

>>>> MAY 2020

#### State News for NSPE Members

#### **Cast Your Vote for Constitutional Amendments**

Thank you to everyone that has voted on the WySPE Constitutional Amendments to bring our governing documents current. Voting closes Monday May 18 at 5pm, and if you haven't voted please take a few moments and cast your ballot.

As a reminder, WySPE is working to update the organization's Constitution. The governing documents for the Wyoming Society of Professional Engineers were last updated in 1981. WySPE is governed by a Constitution that provides the broad structure for the organization, and Bylaws that provide more operational details. The board is responsible for updating the Bylaws and will complete that when the Constitutional amendments are completed.

To amend the Constitution, a minimum of 20 percent of our membership must vote, and amendments must pass by a 2/3 or greater majority. We have met the quorum requirement with the ballots that have been cast to date. Since the official notification on the vote on April 16th, no one has objected to the vote occurring electronically or requested a printed ballot.

Recently, NSPE nationally changed the membership model and that impacts our Constitution. The ballot provides brief explanations on these issues. Also, over time there have been changes that need to be reflected in the governing documents (the ability to vote electronically, for instance).

You can look at the existing Constitution as amended in 1981 here.

You are asked to vote on five questions, which group proposed amendments by topic. If you favor all of the amendments grouped on a question, vote yes. If you oppose any of the items in the grouping, vote no. You can only vote once.

If you have any problems voting, or have any questions, please contact Steve Conklin, our executive director by email at <a href="mailto:steveconklin@g.com">steveconklin@g.com</a> or at (303) 909-

# **UW Professor and Colleagues Assist in Pandemic Response**

WySPE member Cameron Wright, P.E., was featured in the May/June *PE* magazine article "Engineering Education in the Time of Covid." Here's an excerpt: "When the crisis began, the University of Wyoming's College of Engineering and Applied Science immediately offered its help to hospitals and clinics around the state, explains Cameron Wright, P.E., interim dean and professor of electrical and computer engineering. In addition to donating lab and personal protective equipment, the NSPE member says, "our 3D printers have been working overtime to fabricate various items that were requested." The makerspace coordinator in the Student Innovation Center, Tyler Kerr, and his team prototyped designs and then began producing surgical masks via 3D printers and laser cutters. They are being donated to Cheyenne Regional Medical Center, whose staff reached out to Kerr for assistance."

## **WY Energy News**

- The University of Wyoming's Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute says a focus on conventional oil and gas reservoirs is key for survival of the state's oil and gas industry during the current economic downturn. Additionally, an EORIaffiliated organization is offering suggestions for the state's investment strategies to mitigate the long-term effects of a sustained downturn in coal, oil and natural gas, limiting the downturn's impact while supporting Wyoming's energy industry. Read more.
- Some 82.7 percent of Wyomingites support natural gas production, and oil
  production is backed by 70.9 percent of the state's residents, according to the
  survey conducted jointly by the University of Wyoming's School of Energy
  Resources and Ruckelshaus Institute. Meanwhile, the survey found 68.6
  percent support solar energy, 65.5 percent back wind development and 63
  percent favor mining Wyoming coal to produce energy. Read more.
- The newly formed Wyoming Energy Authority is preparing for launch on July 1 and conducting a search for its first executive director. The WEA will merge the Wyoming Infrastructure and Pipeline authorities and is tasked by Governor Gordon and the legislature to develop, administer, and communicate the state's energy strategy.

## Get Ready for Virtual PE Conference 2020 (#NSPEVirtual)

To protect the health, safety, and welfare of our members, while continuing to provide meaningful and valuable education and engagement opportunities, NSPE leadership has decided to postpone this year's Professional Engineers Conference (PECon) in Philadelphia until summer 2021. In its place, the Society will host an online Virtual PE Conference in August. Events will be centered around the annual celebration of PE Day, August 5.



The new virtual program will make it easier for attendees to participate according to their schedules. Sessions can be experienced in a live virtual environment or by accessing recordings at a more convenient time. Virtual **PE**Con will be easily accessible and affordable due to the elimination of travel costs and reduction in registration fees. PDH credits will be available for education sessions comparable to the amount you could earn at a regular **PE**Con. The virtual conference will also provide networking and social connection with colleagues in addition to professional development opportunities.

#### Current plans include:

- Education tracks and sessions, featuring many of the sessions already planned for PECon 2020;
- Tracks spread throughout the week at various times of day, empowering attendees to take in more of the content they desire;
- Recording all sessions to make them available for on-demand viewing;
- Hosting keynote speakers and senior leaders allowing for interactive Q&A with attendees; and
- Networking/roundtable topic discussions with peers by region and areas of practice, geared to increase dialogue and member engagement.

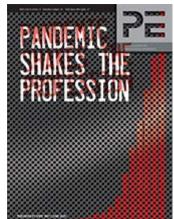
Stay tuned for more information on content and registration to come.

## **Pandemic Forces Profession to Adjust**

NSPE and its certification division NICET, as well as state societies and individual

members, are all adapting to a changed world.

Our latest *PE* cover story highlights how organizations and individual PEs are meeting the challenges with courage, compassion, and innovation. NSPE and its state societies are continuing to provide information, advocacy, and continuing education as staffers are sheltering at home. PEs are running companies from their bedrooms or dining rooms and working to ensure employee well-being while keeping businesses afloat.



No one knows what the future holds. But professional engineers will be among those helping to create that future—as always, prioritizing the public health, safety, and welfare.

#### Read more from May/June *PE* magazine.

Update: NICET's certification testing for engineering technicians has started to return but on a reduced schedule. Pearson VUE, the company that manages testing centers for NICET exams as well as NCEES exams and those in many other professions, began reopening on May 1. Centers will be operating at 50% capacity and for limited hours. The reopening of testing centers in Pennsylvania and Alaska has not been scheduled, due to locally imposed restrictions. For the latest information, visit NICET's COVID-19 response web page.

Read the latest on NCEES's FE and PE exams.

## **Don't Miss These Upcoming Webinars**



NSPE is increasing the number of its webinars to serve members during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay current in the profession, earn PDHs, and advance your career by tuning in.

 Engineering Exemptions and Education: Diminish the First and Enhance the Second - May 20

- Negotiate It! How to Crush Your Fears, Develop Your Negotiation Muscle, and Gain Power in the Workplace - May 27
- Fire Protection Engineering in Property Risk Management June 3
- Ethics in our Changing World June 10
- Engineers, Building Water Systems and Legionella: What You Need to Know
   June 24

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