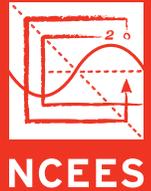


Licensure EXCHANGE

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STEVEN MATTHEWS
NCEES CHIEF
TECHNOLOGY OFFICER



SOFTWARE UPDATE OFFERS IMPROVED EXPERIENCE AND EXPANDED SERVICE

FOR SEVERAL YEARS, NCEES HAS BEEN DEVELOPING a single user interface for all NCEES services. In June, we will introduce the final phase of this project to improve the user experience for member boards and customers. The software update will combine many of our services into one interface, providing one login for NCEES-related tasks. This change will allow us to better serve our member licensing boards. It will also help us do a better job of guiding people on the licensure path, including students, interns, and professional engineers and surveyors.

Enhancements for member boards

With the unified interface, member boards will have one place for NCEES-related tasks: exam approvals, license and exam verifications, Records and Credentials transmittals, Enforcement Exchange, and member board profiles. Boards will also be able to download any available academic transcripts and education evaluations.

The NCEES Records that boards receive will have a clear and consistent format. Two professional engineers/surveyors will review the work experience submitted to ensure that it is adequate and progressive.

Member boards will not only be able to use the Record to facilitate licensure by comity; they can also use it for initial licensure. Records used for initial licensure will include the same verified information as those for comity licensure, except they will not include licenses in other jurisdictions.

We have also added new options to reduce work for member boards. For example, boards can choose to allow the system to use NCEES exam data to automatically verify exams. This means that NCEES would verify results on a board's behalf once an individual has passed an exam. Any other board that needs to check results in the future will be able to log into our system and see results since October 2010 without the original board having to manually verify it.

Two other changes for member boards to note: With the new system, NCEES will not be able to support registration for state-specific exams. Also, board members and administrators will access the new system through a new secure Member Resources section of the NCEES website. This new area will include all the information and resources that boards currently access through MyNCEES. When the new system launches, MyNCEES will serve examinees and licensees only.

Enhancements for examinees and licensees

We are excited about the improvements that the software update will also bring for NCEES examinees and licensees. The new system will give them access to all NCEES services—exam registration, Records, Credentials Evaluations, exam preparation materials—through their MyNCEES account.

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Zones prepare for 2016 interim meetings



The NCEES zone interim meetings will begin with the Southern Zone meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, April 7–9. Other zone meetings will be held in Burlington, Vermont; Kansas City, Missouri; and Anchorage, Alaska.

NCEES Zone Interim Meetings

Southern Zone

- April 7-9
- Nashville, Tennessee

Northeast Zone

- April 21-23
- Burlington, Vermont

Central Zone

- May 5-7
- Kansas City, Missouri

Western Zone

- May 19-21
- Anchorage, Alaska

WITH AGENDAS SET AND WELCOME RECEPTIONS PLANNED, NCEES is ready for its upcoming zone interim meetings.

The NCEES member licensing boards are divided into four geographic zones. Each zone meets twice a year—at the NCEES annual meeting in August and at an interim meeting in the spring. These spring meetings have become a significant point on the NCEES calendar.

“This meeting is an important opportunity to give feedback to our committees and NCEES leadership, so I encourage the members and staff of our member boards to attend their zone meeting,” said NCEES President Michael Conzett, P.E.

Zone, national issues on agenda

Representatives of the 2015–16 NCEES committees and task forces will give preliminary reports on their work, and zone members will have an opportunity to provide feedback ahead of the annual meeting this August. The NCEES president, president-elect, treasurer, and chief executive officer will also report on recent activities. Zones will hold forums for engineers, surveyors, and board administrators to discuss topical professional issues, and the Southern Zone will hold an

additional forum for law enforcement. Member boards will also have the opportunity to update their zone on their activities.

Also on the agenda is zone business, including selecting officers. The Central and Western zones will elect vice presidents and assistant vice presidents, while the Northeast and Southern zones will elect zone secretary-treasurers. The Western Zone will also choose its nominee for 2016–17 president-elect.

The host licensing boards have also set aside time for networking and sharing ideas outside of the business sessions and forums.

Meeting registration

Online registration for all of the zone interim meetings is now open. A link to online registration, as well as more details on the meetings, is in the MyNCEES section of ncees.org (see Zones under Board Resources).

COMMITTEE FOCUS



SCOTT BISHOP, P.S.

UTAH PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS BOARD

NCEES needs new perspectives to keep growing

WHEN I JOINED THE UTAH BOARD IN 2012, I DIDN'T KNOW very much about NCEES. But Von Hill, then the current Western Zone vice president, advised me to get involved. He told me that there is real opportunity for people who are willing to volunteer their time. I took to heart what he said. And I can tell you, he wasn't wrong.

When I had the chance to volunteer for a committee, I decided to put my name forward. Von recommended the Committee on Examinations for Professional Surveyors, or EPS, but I also looked at the committees on the NCEES website and did my own research. I noted my preferences on the committee volunteer survey, and then I waited.

I was very happy to be appointed to the EPS Committee for 2013–14. That experience led me to serve as vice chair of EPS and as a member of the Future of Surveying Task Force. In 2015, I was named chair of the new Emerging Engineers and Surveyors Group.

Each group brings a unique experience. EPS is a long-established committee with many recurring charges. It's a great foundation on how things work and to find new mentors. A task force like Future of Surveying isn't around as long, but you really focus on a particular issue. I've made lifelong friends serving in these two groups. Working together, you get to know each other pretty well.

This year, I am honored to chair the Emerging Engineers and Surveyors Group. It's great to be a part of a completely new approach. The most surprising aspect has been the response from the rest of NCEES. Whenever the group attends a meeting, member boards want their input. NCEES has done research before, but this group adds context and makes the results come alive. Members and staff are taking ideas back to their state boards and using what they've learned.

What's in it for me?

For my board, my involvement with NCEES means that I am aware of specific issues NCEES is working on. I can inform my

board and get their feedback. That means we're ahead of the curve on these issues.

Personally, my work with NCEES gives me the opportunity to learn from people who've been doing this longer than I have. What an opportunity personally to work with the who's who of surveying! I want to learn, get mentorship, and give my perspective. My work with NCEES allows me to do those things.

As I fall within the under-35 demographic of the Emerging Engineers and Surveyors Group, I especially encourage younger board members to get involved. NCEES lacks engaged younger members. I believe that we bring a totally new perspective that NCEES needs.

For the less-established professional, it can be tough to take off work to travel for meetings. It's a balancing act, but again, it pays—not monetarily, but there's a great reward that comes from being involved and seeing things that you worked on come to fruition and then evolve.

Other ways to get involved

Working with standing committees and task forces isn't the only opportunity to work with NCEES. The organization also needs a diverse group of exam volunteers—that's in terms of age, gender, years of experience, geography, and practice area. It's great to have younger people involved because usually they've taken the exams more recently and are closer to the experience level of the typical examinee.

I got involved with the Surveying exam development committee through serving on EPS, and I've continued to work with that group. I was intimidated at first. I wondered if I show up to write these exam questions, would they have me take the exam again? What if I didn't pass it? What I realized is that everybody's in the same boat. There's no super genius who's right and everybody else is wrong. Everyone works together, and there's real camaraderie.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



MICHAEL CONZETT, P.E.
NCEES PRESIDENT

Understanding history key to productive debate

WITH THE LAST ISSUE OF *LICENSURE EXCHANGE*, I received a booklet titled *The History of NCEES 1920–2015*, which highlights key developments in licensure over the past century. It was interesting to read about advancements in the professions as well as changes for NCEES as an organization.

The last section discussed the major work of the Council from 2005 to 2015, the period in our history that I'm most familiar with. As I read a synopsis of our work during that period, I thought about how important it is for state board members and staff who are new to the Council to understand how major initiatives come to fruition and how best to take part in continuing discussions years after their initial development.

Two key Council initiatives during the 2005 to 2015 era were the move to computer-based testing and the future requirement for additional education beyond the baccalaureate degree for engineering licensure. Both of these initiatives took many years to develop, beginning with the work of study groups and task forces. Some of the people involved in the early stages of these undertakings are still around, but because of the inherent nature of state board structure, many people have come and gone over the years. That is not a bad thing.

I am one to embrace the involvement of new board members in NCEES, and I am pleased with the response we have received to new member attendance at zone interim meetings and the annual meeting. I appreciate the interest and enthusiasm that new members bring to the Council. Turnover of members allows NCEES to grow and fresh ideas to emerge.

Along with this, however, are instances of new members having no knowledge of the history behind major initiatives and not knowing that the organization has already studied or debated an issue. This is no real fault on the individual's part, but it can be frustrating to others who have been part of the long-term development of an issue. Fresh perspectives are very much

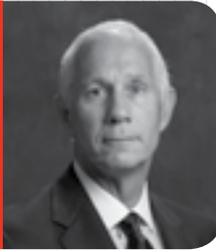
Fresh perspectives are very much needed, but they are most effective when coupled with institutional knowledge and an understanding of what has come before.

needed, but they are most effective when coupled with institutional knowledge and an understanding of what has come before.

If you are new to NCEES and are interested in becoming more engaged with the workings of the Council in committee meetings, zone meetings, and the annual meeting, I would like to offer a few suggestions:

- Talk with other board members who have attended past meetings. Most of us are more than happy to talk about the history of specific initiatives.
- Read the proceedings of previous meetings. Take time to understand how initiatives have developed; know the pros and cons. There may be a good reason to revisit an issue or idea, but it's important to know about work that's already been done. The NCEES website is a great resource for the history of initiatives and access to major working documents.
- Then, if you have a point to raise, please do so. It's the only way we can know your thoughts. But having long-range perspective gained through research will make the discussion more productive.

Thank you for your interest in NCEES, and thank you in advance for attendance at upcoming zone meetings. We look forward to hearing your voice on all of our important business concerns. Together, we will better advance engineering and surveying licensure.



JERRY CARTER
NCEES CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Providing oversight for NCEES finances

FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, NCEES HAS BEEN fortunate with the stewardship of our finances and circumstances that have proven favorable to the organization. Those who have been associated with the Council for some time will remember that this has not always been the case.

In 1998, the Committee on Finances reported that fiscal year 1997–98 would end with a net loss of \$72,949. The next year, it reported a loss of \$93,165. With losses for 1999–2000 projected to exceed \$275,000, NCEES leadership knew change was needed. They appointed an ad hoc group of members as well as emeritus and associate members. The president tasked this group with reviewing all NCEES financial policies and providing recommendations to reverse this movement and to put the Council back on a sound financial footing.

Those initial recommendations included revisions to numerous financial policies, reductions in the board and executive director's travel, the elimination of face-to-face committee meetings, and a temporary suspension of the Board Presidents' Assembly.

These steps and a number of procedural changes for financial practices allowed the organization to stem the tide and eventually to grow NCEES services and amass a sound reserves fund that provided greater financial stability. As such, we have been able to reach and even exceed the goal outlined in NCEES Financial Policy 1 that the reserves fund "should be accumulated to and maintained at a minimum amount of 100 percent of the annual operating budget plus a designated reserve equal to the computed cost of a total exam breach based on the current approved item replacement costs."

One of the procedural changes pertains to the process of developing a budget, which is done a year in advance. Beginning in November, NCEES staff members responsible for budget lines meet to begin discussing assumptions for the coming year and expected increases in costs that will impact the overall budget.

The staff then develops an initial draft budget. In late December, the president-elect and treasurer meet at our headquarters in Clemson to hear the staff's rationale for various predictions and to pose questions.

After this meeting, the final draft is provided to the Finance Committee, which is charged with working with the president-elect, treasurer, and CEO to recommend an income and expense budget for the following year, including operating and capital budgets. The committee scrutinizes the draft budget and makes adjustments as needed to ensure that all policies have been adhered to and that the financial needs of the Council will be met.

The budget then moves to the board of directors for review. Once the board has given its approval, the budget is presented to the full Council during the Finance Committee's report at the annual meeting for approval, as required by the *Bylaws*.

While the budgeting process is not the most exciting of topics, it's important to know about the organization's previous fortunes and the steps that we take today to ensure we do not repeat history. We follow a very transparent process today, and additional details to support each budget line are available upon request.

We are fortunate to have had good stewards over NCEES finances in recent years, to the point that President Conzett created the Financial Reserves Task Force this year to develop guidelines for using existing reserves to support ongoing initiatives of the Council and to further promote the mission and vision of NCEES.

We will need continued diligence to protect the financial welfare of the Council and to ensure that we are able to continue to provide a high level of service to the member licensing boards, examinees, and professional engineers and surveyors. To quote George Washington, "We must consult our means rather than our wishes."

MEMBER BOARD BRIEF



KEITH SIMILA, P.E.

IDAHO BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL LAND
SURVEYORS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We all must do our part to welcome new MBAs

BEING NEW TO A JOB IS ALWAYS A CHALLENGE.

That is especially true of taking on the job of member board administrator, or MBA. Most new MBAs do not understand the role or function of NCEES. We can improve that situation by making an effort to welcome and involve new MBAs.

The MBA Committee has identified several new methods that can help.

Listserv notice

NCEES can use our existing online collaboration tool, known as Basecamp, to announce new MBAs and provide a short bio. Each of the other MBAs will know who is new and will have a chance to offer assistance. It is a good way to welcome someone new so that they will feel more at ease in using Basecamp and contacting other MBAs when they have questions or need help.

Designated contact

NCEES is a large organization, and it can be hard at first to know who to contact when questions arise about any issue. Designating a point of contact at NCEES should help. It takes a while to know where to go to get information or a better understanding of what is in the various manuals and other publications. Having someone to converse with should reduce the confusion.

MBA mentor

So many mentoring efforts are well intended but fail due to lack of leadership involvement. It is crucial that zone leadership make an effort not only to introduce the new MBAs at zone meetings but also to recruit effective mentors (other MBAs and members) who can provide an introduction to the role of an MBA and the function of NCEES at the zone and national level. Taking time to make introductions at zone meetings, where the crowds are smaller and there is more time for personal interaction, is key to cementing good long-term relationships.

So many mentoring efforts are well intended but fail due to lack of leadership involvement.

Meeting with chair

The NCEES annual meeting is a good time to meet with the MBA Committee chair. A new member lunch is hosted for new board members, but offering one-on-one time with a seasoned veteran of the organization is a good way to get an overview of how NCEES works and the role and function of MBAs. It is also a good way to understand the various committees and what to expect at the annual meeting.

MBA web section

Finally, the committee recommends a new web page in the Board Resources section of MyNCEES just for MBAs. This site can provide links to the resources NCEES has to offer MBAs in one location.

There is a difference between welcoming new MBAs and integrating new MBAs. If we are intentional about integrating new MBAs into NCEES and their member board, we can better assure that those new to the organization will be both welcomed and have the advantage of quickly learning their role and function.

Simila is the executive director of the Idaho board and a member of the 2015–16 NCEES MBA Committee.



BOB WHORTON, P.E.

NCEES MANAGER OF COMPLIANCE AND SECURITY

CBT reduces exam invalidations

EXAM SECURITY IS A TOP PRIORITY FOR NCEES. IT IS KEY to ensuring fair testing practices and valid test results. NCEES exam rules, including prohibiting certain items from the exam room or talking with others during the exam, are in place to protect exam integrity and give everyone the same advantage. Sometimes, examinees either don't know the rules or choose to ignore them. Such infractions may result in having exam results invalidated.

The number of invalidations for Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) and Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) examinees has sharply declined since the introduction of computer-based testing (CBT). During the four pencil-and-paper administrations prior to CBT (from 2012 to 2013), there were 112 invalidations for the three most common irregularities: 32 for possessing a cell phone, 26 for failing to cease work, and 54 for possessing an unapproved calculator. During the last two years, there have been only 10 invalidations:

- 2 for accessing a cell phone during an unscheduled break
- 2 for communicating with each other
- 1 for leaving the test center during an unscheduled break
- 1 for possessing a prohibited item in the testing room
- 4 for testing twice during a window

Fifty pairs of FE/FS examinees were also flagged for copying/collusion during those four pencil-and-paper administrations. The FE and FS exams currently use a linear-on-the-fly testing model, which uses algorithms to create a unique exam for each examinee from a pool of questions, essentially eliminating the possibility of one examinee copying from another.

FE and FS exams are administered at approved Pearson VUE test centers. Pearson VUE provides secure testing environments, employing enhanced security measures such as palm vein scans to identify examinees and video monitoring. The only items

NCEES exam rules, including prohibiting certain items from the exam room or talking with others during the exam, are in place to protect exam integrity and give everyone the same advantage.

allowed in the testing room are ID, approved calculator, reusable booklet and marker (for scratch work), eyeglasses, light sweater or jacket, and comfort aid items (such as cough drops, inhaler, pillow, or crutches). Other personal items (such as cell phones, watches, wallets, purses, hats, coats, books, pens, pencils, erasers, and food) must be stored in designated areas, usually in small lockers.

The CBT format has not been free of issues, but we try to work around them when possible. Some of the most common are

- Timing of the exam—Examinees have 5 hours and 20 minutes to complete the exam. They can take a 25-minute break after completing approximately half of the questions. Some examinees have difficulty managing their time before the break to allow adequate time for the remaining questions.
- Late arrival—The test centers try to accommodate examinees who arrive after their appointment time if their testing schedule allows. Approximately 60 percent of late arrivals have been allowed to take their exam.
- Unapproved calculator—NCEES limits the types of calculators that examinees may bring to the test centers. Anyone who does not have an approved model can use the on-screen calculator.

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NCEES hosts forum to strengthen future of surveying profession

THE NCEES FUTURE OF SURVEYING FORUM, HELD January 22 in San Diego, California, brought together representatives from 18 surveying-related organizations to identify key elements and strategies to strengthen the future of the surveying profession. This is the first time organizations with varying perspectives on the profession have come together to discuss its challenges and collaborate on increasing the number of professional surveyors.

A significant element identified during the forum is improving the image of the profession. Participants believe that boosting the profession's image and increasing public awareness will help keep surveying relevant in the future. Other important elements include addressing changes in technology and the varying definitions of the practice of surveying.

Some of the strategies identified to address these elements include rebranding the profession to promote an updated image and increase public understanding of surveying and developing a consistent message to support the new image.

"Collaboration within the profession is crucial to reversing the declining number of professional surveyors," explained NCEES Chief Executive Officer Jerry Carter. "Working together to create a consistent message for everyone to use will provide a more effective approach to addressing this issue. The full forum report will provide recommendations on how professional organizations can continue what we started with this meeting."

The forum was organized by the NCEES Future of Surveying Task Force. Now in its second year, this group has been evaluating the current state of the surveying profession to determine how NCEES can mitigate the low number of candidates seeking licensure as professional surveyors and better market the value of a career in the surveying profession.

SOFTWARE UPDATE

continued from cover

With a free MyNCEES Profile, licensure candidates can document the requirements for licensure as they complete them, rather than waiting until they apply for a license. A completed MyNCEES Profile will include the main elements required for initial and comity licensure: verified license and exam information, documented and verified work experience, up-to-date reference and enforcement information, verified academic transcripts, and a Credentials Evaluation if necessary.

Everyone with a MyNCEES Profile will be able to establish an NCEES Record by requesting a final review and transmittal of his or her profile and paying the review/transmittal fee. There will no longer be an initial application fee or ongoing renewal fees to pay.

All licensed engineers and surveyors will be able to take advantage of another MyNCEES Profile benefit: a free CPC tracking service. They will be able to document their continuing professional competency coursework and track it against member board requirements.

The Credentials Evaluation service will be enhanced as well. Once NCEES completes an evaluation for an individual, all boards will have access to it. The applicant will not have to pay a separate transmittal fee to send it to a new board, and the initial application fee will be reduced from \$400 to \$350.

Collaboration informs development

NCEES staff members have been consulting with member boards to ensure the new system meets users' needs. This includes work by the Committee on Member Board Administrators in 2014–15 to investigate ways to improve the Records program.

The MBA Committee will assist with the rollout and testing of the new system. It will also assist staff with developing guidelines for using the new system for initial licensure and for using the Enforcement Exchange database within the new system.

To prepare boards for the update, NCEES staff previewed the new system at the MBA meeting in Atlanta on February 6. We will also schedule online training for member boards in early May.

**KNUD HERMANSEN,
PH.D., P.E., P.L.S., ESQ.**

MAINE STATE BOARD
OF LICENSURE FOR
PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERS MEMBER



Recruiting for the profession: Recognizing FE, FS achievement

THERE IS A NEED TO CONVINCING MORE INDIVIDUALS TO enter a surveying or engineering discipline and, once in the discipline, to enter the engineering or surveying profession. One method of encouragement is to mark an important step toward professional licensure by recognizing students who have passed the first professional exam at graduation ceremonies.

Recognition of passing the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) or Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) exam at graduation ceremonies has two purposes. First, it recognizes the student for achieving this important and critical first step toward professional licensing. Second, it encourages students to take the exam while still a student.

The FE and FS exams are challenging exams. The more time that elapses between a course on a topic and an examination on that topic, the more difficult it is to obtain a passing grade on the topic. Accordingly, engineering and surveying students should be encouraged to take the exam in their senior year of studies, when much of the knowledge tested on the FE or FS exam is relatively fresh in their minds.

The Maine Board of Professional Engineers, in conjunction with the University of Maine engineering programs, honored graduates who have passed the FE exam during the most recent graduation ceremony. The graduates were recognized by an asterisk next to their names in the commencement program, with an accompanying note explaining this first step in professional licensing. Also, the graduates who passed the FE or FS exam were presented a memento pin at graduation ceremonies.

In one ceremony, all of the professional engineers and professional surveyors in attendance, including faculty, parents, and visitors, were asked to come up on the stage. Students who had passed the FE or FS exam came forward, received a memento pin, and walked down the line of licensed professionals, where they were congratulated for taking the first step toward becoming a professional engineer or surveyor.

This effort may not seem like much, but it can make a considerable difference to a graduating student or a potential member of the engineering or surveying profession. Through small steps high mountains are climbed.

COMMITTEE FOCUS

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The thing I enjoy most about the exam development is the review it gives me. It's the best continuing education I've ever had because I'm writing these questions, I'm researching, and I'm reviewing other people's questions. It's a great opportunity to continue my study and make myself be the best surveyor that I can be.

Finding support

My recommendation is to get in and get involved. There are many ways to work with NCEES—standing committee or task force, exam development, and outreach events. If you're the type who makes pro-and-con lists, there's no comparison. The pros far outweigh the cons. The only downside is the additional bit of time, but it's worth it. You can contribute to the profession, network, and grow personally and professionally.

For support and advice, talk to someone at your board. You can also talk to someone at NCEES or your zone vice president. This is a good group of people. In my experience, they're always willing to talk to people. Ask them where they think the best fit for you is.

If you aren't selected for a standing committee or don't think it's the right fit for you, try something else. The NCEES website has a Volunteer section right on the homepage. Or call headquarters and tell them what you're interested in. They can point you in the right direction.

The important thing is to get involved. You, your board, and NCEES will be glad that you did.

Bishop is a member of the Utah board and chair of the 2015–16 NCEES Emerging Engineers and Surveyors Group.

NCEES funding available for first-time attendees to annual meeting

THE NCEES ANNUAL MEETING IS THE CULMINATION OF the organization's work for the year, and NCEES is eager for its newest members to take part.

The organization provides funding for member board members and administrators to attend their first NCEES annual meeting. The funding covers the meeting registration, lodging, and travel expenses for new members and MBAs attending the annual meeting for the first time (within 24 months of initial appointment or hire date). NCEES also funds an additional voting delegate from each board.

"New people bring new ideas and a fresh perspective," said NCEES President Michael Conzett, P.E. "It's important to have that input from our new members and MBAs, so we want them to use the available funding and be a part of the meeting."

The 95th NCEES annual meeting will be held August 24–27, 2016, in Indianapolis, Indiana. First-time attendees will get their bearings at an orientation luncheon, where they will learn about the structure of NCEES, its services, and what to expect

Proposed *Bylaws* changes available for review

At the 2016 NCEES annual meeting in August, delegates will consider amendments to the organization's *Bylaws*, which outlines the structure of NCEES. In preparation for the meeting, NCEES has posted the changes proposed by the Special Committee on Bylaws in the MyNCEES section of its website for member licensing boards to review (see Publications under Board Resources).

during the meeting. During the business sessions, delegates will vote on key engineering and surveying licensure issues. Technical workshops will provide continuing education opportunities, and social events will offer time to network with members and staff of other licensing boards.

Full details on the meeting, including the agenda and registration information, will be available in April.

ENFORCEMENT BEAT

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- ID problems—NCEES requires Pearson VUE to adhere to strict identification requirements. IDs must be current and include an expiration date, name and date of birth, a recognizable photo, and a signature. Also, the examinee's first and last name that they registered with must match their ID. When examinees fail to meet these requirements, they are not admitted for testing.
- Technical issues—When dealing with computers, technical issues can and do occur (such as the exam freezing, error messages, or Internet connectivity problems). Most of the time, these issues are resolved with no impact to an examinee's results. If not, examinees are rescheduled or receive a refund of their exam fees.

Communications from NCEES staff have helped reduce the number of invalidations. In 2014, we introduced the *NCEES Examinee Guide*, the official guide to policies and procedures for all NCEES exams. This guide is available online, and all examinees must attest that they have read it before starting the exam registration process. Our social media sites, including Facebook and Twitter, give us an outlet to share reminders and videos about what to expect at test centers.

While we are glad that our efforts have helped reduce invalidations for the FE and FS exam, NCEES staff will continue to look for ways to make examinees aware of the rules and the possible penalties for not following them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 5

Exam Audit Committee Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

February 6

MBA Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia

February 12-15

PE Metallurgical and Materials Exam
Committee Meeting
Nashville, Tennessee

February 16-17

PE Agricultural and Biological
Engineering Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

February 19-20

Board of Directors Meeting
Maui, Hawaii

February 20-21

PE Mining and Mineral Processing
Exam Meeting
Phoenix, Arizona

February 25-27

PE Chemical Exam
Subcommittee Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

February 26-27

SE Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

March 4-5

PE Industrial Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

March 5

Participating Organizations
Liaison Council Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia

March 7

Finance Committee Meeting
San Antonio, Texas

March 10-12

PE Mechanical Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

March 17-19

PE Nuclear Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

March 18-19

PE Environmental Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

MEMBER BOARD NEWS

DELAWARE PS

Meredith Hurley is the new board administrator, replacing Flora Peer.

GEORGIA

Taylor Wright is a new appointee.

ILLINOIS PE

William Eves and Michael Rutkowski are no longer members.

ILLINOIS PS

Michael Filipiski is a new appointee.
Donald Bullard is no longer a member.

KANSAS

Melissa Graham is currently serving as interim board administrator. She replaces Mary Leigh Dyck, who has retired.

MAINE PS

James Nadeau is a new appointee.

MARYLAND

Steven Long is now the administrator for the PE and PS boards.

NEW HAMPSHIRE PE

Marc Morin is a new appointee. Louise Lavertu is now executive director of the consolidated Office of Professional Licensure and Certification. Linda Capuchino is director for the Division of Technical Professions and MBA for the PE board.

PUERTO RICO

Luis Campos is the new board administrator. Antonio Medina, Alexis Ocasio, and Juan Torres are new appointees. Wilfredo Flores, Frank Hernandez, Neymar Maldonado, and Jesus Rodriguez are no longer members.

NCEES OUTREACH

FEBRUARY 16 Future City Competition Finals, Washington, D.C.

FEBRUARY 27 DiscoverE Family Day, Washington, D.C.

MARCH 14-18 National Surveying, Mapping, and Geospatial Conference, Crystal City, Virginia

MARCH 23-27 National Society of Black Engineers Annual Convention, Boston, Massachusetts

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NCEES

P.O. Box 1686
(280 Seneca Creek Rd)
Clemson, SC 29633 USA
864-654-6824

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CLEMSON, SC
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Licensure EXCHANGE

Jerry T. Carter, Chief Executive Officer
and Publisher

Keri B. Anderson, Manager of
Corporate Communications

Jennifer L. Williams, Senior Editor

Brittany D. Wilson, Graphic Designer

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This year's interactive annual report website brings 2014-15 to life with photos from the year's events and interviews with NCEES members and leadership on the organization's many initiatives.

NCEES annual report and *Squared* now available

NCEES released two publications in February to tell the story of 2014-15. The 2015 annual report provides an overview of the organization's accomplishments and growth over the past fiscal year. An interactive website, ncees.org/annualreport, accompanies the printed publication. It includes videos of interviews with NCEES members and leadership on the organization's various initiatives.

"The annual report theme is 'Lead with Purpose,' and it explores the various ways NCEES provided leadership in advancing engineering and surveying licensure, all with the unifying purpose of safeguarding the health, safety, and welfare of the public," explained NCEES Chief Executive Officer Jerry Carter.

NCEES has also released *NCEES Squared*. This publication tells the story of 2014-15 through numbers: What is the pass rate for the FE exam? What percentage of exam development engineers are women? With statistics related to NCEES exams, the Records program, and engineering and surveying licensure, *NCEES Squared* focuses on answering these questions and more.

Explore *Squared* and the annual report online at ncees.org/annualreport.