

UPDATE

NCEES committees, task forces gear up for 2007–08

The winter months are typically active for members of NCEES committees and task forces, and 2007–08 is set to be no different. This year, 14 committees and task forces made up of more than 150 board members and Member Board staff experts will meet in various locations throughout the country to address their charges.

Committee and task force charges determine the areas in which the Council will focus its efforts for the year. The charges are created by the NCEES president with the input of the Board of Directors, the Member Boards, and NCEES staff. Here is a brief overview of each committee and task force, along with some of the charges likely to be discussed at the 2008 zone interim meetings and Annual Meeting.

Advisory Committee on Council Activities (ACCA)

Chair: Kenneth Vaughn, P.E.

Board liaison: Gene Corley, Ph.D., P.E., S.E.

Charges: 9

Members: 9

According to the NCEES Bylaws, the ACCA “will act as a principal advisor to the President and the Board of Directors on such specific non-recurring problems or plans as the President may explicitly assign to the committee.” It also periodically reviews the Council’s Strategic Plan and *Manual of Policy and Position Statements* and suggests revisions to be submitted for Council vote.

The ACCA will address nine charges in 2007–08, including a charge to recommend a plan for compiling a comprehensive national registration database for licensed engineers and surveyors. It will also investigate Member Board practices related to accepting foreign degrees without requiring equivalency evaluations. Other charges include examining the *Model Law* definition of the practice of engineering for possible overlap with architecture and providing recommendations on how Member Boards can designate associate members to represent them at Council meetings.

Bachelor’s +30 Task Force

Chair: Michael Conzett, P.E.

Board liaison: Joe Timms Jr., P.E.

Charges: 5

Members: 8 (plus 6 resources and 1 ex-officio member)

The Bachelor’s +30 Task Force is one of two new special task forces added to the 2007–08 committee and task force list. It was created by President Corley to address implementation of the requirement that applicants complete an additional 30 credits of acceptable coursework to be eligible to take the PE examination. The language for the requirement was added to the *Model Law* in 2006 and upheld by the Council in 2007; as it is currently worded, it will go into effect in 2015.

The task force’s charges are designed to clarify the requirement to allow easier implementation by NCEES Member Boards. Charges include defining approved credits and approved course providers and proposing revisions to make the *Model Rules* consistent with the *Model Law* revisions concerning the bachelor’s plus 30 requirement.

“The task force must work through a number of challenging issues while always keeping in focus the mission of the Member Boards and NCEES to protect the health and safety of the public we serve,” said Mike Conzett, P.E., chair of the Bachelor’s +30 Task Force.

“I consider our work to be more of a marathon than a sprint. We will work to attain some degree of measurable progress during our first year. It will be important to reach consensus early on with aspects of the *Model Rules* where task force members share common ground while we deliberate the ‘stickier issues’ over a longer period of time,” he added.

Committee on Awards

Chair: Donald Hiatt, P.E.

Board liaison: Gene Corley, Ph.D., P.E., S.E.

Charges: 2

Members: 5

The Committee on Awards collects nominations for NCEES awards to be presented during the Annual Meeting and then provides