

From the President Council must continue raising the bar for licensure

The next month will be a very busy one for the Council as we converge in Minneapolis for the Annual Meeting. It has been an eventful year, and I thank everyone involved with NCEES for their time and hard work on a range of challenges facing the engineering and surveying professions.

We are getting better at demonstrating to the public the enormous role the engineering and surveying professions play in maintaining our standard of living. In recent years, NCEES has committed many resources to programs designed to raise public awareness of our professions. During my term as president, I have started to see some positive results from these programs. I encourage everyone to continue to serve as ambassadors to the public on behalf of the engineering and surveying professions; speak to groups in your community and make yourself available to the media.

NCEES has devoted much effort to upholding and, in many ways, enhancing the prestige of licensure. Raising the education standards for licensed engineers is one such effort. It is absolutely necessary that we, as leaders of the profession, take measures to respond to the rapidly expanding body of knowledge in the profession. Higher standards will protect the public by helping to ensure that licensed engineers in the United States have the knowledge needed to meet the challenges of the 21st century. The need for education standards that address the changing demands of the profession has been expressed for more than three quarters of a century, going back to Dr. D.B. Steinman's presidency in the 1930s. But now, as engineering disciplines are growing more specialized and technology is evolving at a blistering pace, this need is more urgent than ever.

I do not disagree with those who say there are obstacles that stand in the way of implementing the bachelor's plus 30 requirement at the state level. But engineers don't typically back away from a challenge. We have enough time between now and the proposed 2020 implementation date to provide for a transition to

the new requirements. As protectors of the public health, safety, and welfare, it is our duty to ensure that future P.E.'s are armed with sufficient knowledge to do their jobs effectively.

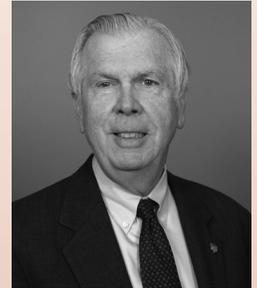
The Council's status as a newly accredited standards developer with ANSI is another way NCEES is working to promote licensure as the gold standard for the engineering and surveying professions. NCEES has published its first draft standard (see page 12), which outlines the requirements to obtain the Model Law Engineer designation. This is a positive step toward increasing acceptance of engineering licensure in academia and industry.

The need for greater comity for qualified engineers and surveyors continues. NCEES is in a better position than any other organization to address this issue, and we have done so throughout our history. The Council Records Program, which continues to grow, and the Registered Continuing Education Providers Program, one of our newest services, are excellent tools for those seeking licensure in multiple jurisdictions.

As our global economy continues to develop, the need for international comity increases. USCIEP, an affiliate organization of NCEES, can be an excellent tool for promoting international comity. The Center for Professional Engineering Education Services is now almost two years old. Its staff expertise and its relationship to NCEES allow it to provide a valuable service to the Member Boards. Its ability to compare foreign education credentials with those of accredited American programs and its capabilities in rooting out fraudulent credentials will continue to make the Center an important part of NCEES.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to represent NCEES as its president for the past year. I look forward to continuing to serve the Council, and I thank you again for your support.

W. Gene Corley, Ph.D., P.E., S.E.
NCEES President



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2008 Annual Meeting motions

The following is a summary of the motions that Council members will vote on during this year's Annual Meeting business sessions.

Advisory Committee on Council Activities

Move that an amendment to Constitution, Section 4.04, Elections and Terms of Office, addressing treasurer term limits be referred to a Special Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

Move that Council committee members and consultants be required to sign a conflict-of-interest statement (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that an amendment to Constitution, Section 5.04, Voting, addressing associate members as voting delegates be referred to a Special Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (*Consent Agenda*)

Structural Exam Task Force

Move that the UPLG Committee be charged to revise the definition of Model Law Structural Engineer in the *Model Rules* to include an 8-hour, state-developed fundamentals of engineering exam as an acceptable alternative to the NCEES FE exam (*Consent Agenda*)

Finances Committee

Move that the adoption of the 2008–09 operating and capital budgets be postponed until the last business session (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that FP 3, Travel Expenses, be amended to allow the president and president-elect to purchase business-class airfares for flights of three or more hours

Move that FP 9, Membership Fees, be amended to establish a new tier of membership fees for Member Boards with 150 or fewer registrants (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that FP 7, Guests of Annual Business Meeting, be amended to provide for the waiving of registration fees for each past president and his or her guest and the funding of travel expenses for each past president (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that FP 10, Unbudgeted Expenditures, be amended to increase the dollar limits for approval of unbudgeted expenditures (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that PS 15, Council Funds, be amended to add a designated reserve equal to the computed cost of a total exam breach

Bachelor's Plus 30 Task Force

Move that a committee be charged with exploring the idea of creating a national clearinghouse to carry out activities needed to implement the B+30

Move that a committee be charged with incorporating *Model Rules* language to define B+30 terms (*see next page for full text of proposed language*)

Move that the UPLG Committee be charged with incorporating the M-ABET concept into the *Model Law* and *Model Rules*

Committee on Uniform Procedures and Legislative Guidelines

Move that *Model Law*, Section 130.10, General Requirements for Licensure, and *Model Rules*, Section 210.20, Definitions, be amended to set 2020 as the earliest effective date for the B+30

Move that *Model Rules*, Section 230.40, Examinations, be amended to revise language related to credits above 120 being applied to the B+30

Move that *Model Rules*, Section 210.20, Definitions, be amended to clarify whether advanced degree holders can receive experience credit after the B+30 is implemented

Move that *Model Law*, Section 110.20, Definitions, A.1, A.2, and B.1, regarding the definitions of “engineer,” “professional engineer,” and “professional surveyor” be amended

The remaining UPLG motions resulted from the committee's scheduled *Model Law* review. (*Consent Agenda*)

Computer-Based Testing Task Force

Move that the Council authorize a feasibility study of potential exam candidates regarding computer-based testing (CBT)

Move that the Council issue a request for information (RFI) to vendors regarding CBT logistics

Constitution and Bylaws

The following amendments incorporate language approved at the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Move that Bylaws, Section 4.02, ACCA, be amended

Move that Constitution, Section 1.02, Definitions and Abbreviations, be amended

Move that Constitution, Section 3.02, Affiliate Member Boards; Section 3.033, Affiliate

Members; Section 3.06, Representatives; and Section 6.01, Fees, be amended

Move that Bylaws, Section 2.01, Annual Business Meetings; Section 4.01, Standing Committees; Section 7.01, Fees; Section 7.011, Fee Schedule; Section 7.012, Inactive Status, be amended

Move that Constitution, Section 3.031, Associate Members, be amended

Governance Task Force

Move that the proposed NCEES Bylaws be adopted to replace the existing Constitution and Bylaws (*see article on page 10*).

Exam Policy and Procedures Committee

Move that EAP 2, Examination Schedules, be modified to require that the NCEES security and compliance manager approve requests for deviation from the published exam schedule (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that EDP 7, Deletion of a Discipline or Module from the Examination Program, be modified to clarify the policy's scope and that the EPE Committee should review requests first (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that EAP 11, Security and Administrative Procedures, be modified to clarify that Member Boards and testing services should follow the NCEES *Security and Administrative Procedures Manual* (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that April 13–14 and October 26–27 be adopted as the 2018 exam administration dates (*Consent Agenda*)

Move that EAP 8, Release of Examination Results, be amended to indicate that NCEES exam scores are final after one year, except in cases of improper examinee conduct or risk to exam security

Move that EDP 1, Examination Titles, be amended to define Group I and II exams

Board of Directors

Move that the NCEES executive director be authorized to negotiate contracts for exams and/or exam services with the American University in Cairo and the Korean Professional Engineers Association (two separate motions)

Move that FP 3, Travel Expenses, be amended to provide for Council funding of one delegate from each Member Board to attend the board's respective zone interim meeting

B+30 motion to define acceptable coursework and approved course provider

At the 2008 Annual Meeting, the Bachelor's Plus 30 Task Force will present the following motion.

Move that the appropriate committee be charged with incorporating the following language into the *Model Rules*.

A. The term “acceptable upper-level undergraduate and/or graduate-level coursework” used in Section 130.10 C.1.c of the *Model Law* is interpreted to mean the following:

1. In technical topic areas, acceptable coursework shall be upper-level undergraduate and/or graduate-level courses in engineering. Some coursework may be in sciences and mathematics related to engineering.
2. In professional practice topic areas, acceptable coursework shall be relevant to engineering and may include but not be limited to business, communications, contract law, management, ethics, public policy, and quality.
3. All coursework shall be equivalent in intellectual rigor and learning assessment to upper-level undergraduate and/or graduate courses offered at institutions that have a program accredited by EAC/ABET.
4. At least half of the credits shall consist of coursework as defined in paragraph A.1 above.
5. The term “credit” is defined as 1 semester hour or its equivalent.

B. The term “approved course provider” used in Section 130.10 C.1.c of the *Model Law* is interpreted to mean the following:

1. An institution that has an EAC/ABET-accredited program. (Any of these institution's courses that meet paragraph A above would be acceptable.)
2. An institution or organization whose development, delivery, and outcomes assessment of coursework are accredited by an NCEES-approved accrediting body. (This institution/organization would be approved to develop and offer courses that meet paragraph A above. NCEES-approved accrediting bodies may include regional accreditation bodies and other appropriate discipline accreditations.)
3. An institution or organization that offers specific courses individually accredited by an NCEES-approved accrediting body. (This institution/organization would be approved to offer one or more specifically approved courses that meet paragraph A above.)