The 2023 Engineers Week Finale Celebration and Award Winners

NSPE-NV wants to thank everyone who attended the recent National Engineers Week Finale Banquet and made it a success! More than 230 gathered on Saturday, May 13, at the Orleans Hotel and Casino for the Hawaiian themed event. NSPE Director Thomas Headley, P.E., attended as our honored guest. Craig Bledsoe, P.E., from NSPE-AK, and his wife were also able to join us.

The event kicked off at 5:00 p.m. with the Order of the Engineer oath with 23 new inductees, followed by a cocktail hour and dinner. The night's festivities also featured a program to announce scholarships, awards, and door prizes. The fun didn't stop there—the DJ made sure the after party was entertaining while guests danced with hula hoops and beach balls.

We would like to thank all of the financial sponsors for the evening! And special thanks goes out to the planning committee for making this a great event of celebration and engagement. Access the event newsletter here.

NSPE-NV Award Winners
NSPE-NV Engineer of the Year
Jonathan Tull, P.E., F.NSPE

NSPE-NV Young Engineer of the Year
Nicole Melton, P.E.

NSPE-NV Ramona Lesley Dedicated Service Award
Jennifer Davis

NSPE-NV Project of the Year
I-15 / CC 215 Northern Beltway Interchange Project
NSPE-NV June Luncheon Meeting Recap

NSPE-NV and ASCE cohosted a luncheon on June 14, featuring a presentation on Best Practices Guide for Quality Plan Submittals. The presentation was conducted by Jamie Fitzgerald, Jamie Harsh and Greg DeSart.

Jamie Fitzgerald

Greg DeSart

2023-2024 Chapter Officers
Dylan Yoro, Abhusan Achhami, Sichu Shrestha, Rosaura Gallagher, Suchan Lamichhane, Naik Banavathu, Trisha Sakaguchi, Jamie Harsh, and Christian Herrera

Meet the Speakers
Jamie Fitzgerald is a senior public works plans examiner at City of Henderson. He is a Las Vegas native with over 22 years at the City of Henderson, 18 of which have been in public works plan review. Fitzgerald currently supervises the civil plan review process in the Development Services Center and was responsible for developing and implementing the first fully electronic plan review and approval process in Southern Nevada. He has also worked with the Nevada licensing board on several projects, including the Electronic Submittal and Digital Signature Guide and the recently released Best Practices Guide.

Jamie Harsh is currently an engineering supervisor at Southwest Gas. Harsh has 11 years of professional experience in the fields of chemical and civil engineering. She earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering with a mathematics minor from Seattle University. Harsh started her engineering career at TIMET, a titanium manufacturing plant, monitoring chemical processes and managing continuous improvement projects. She began her career with Southwest Gas in 2018 as an Engineer II. In her current role as supervisor, she oversees the evaluation, analysis, and replacement of natural gas facilities in the Las Vegas Valley.
Since founding GES in 1992, **Greg DeSart** has managed and performed geotechnical engineering, materials testing and inspection, and environmental services for countless projects throughout Nevada. Working with governmental entities, civil engineers, and private developers, he has succeeded over the past 31 years in building a strong reputation for providing personalized high-end services for GES’ clients. He provides leadership for all company operations and projects, assuring high quality standards are followed with respect to technical performance, project schedules, and budgets.

**Thanks to our Sponsor!**

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**State Licensing Board Meeting**

The [Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors](#) is holding a board meeting on **Thursday, July 20**. Access the meeting information and Zoom link [here](#).

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**Are You Ready to Lead Within NSPE-NV?**

NSPE-NV is seeking individuals to serve as vice president at the Southern Nevada chapter level and secretary for the state society/foundation boards.
Please contact Martin Jensen (MJensen@UniversalEngineering.com) or Bob Thomsen (Bob.Thomsen@gesnevada.com) if you are interested.

NSPE’s **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today’s top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

**Featured Job**  
*Deputy CEO RTC*  
Las Vegas, NV

Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the NSPE Job Board.

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

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**Connect with Your Colleagues at #NSPECon23**

Register now for NSPECon23 and connect with your colleagues in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2-4. The conference features multiple education tracks in leadership, trends in the industry, and career development with the opportunity to earn up to 10 PDHs. Also stay tuned for information on engineering-related tours. **Register by June 29 to take advantage of discounted rates.**
Keynote Speakers

Bill Samuels, Jr., Chairman Emeritus of Maker’s Mark Distillery, will open the NSPECon 23 meeting. Samuels, who helped design both the Gemini and Polaris missiles and became friends with the founding administrator of NASA, will talk about the, “Trials and Tribulations of a Failed Aerospace Engineer.”

Megan Bendtzen, the CEO and founder of TheDoctorofFun.com, will give a keynote presentation on - Beyond the Blueprint: Mastering the Most Important Project of Your Life . In this clever and entertaining presentation, Bendtzen will completely shift your perspective, debunking the myth of work-life balance and revealing the single biggest lie surrounding the pursuit of happiness.

Conference Session Highlights

- Ethical Obligations and Engineering Through a DEI Lens
- The Engineer’s Blueprint: Success Principles for Winning at Work and at Home
- Lithium: The Race for North American EV Dominance But at What Cost to the Industry?
- Finding the Funds for Your Infrastructure Project
- Leaders Leading Leaders
- We Need YOU to Protect the License!
- Meeting the Challenges and Needs of The Engineering Workforce
- Speculative Technology and Exploratory Engineering for Designing the Future

Access the full conference program.

Sponsor and Exhibitor Opportunities

NSPECon23 offers sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities
to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. Access the Sponsor and Exhibitor Prospectus for more information.

New Webinar: Racing Towards Excellence

A new webinar will get you ready for NSPECon23 — Racing Towards Excellence: Enhancing Customer Experience and Improving Safety at Churchill Downs.

Neil Crawford, P.E., an accomplished engineer and project manager at Qk4 Inc., offers insight into the history of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby and its economic impacts on Kentucky. Learn about recent improvement projects to enhance the customer experience and also projects to improve equine/horseman safety and expand the racing operations.

The webinar is FREE for members and offers 1 PDH. Register and watch now.

ARPL Offers New Advocacy Resources

ARPL has released two new advocacy resources. A video, Universal Licensing: A Closer Look, (featuring Rebecca Bowman, Senior Director of Ethics and
Professional Practice) and an advocacy document, *The Critical Role of Licensing in Business Success*, based on recent research. As a sponsoring member of ARPL, NSPE has access to these resources and others on the ARPL website.

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