NSPE-NV May Luncheon Meeting Recap

NSPE-NV held its monthly luncheon on Tuesday, May 16, featuring presentations by UNLV civil engineering students and recognition of the annual scholarship winners.

The Presentations

**Tule Springs Diversion Trench**
(UNLV Civil Engineering Department 1st Place Final Year Project)
Presented by: *Seyedeh Aalaie, Michael Blume, Franquoise Duenas, and Cecia Ruiz-Hernandez*
Tule Springs National Monument Gravel Road
(UNLV Civil Engineering Department 2nd Place Final Year Project and three-way tie for College Level Sustainability)
Presented by: Richard Kilgore and Elizabeth Paschal

Annual Scholarship Winners
NSPE-NV awarded $1,500 scholarships to UNLV engineering students Ricardo Borunda and Stacey Lai. Ricardo Borunda was able to attend the luncheon and receive recognition from Southern Nevada Chapter President Christian Herrera, P.E.
State Licensing Board Meeting

The Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors is holding an interim board meeting on Thursday, June 8. Access the meeting information and Zoom link here.

Can Nevada's Mining Industry Help Fuel the Transition to Renewable Energy?

Nevada's mining industry is poised to be a key player in the energy segment, and the state's leading trade organization has tapped a familiar face as it looks for a permanent leader, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reports.

Dana Bennett has been named interim president of the Nevada Mining Association, after serving as president of the organization from 2014 to 2020. She succeeds Tyre Gray, who left the association in February to pursue other professional opportunities, according to NVMA.

Bennett said there isn't a set timeline for when her replacement will be chosen, and the main focus of the association is Assembly Bill 313, which would ban pit lakes formed by mines across the state.
"We are always interested in legislation and regulatory activity that achieves that delicate balance between economic opportunity for the state with environmental responsibility," she said. "One of the bills that we are concerned with and engaged in a working group with is Assembly Bill 313, which would require backfilling pit lakes."

Outside of looking at legislation, a growing interest around mining is how the industry will help fuel the transition to renewable energy. Read more.

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**The Future of Geothermal Energy in Nevada**

The interior of the Earth is hot, and it gets hotter with depth. Geothermal energy takes advantage of this ever-present heat that is transmitted through rock and then transformed into electricity. It is one of the most promising renewable energy sources with low to zero emissions of CO2 and other pollutants that, different than solar and wind, runs around the clock, 24/7.

Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer Jack Norbeck, of Fervo Energy, recently spoke at the Energy Solutions Forum hosted by the University of Nevada, Reno's Colleges of Science and Engineering, *Nevada Today* reports. Norbeck talked about the relevance of geothermal energy for today's world and about next-generation geothermal projects happening in Northern Nevada.

"Whereas solar only works when the sun is shining, and the wind only works when the wind is blowing, geothermal is constant and has a lot of valuable properties and attributes to keep the grid reliable and steady," Norbeck said. Read more.

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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 Trisha Sakaguchi (Trisha.Sakaguchi@atkinsglobal.com), Christian Herrera (Christian.Herrera@swgas.com), 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**
Mechanical Engineer, P.E.
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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**Network and Learn at NSPECon23 (August 2-4)**

NSPECon23 registration is now open! NSPE members, PEs, EITs, engineering students, and anyone interested in the issues facing the industry today are invited to attend NSPECon 2023 in Louisville, August 2-4. Early-bird registration rates are available until June 29. Preview the preliminary program of sessions designed to foster leadership skills, address industry trends, and to boost your career.

[Register Now!](#)

**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, CEO and Founder of TheDoctorofFun.com, will completely shift your perspective, debunking the myths and mysteries of work-life balance and the pursuit of happiness during the keynote speech “P.L.A.Y. to Win: It Actually is All Fun and Games...The Secret to Increasing Profits, Positivity and Productivity.”

**Sponsor and Exhibit 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.

**NSPE Welcomes New VP for Membership, State Engagement**

NSPE recently welcomed Rodneikka Scott, MSc, CAE, as its new Vice President of Member and State Engagement. In this role, Scott will be responsible for executing NSPE’s
strategic vision and the association’s approach to membership, professional practice, and learning. She will also oversee NSPE’s current state engagement efforts, the customer service center, and the ethics team.

Prior to joining NSPE, Scott spent four years as the Chief Membership and Diversity Programs Officer of the Endocrine Society. She played a crucial role in managing the organization’s membership approach, engaging with internal and external stakeholders, and revamping the member value proposition to include a suite of new member benefits. Scott draws on more than 17 years of diverse experience in the membership, marketing, communications, volunteer relations, and education sectors to support member services and diversity programs. Read more.

Get Involved – Volunteer for an NSPE Committee

Volunteers are the heart of NSPE. NSPE is committed to building valuable experiences for all our members by offering a variety of long term and short-term opportunities to get engaged. Visit the Get Involved Page to learn more about available opportunities. Submit an application for a 2023-24 committee by June 2.

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