



NCEES

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engineers and surveyors

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NEWS RELEASE

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NCEES honors Utah professional engineer Kenneth DeVries for service

Kenneth (Larry) DeVries, Ph.D., P.E., of Salt Lake City, Utah, has been awarded the NCEES Distinguished Examination Service Award for his dedicated service to NCEES and the engineering profession. DeVries was recognized during the organization's annual meeting business webinar held on July 1, 2020. He will be honored in person at the organization's 2021 annual meeting in New Orleans.

DeVries has been supporting the NCEES Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exams since 1996. He served as the Mechanical Systems and Materials exam chair from 2009 to 2012. DeVries assisted in the conversion of the PE Mechanical exam from a free response format to a multiple-choice format from 2000 to 2002 and in the conversion of the Machine Design and Materials exam from pencil-and-paper to computer-based testing from 2018 to 2020. He also served as a member of the Committee on Education Assessment and Qualification from 1998 to 2000 and as a consultant and resource for the Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers from 1998 to 2001.

During his service to NCEES, DeVries was instrumental in helping to transition the Machine Design exam module of the mechanical engineering exam from a hand-graded format to a multiple-choice format. In large part to DeVries' efforts, the exam module is well-functioning and consistently validated today. He often volunteers for the less visible housekeeping tasks that need to be done at each committee meeting and freely consults on challenging engineering problems facing those who work in industry. He has also served as a mentor and example to those on the committee who work in academia.

DeVries served as a faculty member in the Mechanical Engineering department at the University of Utah for over 55 years, retiring in 2018 with emeritus distinguished professor status. His many accolades for teaching and research include the Governor's Medal for Science and Technology and the Ralph Coates Roe Award from the American Society of Engineering Education. He is a fellow in both the American Society of Mechanical Engineering and the American Physical Society. DeVries, along with contributions from his students and other associates, has nearly 400 publications including two books, 44 chapters in book, 155 journal articles, and 181 papers in conference proceedings. In 2019, DeVries received the American Society of Engineering Education's Lifetime Achievement Award.

ABOUT NCEES

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying is a nonprofit organization made up of engineering and surveying licensing boards from all U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Since its founding in 1920, NCEES has been committed to advancing licensure for engineers and surveyors in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the U.S. public.

NCEES helps its member licensing boards carry out their duties to regulate the professions of engineering and surveying. It develops best-practice models for state licensure laws and regulations and promotes uniformity among the states. It develops and administers the exams used for engineering and surveying licensure throughout the country. It also provides services to help licensed engineers and surveyors practice their professions in other U.S. states and territories. For more information, please visit ncees.org.