

## State News for NSPE Members



### President's Message

Dear ASPE Members and Friends,

I hope that you and your families are well and healthy as we continue to work our way through the COVID-19 Pandemic. As I write this message, restaurants and stores are opening to customers, although most still require that face masks be worn. Here in Arizona, we have been relatively fortunate when compared to the losses that many other cities and states have suffered. Although we all want to get back to the way things were, please stay vigilant, as there are more cases of the virus being diagnosed.

As for some exciting news, On May 31, 2020, the SpaceX Dragon Capsule docked with the International Space Station 19 hours after a dramatic liftoff from Kennedy Space Center on May 30, bringing two NASA Astronauts to the ISS. This is the first mission to launch astronauts into orbit from the US since July 8, 2011, when the Space Shuttle Atlantis launched the 135th and final mission of the American Space Shuttle Program. Congratulations to SpaceX and NASA on this most recent success, and hope for more missions to come. This makes me proud of our profession, as the world witnesses engineers and engineering at its finest.

The results are in from the NSPE-AZ ballot, and the Board's slate of officers is set

for 2020-2021. I'm readying to transfer the reigns to our next president, Karl Obergh, P.E., who will officially take office on July 1, 2020. I will continue to serve NSPE-AZ as the Immediate Past President, and will assist in membership outreach and retention, as well as future events. As of this date, the ACEC Roads and Streets Conference, rescheduled for September 23-25, 2020 is still on track. NSPE-AZ is a sponsor and will be hosting an Order of the Engineer Ceremony at the conference. For those of you who have not yet taken the Obligation of an Engineer, this will be a wonderful opportunity to do so in front of your peers.

On May 8, 2020, The NSPE-AZ Board held a strategic planning meeting, where we updated our strategic objectives for the next year, adding student outreach as a goal. We performed a deep dive into membership, future events, our website and social media platforms, and discussed our local chapters and the plan for connecting with local chapter liaisons moving forward.

Please keep an eye on our newly launched website [www.nspe-az.org](http://www.nspe-az.org) for updates and information, and we will also be launching our presence on other social media platforms, including LinkedIn and Twitter. We hope to stay in contact with all of you through various means, and welcome input and feedback from all our members.

Lastly, starting in July, our monthly NSPE-AZ Board meetings (which are open to all members) will be conducted via Zoom teleconference. For those members who are unable to attend meetings in person, you will be able to observe the meeting and participate, so that you can be part of the conversation and assist our Board in providing to you what matters most. We look forward to having members join us from other areas of the state, and if you are interested in becoming a representative to the Board from your local chapter, please reach out to us through the website.

On behalf of the NSPE-AZ Board, I wish all of you and your families the best of health.

Respectfully,



David A. Janover, P.E., F.NSPE, CFM  
President, Arizona Society of Professional Engineers

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## Arizona Court Dismisses Challenge to PE Licensure

The Arizona State Board of Technical Registration garnered a victory after a Maricopa County Superior Court judge dismissed a lawsuit in May challenging the state's PE practice act. The case is yet another example of efforts to challenge and undermine occupational licensure.

The lawsuit was brought by the Institute for Justice on behalf of Greg Mills, an electrical engineer and owner of Southwest Engineering Concepts, in December 2019. Mills believes that state statutes governing the practice of engineering are impeding his constitutional right to make a living. Attorneys representing the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying and the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards filed a motion to dismiss the lawsuit on behalf of the Arizona licensing board in March.

The case began when the licensing board informed Mills that he failed to register his firm to legally practice in the state and misrepresented himself as a licensed engineer on his website. The board learned of Mills after a complaint was filed last year by a former client, according to an *AZ Mirror* article published on May 13.

A superior court judge granted the motion to dismiss the lawsuit because Mills had not exhausted his remedies, which included seeking an administrative hearing with the board, according to the *AZ Mirror*. The Institute of Justice will continue to represent Greg Mills in an appeal to the court decision.

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## ASPE Board of Directors Meeting Agenda May 21, 2020

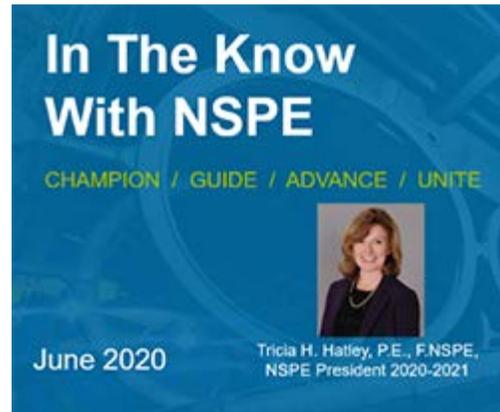
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Approval of 4-16-2020 Minutes
- Ballot Results
- ASPE Membership Tier Update
- Full-Service Tier Conference Call Update
- Summary of 5/8/2020 Strategic Meeting
- NSPE National Report
- Western Pacific Regional Update
- Committee Assignments and Reports
  - Membership
  - MATHCOUNTS
  - Arizona BTR
  - Future Events
- Legislative Update

- Financial Report
- Website / Social Media Update
- Next Meeting – TBD
- Adjournment

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## Are You “In the Know”?

Members who want to get a quick overview of the Society’s news should check out the June “[In the Know with NSPE](#)” video on YouTube. The 15-minute presentation by President-Elect Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, covers topics like the reopening of licensing and certification exams, *PE* magazine highlights, a breakdown of the Society’s [strategic plan](#), [advocacy efforts](#) on behalf of PEs, the upcoming [Virtual Professional Engineers Conference](#), the Society’s [statement](#) on social injustice, and the [Emerging Leaders Program](#).



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## Register for the *Virtual* PECon 2020

Registration is now open for the 2020 Virtual Professional Engineers Conference (PECon) on **August 3–7** with events centered around the annual celebration of [PE Day](#) on August 5.

Virtual PECon sessions can be experienced in a live virtual environment or by accessing recordings at a more convenient time. The virtual conference will also provide networking and social connection with colleagues by region and areas of practice in addition to professional development opportunities.



### PECon at a Glance

- Keynote sessions featuring IBM’s Global Chief Technology Officer and the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board
- Session: [Ensuring Successful Stakeholder and Community Involvement](#)

- Session: [Stormwater Pollution Prevention Planning: Compliance Guidelines for Your Facility](#)
- Session: [Professional Engineer's Role in Artificial Intelligence and Technology](#)
- Session: [Ethics of Sustainable Design](#)
- Session: [Shrinking the Distance for Virtual Teams to Succeed](#)

**There are three registration options:**

1. **Single Session** provides individual one PDH sessions for \$39 (\$99 for nonmembers);
2. **Day Track** provides access to three PDH sessions, networking morning “coffee talk” roundtables, and evening post session discussions for \$99 (\$279 for nonmembers); and
3. **All-Access Pass** provides 15 PDH sessions with networking morning “coffee talk” roundtables each day and event post session discussions for \$249 (\$1,149 for nonmembers).

Nonmembers can join NSPE for \$299 and receive member pricing.

**Virtual PECon 2020 Free for Students**

NSPE is providing the opportunity for student members to participate in the upcoming **Virtual Professional Engineers Conference 2020** for free on August 3–7.

Student members who register for the conference can sign up for a track or an all-access pass and can also attend networking events, including morning coffee talks and evening round table discussions.

[Register now.](#)

[Register now to customize your attendance package for live events August 3–7.](#)

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## **Call for 2020–21 Volunteers**

NSPE needs your knowledge, expertise, and time to assist our organization carry out its [vision, mission, and meet the goals of the strategic plan](#) . Volunteer positions begin in August and end at the annual conference in 2021.

These opportunities are organized into three types with various levels of

engagement.

**Engagement Level 1:** Standing committees and select committees require the highest engagement level. They often involve attending at least one in-person meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting. Most meetings are held via conference call.

**Engagement Level 2:** These volunteer positions are responsible for organization activities and involve assignment to a committee, task force, or other group. Activities primarily include e-mail and conference calls.

**Engagement Level 3:** Ad hoc volunteers take part in activities on a project-by-project basis.

[Submit forms by July 15 to be considered for a 2020–21 term.](#)

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## **Aiming for Leadership? This Program's for You**

If you're starting your engineering career and looking toward a future of leadership, NSPE is excited to offer an opportunity to participate in the Emerging Leaders Program.

The NSPE Emerging Leaders Program is an intensive seven month, professionally facilitated, focused, practical, virtual program for emerging leaders. Between August 5 (Professional Engineers Day) and February 27 (National Engineers Week) participants will receive specific, relevant training and application on how to be successful at higher levels of leadership responsibility.

The target audience for the Emerging Leaders Program is for promising early-career professionals with 5-8 years of experience who are just beginning to lead and think strategically in the profession and their careers. The reality-based curriculum focuses on the core skills necessary to think strategically, build effective teams, deliver great service for their most valued clients, and lead successfully.

[Learn more and apply by July 1, 2020.](#)

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## **Advocacy Opportunity: Speak Out for Future PEs**

You have an opportunity today to advocate for the future of the engineering profession!

H.R. 5339 ( [Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act](#) ) amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow students with 529 Education Accounts to use those funds for expenses related to obtaining a post-education credential—including the PE

license. Funds could be used for expenses associated with both exam prep and the exam itself.

The bill needs additional cosponsors in order to move forward. As NSPE's Government Relations team continues talking with House offices, your support of H.R. 5339 is crucial. The more support we have from NSPE members, the stronger position we're in to ask House Representatives to sign on.

You have the opportunity to take multiple actions if you'd like, [starting with writing a letter](#) , then following up with either a Tweet or a phone call. Or all three, if you're feeling especially ambitious!

Feel free to contact Stephanie Hamilton if you have any questions, or if you'd just like to talk about advocacy! Hamilton can be reached at 703-684-2844 or [shamilton@nspe.org](mailto:shamilton@nspe.org) .

[Take action on H.R. 5339.](#)

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