



NCEES

advancing licensure for
engineers and surveyors

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NEWS RELEASE

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NCEES honors North Carolina professional engineer David Johnston for service

David Johnston, Ph.D., P.E., of Raleigh, North Carolina, has been awarded the NCEES Distinguished Examination Service Award for his dedicated service to NCEES and the engineering profession. Johnston received this award at the organization's 98th annual meeting, held August 14–17, 2019, in Washington, D.C.

Johnston began volunteering with the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) Civil Exam Development Committee in 2005. Since that time, he has participated in more than 50 exam development meetings to write and review questions and has taken part in numerous studies to update exam specifications, establish cut scores, and review exam item performance.

Johnston spearheaded the development of the PE Civil exam's construction engineering module, which was introduced in 2008. Through his work with the Construction Engineering Education Committee of the American Society of Civil Engineers' Construction Institute, he was among the first to recognize the growth of construction engineering as a distinct body of practice within civil engineering and identify the need for a separate construction engineering module. Beginning in 1995, he led that committee in advocating to NCEES member boards for exam modification and providing input on wording for a model experience statement to improve the path to licensure for construction engineers.

Johnston was the first chair of the PE Civil exam's construction engineering subcommittee, a role he served in until 2018. During this time, he led the development of the subject-matter framework for the construction engineering module and recruited the module's volunteer framework.

Since completing his term as chair, Johnston has continued as an active member of the construction engineering subcommittee, mentoring other volunteers and providing continuity. He also remains committed to helping the PE Civil exam transition to computer-based testing, with particular focus on increasing the item bank for construction engineering knowledge areas.

Johnston has been a licensed professional engineer since 1973. He is the Edward I. Weisiger Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Construction Engineering at North Carolina State University.

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, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, 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.