

# PE MATTERS

STATE  
NEWS

NSPE-DE™ DELAWARE  
ENGINEERING SOCIETY

>>>> MARCH 2020

*State News for NSPE Members*

## NSPE-DE Names 2020 Engineer of the Year, Young Engineer of the Year

### 2020 Engineer of the Year



**Ted C. Williams, PE, FACEC** has been selected as the 2020 Engineer of the Year. Mr. Williams serves as President of Landmark Science & Engineering, a multidisciplinary site/civil and environmental sciences consulting firm. He has 43 years of comprehensive experience with land development, transportation and traffic studies for large mixed-use construction projects. Ted is heavily involved in technical and professional organizations representing the Delaware engineering community. Some of the organizations where Mr. Williams currently serves is ACEC Delaware where he is the New Castle County Partnering Chair, Delaware Council on Transportation where he is Chair, and Committee of 100 where he is President. Mr. Williams has been a tireless advocate for engineering and business within the State of Delaware and nationally through these organizations. He is well known throughout Delaware's State and Local Legislatures, Councils, and agencies for his support of improving Delaware's Infrastructure. He has also been involved in the broader community of Delaware through activities such as coaching and advocating for STEM-based education for all of Delaware's middle and high school students. He has been a dedicated advocate for efficiency in public school construction projects and has been instrumental in developing a model for future school development

based on a full-school campus design.

## 2020 Young Engineer of the Year



Chris Brendza graduated from the University of Delaware with a BS in Civil Engineering in 2008. Shortly after graduation he began working in the field of water and wastewater engineering for Hydraterra Professionals in Chester County PA. At Hydraterra Professionals he spent the majority of his time performing construction inspection and design services for wastewater and drinking water facilities. In 2013, Mr. Brendza began his career at Johnson Mirmiran and Thompson in their water and wastewater group. During his time at JMT he has worked for various government agencies and utilities throughout Delaware such as City of Newark, New Castle County, and Kent County. Chris has also led various design projects for regional authorities and government agencies in Pennsylvania, Maryland and New Jersey. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with his wife and children, and volunteering in his community.

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## New Tools Available for PE Advocates

As “occupational reform” bills spring up across the country and put professional licensing at risk, an NSPE-formed coalition has prepared a useful resource kit that can be used by PE advocates to set the record straight.

The Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing is working to remind lawmakers that highly complex and technical professions, like engineering, rely on a rigorous system to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. It’s this rigor that clearly sets these professions apart from the vocational occupations that lawmakers often cite in defense of their efforts to weaken licensing requirements.

You can learn more about the threat in an ARPL-produced webinar covering the organization’s background, its work on behalf of highly technical licensed professions, and the state advocacy tools it’s created.

You’ll also find advocacy and messaging resources on the main page of the public Drop Box, titled “State Partner Tools and Resources (ARPL).” On this page, you’ll see folders for Key Messages and Talking Points, Lawmaker Outreach Handouts, Public Opinion Research, Sample Letters to the Editor and Op-Eds, Social

Media, State Specific Folders, Video Files, and a folder for the webinar.

In addition to NSPE, alliance members include the American Institute of Architects, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, and the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying.

If you have questions, please contact Margaret Edwards at [medwards@nspe.org](mailto:medwards@nspe.org).

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## **NCEES: Latest Information on COVID-19 response**

NCEES has been monitoring the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and its potential impact on our programs and services for several weeks. With a pandemic officially declared for COVID-19, NCEES is taking the following actions to help contain and slow the spread of the virus.

- The April 2020 paper-and-pencil exam administration is canceled.
- Examinees who are registered to take an exam during this administration will receive an automatic full refund of fees paid to NCEES.
- Exams offered only once a year during the April 2020 administration will be offered during the October 2020 administration.
- Registration dates for the October 2020 exam administration will be announced soon.
- Additional information will be emailed directly to affected examinees. All NCEES meetings scheduled to take place between March 15 and May 2 are canceled.
- Meetings scheduled to begin after May 2 will be reassessed as we learn more.
- Meeting attendees will receive an email with additional information specific to their meeting. The email will include instructions on canceling travel arrangements and if the meeting will be rescheduled.

The decision to cancel the April 2020 exam administration and upcoming meetings was not made lightly. These actions support the NCEES vision and mission to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public. While we strive to achieve this every day through the programs and services we provide to the engineering and surveying professions, this decision should serve as a reminder that safeguarding the health, safety, and welfare of the public is at the heart of everything we do.

[Read more of the latest info from NCEES.](#)

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## **Climate Change Special Issue**

As climate change effects proliferate, professional engineers are taking on the crisis. They're working to provide solutions as part of their responsibility to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

The [March/April issue of PE magazine](#) includes three articles highlighting PEs'



work in this area:

- **“Climate Changers”** –Young engineers feel a responsibility to take action on climate with their work—and they’re increasingly choosing to work for companies that share this perspective.
- **“Harsh Realities Drive Adaptation”** – Cities are targeting climate-change impacts with comprehensive policies. Professional engineers and AEC firms are showing that their expertise can help bring these plans to fruition.
- **“A Grand Challenge Needs to Inspire Grand Solutions”** – Professional engineers have an abundance of opportunities to invent creative, innovative solutions to issues surrounding environmental sustainability and resilience.

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## Share Your Views on the Engineering Profession

Do you support the elimination of state licensure exemptions? Should states align their licensing requirements to help PEs easily practice in multiple jurisdictions? Does your place of employment welcome diverse perspectives?

These are just some of the issues facing the professional engineering community. NSPE encourages you to provide your perspectives on these topics and more by participating in the [2020 Engineering Outlook & Salary Survey](#).

The 15-minute survey is open to NSPE members, engineering students, and engineering professionals. Participants will be eligible to enter a drawing for one of four \$50 Amazon gift cards.

The results of the survey will be made available to participants and will also be shared in *PE* magazine and other NSPE publications.

[Access the 2020 Engineering Outlook & Salary Survey.](#)

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## Communication on Your Terms: Update Your Preferences

## My Account

**Step 1: Update your profile**

**Step 2: Select your email preferences**

**My Account Links**

- My Degrees
- My Donations
- My Downloads
- My Expertise
- My Committees
- Manage my Subscriptions
- My Interest Groups
- My Social Media
- My Payment Info

NSPE is committed to providing the best service possible. To that end, we need to verify that member profile information is accurate. This includes preferred names and titles, and employer and contact information. NSPE asks all members to [review their member profile and update their information](#).

Thanks to updates to the NSPE database, members can now also choose exactly what emails they want to receive. With new subscription management options, members can unsubscribe from some mailing lists without missing out on information of interest to them. In order to make this possible, all members' email settings have been reset to the default. Everyone will need to log into their account to manage their preferences, even if they have previously unsubscribed from a mailing list.

[Update information and preferences.](#)

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