



AN OFFICIAL NCEES PUBLICATION FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, OPINIONS, AND IDEAS REGARDING THE LICENSURE OF ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK PREPARES FOR FEBRUARY 2012 CELEBRATION AND BEYOND



DALE JANS, P.E.
NCEES PRESIDENT

Focusing on the theme “7 billion people, 7 billion dreams,” Engineers Week 2012 is shaping up to be an exciting celebration of the contributions engineers make globally. With the world’s population reaching 7 billion people this year, the February 19–25 event will focus on how engineers are making a world of difference to every individual’s life.

Founded in 1951, Engineers Week is one of the oldest professional engineering outreach efforts in the United States. It focuses on increasing public understanding and appreciation of engineers’ contributions to society.

Most people are familiar with the week-long EWeek festivities in February, but the National Engineers Week Foundation also sponsors initiatives throughout the year to promote and celebrate the engineering profession.

New for 2012

As EWeek moves into its 61st year, two new initiatives are joining its lineup of annual activities.

The DiscoverE Educator Recognition Award Program celebrates educators who are helping students discover engineering. The program gives engineers and engineering students the opportunity to nominate teachers in grades

6–12 who are helping their students excel in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) subjects.

NCEES, along with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, is sponsoring New Faces of Engineering: College Edition. The program launched April 3 through Facebook (facebook.com/collegeedition). It is focused on recognizing the best and brightest third-, fourth-, and fifth-year engineering students—individuals whose academic successes, contributions, and experiences in engineering are preparing them to make a huge impact on our future.

The Facebook page for New Faces of Engineering: College Edition is also an online resource for engineering students to use throughout the year to learn about academic and professional development opportunities, licensure exams, internships, jobs, events, and competitions. We hope it will help students connect with one another and the National Engineers Week Foundation and find information they need to excel as they prepare to enter the engineering profession.

The nominations for New Faces of Engineering: College Edition closed on October 21. We look forward to the announcement of the winners on December 5. If you haven’t already, visit the Facebook page and like New Faces of Engineering: College Edition. It’s a great way to support the program and to keep up with the latest news.

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NCEES Engineering Award is important effort to promote licensure

Presenting awards completes 2011 juror experience

CHUN LAU, P.E., S.E.
WASHINGTON
STATE BOARD OF
REGISTRATION FOR
PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERS AND
LAND SURVEYORS



When Western Zone Vice President Patty Mamola, P.E., called me in March asking if I would be willing to serve on the jury for this year's NCEES Engineering Award, I did not hesitate in saying yes, as I have been involved with our state's professional societies in outreach and mentoring programs for both high school and college students. Also, I thought it would only take a day of commitment at Council headquarters. That was before I knew just how much work goes into the submissions—and into determining the winners.

Before the June 7 jury meeting, I received packets of information for this year's 26 entries. Browsing through them, I quickly realized that it would be a daunting task to come up with the \$25,000 grand prize winner and the five \$7,500 winners. All of the entries were very impressive, so I went through them carefully, reviewing them against the award criteria, and tried to do my best to prepare for the meeting.

The jury members looked at the following areas when evaluating the projects:

- Successful collaboration of faculty, students, and licensed professional engineers
- Benefit to public health, safety, and welfare

- Knowledge or skills gained
- Multidiscipline and/or allied profession participation
- Effectiveness of abstract, project description, and display board

When I arrived at headquarters, I found myself in the company of engineering deans from the four NCEES geographic zones; licensing board members from each zone; and representatives from ABET, the American Society for Engineering Education, the National Academy of Engineering, and the National Society of Professional Engineers. I was very impressed with my fellow jury members—they came with prepared notes and even ranking matrices all set up and ready to go. The judging process went smoothly, with each member respecting others' observations and opinions.

By the end of the day, we were able to review all 26 entries and select the grand prize winner as well as five additional award winners. After we made our final decision, the Council staff revealed to us who those winners were. I was excited to learn that Seattle University in Washington had won two of the five \$7,500 awards.

It was my privilege to represent NCEES at the awards ceremony for the Seattle University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. A fellow board member, Daniel Parker, P.E., and our executive director, George Twiss, P.L.S., accompanied me to present the awards at the annual kickoff meeting for the department's capstone projects, which was held September 5.

The meeting was well attended by industry sponsors, faculty members, and advisors, as well as a large number of student participants. The students were mostly seniors at the university, and when I asked how many of them are planning to take the FE exam, I was encouraged to see almost all the students raise their hands.

I truly enjoyed my experience serving on the jury and am grateful for the opportunity. The NCEES Engineering Award represents an important step in the Council's efforts to promote engineering licensure to undergraduate students. By working closely with professional engineers, the students gain valuable insight into the responsibilities and the privileges of being licensed.

I encourage member boards to promote the award to your state's universities and encourage them to submit projects for the 2012 cycle. The competition is open to all EAC/ABET-accredited programs, so it would be great to see a cross section of disciplines represented, especially those that typically have lower licensure rates.

Information on the award and entry forms are available online at engineeringaward.com. The deadline for entries is May 7, 2012.

To read more about this year's winners, including Seattle University's winning projects, pick up a copy of the 2011 NCEES Engineering Award Book. You can download a PDF or request copies at engineeringaward.com.



Washington board representatives Chun Lau and George Twiss congratulate Seattle University faculty advisor Dr. Katherine Kuder; students Kasi Wells, Dylan Parker, Jesse Nofziger, and Brian Olmstead; and P.E. advisor Daniel O'Sullivan of Seattle City Light for their \$7,500 winning project, Structural Design of Dam Sluice Gate Walkway Slabs.



Washington board member Daniel Parker and executive director George Twiss present a second \$7,500 award to faculty advisor Dr. Wesley Lauer, student participants Adam Stricker and Jenny Graves, and P.E. advisors Christina Avolio and Michael Spillane of Herrera Environmental. The civil engineering department received the award for its project titled Flood Control Channel Design for a River in Northwest Haiti.

2011-12 committees and task forces set agenda for Council action

A full list of charges and the membership of each group is available on the My NCEES section of the NCEES website.

With its committees and task forces addressing almost 90 charges this year, NCEES is certain to have a full plate of issues to evaluate in 2012.

President Dale Jans, P.E., has assigned the 10 standing committees charges focusing on areas such as exams, law enforcement, and finances. He has also appointed a special committee on *Bylaws* and five task forces to work on education, computer-based testing, public outreach and communications, leadership, and issues related to the activities of member board administrators.

The following is an overview of the issues they will address this year. A full list of charges and the membership of each group is available on the My NCEES section of the NCEES website. A representative of each standing committee and task force will attend the zone meetings this spring to present their preliminary findings and get feedback from NCEES delegates. The groups will then submit their final reports, and the Council will vote on any resulting motions at the 2012 annual meeting in August.

Advisory Committee on Council Activities

Chair: Miller Love Jr., P.E.

Board of directors liaison: Dale Jans, P.E.

Staff liaison: Donna Moss, PHR

ACCA makes recommendations on policy issues that are not assigned to another standing committee or that involve several committees. It also reviews the NCEES *Manual of Policy and Position Statements* and recommends needed revisions.

This year, the committee will evaluate the impact of new-member funding on attendance for the 2011 annual meeting. It will also consider whether NCEES needs to adopt a policy to ensure that business sessions at the annual meeting do not begin until it has been determined that all zones are present. The committee's other charges include evaluating the NCEES Engineering Award and recommending whether NCEES should continue to fund the award or move to a grant program to support the development of new initiatives to encourage collaboration between students and professional engineers.

$$F = Q_B \rho V_B - Q_C \rho V_C = \rho \frac{\pi D_B^2}{4} V_B^2 - \rho \frac{\pi D_C^2}{4} V_C^2$$

Committee on Awards

Chair: Gene Corley, Ph.D., P.E., S.E.

Board of directors liaison: Dale Jans, P.E.

Staff liaison: Sherrie Holcomb

The Committee on Awards collects nominations for NCEES service awards to be presented during the 2012 annual meeting and recommends recipients to the board of directors.

Committee on Examination Audit

Chair: George Roman, P.E., P.L.S.

Board of director's liaison:

Nancy Gavlin, P.E., S.E.

Staff liaison: Tim Miller, P.E.

The Committee on Examination Audit conducts regular audits of the NCEES exam program. This year, it will audit administrations of the Structural Engineering exam and the following PE exams: Chemical, Civil, Control Systems, Environmental, Mining and Mineral Processing, and Naval Architecture and Marine.

Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures

Chair: Gary Thompson, P.L.S.

Board of directors liaison:

Nancy Gavlin, P.E., S.E.

Staff liaison: Tim Miller, P.E.

The EPP Committee reviews the effectiveness of the NCEES exam process and recommends revisions to exam policies and procedures when needed.

The committee will review the volume of first-timer examinees for each exam to ensure it meets the requirements set out in EDP 8 and make recommendations as appropriate.

The committee will review EDP 17 and the required schedule for exam audits and consider whether audits should be conducted after the anchor exam and then at the midpoint prior to the Professional Activities and Knowledge Study (PAKS), or content review, to update the specifications. The committee's other charges include reviewing the *Manual of Policy and Position Statements* and recommending any changes necessary as a result of implementing computer-based testing. The EPE and EPS committees will assist with this review as requested.

Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers

Chair: James Milligan, Ph.D., P.E.

Board of directors liaison:

Gene Dinkins, P.E., P.L.S.

Staff liaison: Tim Miller, P.E.

The EPE Committee oversees the development and scoring of the FE, PE, and SE exams. Its recurring charges include conducting PAKS to update exam specifications, implementing Committee on Examination Audit recommendations that are approved by the board of directors, monitoring the training of exam development volunteers, and recommending changes to exam policies and procedures as needed.

In 2011–12, the committee will continue to develop a plan to either move all PE exams to a closed-book administration using an NCEES-supplied reference or to limit the number of reference materials allowed in the exam room. It is studying this issue to address security concerns and issues related to computer-based testing. The committee will also revise the *Exam Development Procedures Manual* to provide a report card to each item writer and committee chair showing item performance statistics on the most recent exam.

Committee on Examinations for Professional Surveyors

Chair: Thomas Orisich, P.L.S.

Board of directors liaison: Ted Sack, P.L.S.

Staff liaison: Tim Miller, P.E.

The EPS Committee oversees the development and scoring of the FS and PS exams. It reviews item performance, monitors the training of exam development volunteers, and implements recommendations from the Committee on Examination Audit that have been approved by the board of directors.

Its charges for 2011–12 include reviewing the decrease in the number of FS and PS examinees and recommending actions to increase volumes. The committee will also propose a standard for NCEES Credentials Evaluations to use when evaluating degrees from non-ABET-accredited surveying programs.

COMMITTEE FOCUS

Committee on Finances

Chair: Von Hill, P.L.S.

Board of directors liaison: David Widmer, P.L.S.

Staff liaison: Jeannie van der Zalm, CPA

The Committee on Finances studies the financial needs of NCEES and recommends sources of income and ways and means of securing adequate funds for its operation. The committee will review the results of the 2010–11 audit and the current financial condition of NCEES and will work with NCEES leadership to recommend an income and expense budget for 2012–13. It will review the NCEES reserves and projected operating margins and recommend to the board of directors guidelines or policies to maintain the organization's financial well-being in a manner that best serves the interest of the member boards. It will also review the NCEES financial policy on exam charges and recommend changes as needed.

Committee on Law Enforcement

Chair: James Purcell, P.E.

Board of directors liaison: Skip Harclerode, P.E.

Staff liaison: Bob Whorton, P.E.

The Committee on Law Enforcement promotes greater uniformity and cooperation among member boards in the enforcement of licensure laws. The committee maintains the NCEES *Investigation and Enforcement Guidelines* and *Investigative Training Manual*, best practice manuals for enforcement activities and training; conducts a law enforcement program at the NCEES annual meeting; and writes the column "Enforcement Beat" for *Licensure Exchange*.

This year, the committee's other charges include writing a code of conduct for investigators, creating a database of precedent-setting cases related to enforcement issues, and developing guidelines for the investigation of continuing education providers alleged to be in violation of statutory or regulatory requirements. The committee will also continue developing an investigator training program, including preparing online seminars.

Committee on Nominations

Chair: Joseph Timms, P.E.

Staff liaison: Jerry Carter

The Committee on Nominations submits the nominations for officers for the next administrative year. This year, it will solicit a nomination from the Western Zone for president-elect for 2012–13, as well as a Nominations Committee member and alternate member from each of the four zones.

Committee on Uniform Procedures and Legislative Guidelines

Chair: Patrick Tami, P.L.S.

Board of directors liaison: Patty Mamola, P.E.

Staff liaison: Keri Anderson

Each year, the UPLG Committee looks for ways to strengthen the licensure process and proposes any necessary changes to the *Model Law* and *Model Rules*, the documents that provide member licensing boards with a model for their own practice laws to regulate the engineering and surveying professions.

The committee's charges for 2011–12 include reviewing the *Model Law* and recommending any changes that will be required as a result of implementing computer-based testing. The committee will work with the Law Enforcement Committee to consider if the *Model Rules* should be amended to require that all complaints, unless originated by a member board, be sworn to by the complainant. It will also recommend *Model Law* amendments to incorporate commissioning of engineered systems into the definition of the practice of engineering.

Computer-Based Testing Implementation Task Force

Chair: Lance Kinney, P.E.

Board of directors liaison: Skip Harclerode, P.E.

Staff liaisons: Steven Matthews and

Davy McDowell, P.E.

The CBT Implementation Task Force will review the activities of NCEES committees and staff and testing vendor Pearson VUE related to the implementation of computer-based testing. The task force will recommend any additional actions required to begin administering the FE and FS exam via computer by the proposed timeline, currently planned for January 2014. Its other charges include considering the potential transition of the PE and PS exams to CBT, including recommending which PE exams should be moved to CBT and how often these exams should be offered.

Education Task Force

Chair: Norma Jean Mattei, Ph.D., P.E.

Board of directors liaison: Joseph Timms, P.E.

Staff liaison: Davy McDowell, P.E.

The Education Task Force will consider the various continuing professional competency requirements and CPC reporting requirements of the NCEES member boards and recommend actions to improve the recognition of CPC activities across state borders.

The task force will address ongoing efforts to support the implementation of the master's or equivalent requirement for engineering licensure, including issues related to the clearinghouse for evaluating courses. It will review the NCEES position statement on the equivalency of foreign professional engineers applying for licensure in U.S. jurisdictions to consider whether revisions are needed to reflect the current position of NCEES. It will also review the exam institution reports that are provided to schools with ABET-accredited programs after each exam administration to determine if the information is truly confidential. It will recommend a standard reporting form for schools to use if necessary.

Leadership Task Force

Chair: Henn Rebane, P.E.

Board of directors liaison:

Gene Dinkins, P.E., P.L.S.

Staff liaison: Jerry Carter

The Leadership Task Force will recommend ways and means of delivering information about NCEES to new members. This

information includes the structure of NCEES, leadership opportunities, and volunteer time requirements.

The task force will review the *Zone Meeting and Continuity Guidelines* and recommend language to provide for each zone to arrange an orientation for new members. It will also recommend a proactive approach for mentoring potential leaders within NCEES.

Member Board Administrators Task Force

Chair: Donna Sentell

Board of directors liaison: Ted Sack, P.L.S.

Staff liaison: Pam Powell

The MBA Task Force will evaluate NCEES member boards' current processes related to comity licensure, continuing education activities, and enforcement actions and will recommend ways to improve uniformity among the member boards. The task force will also evaluate how member boards handle credentials evaluations that include deficiencies in the humanities and social sciences and make recommendations for uniformity across jurisdictions. It will also evaluate the licensure application process for applicants who have taken NCEES exams outside the United States and provide recommendations to improve continuity.

Public Outreach/Communications Task Force

Chair: David Curtis, P.E.

Board of directors liaison: Patty Mamola, P.E.

Staff liaison: Nina Norris

The Public Outreach/Communications Task Force will recommend the level of expenditure NCEES should designate to public communications efforts. It will develop criteria that the NCEES board of directors can use to determine which sponsorship opportunities to support and the appropriate level of support. The task force will also assist NCEES with developing plans for the 2013 society sponsorship of National Engineers Week.

Special Committee on Bylaws

Chair: Dale Sall, P.E.

Board of directors liaison:

Gene Dinkins, P.E., P.L.S.

Staff liaison: Davy McDowell, P.E.

President Jans convened the Special Committee on Bylaws this year to recommend necessary changes to the NCEES *Bylaws* to add standing committees on education and member board administrators, to require a past NCEES treasurer to be a member of the Committee on Nominations, and to transfer Virginia from the Northeast Zone to the Southern Zone.



JERRY CARTER
NCEES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

NCEES addresses long-term issues

The current schedule provides for fleshing out the strategic plan over the next few months. We hope to present a draft of the proposed plan during the 2012 NCEES zone interim meetings.

To ensure that NCEES is well situated for the future, the board of directors has undertaken the task of developing a new strategic plan. A consultant with significant expertise in the process is facilitating this development. The process began during an orientation of the 2011–12 NCEES board of directors held in September, continued during the board’s November meeting, and will be addressed again at its February meeting.

During the initial effort, the board participated in an exercise to identify “mega trends,” which are used to help articulate the questions that NCEES needs to answer over the next 5 to 10 years. By identifying issues of overriding strategic importance, the board has a better appreciation for the choices NCEES must make in the near future and the challenges that will need to be overcome for the organization to carry out its purpose. To identify these trends, the board considered these basic questions:

- How are constituent wants, needs, and expectations changing?
- What are the changing dynamics of the engineering and surveying professions and the marketplace surrounding them?
- How do they affect our capacity and strategic position as an organization?

The board then surveyed members, associate members, and emeritus members. This survey included a list of all “mega trends” identified by the board, and participants could select up to six trends they thought were the most important

to include in the strategic plan. Participants also could note any trends they felt were missing. I am pleased to report that more than 250 people responded to the survey. The information provided was quite informative and will be incorporated in the next strategic planning session.

The current schedule provides for fleshing out the strategic plan over the next few months. We hope to present a draft of the proposed plan during the 2012 NCEES zone interim meetings.

CBT Update

As I write this article, the Computer-Based Testing Task Force is meeting here at NCEES headquarters. This group’s role is to provide oversight to the CBT transition effort, which now involves directed activities by the engineering and surveying exam committees, the Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures, and a majority of the NCEES staff.

Great progress is being made, but there is still work to be done. The content review for the FS exam has been completed, and a similar review for the FE exam is under way. The resulting specifications will be presented to the appropriate NCEES exam committees early next year for adoption.

We are working with our CBT vendor, Pearson VUE, to identify additional policy decisions that will be required prior to implementation and to ensure that there will be an adequate number of testing centers to handle our candidate population. We’re also putting the finishing touches on a significant communication plan, so stay tuned.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

continued from cover

Help others discover engineering

I encourage licensing board members and staff to join the EWeek celebrations and get involved in the outreach activities. The National Engineers Week Foundation has a variety of support materials available, including activity ideas and promotional materials such as buttons, posters, and DVDs. Visit eweek.org for more information.

If you're planning an event, post it online at MyDiscover-E.org, the latest EWeek online initiative. This is a searchable database filled with engineering events, workshops, and camps going on during EWeek and throughout the year. The National Engineers Week Foundation hopes this will become the go-to spot for families looking for opportunities in their area.

One of the activities NCEES will be involved in during EWeek is the national finals of the Future City Competition, a semester-long program that challenges students to design a city 150 years into the future. Future City has received national acclaim for helping students discover how engineers make a difference in the world while also helping them develop skills in STEM subjects.

The winners of the regional competitions—which should attract 33,000 sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students from more than 1,000 schools across the United States—will compete at the finals during EWeek. NCEES will sponsor one of the special awards for the finals: Best Land Surveying Practices. Thomas Orisich, P.L.S., chair of the NCEES Committee for Professional Surveyors, and Martin Pedersen, L.S., NCEES past president, will represent NCEES as judges for this award. Martin has been a judge for the award since NCEES began sponsoring it in 2004, and Tom is serving as judge for the first time. We greatly appreciate both of them for giving their time and expertise for this unique competition.

2013 EWeek sponsorship

This year, NCEES is also laying groundwork to serve as the EWeek society sponsor in 2013. On October 3, I attended the EWeek Steering Committee meeting in Virginia with Public Outreach/Communications Task Force Chair David Curtis, P.E.; Director of Public Affairs Nina Norris; and Manager of Corporate Communications Keri Anderson.

I wanted to observe the meeting because NCEES will be running the steering committee meetings in 2012, leading up to our serving as society sponsor the following year. After the steering committee meeting, we met with EWeek Executive Director Leslie Collins and Director of Programs Thea Sahr to begin discussing the timeline and program options for EWeek 2013.

As approved by NCEES in 2007, we will serve as lead society sponsor and co-chair of Engineers Week 2013 as well as other National Engineers Week Foundation programs with a lead corporate sponsor. This is an exciting opportunity to increase the visibility of our organization and the work we do and to further incorporate information on the value of licensure into National Engineers Week tools and resources.

David Curtis and the other members of the Public Outreach/Communications Task Force will assist NCEES staff with developing plans for the 2013 society sponsorship.

With so much of the planning for our 2013 sponsorship happening in 2012, we're set for an exciting year of outreach initiatives. Help us kick off this endeavor by taking part in EWeek celebrations this February. Being part of a profession that is improving the lives of 7 billion people certainly gives us a lot to celebrate.

Cooperation and learning from others key for effective law enforcement

The ability to network cannot be overemphasized. Licensing technicians, investigators, and lawyers all can benefit from sharing with their counterparts in other jurisdictions across the country.

For a law enforcement program to flourish, its personnel need to be trained. They must develop a standard method for receiving, investigating, and prosecuting matters brought to their attention. There are many law enforcement textbooks describing that, in a general sense, for law enforcement/public safety agencies. Consumer protection or business/license registration laws are the administrative equivalent of the criminal code for practicing professionals. Handling matters under the administrative law has many parallels to the criminal statute work done by public safety personnel. The conduct of investigations and investigator safety, records and case handling, record systems, and legal testimony are but a few. They have differences though, and while the process should continually be improved, there is little need to reinvent the wheel.

Participating in the open dialogue of the Law Enforcement Program (held each year at the NCEES annual meeting) is one way personnel can network and share systems and programs, talk about things that work and do not work, and discuss evolutionary changes and current issues. Reviewing interviewing techniques through role-play and demonstrations and conducting a post mortem on these demonstrations are valuable learning opportunities from the field.

The NCEES Enforcement Exchange database provides an administrative means of verifying whether an applicant or licensee has had disciplinary actions in other jurisdictions.

Virtually all jurisdictions have requirements for disclosing such actions, but unless the jurisdictions participate in an exchange such as the one at NCEES, verifying the information included on applications and renewals is difficult at best. This exchange allows licensing technicians and investigators to readily find out if an applicant or licensee has had difficulties in other jurisdictions. Further, many jurisdictions have provisions in their licensing codes and rules allowing them to take action on licensees for violations in other jurisdictions. It is true in today's world that most licensees are licensed in multiple jurisdictions.

The ability to network cannot be overemphasized. Licensing technicians, investigators, and lawyers all can benefit from sharing with their counterparts in other jurisdictions across the country. This sharing results in a higher level of professionalism and performance through learning from others versus learning through trial and error. Technicians can learn how including specific questions on applications can improve their ability to screen applications, minimize efforts in reviewing them, and help ensure that only qualified individuals are admitted to exams or granted licenses. Investigators can learn from the experiences of others and avoid the same mistakes.

It is vital that professionals network with other professionals. The tools offered by NCEES to facilitate that networking are the Law Enforcement Program and Enforcement Exchange. Participate fully—it can only help you do your job better.

MEMBER BOARD NEWS

ARIZONA Jason Madison and Douglas Whitneybell are new appointees. David Komm and Howell (Chip) Shay are no longer board members.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Theresa Ennis is the new board administrator, replacing John McFarland.

FLORIDA PS Leon Biegalski is no longer the board administrator. Patti Kight and Bennett Miller will be assisting until a replacement is named.

KANSAS Robert Henthorne is a new appointee. Cecil Kingsley is no longer a board member. Member and former board chair Richard Moberly passed away on June 10, 2011.

KENTUCKY Samuel Williams is a new appointee.

MONTANA Brooke Jasmin is no longer the board administrator. Cecelia Whitney will be the board's contact person until a replacement is named.

NEW MEXICO Eva Baca is now the acting executive director, replacing Liz Montoya.

NORTH DAKOTA Eugene (Gene) Jackson is no longer a board member.

OHIO Nelson Kohman is a new appointee. Theodore Hubbard is no longer a board member.

TENNESSEE PE Wilson Borden is a new appointee. Brenda Wood is no longer a board member.

TEXAS PS Mary Chruszczak and Gerardo (Jerry) Garcia are new appointees. Anthony Trevino and Douglas Turner are no longer board members.

NCEES approves 2012 calculator list

NCEES has approved the following list of calculators for use in the April and October 2012 exam administrations:

- **Casio:** All **fx-115** models. Any Casio calculator must contain **fx-115** in its model name.
- **Hewlett-Packard:** The **HP 33s** and **HP 35s** models, but no others
- **Texas Instruments:** All **TI-30X** and **TI-36X** models. Any Texas Instruments calculator must contain either **TI-30X** or **TI-36X** in its model name.

Calculators not included within the above descriptions are not permitted in the exam room. Examinees possessing unapproved calculators during the administration of an exam are subject to dismissal from the exam site. Examples of specific calculator models from the approved list and other exam-related information are available online at ncees.org.

Upcoming Events

January 5-6

MBA Task Force Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana

January 5-7

PE Electrical Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

January 6-7

Public Outreach/Communications
Task Force Meeting
San Antonio, Texas

January 13-14

FE Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

Leadership Development Task
Force Meeting
San Antonio, Texas

UPLG Committee Meeting
Charlotte, North Carolina

January 20-21

ACCA Meeting
Scottsdale, Arizona

PE Civil Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

Law Enforcement Committee
Meeting
Tampa, Florida

SE Exam Item Writing Workshop
Los Angeles, California

January 26

EPS Committee Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

January 27-28

Surveying Exam Meeting
Clemson, South Carolina

Dale A. Jans, P.E.
President
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

L. Joseph Timms, P.E.
Past President
Bridgeport, West Virginia

Gene L. Dinkins, P.E., P.L.S.
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Board of directors approves exam item costs

The NCEES board of directors has approved the following amounts as reasonable valuations of each exam item for 2011-12:

FE exam item cost	\$ 2,472
PE exam item cost—Group I exams	\$ 2,921
PE exam item cost—Group II exams	\$ 2,322
SE exam item cost—multiple-choice items	\$ 2,921
SE exam item cost—free-response items	\$18,083
FS/PS exam item cost	\$ 2,054

Each year, NCEES assesses the financial damages associated with an exam breach and sets a cost to replace an exam item, or question, if it can no longer be used. NCEES considers travel expenses, subject matter experts' time, psychometric costs, and office and personnel costs when establishing the dollar value of each exam item. Item costs for Group II exams do not include the travel expenses that sponsoring technical societies pay for their volunteers, who write items and assemble these exams.

The updated exam costs are in effect for fiscal year 2011-12, which began October 1.

Each year, NCEES assesses the financial damages associated with an exam breach and sets a cost to replace an exam item, or question, if it can no longer be used.