour, was not available due to security reasons.

Milwaukee was also the in-person Discovery Conference venue in 2023 and the tour site, the Wisconsin Center, was then being remodeled. This year's tour was of the completed Wisconsin Center remodeling project. The presentation this year complemented the presentation of 2023 and primarily described all of the concrete, structural and logistics challenges that made the overall project very difficult to meet the schedule and budget requirements. Twenty-eight attendees listened to the presenters, Adam Friedman and Adam Mentink, make a superb presentation as a "tag team" with great slides, pictures and technical explanations.

All conference attendees received a sit-down lunch, a full zippered fleece jacket with an embroidered NSPE-WI logo and a certificate for 3.0 PDHs.

Mader's Restaurant (famous for their delicious German cuisine) provided a choice of Franconian chicken, herb-crusted salmon, Wiener Schnitzel or Napoleon mushroom (vegan option), a desert and delicious hors d'oeuvres after the tour. And of course, there were many German beverage options to choose.

Upon entering the tour site from the north side, there is a striking waterfall made from very tall opaque glass panes where water gently falls along the glass surface to a pool at the bottom. Across from this waterfall feature are wooden bleacher seats, made of recycled ash trees from the local area. The adjacent escalator offers easy access to several floors above all of which provide very ample space for large functions such as an auto show, sportsman show or convention of a major state organization. The top floor is their "crown jewel," offering beautiful ceiling lighting and partitions that allow several functions to be held simultaneously or use of the partitioned sections as breakout rooms for a single function. All in all, the completed facility is very attractive, flexible and should last for a very long time.

A special "thank you" to Fred Groth for arranging the presentation and tour, to Adam Mentink of JP Cullen and Adam Friedman of CSD Structural Engineers for their excellent presentation, to the people of the Wisconsin Center that graciously provided the tour of their beautiful facility and of course, to all of our attendees. Very well done!



Upcoming Workshop: How To Be An Ethical Follower

By Norm Arendt, Ph.D., FFL

Leaders play an important role in fostering ethical behavior at work, serving as role models for how to act and how to navigate ethical dilemmas. However, the impact they have is ultimately determined by whether and how others will follow them. In an upcoming workshop on November 6, participants will explore the phenomenon of followership and consider their contributions as ethical leaders and ethical followers. They will assess follower styles and what conditions enable ethical followers to do the right thing even when facing pressure to do otherwise. They will also identify next steps toward leading and following more effectively.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Norm Arendt at: normarendt@gmail.com.

Kyle Payne, Ph.D.
Kyle Payne is a professional speaker, coach, facilitator, and consultant. He develops leaders through engaging and highly interactive workshops and has established a strong reputation for fostering a safe and productive learning environment for participants. He has published groundbreaking research on the phenomenon of ethical followership, providing tools to help workers resist an unethical request from a leader. Kyle has a PhD in human capital management, and he lives in Chicago with his partner Sid and their two cats Oueso and Fundido. Outside of work, you're most likely to find him visiting the city's outstanding parks and museums, riding the "L" to see a show in the Loop, or cheering on the Chicago Sky and other women's basketball teams at UIC and DePaul. For more information on Kyle, please visit [here](#).



In September, NSPE-WI SW Chapter toured the Air Force facility in Madison and had the opportunity to see an F35 up close. What an amazing experience!

NSPE Enterprise Membership

Employers understand the importance of hiring and retaining high-caliber engineering talent. NSPE helps them create a supportive, growth-focused work environment through its innovative [Enterprise Membership program](#) – an easy way for an employer to provide NSPE (national, state, and chapter) membership to five or more employees. Your employees will gain access to career advancement resources, professional growth, discounts on continuing education offerings, and meaningful engagement across the profession. A gain for your employee is a gain for your organization! How it works:

- Join with five or more employees by contacting NSPE Membership.
- Add new members to your group at any time.
- Get a single consolidated bill and access to a dedicated Members Service team.

NSPE-WI on LinkedIn

Are you on LinkedIn? Do you want to grow your professional audience? Then search "Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers" and click Follow! We are actively trying to increase our followers so do your part and share with your co-workers.



Calendar of Events

November 4
Election Day
November 6
Workshop: How To Be An Ethical Follower PDH Opportunity
November 20
NSPE-WI Executive Committee Meeting Zoom Meeting (12:00 – 1:00 CST)
December 18
NSPE-WI Executive Committee Meeting Zoom Meeting (12:00 – 1:00 CST)
February 22– 28, 2026
National Engineers Week
August 5– 7, 2026
NSPECon26 New York City, NY



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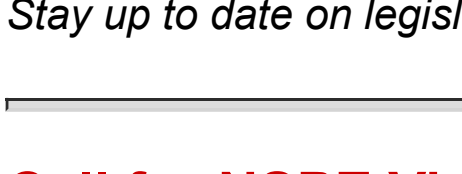
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Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

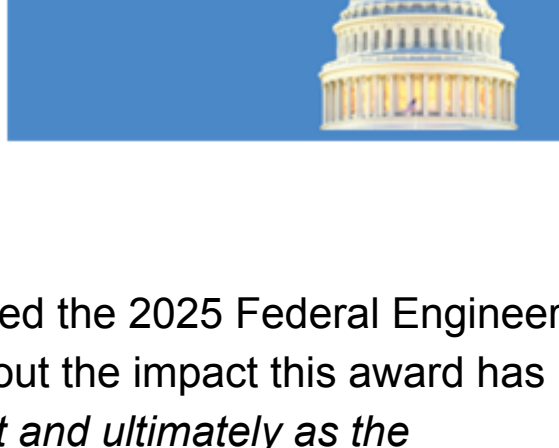
Call for NSPE Vice President Nominations

NSPE is seeking nominees to serve as vice president on the Board of Directors. The vice president serves four consecutive years: 2026-27 as vice president, 2027-28 as president-elect, 2028-29 as president, and 2029-30 as immediate past president. To learn more about qualifications, time and financial commitments, and how to apply, [please view the call for nominations packet in the governance section of the leadership toolbox](#).

Nominations are due to the NSPE Secretary at executive@nspe.org by **January 12, 2026**. Additional questions can be sent to executive@nspe.org.

Nominations Deadline Extended for FEYA

Federal engineers are at the forefront of our nation's most vital priorities from infrastructure and innovation to defense, public health, and safety. Honoring the commitment of federal engineers to innovation and service is the hallmark of the Federal Engineer of the Year Award (FEYA). Nominations for the 2026 award have been extended until November 30, 2025. [Visit the online portal for full guidelines and submission details](#).



Why Does FEYA Matter?
Lt. Col. Brigham Moore, Ph.D., P.E., PMP, was named the 2025 Federal Engineer of the Year. Here's what Lt. Col. Moore had to say about the impact this award has had on his career: *"Being selected as Top Ten Finalist and ultimately as the Federal Engineer of the Year this past year has been an incredible highlight of my career. Within the Air Force, it has provided me opportunities to mentor and give back to the engineering community that I love. Professionally, it has reconnected me with previous advisors and engineering faculty, opening up doors and networking me with some people that I did not previously know. Finally, and personally, it served as a huge bolster to my confidence and commitment to continue making meaningful change with each project and major decision as I move forward."*

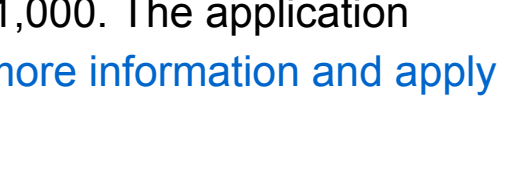
[Learn about Moore's government service and contributions to the profession.](#)



Engineers Week 2026 Resources and Outreach Grants

It's time to start planning for Engineers Week and introduce a Girl to Engineering activities. NSPE members can [access resources on the NSPE website](#).

Outreach Grants
DiscoverE's grant opportunities are designed to support volunteer and educator efforts to inspire the next generation of innovators through hands-on exploration of engineering. Grants range from \$250 to \$1,000. The application period for the grants will close on November 3. [Access more information and apply](#).



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