

State News for NSPE Members

University of New Hampshire to Lead Decarbonization Program

One New Hampshire higher learning institution has been chosen to lead decarbonization efforts in New England, [The Center Square reports](#).

The University of New Hampshire has been selected as one of nine Onsite Technical Assistance Partnerships by the Department of Energy, said US Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH). The program facilitates clean energy integration for industrial sites and large energy users.

"The industrial sector is a key part of our economy, and adopting new technologies to increase energy efficiency and reduce operating costs will be essential to creating jobs, reducing energy costs, meeting our climate goals, and remaining competitive globally," Shaheen said in a statement.

The university, Shaheen said, will lead the partnership, which will work with policymakers, utilities, and businesses in the state and across New England to reduce emissions through changes.

"Through this program, UNH and companies around New England will make tangible progress in the clean energy transition, which will benefit our environment and our economy for years to come," Shaheen said in a statement.

According to a release, the university will gain up to \$23 million through the Department of Energy funding in the Industrial Efficiency and Decarbonization Office. The federal dollars will support technical assistance in an effort to accelerate the adoption of onsite energy technologies across the industrial, commercial, and institutional sectors. [Read more](#).

NHDOT Looking to Sell General Sullivan Bridge

The historic General Sullivan Bridge was a significant engineering achievement in

the 1930s. It later became a recreation area for running, biking and fishing in the 1980s.

Higher traffic demand called for increased infrastructure. The larger Little Bay Bridge, which carries the Spaulding Turnpike, was built directly next to General Sullivan, taking over its traffic duties.

Now, the bridge that connects Dover and Newington is being sold by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, [WMUR reports](#).

According to a statement, potential buyers must propose a plan to repurpose parts of the bridge for another project. Those proposals are being accepted through August 29. The General Sullivan Bridge was one of the earliest traffic water crossings in the state. Its continuous truss design was an influence on other highway bridges.

New Hampshire Communities Use Solar Power to Build Resiliency

With energy costs spiking over the past few years, more cost-effective renewable energy such as wind, hydro, and solar have come back to the forefront in New Hampshire, [WMUR reports](#).

More communities in New Hampshire are taking advantage of the power of the sun, generating their own power with solar panels. Communities across the state are creating energy committees, and Hanover is one of that's leading the way. Ten years ago, Hanover was listed as one of the first green communities in New Hampshire. Now, 4,500 solar panels are installed at a farm outside Hanover.

New London is also investing in renewable power. Jamie Hess, who is chairman of the town's energy committee, said that several years ago, the town installed solar panels on the highway garage, a move that effectively zeroed out its electric bill. Sometimes, the town gets a check for the excess power. "It's energy independence. It's resiliency and sustainability," Hess said. "It's everything we could possibly want from this building, actually producing more energy than it consumes." New London plans to add solar everywhere it can. Up next is the fire station. [Read more](#).

Program Bridges STEM Education for Students of Color with Workforce Development

The George Floyd protests in 2020 sparked more than just an outcry of racial inequality in the United States — it also made business leaders take notice of the

apparent disparities in New Hampshire, the [New Hampshire Business Review reports](#).

One such company, Appledore Marine Engineering in Portsmouth, saw what was happening and made a call to the University of New Hampshire. That one simple phone call would soon set higher education teachers and faculty on a course to enhance STEM education for middle and high-school students from all ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds in New England.

Now in its third year, the Dinah Whipple STEAM Academy — named after a former slave who founded the state's first school for Black children in Portsmouth in 1806 — focuses on "science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics (STEAM), as well as the Black experience," according to its website. As a program of UNH Tech Camp, it's offered to students, typically ages 13 to 15, at no cost to them, thanks to funding from Appledore.

Scholarships are awarded to accepted students, who attend courses during one week every summer that focus on such topics as pre-engineering, physics, math and science, as well as African American history. [Read more](#).

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

Vermont PE Rises to Top Leadership



William (Bill) Atkinson, P.E., F.NSPE, was installed as NSPE's 2023–24 president during a ceremony at NSPECon23 in Louisville, Kentucky, on August 3. He has spent most of his career volunteering for NSPE and various engineering organizations that hold true to his passion for protecting the public through licensure and ethical engineering decision making.

Atkinson serves as the engineering manager and lead engineer at Vermont Mechanical Inc., a mechanical and plumbing design build contractor that focuses on healthcare and commercial construction (where he has been employed since 2001). He currently directs the service and engineering departments.

Throughout his engineering career, Atkinson has taken on various volunteer and leadership positions within NSPE, the Vermont Society of Professional Engineers, ASHRAE, and NCEES. He served on the Vermont Board of Professional Engineers and the University of Vermont College of Engineering Advisory Board. He has also served as an ABET observer and as the president of the Clarkson University Vermont Alumni Chapter. He is a licensed professional engineer in New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.

Atkinson lives in Essex, Vermont, with his wife, Kim Atkinson, P.E., and two young active sons. When he and his wife are not working they are often found coaching or enjoying the outdoors in all seasons.

Honoring Excellence in the Profession

NSPE members were recently honored for their outstanding contributions to the profession during NSPECon23 in Louisville, Kentucky.

Engineering Education Excellence Award

This award recognizes licensed engineering faculty who have demonstrated the ability to link engineering education with professional practice. It is sponsored by the Professional Engineers in Higher Education (PEHE) interest group.



Waterloo Tsutsui, Ph.D., P.E., is a senior research associate in the School of Aeronautics and Astronautics at Purdue University where his primary aim is to provide a rigorous education that nurtures an engineering mindset among students and empowering them to analyze, communicate, and solve complex problems. He ensures students derive maximum advantage from meticulously designed educational experiences integrated into their curriculum, fostering lasting knowledge and capabilities that extend far beyond the confines of the classroom for the ultimate benefit of students. As an example, Tsutsui implemented virtual labs and visualization in lab courses as an innovative way to link engineering practice to education.

New Professional of the Year Award

This award recognizes a young NSPE member who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and the community during the early years of one's career.



Sri Kumar, P.E., is the president and CEO of Connico, a national consultancy serving the aviation, civil, and transportation markets. In his current role, he is responsible for outlining the company's strategy for the future, ensuring the company continues to execute its goals, and delivering excellence to clients from Tampa to Seattle. He is also committed to building Connico's employee-focused culture and is passionate about developing a strong, diverse, and uniquely talented team who work each day on solving some of the nation's most complex infrastructure challenges.

Emerging Leaders Program Seeks Candidates



The [NSPE Emerging Leaders Program](#) is seeking the next group of engineering change-makers. Candidates with 5–8 years of professional experience in the engineering field who are prepared to think strategically about their career and begin taking on leadership roles are [invited to apply](#).

The 2024 ELP syllabus and related time-commitments are available and the application for the program is due by **Thursday, August 31**.

[Apply Now](#)

You received this e-mail because you are subscribed to *PE Matters* e-newsletter.

To update your e-mail address, visit www.nspe.org and login to manage your account.

If you do not wish to receive any more issues of *PE Matters*, [click here to unsubscribe](#).

Share with your network



**National Society of Professional Engineers | 1420 King Street | Alexandria, VA
22314**

