

TO: NSPE Board of Directors

cc: NSPE Committee, Task Force, Council, and Interest Group Chairs
State Society Presidents and Presidents-Elect
State Society Executives Council
NSPE Past Presidents
House of Delegates

FROM: Monika Schulz, CAE
Executive Director & CEO

DATE: April 5, 2022

RE: Board Update: March 1-31, 2022

Happy Spring.

NSPE continues to focus on building engagement and member services. March was a busy month starting with the HoD leadership initiative workshop focused on discussing and building ways to collaborate and identify future volunteers and leaders. Please reach out to your state HoD representatives to hear more and to discuss their work. Regions continue to engage leaders through monthly leadership meetings. 2021-22 volunteer committees are beginning to wrap up their work, the NSPE Education Foundation Board of Trustees and NSPE Board of Directors met this month. President Guerra's board report outlines meeting outcomes for the NSPE Board of Directors' meeting.

A few member benefit highlights are:

- WORKability Wednesday webinars – a new member benefit
- NSPE Daily Designs – a curated daily member newsletter focused on engineering news
- PE Institute including on demand learning
- PE Matters state newsletters sharing state and local information for full and premium states
- Protecting the license through partnering with the Alliance for Responsible Licensing (ARPL) <http://www.responsiblelicensing.org/>
- And much more

Please take a minute to review the details below. Share the information with your colleagues as we focus on driving growth, educating for the future, shaping public policy and diversity and tomorrow's engineer.

Driving Growth

Every month is retention and recruitment season. Every act of engagement with a member—from an online message to customer service responses, discussions with colleagues, chapter events or state meetings—helps someone decide whether to renew or join.

Thank you for your efforts in renewing our largest groups of members those who have a 12/31 expiration date. For December 2021 there is a 93% renewal rate! (Industry average is 79%).

That's the good news, NSPE members renew. However, new member recruitment continues to be a challenge.

Here is where state leaders can help. NSPE recruitment numbers are down due in part to the lack of face-to-face events where engagement and recruitment happen. However, Spring 2022 is the season of state conferences! Here are some ideas to help raise awareness and recruit new members. For an upcoming meeting:

- Take advantage of NSPE branded supplies. Check out supplies.nspe.org (full and premium tier states can order for free) or reach out to Dana Aragon, Director of State Relations, at daragon@nspe.org for other available items such as tabletop displays, branded table cloths, and signage.
- Be sure to advertise and offer NSPE member versus nonmember registration rates to demonstrate value.
- Recognize members—recognition of members on-site helps solidify the brand and show the value of membership.
- Personally greet people you don't know—ask if they are members and share your NSPE story to encourage them to join the NSPE community.

Upcoming Deadlines

April 22: 2022 Engineering Outlook Survey deadline

May 13: [Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest](#)

June 7: [QBS Awards Nominations](#)

Upcoming Events

April 6 & April 20 – 2p.m. (Eastern) Workability Wednesday webinar

May 7-9. MATHCOUNTS National Competition

June 30, 2p.m.-4 p.m. (Eastern): House of Delegates Meeting (Virtual)

August 1-3: 2022 Professional Engineers Conference

Your leadership and efforts are appreciated and will help NSPE grow.

NICET Begins Issuing Digital Credentials: NICET has begun the launch of digital credentials. To test this new service, senior evaluators and NICET certified technicians,

JoAnna Abraham and Luis Feliciano, along with Board of Governors members were the first to receive digital credentials for the NICET certifications they hold. Their insights will better prepare customers for this exciting new benefit.

These secure, digital representations of NICET's certifications will provide engineering technicians the capability to easily manage, share, and make use of their credentials. Once available, individuals who complete the industry-set minimum requirements and earn certification will also be able to share their accomplishment digitally.

The potential for qualified individuals to better showcase their accomplishments through digital credentialing is promising. Increased exposure of NICET Certification holders in a consistent verifiable electronic format will improve the recognition of the certification programs. Additional information will be available on the website, communicated via email and within the candidate's online record.

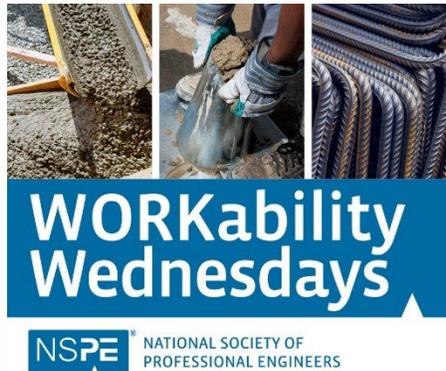
Shaping Public Policy

The Law of Unintended Consequences? In response to rising gas prices, a bill was presented in both the US House and Senate, proposing a federal gas tax holiday through the end of the year. There was no effort in the bill to ensure consumers would receive the benefit, and because the federal gas tax is a tax, the "end of the year" does not mean that the federal gas tax would be restored. A separate appropriation measure would have to be enacted.

The unintended consequence? The federal gas tax is the only consistent federal funding stream for the state Departments of Transportation. According to the US Energy Information Administration, the proposed holiday would represent funding losses of \$6.8M/day or \$25B/year. NSPE, along with ACEC and ASCE, triggered an advocacy campaign to encourage opposition to the bills. For more information, visit the NSPE Advocacy Center.

Georgia May Have a New Independence Day: A bill in Georgia introduced and passed through the House last year has now passed through the Senate and is on the governor's desk. This bill would extract the State Board of Registration Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board (PELS Board) from under the Department of State and establish it as an independent board. Not only will this provide an opportunity for the PELS Board to control its own revenue, but it will also enable the board to establish quality control processes to improve service.

Educating for the Future



WORKability Wednesdays Free Webinar Series: NSPE launched a new, live webinar series free to members—“WORKability Wednesdays.” The series aims to support members in their professional development and improve their “workability” quotient by engaging in online webinars to increase their competencies and learn about topics impacting the industry.

Members can join a two-part ethics presentation that dives into the latest Board of Ethical Review cases and their application to the workplace. Also open for registration is a special presentation during the week of Earth Day that highlights the design and construction of a new 120 MGD firm capacity water treatment facility in the City of Wichita, which provides water for 1 out of every 6 Kansas residents.

The first webinar is scheduled at 2:00 p.m. EDT on April 6 with additional presentations on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in April, May, and June. Register now at [NSPE’s PE Institute](#) and invite a colleague to attend.

Promoting Diversity and Tomorrow’s Engineer

Future City Professional Engineering Award Winner: A team representing J.M. Alexander Middle School (Huntersville, North Carolina) received the special Professional Engineering Award for their “Terra Limpá, Mozambique” city during the 2022 Future City Competition Finals on March 23.

NSPE BOD members Rick Guerra, P.E., F. NSPE, Britt Smith, P.E., F. NSPE, and Megan Schultz, P.E., served as judges for the special \$2,000 award sponsored by NSPE. The team won for demonstrating a thorough understanding of the need for technical and ethical reviews by creating both a board of technical review and a board of ethical review to oversee their engineers. The team also placed an emphasis on STEM education in their schools. Access the winner announcement [here](#).



NSPE Education Foundation Funds DiscoverE Research: The [NSPE Education Foundation](#) recently approved funding to support DiscoverE’s *Messages Matter: Reaching Tomorrow’s Engineers and Technicians* research project.

This effort builds on the important work of earlier project—Changing the Conversation (CTC) and Engineer Your Life (EYL) (conducted 16 years ago)—by revisiting and testing existing engineering messages, along with new messages, to determine what is effective in reaching today’s teens and their parents from a multitude of backgrounds. Overarching this work is a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, especially as it relates to reaching underrepresented groups and encouraging them to consider an education and career in engineering.

Research will include surveying high school students, parents, engineers, and engineering undergraduates, culminating in a comprehensive report and communication plan. The results of *Messages Matter* research will be disseminated and adopted in the wider STEM community over several years, reaching millions of stakeholders such as educators, engineering companies, academia (K-12 and higher education), nonprofit STEM providers, STEM societies, and legislators (local and federal). As a sponsoring organization, the NSPE Education Foundation will receive recognition and visibility on all published items and demonstrate the Foundation’s commitment to reaching students with messages about the value and importance of engineers to our future.

2022 Engineering Outlook Survey Launches in April: NSPE’s *2022 Engineering Outlook Survey* will launch during the first week of April to members, non-members, and others involved in the engineering profession. This survey focusing on issues affecting the profession and professional engineers, is conducted every two years.

Questions range from current hot topics in the profession. such as infrastructure and discipline-specific licensure to asking participants about the three biggest issues they’re facing and their work with multidisciplinary teams. Questions from past surveys are included as well such as information about NICET and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)

Please participate when you receive the email and survey link and consider sharing the survey with your colleagues and peers! Survey deadline is April 22.

Engagement and Governance

Seeking State Society Leaders: The call for state society leadership and House of Delegates members will be sent the week of April 5. The deadline to return information is May 6.

Information needed:

- Names of the new state society leaders for the 2022-2023 term (president, president-elect, and treasurer).
- NSPE state delegates, if applicable for 2022-2024.
- Not all terms expire at the same time. Please refer to the distributed form to see what states have expiring delegates this year. REMINDER: State leaders will need to check their state bylaws on officer terms and process to ensure that the leadership selection process follows legally outlined terms.

House of Delegates Leadership Pipeline Update: Delegates attended a virtual meeting on March 1 to discuss the results of the leadership pipeline survey. Results were shared during a feedback session facilitated by Mariner Management. Facilitators, Peggy Hoffman and Kristine Metter, provided best practice information and a summary of the Volunteering in Associations report.

Delegates were tasked with sharing the Volunteering in Associations recap of the research and trends along with the NSPE Leadership Poll 2022 Executive Summary with their state and/or chapter leader. This assignment provides an opportunity to start the conversation in improving our volunteer pipeline.

The current iteration of [NSPE's Strategic Plan](#) represents *both* continuity *and* change: continuity with the Society's unchanging goal of protecting the public health, safety, and welfare; and a recognition that we needed change in order to achieve more impact, through strategies backed by resources that will deliver real-world results.

COVID-19 has impacted all of us, but NSPE remains focused on adapting to externally imposed disruptions and remains active and effective in its continued pursuit of its mission.

The NSPE [Leadership Toolbox has numerous resources](#), including [talking point](#) scripts and presentations for use by NSPE officers, board members, and other leaders during state visits, chapter meetings, or other venues to promote NSPE and its activities.

The [State and National Leaders](#) community page is not only a direct means of engaging, sharing ideas, and asking for advice from leadership across the country, it is a resource for data, reports, and analysis on membership, programs and activities to better inform and support leadership at the national, state and chapter levels.