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## WSPE eNews

A monthly publication from the Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers

### September 2015 Edition

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#### 1. National Delegate's Message

By Jim Buggs, PE

As WSPE President John Parisi mentioned in his August article, I attended the 2015 NSPE Annual Conference in Seattle this year. It was an engaging and diverse event, with a wide range of topics that provided learning opportunities for all types of engineers at all stages of their careers and at all levels of the society's 3-tier governance structure (local, state, national). I have always found being active in professional societies to be a particularly rewarding experience because of the high caliber of people I get the chance to meet and interact with, and this conference was no exception. I encourage all of you who are able to attend the next conference in Dallas on June 22-26, 2016.

In addition to attending breakout sessions about a massive slope failure in Oso, WA, the Alaskan Way Viaduct transportation project in Seattle featuring "Big Bertha," the Boeing 787 Dreamliner project, Building Information Modeling (BIM)/3D design, and risk assessment, there were several general sessions and panel discussions that discussed some difficult issues. One question that kept coming up was, "Is professional engineering licensure relevant?" If you check the August 3, 2015 edition of "Executive Director Board Update" by NSPE ED

Mark Golden, you will find some unsettling reports about lawsuits and political initiatives with potentially profound impacts on the engineering profession. (You can find these updates by going to [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org), logging in with your email and password, clicking on "Leadership Toolbox" and scrolling down to "Executive Director Board Updates.")

If you have ever wondered why you belong to the National Society of Professional Engineers (and by extension, your state society and local chapter), you need only read Mark's update to understand that, while professional engineers hold paramount the public health, safety, and welfare, not everyone shares this guiding principle of NSPE. Members and staff of NSPE, along with our colleagues in other professional and technical societies, are always alert for issues that could impact the engineering profession and, by extension, public safety. It is a constant battle to try to keep people – politicians, public employees, business people, and the general public – informed about what engineers do and the importance of licensure and the ethical practice of engineering.

In today's world of instant communications, access to vast amounts of information and high-powered computer programs, and fast-paced business with a primary focus on profit, it is easy for those who govern and those who run corporations to forget the importance of placing the public health, safety, and welfare above cost savings and profit; easy for them to see engineering as a commodity rather than a profession.

I encourage all of you to do two things. First, encourage at least one professional engineer you know to join NSPE. Second, get involved.

To accomplish the first goal, simply ask a colleague to join. You can point them to the NSPE website where they can find a wealth of useful information, but, more importantly, you can tell them it is a cheap investment in their future as an engineer. Membership provides a way to connect with others who share your goals, interests, and passions and, most importantly, it strengthens our collective voices as we work to maintain high standards in the engineering profession.

To accomplish the second goal, simply raise your hand. Contact one of your local chapter board members or WSPE Executive Director Ed Rodden, or any of the state board members, including me. You can find us at [www.wspe.org](http://www.wspe.org). We will help you get involved and make a difference for the profession!

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## 2. President's Message

By John Parisi, PE, F. NSPE, *Fox River Valley Chapter*

Hello WSPE Members. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer! As schools, colleges and universities get back in session this month, it's a good time to review what WSPE is doing to support Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education.

At the state level, WSPE Vice President Mark Nagurka ([mark.nagurka@marquette.edu](mailto:mark.nagurka@marquette.edu)) leads our education portfolio, which includes STEM. The portfolio is intended to grow the pipeline to future engineers that will be needed in Wisconsin, as well as potential future members of WSPE.



*John Parisi, PE, F. NSPE  
WSPE President, 2015 –  
2016*

MATHCOUNTS is currently WSPE's largest STEM-related activity. Chapters hold local competitions with winners advancing to the state competition. The state

winners then represent Wisconsin at the annual national competition in Washington DC. WSPE members provide hundreds of volunteer hours to support this program, and we appreciate each and every volunteer contribution.

In addition to MATHCOUNTS, we are focusing on the development and nourishment of WSPE student chapters at technical colleges and universities in Wisconsin. If you are interested in helping out at your alma mater, please contact Mark Nagurka. Another activity involves mentoring high school students who are interested in pursuing engineering-related careers, either through a "Project Lead The Way" program or other similar high school level program. We have interest in the Fox Valley Chapter area, but are open to other programs as well. If you know of a local school with a similar program and/or are interested in serving as a volunteer mentor, please let Mark know.

A special note about an opportunity to serve on the **WSPE Executive Board**: we have an opening for our **VP-Membership** position. Please contact me if you'd be interested in serving in this position.

Lastly, please keep in mind that WSPE gives out a "Teacher of the Year" award at our annual Discovery Conference, where we also honor our national Mathletes. If you know of a deserving teacher, please bring the name forward for consideration.

Let me know what you think. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me ([john.parisi@foth.com](mailto:john.parisi@foth.com)).

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### **3. Look for the Call for Entries to the 2015 GNPA Competition Soon**

By Dale R. Swenson, PE, WSPE GNPA Chair

The 2015 WSPE GNPA Call for Entries should be available on [WSPE.org](http://WSPE.org) this month. Once again WSPE will be working with the Governor's Office, the LT. Governor's Office and with WEDC (WI Economic Development Corporation). This will be the 39th annual WSPE GNPA awards competition and I look forward to being this year's WSPE GNPA Chair.

Twelve WI companies entered the 38th annual GNPA and the GNPA banquet was held 5/27/2015 in Green Bay, WI. In the future, I hope to provide more photos and a recap of the banquet on our website. Judging by the smiles on our WSPE Executive Committee members that attended and the smile on our NSPE President, everyone enjoyed the event.



Top row, left to right

NSPE President, Harve Hnatiuk, P.E., F.NSPE

WSPE National Delegate, James A. Buggs, P.E.

WSPE GNPA Chair, Dale R. Swenson, P.E.

WSPE Executive Director, Edward M. Rodden II, E.I.T.

WSPE V.P. Government Affairs Portfolio, Glen R. Schwalbach, P.E., F.NSPE

Seated, left to right

WSPE V.P. Education Portfolio, Professor Mark Nagurka, PH.D., P.E.

WSPE President Elect, John M. Parisi, P.E., F.NSPE

WSPE President, Pam Mazur, P.E.

Next year's banquet will be held sometime April/May 2016 in the Waukesha/Milwaukee area.

Please contact myself or Ed Rodden if you have any questions. Thank you.

Dale R. Swenson, P.E., WSPE GNPA Chair

[gnpa@wspe.org](mailto:gnpa@wspe.org)

(262) 366-5686

Ed Rodden II, E.I.T., WSPE Executive Director

[ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org)

(414) 531-1129

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#### **4. Earn 9 PDHs at MSOE's PEAK event on September 19**

By Brittney Lynn, Graduate & Professional Education, MSOE

Register now for our next PEAK Seminar on Saturday, September 19.

Professional Engineers can earn the professional development hours (PDHs) now required for maintaining licensure in Wisconsin by attending a PEAK seminar. This seminar is a collaborative knowledge exchange among engineering and technical professionals facilitated by MSOE, with the goal of providing a cost-effective way for engineers and technical professionals to learn about new topics.

One PDH is awarded for each one hour of session completion, which means participants can earn up to 9 PDHs for attending the PEAK seminar.

Featured sessions include:

- \* Ethics for Engineers
- \* Sell it! Proven Technical Sales & Communication Best Practices
- \* Improving Team Innovation
- \* Logical Management Skills for Engineers
- \* 3D Laser Scanning Overview and Workshop
- \* Weather Impacts: Useful Historical and Forecast Data
- \* Cost Estimating for the Planning and Design Phase of Projects
- \* Change Management
- \* Introduction to Lean Construction
- \* ...and more!

[View session schedule and register here](#)

Location: MSOE campus, Rosenberg Hall, 1235 N Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI 53202

Date: Saturday, September 19, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Our Price: \$395

Questions? Contact Andreaa Moody [moody@msoe.edu](mailto:moody@msoe.edu) / (414) 277-2334

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## 5. Structural Engineering-Specific Licensure Motion Defeated

By Ed Rodden II, WSPE Executive Director

### NCEES Structural Engineering-Specific Licensure Motion Defeated

The NCEES Motion for the requirement of a Structural Engineering-specific professional engineering license was defeated in Virginia. As a result of this concerted national+state effort to convey the importance of this issue to the state Boards, licensed PEs secured an important victory for the profession by defeating this motion. However, we must remain vigilant and proactive on this issue. There was substantial support for the motion and it is absolutely vital that we educate these states about the enormously negative impact such a change would have for the profession.

The Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers did provide a Position Statement on this attempt to change the model law. We encouraged the three Wisconsin Representatives, of which two were going to attend on our behalf.

We will continue to keep you updated on this issue.

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## 6. Company Collaboration Opportunity with DSPS Secretary Dave Ross

By Ed Rodden II, WSPE Executive Director

### A Unique Opportunity to collaborate with the Department of Safety and Professional Services!

*Could your company help plan the future of licensure?*

WSPE has an amicable and beneficial relationship with the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS), which serves as the professional licensure agency for the state of Wisconsin. The DSPS recently contacted us to request a list of 12-15 companies of various sizes and from various regions within Wisconsin to meet with DSPS Secretary Dave Ross and define areas where the DSPS could improve and areas where they are meeting or exceeding

expectations.

Secretary Ross has asked that WSPE provide this list of companies by the end of September 2015. We expect many companies to respond with great interest in this unique opportunity. There will be considerable costs accrued by WSPE to compile this list, which will include contact information, facility locations, company demographics, and involvement with both WSPE and the community. WSPE kindly requests that if your company wishes to be part of this prestigious list, you would make a donation to WSPE in the amount of at least \$2,500.00 and become a Silver Level member of WSPE.

If you or your company's leaders would like to know more about this unique opportunity to help shape the future of professional licensure, contact Ed Rodden II, WSPE Executive Director at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) or 414.531.1129.

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## **7. Fire Protection Symposium Talk**

By Ed Rodden II, WSPE Executive Director

Ed Rodden II, WSPE Executive Director, has been asked by the Wisconsin Society of Fire Protection Engineers (WSFPE) to speak about ethics at their Fire Protection Symposium event in Madison. The details of the entire event are outlined below. If interested, please plan to attend and stop by to say hi if you stop by.

Where:

Holiday Inn at the American Center  
5109 West terrace Drive, Madison, WI 53718

When:

September 28th and 29th, 2015

Time:

7am – 4pm

Note:

Ed speaks at 2:15 pm - 4:00 pm both days

<http://www.wisfpe.org/fire-protection-symposium-.html>

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## **8. Calling for WSPE Officer Elections and Link to Ballot Calling for WSPE Officers**

The upcoming officer elections have past but we have filled the vacancies with candidates. The Executive Board would like you consider these positions on the ballot. Below outlines the duties of the positions, which include the Executive Board and Practice Divisions.

We are looking for individuals who would like to run as an officer and serve on the Executive Board and Board of Directors for the remainder of the 2015-2016 fiscal year. If you are not interested in running for these positions, please consider voting the persons who have showed interest to fill out the rest of the fiscal year term. The term runs from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. If selected by majority vote you have the opportunity to earn up to 4 PDHS. The Committees meet once a month, lasting 60 minutes. They are held via

conference call but have opportunities to meet in person.

Link to Officer Election Ballot for the remainder of the 2015-2016 term:

[http://wspe.org/enews/2015/WSPE\\_2015-2016\\_Officer\\_Ballot.pdf](http://wspe.org/enews/2015/WSPE_2015-2016_Officer_Ballot.pdf)

Questions or interests should be forwarded to Ed Rodden II at

[ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) (414) 531-1129.

### **WSPE Executive Board**

(2015 – 2016 Term)

Only those members who are current members of National and their State Society(ies) shall be eligible to serve in the position of President, President-Elect and Vice President of Wisconsin Society. Incumbents will maintain their respective positions if no running mates are determined.

Duties and responsibilities for each Officer to be elected mid-term are defined as follows:

#### **President-Elect**

The President-Elect shall act as president in the president's absence, and shall undertake assignments at the request of the president, the Executive Committee, or the Board. The principle activity of the president-elect shall be an examination of the Society and the development of plans for the following year.

#### **Treasurer**

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to protect all funds and records of accounts of the Society, making an annual report of receipts and disbursements to the Society; give such bond, to secure the faithful discharge of duties as may be determined from time to time by the Board. The fee for this bond shall be paid by the Society. At the expiration of the term of office, all books, papers, and money belonging to the Society shall be turned over to the successor treasurer, who shall give the preceding treasurer a receipt therefore.

#### **Secretary**

The secretary shall record proper proceedings of meetings and perform such duties as are required by law, or assigned by the Board.

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## **9. Job Postings**

### **Village Engineer / Little Chute, Wisconsin**

The Village of Little Chute has an opening for a Village Engineer (Salary Dependent on Qualifications). The Village of Little Chute is nestled in the heart of the Fox River Valley on the eastern border of the City of Appleton and the Fox River, with a population of approximately 11,000 residents.

The Village Engineer will report directly to the Director of Public Works and will design and draft public works projects; oversee improvements, extensions, and repairs to the water, sewer, storm sewer, and street; write contracts; prepare bids for projects; prepare cost estimates; and oversee surveying activities.

For a complete job description, qualifications, and how to apply visit [www.littlechutewi.org](http://www.littlechutewi.org) and view the News section on the bottom of the home page.

Deadline for application submission is: Open until position is filled.  
The first review of applications will begin on August 31, 2015. The Village of Little Chute is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### **Civil Engineer / Toki and Assoc. / Milwaukee**

Toki & Associates, Inc. is a leading multidiscipline consulting firm that focuses on providing Engineering and Architectural services in the State of Wisconsin. Toki & Associates is a growing firm located in Milwaukee. We are searching to fill a new position as a qualified Staff Engineer who will assist with various engineering and construction duties. Toki is a diverse company that offers a competitive compensation and benefit package. Please submit your resumes and qualifications for consideration to [erodden@tokiandassociates.com](mailto:erodden@tokiandassociates.com).

#### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- \* BS in Civil Engineering
- \* 1 - 3 Years Experience
- \* EIT Preferred or ability to attain within 6 months
- \* Proficient in Civil 3-D AutoCAD Modeling
- \* WisDOT Knowledge and Project Experience
- \* Willingness to work in Construction and Design
- \* Strong communication and interpersonal skills

#### **JOB DUTIES:**

- \* Roadway Modeling
- \* Assist in Roadway Designs
- \* Assist in creating reports and studies
- \* Assist in various client meetings
- \* Assist in various calculations

### **Construction Managers / Toki and Assoc. / Milwaukee**

#### **Job Description**

We are currently seeking experienced Construction Managers to join our Construction Management team in our Milwaukee, Wisconsin office. Email your resume to: [Toki@Tokiandassociates.com](mailto:Toki@Tokiandassociates.com).

Our Construction managers are involved in all aspects of construction projects from pre-construction to project close-out. The Construction Manager communicates and negotiates directly with subcontractors and owners concerning project cost and scheduling. Prepares project status reports and works to ensure that the project is completed on time and within budget.

#### **Job Duties and Responsibilities**

- \* Preparation and submittal of construction bid estimates;
- \* Preparation and submittal of construction management proposals;
- \* Scheduling, coordinating and overseeing the entire construction process;
- \* Prepare and track all RFIs, Change Orders, Payment Applications, As-Built Records, etc.;
- \* Ensure that all safety precautions are adhered to by the construction workers on site;
- \* Prepare punch-list audit for each project and ensure that all punch-list items are completed prior to final inspection and close-out;
- \* Manage project close-out and final documentation.



#### Job Qualifications

- \* Bachelor's degree in Construction Management, Engineering or equivalent experience;
- \* Experience working on multiple construction projects;
- \* Ability to read and understand drawings and specifications;
- \* Positive Attitude;
- \* Strong organizational skills, time management, and excellent follow-up skills;
- \* Ability to communicate clearly and effectively in writing and verbally.
- \* Strong computer skills and proficiency in Microsoft Office programs including Microsoft Project, Sure-Track Scheduling, Means Estimating and other Construction Software;

#### About Toki

Toki is a leading provider of Architectural, Engineering, and Construction services Wisconsin. We are a diverse company, including individuals with expertise in providing Architectural, Engineering, Surveying, and Construction Management services. We offer competitive compensation and benefits and are searching for innovative people to join our dynamic team. We are an equal opportunity employer. For more information on our company, please visit our website at [www.Tokiandassociates.com](http://www.Tokiandassociates.com).

If you are interested in posting a job or your resume on our website, please contact Ed Rodden II at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org).

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## 10. Discovery Conference & GNPA 2016 Preparations

By Ed Rodden II, WSPE Executive Director

The Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers will be holding the 2016 Discovery Conference and Governors New Product Award in Milwaukee, WI. To help us define our costs and meet the needs of you, our members, please take three minutes to complete the survey below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J72ZQZT>

By end of September, we will collect the responses, evaluate and include in the joint 2016 DC/GNPA event.

WSPE looks forward to you joining us in 2016!

Thank you for your feedback.

Direct suggestions or comments can be directed to [execdir@wspe.org](mailto:execdir@wspe.org) or (414) 531-1129.

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## FREE 6-Month Trial Membership!

Interested in WSPE but not sure if you want to join? Try a 6-month FREE trial membership, courtesy of WSPE.

Go to

[www.wspe.org/WI%206%20months%20Free%20Membership%20Application.pdf](http://www.wspe.org/WI%206%20months%20Free%20Membership%20Application.pdf) to download an application.

Contact Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) for details.

## We Need Your News!

- Is your chapter hosting an event?
- Did your chapter get some new members?
- Have you started your own business?
- Is your company taking on a really challenging project?

If you said "yes" to any one of these questions, or would like to share anything even remotely newsworthy with the rest of WSPE, please contact Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org).

We look forward to including your news in our monthly updates!



Join the discussion at [WSPE's LinkedIn Group](#) or



["Like" us on Facebook.](#)



[Follow us on Twitter.](#)

## We Need Your Email Address!

If you are reading a paper copy of the WSPE eNews, you're missing out! Send your email address to Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) or call him at (414) 531-1129 to receive electronic eNews.

## Advertisers Wanted

Help us offset the costs of producing this eNews by placing an advertisement here! If you are interested in advertising your company here, please contact Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) or [\(414\) 531-1129](tel:4145311129).

Thanks for your help.

## Update Your Information with WSPE

Did you...

- ...get a new job?
- ...get promoted?
- ...get a new phone number or email address?
- ...get your PE license?

You can update your information yourself on the NSPE website!  
[Click this link to update your membership information.](#)

Alternatively, you can send your new information to Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) or call him at (414) 531-1129 and he'll make sure your information is updated in both the WSPE and NSPE databases. We'd also like to include an article in the next eNews summarizing your recent change or accomplishment to inform your fellow WSPE members.

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## WSPE Mission Statement

*WSPE is an organization of licensed Professional Engineers (PEs) and Engineering Interns/Engineers in Training (EIs/EITs).*

*WSPE enhances the image of its members and their ability to ethically and professionally practice engineering through education, licensure advocacy, leadership training, multi-disciplinary networking, and outreach.*