



Wichita Society of Professional Engineers

Newsletter

February 2021

<http://www.kansasengineer.org/Wichita>

President's Message

Hello WSPE members:

First off, I'd like to apologize for cancelling our January meeting. For those of you interested in hearing about the ARC 95 project, were planning to reschedule that presentation before our summer hiatus, so stay tuned!

February is a busy month and home of Engineer's Week or EWeek (21st to 27th). EWeek was founded by NSPE in 1951 and is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing interest in engineering and technology careers. See www.nspe.org for additional information.

Our chapter is participating in EWeek with several activities so make sure to mark your calendar for the upcoming events and volunteer opportunities:

Thursday February 25th is Engineer for a day. We typically allow Junior and Senior high school students to shadow engineers and see what the engineering profession is all about. Due to COVID, we are trying a virtual format this year. If you are interested in hosting or know of a student that would like to participate, please reach out to Rebecca Mellies for additional information.

2020 - 2021

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2020 - 2021

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President's Message (Continued):

Also, if you'd like to volunteer with Mathcounts this year, the state competition needs helpers. Please reach out to Jessica Rhein for additional information.

We're excited to announce our February speaker, Ed O'Malley, President and CEO of the Kansas Leadership Center. Keep an eye out for additional information and the invitation later this month.

Lastly, we are going to try our hand at a social. If you'd like to get beers with your fellow engineers, join us Thursday, February 25th at Central Standard Brewery from 5 to 7.

Now is also the time to start thinking about those engineers in your life that go the extra mile! You will be receiving an email this month requesting submissions for this year's WSPE Awards Nominations. I encourage you to give it some thought and if there is someone you know of that would make a great candidate, please let us know! As always, please reach out to your WSPE board if there is anything we can do for you.

Thank you,

Paul Garrett, PE

WSPE President

"Science can amuse and fascinate us all, but it is engineering that changes the world."

– Isaac Asimov

Other News...

Submit your WSPE Awards Nominations!

Recognize your outstanding engineers, teachers, citizens, achievements, and programs!
All award winners will be put in the running for the State Chapter awards, as well!



Nominations are due

February 28, 2021

All completed nomination forms

should be sent to

Michelle Boehm, PE @;

wspeawards@gmail.com



Legislative News

HB 2101 - containing a 10-year renewal of the University Engineering Initiative Act, had a hearing in House Appropriations. There was virtually no opposition. It appears there is a majority consensus among legislators to move this bill forward, but we anticipate having to work through at least a couple proposed amendments.

HB 2201 and SB 116 - The House and Senate have each introduced their "IKE clean up bills", These bills make three modest changes to the IKE legislation passed last year. First, they remove the requirement that at least one phase of each remaining T-Works project be complete before moving forward on IKE projects. This is to ensure that KDOT can be flexible in using federal stimulus dollars that may become available. Second, they change the threshold where alternative delivery can be used from \$100 million to \$10 million. Third, they make a minor tweak to how the 18% cap on bonding is calculated. The bills have been assigned to House Transportation and Senate Ways and Means Committees, but no hearings have been scheduled at this time.

HB 2066 - The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers led an effort to amend this bill dealing with licensing, specifically reciprocity. The amendments were adopted, and the bill passed the House Commerce Committee. There are still concerns being expressed about this bill by the Board of Technical Professions, but it was vastly improved by the amendments proposed.

Other Events...



ENGINEERING



FREE! Activities Geared
Towards Students K-8

Material Kits Will Be **PROVIDED!**

VIRTUALLY On April 17th
& 18th, 2021

WichitaEngineeringExpo.org

 @wichitaswe  /wichitaswe  /wichitaswe

 Engie Does STEM  expo@wichitaswe.org

Presented by **SPiRiT**
AEROSYSTEMS 

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS
WICHITA PROFESSIONAL SECTION

UPCOMING EVENTS

**FEB
18**

**WSPE Chapter Meeting
“Soft Skills”
Virtual**

**FEB
21-27**

eWeek

**FEB
25**

**Beers w/ Engineers
@ Central Standard Brewing (5-7pm)**

2021
KSPE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
June 23-25

CHAPTER BUSINESS



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Treasurer's Report

The current checking account balance is:

\$6,446.56



The e-newsletter is being distributed every month directly to the desktops of the members in our chapter. If you would like to see or add content for the next newsletter, feel free to email that information to me.

If you know your email is going to change (due to a new job or other) please let me know so that I can update our contact list. If you are having problems with the e-newsletter or know someone that isn't receiving it, feel free to contact me.



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TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM READ [A LETTER FROM THE KSPE PRESIDENT](#), BRIAN SCOVILL, P.E.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE APPLICATION](#)

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OR SCAN IN AND EMAIL TO ANDREA@KANSASENGINEER.ORG

NSPE-KS™ KANSAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

