

State News for NSPE Members

Member Spotlight

Erik Hughes, P.E.

Civil engineer at AECOM and NSPE-DE board member

Previous Gigs: KBR, Bohler, Mascaro



When did you know you wanted to be an engineer?

First semester freshman year in college. Started as environmental science major but took Intro to Engineering and realized civil engineering best suited me.

What does the PE license mean to you?

Achieving a PE license was a major accomplishment that I had been looking forward to for 15 years. The additional responsibility and prestige is a valuable asset.

In my free time, I love to.... Play/watch sports, travel, and eat.

How do you strike a work/life balance?

Limit work talk outside of working hours, especially with friends and family.

If you weren't an engineer, you'd be.... An environmental scientist

What's your peak experience as an engineer so far?

Seeing a concept develop into a real-world project that people use and enjoy.

What do you value in the people you work with?

Integrity and honesty.

What does leadership mean to you?

Being an excellent example and being willing ask for help when it's needed and to answer questions from those you lead.

Leaders you admire.

Historically, it's hard to top Thomas Jefferson for me. Also, I just read Invictus so Mandela and Pienaar also come to mind.

Blog/website you can't go without reading?

Pittsburghsportsnow.com. Hail to Pitt!

What do you think NSPE needs to do to attract younger generations into the engineering profession and to join NSPE?

Continue to offer continuing education credits and increase presence on a state/local level.

Welcome New Members!

- Jennifer Laning, P.E., Pennoni
- Paul Imhoff, P.E.
- Andrew Madanat, P.E., Power Delivery Solutions LLC
- Erik Hughes, P.E., AECOM
- Montgomery Baker-Fales, student, University of Delaware

Delawareans Back Climate Change Measures

A [report](#) commissioned by DNREC's Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy found 77% of Delawareans see climate change as a serious threat that will harm future generations and many support engineering options to address the causes and consequences.

- 82% support preserving undeveloped land
- 80% believe we need stronger air pollution controls
- 79% support changing building codes
- 74% said roads and infrastructure should not be built in flood-prone areas
- 74% think we should increase the amount of electricity we get from renewable sources

73% believe we should improve energy efficiency standards

- 64% support elevating building in risk areas

In case you missed the March/April PE magazine, you can read how [young engineers feel a responsibility](#) to address climate effects in their work and how [cities and PEs are working together](#) to plan for the future.

Get Ready for **Virtual PE Conference 2020 (#NSPEVirtual)**

To protect the health, safety, and welfare of our members, while continuing to provide meaningful and valuable education and engagement opportunities, NSPE leadership has decided to postpone this year's Professional Engineers Conference (**PECon**) in Philadelphia until summer 2021. In its place, the Society will host an online Virtual PE Conference in August. Events will be centered around the annual celebration of PE Day, August 5.



The new virtual program will make it easier for attendees to participate according to their schedules. Sessions can be experienced in a live virtual environment or by accessing recordings at a more convenient time. Virtual **PECon** will be easily accessible and affordable due to the elimination of travel costs and reduction in registration fees. PDH credits will be available for education sessions comparable to the amount you could earn at a regular **PECon**. The virtual conference will also provide networking and social connection with colleagues in addition to professional development opportunities.

Current plans include:

- Education tracks and sessions, featuring many of the sessions already planned for **PECon** 2020;
- Tracks spread throughout the week at various times of day, empowering attendees to take in more of the content they desire;
- Recording all sessions to make them available for on-demand viewing;
- Hosting keynote speakers and senior leaders allowing for interactive Q&A with attendees; and
- Networking/roundtable topic discussions with peers by region and areas of

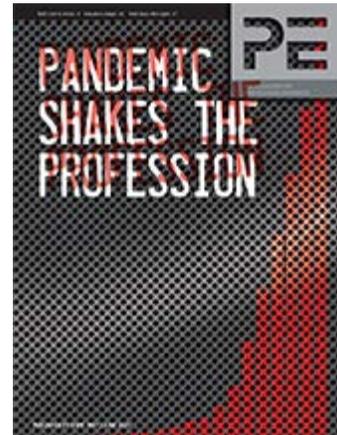
practice, geared to increase dialogue and member engagement.

Stay tuned for more information on content and registration to come.

Pandemic Forces Profession to Adjust

NSPE and its certification division [NICET](#), as well as state societies and individual members, are all adapting to a changed world.

Our latest [PE cover story](#) highlights how organizations and individual PEs are meeting the challenges with courage, compassion, and innovation. NSPE and its state societies are continuing to provide information, advocacy, and continuing education as staffers are sheltering at home. PEs are running companies from their bedrooms or dining rooms and working to ensure employee well-being while keeping businesses afloat.



No one knows what the future holds. But professional engineers will be among those helping to create that future—as always, prioritizing the public health, safety, and welfare.

[Read more from May/June PE magazine.](#)

Update: NICET's certification testing for engineering technicians has started to return but on a reduced schedule. Pearson VUE, the company that manages testing centers for NICET exams as well as NCEES exams and those in many other professions, began reopening on May 1. Centers will be operating at 50% capacity and for limited hours. The reopening of testing centers in Pennsylvania and Alaska has not been scheduled, due to locally imposed restrictions. For the latest information, visit [NICET's COVID-19 response web page](#).

[Read the latest on NCEES's FE and PE exams.](#)

Don't Miss These Upcoming Webinars

PE[®] INSTITUTE

EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

NSPE is increasing the number of its webinars to serve members during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay current in the profession, earn PDHs, and advance your career by tuning in.

- [Engineering Exemptions and Education: Diminish the First and Enhance the Second - May 20](#)
- [Negotiate It! How to Crush Your Fears, Develop Your Negotiation Muscle, and Gain Power in the Workplace - May 27](#)
- [Fire Protection Engineering in Property Risk Management - June 3](#)
- [Ethics in our Changing World - June 10](#)
- [Engineers, Building Water Systems and Legionella: What You Need to Know - June 24](#)

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