

PE MATTERS

STATE
NEWS

NSPE-HI™ HAWAII SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

>>>> OCTOBER 2021

State News for NSPE Members

Meet the NSPE-HI 2021-22 Leadership Team

President: Irina Constantinescu, P.E.



President-Elect: Sara Doi, P.E.



Vice President: Mike Silva, P.E., F.NSPE, L.S.



Treasurer: Kurt Kunimune, P.E.



NSPE Delegate: Mike Lum, P.E.



ISLAND HISTORY: Engineering Marvel Still in Operation on Kauai

The Kekaha Ditch on Kaua'i, considered to be an engineering marvel, was featured in a recent article about its history in [The Garden Island](#).

The canal was dug from 1903-07 to supply irrigation water from a mountainous area of the Waimea River to sugarcane plantations downstream. Experts of the time were skeptical, but the project was a success, in spite of the huge scope and nearly impassable terrain along the route. The project was conceived by Hans Peter Faye, a manager for the Kekaha Sugar Company. Civil engineer J.S. Molony oversaw the project's construction.

Today, the canal continues to provide agricultural irrigation water and hydroelectric power to customers west of the Waimea River, according to the article. "Mike Faye, a grandson of Hans Peter Faye, manages Kekaha Ditch for the Kekaha Agricultural Association (KAA), while various construction workers, machine operators, electronic technicians and Lord's Electric maintain the ditch on contract to KAA," the article states.

Navy Awards Contract for Engineering Services to Small Hawaiian Business

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Pacific awarded a \$25 million architect-engineering contract to Helber Hastert and Fee Planners Inc., a small business from Honolulu, Hawaii, for planning and engineering services at various locations worldwide

within the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas, including Hawaii, Guam, Japan, Korea, and elsewhere.

"Small businesses bring agility and innovation to support the NAVFAC Pacific mission and their participation in the defense industrial base is critical to the US economy in support of our National Security Strategy," said NAVFAC Pacific Deputy for Small Business Regina Pasqualucci.

The company will develop regional integration plans, shore infrastructure plans, installation development plans, and area development plans. Work done on the project may also include business case analysis, economic analysis, facility life cycle studies, landscape architecture plans, real estate analysis, enhanced use lease studies, land surveys, and topography.

The US Department of Energy Announces the EcoCAR EV Challenge

The US Department of Energy (DOE), General Motors, and MathWorks have partnered to launch the EcoCAR EV Challenge, the latest DOE-sponsored Advanced Vehicle Technology Competition series. The program, which will kick-off in fall of 2022, is now accepting applications from universities with ABET-accredited engineering programs until January 20, 2022.

EcoCAR is a [collegiate automotive four-year competition](#) aimed at developing a highly skilled clean mobility workforce that reflects the diversity of our nation, by providing hands-on experience designing and building next generation mobility solutions to meet the decarbonization needs of the automotive industry. The competition will also include a major focus on equity in mobility and diversity, equity and inclusion in STEM to help foster clean energy mobility solutions and opportunities for all.

Up to 14 North American teams will be selected to design and engineer a next generation battery electric vehicle that utilizes automation and vehicle-to-everything (V2X) connectivity to implement energy efficient and customer-appealing features. The program is managed by the Argonne National Laboratory.

State Licensing Board Meeting

The Hawaii Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors & Landscape Architects will host its next meeting on **Thursday, November 18** at 10 a.m.

A Zoom link and agenda will be provided prior to the meeting. Access [the board website](#) for more information.

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

Volunteer Leaders Make a Difference – Are You Ready?

Do you want to influence the future of the profession? Are you a young professional looking to advance your career? Have your professional achievements created a desire to give back and serve?

Join NSPE leaders Tricia Hatley, Megan Schultz, and Craig Sisco on **November 1** (4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET) as they explore the rewards, benefits, and requirements of volunteer service. NSPE President Rick Guerra will serve as the moderator during this **free webinar**.

Attendees will learn about the opportunities available and gain an understanding of the skills and abilities desired for these positions. The panelists will also share real-life stories of how volunteer service with NSPE has improved their careers and provided fulfillment of their goals and aspirations. [Register now](#) .



Tricia H. Hatley,
P.E., F.NSPE



Megan J. Schultz,
P.E.



Craig S. Sisco,
P.E., F.NSPE



Rick J. Guerra,
P.E., F.NSPE

Delaware Improves Licensure Mobility for PEs

Legislation designed to expand licensure mobility for professional engineers in Delaware was signed by Governor John Carney on September 17. Members of the Delaware Engineering Society let state legislators know of their support for the bill through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#) , a critical factor in gaining support for its passage.

The amendments to the state's PE law provide multiple licensing opportunities. Individuals with an NCEES Record or who qualify as a Model Law Engineer will now find it easier to obtain a PE license in Delaware. The law was also amended to recognize applicants who are graduates of an engineering educational program approved by an accrediting agency that is a signatory to the Washington Accord. The accord covers 21 countries, including Australia, Canada, China, India, Ireland, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

An applicant with a minimum of five years of continuous and verifiable experience as a professional engineer can also apply for comity licensure. These applicants must also

submit five references, three of which must be from professional engineers licensed in the US, Canada, or an International Professional Engineer registrant under the International Engineering Alliance.

The law's new provisions also eliminate the requirement that licensees can use only an embossed seal, making way for use of a digital seal.

Challenges Facing the Profession



NSPE Immediate Past President Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, offers her advice on how engineers can get the most satisfaction from their careers in a four-part series featured in *Machine Design*.

In the first article installment, [Challenges Facing the Profession](#), Hatley discusses the value of professional engineering licensure and the challenges the profession faces—population growth and urbanization, the recent pandemic and its short and long-term effects on society, the need for diversity to increase the ranks of engineers, and advances in technology.

Member Benefit: Build Your Financial Future with BHG

Did you know that NSPE has a member-benefit partner to support your financial needs? BHG offers members a variety of financial solutions including:

- Business loans to cover expenses such as debt consolidation, working capital, technology or equipment, business acquisition, or startup costs;
- Personal loan solutions to cover expenses such as debt consolidation, investments, life events, or major purchases;
- SBA 7(a) loans for business debt consolidation, or costs associated with startup or acquisition, real estate, renovation, or expansion; and
- Credit cards that offer low rates, cash back, and elite rewards, designed for professionals.

For more information or to get started, visit the [BHG website](#).

Not sure what financial solution is right for you but trying to improve your credit health? Learn four great ways to improve your credit health in BHG's recent webinar, [The Credit Gambit](#).

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