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SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

NSPE-KS

KANSAS SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Kansas Professional Engineer News

APRIL 2024

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On the cover: Kansas in Spring. Photo by Aniket Bhattacharya

KANSAS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER NEWS

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR KSPE PRESIDENT

by Kerrie L. Greenfelder, P.E., DBIA, BCEE, F.NSPE



In our last newsletter I noted the big fluffy snowflakes falling around me and temperatures hovering around the freezing mark. Now, Spring is upon us! Wait... now it's back to Winter. And now Summer temps. What a wild ride, eh?! Reminds me a little of what some of us experience in our everyday lives in KSPE, or at work, home, school, and our communities.

If you take a moment to reflect, you'll agree that we've all experienced a fair amount of change, and likely not in just one of these areas. Across KSPE over the years we've had changes in leadership, changes in organization, changes in expectations, changes in focus, changes in where we're thriving, changes in where we need revitalization, etc. How our leaders and our members weather (*zing!) these changes can vary from person to person, but luckily one thing remains constant for us all: We're still KSPE!

We're not done growing and evolving KSPE. Regardless of the fluctuations, our organization has always had a strong foundation and a deep tie to licensure, protecting licensure, and ensuring that the livelihood of professional engineering remains front and center. Period.

As your leaders continue to challenge the status quo, I can confidently state that licensure will always be in our sights as we work toward strategic improvements for KSPE. We have some big ideas on the table and we will continue to need volunteers to help us roll out new programs, changes, and more. Kudos to the 2023-2024 KSPE Board of Directors and these Task Force Leads for helping bring our strategic visions to life:

- Membership growth (Ian Reekie)
- Young professionals engagement (Amy Martens)
- Connecting with our members in the government sector (Kiel Johnson)
- Incorporating our members in academia (Wayne Nelson)
- Evolving our revenue and sponsorship programs (Travis Stryker)

Reach out to me or any of these folks if you'd like to raise a hand to help. Remember, this is OUR society, so help us shape it to meet the needs of our current and future members – help our members, help the profession, and help our organization.

Moving beyond the State level, our KSPE Chapter leaders continue to bring the energy and continue to fill the calendar with fun events, opportunities to learn and tour, and more. Be sure to sign up for an activity and bring a [potential] new member with you.

Speaking of fun events, I hope you'll check out some of the Engineers Week (or "E-Week") recaps from the 2024 events in February in this newsletter. I was fortunate enough to attend the joint Eastern Chapter of KSPE and Western Chapter of MSPE E-Week celebration on February 22 in Kansas City and not only enjoyed hearing from the award winners and the keynote speaker, but it was great to chat with so many engineers in our community and inspired students from a variety of local schools.

When I snapped a few photos of the ballroom during the celebration, I was amazed that I couldn't even see the other side of room it was so packed. I whole-heartedly believe their claim that it WAS one of the largest E-Week celebrations in the nation! Kudos to Cody Porter (KSPE Eastern Chapter President) and Jordan Freborg (MSPE Western Chapter President) for putting together such a well-attended and amazing E-week event. Kudos to ALL of the leaders and volunteers that put together the amazing E-Week activities for 2024. Keep it going!

In addition to regular events around Kansas, we'll have another joint event with MSPE in April – the KSPE and MSPE Practicing Engineers in Government (PEG) Seminar. While you aren't required to be an engineer in government to join us (maybe you just need a few PDHs?!), we hope you will join us on April 4 at the headquarters of Burns & McDonnell to learn about infrastructure funding, working with AI, PFAS, transportation safety, and more. Check your inbox or kansasengineer.org for registration information and reserve your spot today.

Finally, in every issue this year I've put out these challenges to our members (below). How are YOU doing toward each? Drop me a note with what you've been up to or how you've embraced these suggestions.

- **PROMOTE:** Talk about KSPE, promote the work we do, bring a friend or colleague to an event, encourage someone to join our organization, and recognize excellence across our industry with one of our prestigious awards.
- **OUTREACH:** Help grow the next generation, teach, pass along your skills, and mentor, mentor, mentor.
- **COMMUNICATE:** My door is always open and I hope you'll share your ideas with us on how KSPE can be even better than it is today. Email, text, or call me any time.

Like with every issue, I'll close with gratitude: THANK YOU to this year's Board and our volunteer leaders across each committee and interest group for your dedication and service. And to you, our membership, thank you for choosing KSPE!

Kerrie Greenfelder, PE, DBIA
2023-2024 KSPE President
Pronouns: She / Her / Hers

P.S. I hope you've "followed" me or KSPE on social media and are reading my "Words of Wisdom Wednesdays" posts. I've been collecting advice from our members, allies, and supporters during my Chapter Visits and they are a treasure trove. The "likes" are flowing in on LinkedIn, especially, so let me know what YOU think of them.



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Since 1910, the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers has represented all engineering disciplines and practices for the state's licensed professional engineers. We represent licensed professional engineers who practice in industry, construction, private practice, education, and government. The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers membership provides professional engineers with the resources and services needed to be better informed and better connected within the professional engineers in your community.

2023-2024 CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

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Cody Porter, P.E.
[email](#)

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HOW TO GIVE

What are you doing to support the profession that helped you take care of everyone else, including yourself? The time is now to “pay it forward” and say “thank you” to the engineering profession that helped make it possible to take care of all of the important areas of your life.

The Engineers' Foundation of Kansas needs your help to grow our support for Kansas STEM programs (such as MATHCOUNTS, Future City & Bridge Building), engineering licensure, and economic/workforce development.

Please consider contributing by filling out a [DONATION FORM](#). For more information, [email Greg Braden](#) at the EFK office or [go online](#).

**“Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference.”
-Kathy Calvin**

FOUNDATION REPORT

by Wayne Nelson, P.E., F.NSPE
EFK President

The Engineers' Foundation of Kansas (EFK), in conjunction with sponsorship from the University of Kansas School of Engineering & the Department of Civil, Environmental & Architectural Engineering (CEAE), recognized Tom Mulinazzi, Ph.D., P.E., P.S. on April 12, 2024, at a luncheon at the Burge Union on the University of Kansas Lawrence Campus. Dr. Mulinazzi was recognized to his lifetime commitment to engineering ethics and licensure.

The goal was to recognize Tom Mulinazzi by creating an EFK endowment of \$100,000.00. The "Tom Mulinazzi, Ph.D., P.E., P.S. University of Kansas Engineering Ethics/Licensure Fund" will be managed in partnership with the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation (GMCF). When fully funded, EFK expects to provide approximately \$4,000.00 annually for use by the KU School of Engineering to promote engineering ethics and licensure.

Donations to the Tom Mulinazzi, Ph.D., P.E., L.S. EFK / GMCF Recognition Fund may be made online at <https://www.mcfks.org/fund/Engineers-Foundation-of-Kansas-EFK-Expendable-Fund>

The Tri-Valley Chapter Board of Directors has agreed to raise/donate \$1,000 in support of the Mulinazzi fund and has issued a challenge to all other chapters to also raise/donate a minimum of \$1,000 by April 22, 2024.

As president of EFK, I have also challenged the KSPE Board of Directors to support this challenge.

Rick Ensz, P.E. F.NSPE, EFK Past-President and Ozzy Bravo, P.E. EFK Director coordinated the event with the University of Kansas. Tom Roberts, P.E. F.NSPE, F.ASEE, EFK Vice-President is assisted with the planning of the event.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A
SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR TOM MULINAZZI**
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF CIVIL, ENVIRONMENTAL &
ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING

THE ENGINEERS' FOUNDATION OF KANSAS AND KU ENGINEERING ARE HONORING
MULINAZZI FOR HIS LIFETIME COMMITMENT TO ENGINEERING ETHICS AND LICENSURE.
DONATE NOW TO A FUND CREATED IN TOM'S HONOR!

Scan to donate.



11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Friday, Apr. 12
Burge Union
1565 Irving Hill Road
Lawrence, KS 66045

Free parking available in the
KU Central District Parking Garage
1631 Ousdahl Rd.



Scan this QR code
to RSVP by April 5.



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**25th ANNUAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

NSPE-KS ENGINEERS' FOUNDATION
OF KANSAS



SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

COLBERT HILLS · MANHATTAN, KS
8:00 A.M. REGISTRATION 9:00 A.M. SHOTGUN START

2024 MATHCOUNTS

by David Johnson, P.E., LS
Kansas MATHCOUNTS Coordinator

Another great year of MATHCOUNTS is in the “in the books” thanks to a good program from the National MATHCOUNTS office, support from the EFK and many KSPE member firms and volunteers. A sincere THANK YOU to all of you who gave so generously of your time and resources.

Local competitions were completed in February and the State competition was held on March 2 @ Washburn University. Overall in the State of Kansas, we had 376 students that competed as 41 teams of 4 and 212 as individuals @ the local contests. The local events narrowed that down to 59 students (13 teams of 4 + 7 individuals) for the state competition. From the State event, we now have 4 students and a coach that will represent Kansas at the National contest in May @ Washington D.C. Our team is made up of 2-8th graders and 2-6th graders with 2 from Kansas City, 1 from Wichita and 1 from Manhattan. I think this is a good diverse group and should represent Kansas well.



Left to Right:

- 2nd Place – Bin Miao, Robinson M.S. (Wichita Chapter)
- 1st Place – Eddison Chen, Oxford M.S. (Eastern Chapter)
- 4th Place – Christopher Spencer, Susan Anthony M.S. (Tri-Valley Chapter)
- 3rd Place – Jayden Xue, Pleasant Ridge M.S. (Eastern Chapter)
- Coach – Rebecca Xue, Lakewood M.S. Team Coach (Eastern Chapter)

This was also the second year where the EFK, via the Lynda Rathbone Grant, will be able to support parents of the winning 4 students by reimbursing them up to \$250 each (\$1000 max) for travel to the national contest. Additional EFK funding was used to reimburse the registration fees (\$120 / team) of new participating schools. We continue to try expanding the program so that more kids can take part. If you know of any schools or teachers that might be interested for next year, please have them contact me.

Once again, thanks so much for your support of MATHCOUNTS!

David Johnson, P.E., LS
Kansas MATHCOUNTS Coordinator

LEGISLATIVE LEADERS VISIT WITH KSPE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEES

KSPE's Government Relations Committee serves as go-to resource for Executive Director Travis Lowe when input is needed on proposed legislation. While KSPE tracks dozens of bills each session, the Government Relations Committee (GRC) meets in Topeka regularly to review bills and talk about KSPE's positions. The committee also provides input throughout the session when Lowe asks for further review on a bill.

In addition to spending time with KSPE staff, the GRC hosts a monthly lunch for one or more legislative leaders to discuss the session.

In January, leadership of the House Committee on Water came to discuss several water bills. This included Chair Rep. Jim Minnix (R-Scott City) and Vice Chair Rep. Cyndi Howerton (R-Wichita).



In February, Senate Committee on Transportation Chair Mike Petersen (R-Wichita) joined the Government Relations Committee members to discuss transportation policy.



In March, House Committee on Transportation Chair Shannon Francis (R-Liberal) joined the Government Relations Committee members to discuss transportation policy.



KSPE appreciates the following members for serving on the KSPE GRC. The GRC is looking for additional members, particularly those with a MEP discipline background. Please email info@kansasengineer.org if interested.

2024 GRC Roster

- Dana (Weir) Hinderliter, P.E. (Chair)
- David Barfield, P.E.
- David Comstock, P.E.
- Steve Cottrell, P.E.
- Trent Dansel, P.E.
- Mike Jacobs, P.E.
- Kiel Johnson, P.E., F.NSPE
- Jeff Lackey, P.E.
- Charlie Love, P.E.
- Keithen Meyer, P.E.
- Dan Miller, P.E.
- Tom Roberts, P.E., F.NSPE
- Brad Shores, P.E.
- Adam Stodola, P.E., F.NSPE
- Travis Stryker, P.E.
- Scott Uhl, P.E.
- Mark Williams, P.E.

Staff- Travis Lowe, CAE



Tom Stiles at the Water Quality Seminar



2024 Water Quality Seminar

**KSPE LIFETIME
VOLUNTARY
DUES PAYERS**

Harold Munger
Claude Perdue
Dennis Clennan

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

Revel Stiles
Kansas State University

TOPEKA CHAPTER

Marion Blackbourn, P.E.
Kansas Department of
Transportation

Corbin Pfrang, P.E.
CFS Engineers

TRI VALLEY CHAPTER

Emily Bright
Kansas State University

Isaac David
Kansas State University

David Espino
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Engineering, P.A.

Brock Guion
Kansas State University

Sam Hart
Kansas State University

Gage Heidebrecht
Kansas State University

Celina Torres Rios
Kansas State University

WICHITA CHAPTER

Raja Govindaswamy, P.E.
PE

Megha Patel
Kansas State University

Cody Vandevord, P.E.
Kansas Turnpike Authority

UPCOMING EVENTS



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TOGETHER**

JUNE 5 - 7, 2024

For questions, contact us at
info@mspe.org or 573-636-4861.



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GOLF JUNE 5, 2024**

1:30-5:30 P.M. T-SHOTZ NORTH KANSAS CITY
SPONSOR A BAY FOR A TEAM OF 4 - \$600 | INDIVIDUAL - \$125



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WELCOME RECEPTION **WEDNESDAY
JUNE 5
2024**

6:30-10:30 P.M. BOULEVARD BREWING CO.
TICKETED EVENT WITH LIMITED SPACE. REGISTER TODAY!



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AWARDS LUNCHEON
JUNE 6, 2024 11:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.
SHERATON AT CROWN CENTER, KANSAS CITY, MO

KSPE & MSPE MEMBER AWARDS, NSPE FELLOW PRESENTATION
ORDER OF THE ENGINEER PRESENTATION
KSPE & MSPE OFFICER INSTALLATION
MSPE INCOMING PRESIDENT REMARKS BY ANIKA CAREAGA, P.E.
KSPE INCOMING PRESIDENT REMARKS BY JEFF LACKEY, P.E.

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