

State News for NSPE Members

Paseo Puerta de Tierra Coastline Deemed Unsafe

The coastline that makes up San Juan's Paseo Puerta de Tierra is unsafe due to the imminent danger of a landslide, the College of Engineers and Surveyors of Puerto Rico warned at a public hearing in May, [the Weekly Journal reports](#). The area is a danger to pedestrians and is unstable for area highways, the group told the House Committee on Economic Development and Planning.

Engineers who investigated the terrain said a diversion should be created for runoff waters. Affected structures, including a pedestrian promenade and roadways on the coastline, would be destroyed in the event of the impact of a future cyclone, they said. The group recommended the immediate implementation of emergency protocol.

Utility Sectors, Manufacturing, and Info Tech Pay Highest Salaries

In Puerto Rico, the water and power utility sectors have the highest mean salaries, at \$62,400, compared to the average salary of \$25,332 a year, reports the University of Puerto Rico's [Census Information Center](#). The center has found a great disparity among income across various sectors, [NimB reports](#). Among the largest sectors, only manufacturing (\$37,073) and information technology (\$42,370) pay the highest average salaries that exceed Puerto Rico's total average.

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

New Jersey Student Wins MATHCOUNTS Title

Marvin Mao, an eighth-grade student from Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, was

named the [2021 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS National Competition](#) champion during the virtual event held May 8-10. Mao will receive a \$10,000 scholarship.



This year's national competition engaged 224 students representing 56 US states and territories in four rounds: Sprint, Target, Team, and Countdown.

The runner-up for the individual competition was Bohan Yao, an eighth-grader from Redmond, Washington, who will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. Ten finalists will receive \$3,000 scholarships.

Mao is also a member of the first-place New Jersey team consisting of fellow eighth-grade students Evan Fan, Ying Lu, and Alexander Wang. The team will receive a trip to the US Space Camp. The California team finished in second place and the New York team placed third.

California Team Captures Math Video Award

A video combining algebraic equations with an exciting heist won the [2021 Math Video Challenge](#) for a team representing the Elite Academic Academy in southern California.

Team members Bradley Carpiuc (eighth grade), Madelynn Carpiuc (sixth grade), Zoe Kim (eighth grade) and Cole Seelman (sixth grade) each won a \$1,000 college scholarship for their "[The Sanitizer Stealers](#)" video during the challenge finals on May 9. The video is about a group of thieves who steal overpriced hand sanitizer from a store.



The crime is caught on camera, and the owner uses math to piece together just how much the thieves got away with.

The Math Video Challenge is a national program sponsored by MATHCOUNTS and the Department of Defense (DoDSTEM). More than 200 students who advanced to the national level of the MATHCOUNTS competition voted to determine the winning video.

[Access the 2021 finalist videos.](#)

Nominations Open for the QBS Awards

Every year, ACEC and NSPE partner to administer the [QBS Awards](#), recognizing public and private entities that make exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process at the federal, state, and local levels. Award winners serve as examples of how well the QBS process works, and they help promote the practice in jurisdictions that do not use or underuse QBS to procure engineering services.

ACEC and NSPE are now seeking nominations for the 2021 QBS Awards by the deadline **Monday, June 7**. The awards are administered in three categories: federal government sector; state government sector; and nongovernment sector.

Nominations may originate from an ACEC member organization, an NSPE state society, a public or private entity, or an individual in the public or private sector. Self-nomination is not permitted.

[Learn more and download a nomination form.](#)

Boost Your Career with NSPE's Spring Webinars



This season's NSPE webinars will take place on Wednesdays starting at 2 p.m. EST. The webinars are available to members for \$99 (\$129 for nonmembers) and will include an online discussion and a 10-question quiz for the sessions to qualify for continuing education credit.

May 26: [Catapult Your Win Rate by 50%](#)

June 2: [Engineering Challenges of the 21st Century: A Discussion with Leaders of Engineering Change Lab – USA](#)

June 9: [Tools to Ensure Effective Litigation Preparation and Testimony as an Engineering Professional](#)

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