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Maryland Society of Professional Engineers

*A state society of the National
Society of Professional Engineers*

- Promoting the ethical, competent and licensed practice of engineering
- Enhancing the professional, social and economic well-being of our members

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Special State Fund Created for Design Boards

By Robert L. Mead
Executive Director, MDSPE

In an effort to retain existing services and to provide increased services to regulated design professionals during difficult budgetary times, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation to create a Professional Design Boards' Special Fund.

They also delegated authority to set the fees to pay for those services to the Boards, and gave the five Boards authority to "cluster" the funding by averaging costs. For P.E.s, this means a hefty increase in the biennial license fee—to \$78 from \$20—and a pretty much across-the-board increase in various incidental fees.

The up-side is that P.E.s are being asked by the Board and the Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation just what we would like to have in the line of increased and enhanced services.

The new scheme is the result of years of complaints by P.E.s of poor service by the badly under-staffed and under-budgeted Board. MDSPE has lobbied aggressively to take the fee setting and budgeting away from the legislative committees and give them to the Board.

Until now, separate committees in each house of the General Assembly have had cognizance over setting fees which would go into the General Fund of the State and setting the budget, which would come out of the General Fund. The "disconnect" has left the Board badly under-funded, with telephone calls, emails and correspondence going unanswered for time periods often considered unacceptable.

The new authority came under Senate Bill 267. MDSPE testified in favor of the bill, but we argued against the clustering aspect, which increases fees for P.E.s while sharply reducing them for certified interior designers and landscape architects.

After Governor Erlich signed the bill into law, MDSPE wrote to DLLR Secretary James D. Fielding and P.E. Board Chairman Melvin Hotz, P.E., urging "most vigorously" that the

fees of the 13,930 licensed professional engineers and associated Board costs not be averaged with those of the smaller design boards that are by their nature more costly to operate. We indicated our belief that professional engineers would willingly pay higher licensing fees in return for better service by the Board, but would object to increasing the licensing fees of professional engineers to subsidize the licensing fees of landscape architects, interior designers and surveyors.

Secretary Fielding met with MDSPE President Jim Lesikar, P.E., and Executive Director Bob Mead, along with the entire P.E. Board, for a full and frank discussion of the issue. He said that he and his department are strongly committed to the licensees, certificate holders, applicants and the general public and that he and the Board will use this Fund to establish high quality, customer-focused regulatory services and to provide outreach about the important role licensed design professionals play in safeguarding and protecting all Marylanders.

Subsequently, Chairman Hotz met with the MDSPE Board of Directors to discuss the issues. After assurances from the Secretary and the Board Chairman, the Society agreed to back off on its objection to clustering and work in a positive approach to improvement and enhancement of P.E. Board services.

Following the meetings, Mr. Hotz, who is a MDSPE member, wrote to us, expressing the Board's pleasure that we had determined to no longer oppose the clustering of the five design boards and the uniform fee structuring plans. His letter said:

"It became clear from the discussion that a uniform structure for the five design boards was the cornerstone of the special funding legislation. The legislation has set in place a five-year experiment. Special funding provides us with the ability to secure additional services from the Department and to enhance the quality of our services to the Maryland engi-

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- August 20**
MDSPE Executive Committee Meeting
- August 25**
Deadline for filing for October P&P Exam for Re-exams
- September 9**
Professional Development Workshop
"When & How to Write a CYA Letter"
CCBC Catonsville Campus 4-6 p.m.
- September 9**
MDSPE Board of Directors Meeting
CCBC Catonsville Campus 6:30 p.m.
- September 11**
State Board for Prof. Engineers Meeting
500 N. Calvert St., Balto., MD
- September 16**
Professional Development Workshop
"When & How to Write a CYA Letter"
College of Southern Maryland - Waldorf campus 4-6 p.m.
- September 23**
Professional Development Workshop
"When & How to Write a CYA Letter"
Montgomery Community College
Rockville
8-10 a.m.
- September 24**
Professional Development Workshop
"Improving Your Presentation Skills"
Workshop 1, Sandler Sales Institute
Rockville
8:30 a.m -5 p.m
- October 1**
Professional Development Workshop
"Improving Your Presentation Skills"
Workshop 2, Sandler Sales Institute - Rockville,
8:30 a.m -5 p.m.
- October 8 & 9**
Professional Development Workshop
"Surveying Stream Channels"
Montgomery Community College Rockville
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- October 16-18**
NSPE Northeast Region Meeting
Foxwoods Resort & Casino
Mashantucket, Connecticut
- October 22 & 23**
Professional Development Workshop
"River Geomorphology "
Montgomery Community College Rockville
8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
- October 24**
ESB "Boiler Blast" Fundraiser
Garrett-Jacobs Mansion
Baltimore

When You're Job-Hunting, NSPE Gives You the Edge

James D. Lesikar, II, PhD., PE, FNSPE
President



"It was the worst of times. It was the best of times."

My reshuffling of the first line of Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities" forms the theme of my first letter as your new President.

"It was the worst of times." The job market is in shambles. Companies are downsizing, and increasing the workload on remaining staff. The official jobless rate, now above six percent, only includes those actively looking for work, and is based on who is drawing unemployment compensation. As the statistics do not count those who

have given up looking for work, IEEE estimates the true unemployment rate for EE/IT professionals at about 15-25%. Also, the statistics do not account for professionals who are underemployed: families must be fed, and any income, even from driving a cab or working at the local electronics superstore, is better than no income. Among my peers in MDSPE, one had to accept a reduced workweek to stay employed, and another took a demotion (for the first time in 20 years, he is in a cubicle rather than a window office). I myself was recently laid off after 16 years with the same company.

"It was the best of times!" On the surface, with hundreds of resumes being submitted for every job opening, this statement seems ludicrous. It can be the best of times, if you are able to outshine the competition. Ways to beat the other candidates include possessing an advanced degree, professional licensure, and participation in the professional and technical societies. I will address each of these in turn.

Education

Possession of a Master's or Ph.D. in your technical field makes you a standout, but cannot be accomplished overnight. If you are stably employed, start on your degree now, especially if your employer will subsidize your tuition. When you are jobless, you have the time, but usually not the money, to pursue a degree. Also consider a degree in a related field, or one that will contribute to your business savvy.

Professional Licensure

This is an affirmation by a governmental jurisdiction (State, Territory, or D.C.) of your competence to practice engineering before the public. You have the requisite education, experience, and passed two 8-hour exams to achieve this, and demonstrated professionalism far above the norm. If you got your license in a state that allowed you to substitute additional experience in place of a bachelor's degree, complete that degree to enhance the port-

ability of your license. Similarly, if your state exempted you from the Fundamentals of Engineering exam, try to pass it anyway, as some states, such as Pennsylvania, demand it for comity even if you have passed the Principals and Practice exam. To be honest, many employers discourage their staff from getting this credential. However, if you are a P.E., you have the option of being an independent engineering consultant. In fact, you must be licensed if you are an engineering subcontractor to industry (perhaps to your former employer!) as the industrial exemption only applies to employees, not consultants.

Professional and Technical Societies

You need to do more than just pay dues and receive a magazine. Participate in conferences and technical committees, either as a paper presenter or as part of the leadership. Become a chapter/state/national officer. If you want an immediate position, either out of altruism or to fluff up your resume, the local chapters of the technical societies have openings for committee chairs that are direct appointments, not subject to election cycles. Strive for the higher membership grades, for which the above activities are a partial requirement. I personally stress that you need to be a member of NSPE to represent your professional interests, and one or more technical societies, such as ASCE, ASME, AIChE, IEEE, AIAA, ANS, etc, whichever covers your fields of interest. If you can do nothing else, be a regular attendee at their meetings, as this is your prime networking opportunity in finding a new job.

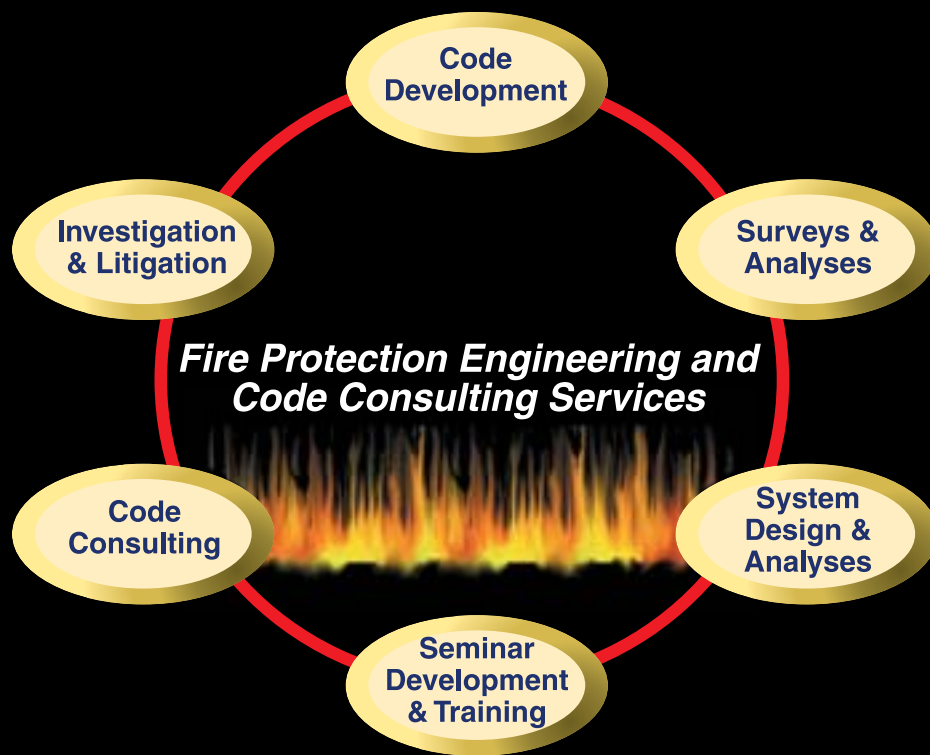
As an aside, any kind of public participation may yield a key contact. I assisted as a proctor for the Maryland State MATHCOUNTS competition, and the parent of one "mathlete" was an engineering program manager looking to hire!

The bottom line is that I practiced what I am preaching, found a job after only two-and-a-half months, and got a 30% salary increase! I continue to get requests to be interviewed, in a market where some of my former co-workers have been jobless for 1-2 years. NSPE gives you the edge!



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MDSPE Installs New Officers

James D. Lesikar, II, P.E., PhD, FNSPE, has been installed as president of the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers for the 2003-2004 fiscal year. Jim is employed by defense contractor Sparta, Inc., as technical lead on the Missile Defense Agency's Hercules program. He earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in mechanical engineering as well as M.A. and Ph.D. in physics from Rice University. He served a five-year term as chair of the Complaints Committee of the Maryland State Board for Professional Engineers, and three years as vice-chair of the board. A lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, he is a Life Member of the American Physical Society and a Life Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Jonathon Blasco, P.E., is the new president-elect of our society. He is vice president of Mehaffey and Associates PC, an engineering & planning firm based in Leonardtown. He is a civil engineer who graduated from the University of Maryland College Park in 1990. He has served as president of the society's erstwhile Southern Maryland Chapter and chaired our Government Affairs Committee while serving as vice president.

William Koffel, P.E. and **John A. Rutt, P.E.** have been installed as new vice presidents of MDSPE. Koffel is a fire protection engineer and president of Koffel Associates, Inc., a fire protection engineering and code consulting firm based in Ellicott City. He is a 1979 graduate of University of Maryland College Park

and past president of the Society of Fire Prevention Engineers. He will head MDSPE's government affairs committee. Rutt is principal engineer with Southern Maryland Electrical Cooperative in Hughesville. An electrical engineer, he is a 1972 graduate of the University of Delaware. He will share chairmanship of the MDSPE membership committee with Jon Valentine, who is serving a second term as a vice president. Jon is a process engineer with Grace Division in Baltimore. He is a chemical engineer who graduated from Cornell University in 1982.

Wallace S. North, Jr., P.E., and **Eduardo Acevedo, P.E.**, continue to serve as treasurer and secretary, respectively. Both are past presidents of MDSPE and are retired members of the Society. Ed is a civil and environmental engineer who earned his degree at the University of Puerto Rico. Wally is one of that special breed who achieved his professional engineer license the hard way - without the benefit of a baccalaureate degree.

Michael L. Clar, P.E., will serve as a member of the society's executive committee as immediate past president. Mike is president of Ecosite, Inc., based in Ellicott City. A native of Majorca, he earned his B.S. in civil engineering at University of Maryland College Park and M.S. in mining engineering at Pennsylvania State University. He chairs the Urban Water Resources Research Council of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

NSPE HONORS

Two MDSPE Past Presidents Awarded Fellow Status

Two past presidents of MDSPE have been honored by NSPE with Fellow grade status. The Fellow recognition program was established three years ago to honor licensed members who have demonstrated exemplary service to the profession, the Society and the community. Fellowship status has been granted previously to Karen Moran and James Lesikar.

Jerry A. Valcik, P.E., FNSPE, who served as president of MDSPE in 1987-88, has recently retired from Maryland to Ormond Beach, Florida. He has had a distinguished career that spans over 40 years filled with impressive, unique and significant contributions in protecting public health — especially involving drinking water — and to the engineering profession. He has dedicated his entire professional career to protecting military and civilian communities from the adverse effects of contaminated water.

With a B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Maryland and an M.S. from the University of Illinois, Jerry has nearly 40 years of professional experience in environmental engineering, particularly in the water supply arena from technical, operation and managerial perspectives. Most recently he was program manager of the water supply management program for the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine at Aberdeen Proving Ground. He began his professional engineer with the U.S. Public Health Service as a sanitary engi-

neer officer and with the Army environmental hygiene agency. After two years with a consulting firm in Baltimore, he spent a decade with the City of Baltimore's division of water supply. He worked in environmental engineering for the Army for the next two decades.

Jerry is an effective mentor and role model for young professionals. He is equally effective in advancing the profession of engineering by serving the NSPE through the state and local levels in many capacities. As a direct result of his personal interest and mentoring, many of his younger associates are serving our government and private industry in high-level water engineering and management positions.

Randolph A. Petersen, P.E., FNSPE, is an associate with the Rockville consulting firm of A. Morton Thomas & Associates, where he serves as senior project manager for public sector projects, including the new air traffic control tower at Dulles Airport, the U.S. Naval Academy, Dahlgren Naval Surface Weapons Facility and the new District of Columbia federal courthouse.

Randy studied aerospace engineering at Georgia Tech from 1967 to 1971, then earned his B.S. in civil engineering in 1977 and his M.S. in environmental engineering in 1980 from Hopkins. He has been a member of NSPE since he was originally licensed in 1978 and has served the society in many ca-

What Is Architecture? What Is Engineering? Societies Are Trying to Help Provide Guidance

Jonathan Blasco
MDSPE President-Elect
Member of DLLR Committee

Architects recently requested that the Design Boards address a problem they are having with submitting plans for review. It appears that some county agencies are not accepting architect's drawing, claiming that the architect must have a P.E. stamp and sign all *engineering* drawings and documents, no matter how small the job.

The problem occurs when an architect has done some engineering design that he or she feels is incidental to the work. Architects contend that they are doing nothing different than what they have been doing for many years.

What's different? The scope of practice definitions for architects and engineers, that's what. The definitions have been changed. Before last year, professional engineers were permitted to perform architectural services that were "incidental to the practice of engineering." It was generally assumed that architects were permitted to practice "incidental engineering," although their statute neither permitted nor prohibited this.

The term "incidental" has been removed from the architect statute. The battle is now over the term "integral part of a building." The statute defines "practice architecture" to mean: "to provide any service or creative work in regard to an addition to, alteration of, or construction of a building or *an integral part of a building.*" In other words, architects used to be allowed to do engineering work that was "incidental" to their design. Today, they can do design work as it relates to the alteration or construction of an "integral part of a building."

What does this really mean? You got me.

This is an age-old argument between engineers and architects that has been going on for years and is taking place today in most of the states in the union. The problem seems to be that some county agencies are taking a literal interpretation of the current code and believe that an architect can do no engineering design whatsoever.

The Maryland statutes don't provide much help to the county approval authorities. Architects must seal "architectural drawings." Professional Engineers must seal "engineering drawings." And a code official sits there looking at "building plans." So, the architects have taken their problem to the Design Boards in hopes of finding a solution. On May 7, the chairs of the Architect and Engineering Boards created a committee to investigate the problem and make recommendations for a resolution. The committee—of which I am a member—is tasked to write a regulation to help guide the plans reviewer in determining when architects or engineers have exceeded their scope of practice.

The four-member committee is comprised of two architects and two professional engineers. One architect and one engineer are members of AIA and MDSPE respectively and the others are not. To date nothing official has been submitted to the boards, but the committee has briefed the Design Boards of our progress.

State Fund from page 1

neering community. Some of the benefits that clustering of the five design boards accrues to the PE Board includes:

- Improved services for the engineering community
- Strength before the Maryland Legislature
- A single (strong) voice within the Department (DLLR)
- Opportunity for cooperative activities
- Possible reduced costs of shared activities.

"As you are aware, the Board voted to support the averaging of costs and the resultant (single) fee structure for the five design Boards. It is our belief that uniformity in this endeavor will result in benefits that will far outweigh any negatives. We applaud the MDSPE decision to accept our decision and we expect the rest of the Maryland engineering community to follow suit.

"The next step in the process is to develop our list of demands for department consideration to offset the shortcomings that have been the source of complaints that have been expressed for many years. We are calling on you and the engineering community to assist us in developing goals to improve services as we continue to safeguard life, health, public safety and to promote the public welfare by licensing persons who practice engineering in our State."

Those who are most optimistic foresee the clustering and special funding of the Design Boards as a possible precursor of independence of these Boards from often-burdensome bureaucracy of the massive Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

MDSPE Announces Fall Education Schedule

A heavy schedule of educational workshops will be available to MDSPE members this fall. Reduced member-tuition rates will also be available to a number of technical societies that we have extended an offer to co-sponsor.

Spencer K. Stephens, a Rockville attorney who has conducted a number of 2-hour workshops for us during the past several years, will present “How and When to Write a CYA Letter” at three locations in September. These workshops will be presented in Catonsville on Sept. 9, Waldorf on Sept 16, and Rockville on Sept. 23

Jack Hauber, director of Genesis Training & Development Institute, will present two one-day workshops designed to enhance the presentation skills of design professionals at the Institute’s training facility in Rockville. Dates for this workshop are Sept. 24 and Oct. 1.

Mike Clar and Jim Gracie will present three two-day workshops on stream restoration issues in Rockville.

We are planning on also presenting two of these programs in Northern Virginia.

Writing a CYA Letter

Most of us have been there—or we’re afraid we’ll be there: the client ignores the good advice you gave him and then looks to blame you for a bad result. And we’ve all gotten the same good advice about putting things in writing. But exactly when is it appropriate to put project communications in writing—to write the proverbial CYA letter? What should it say? Is it wrong to make it obvious that you’re writing primarily to protect yourself?

Such questions dog many design professionals nearly every working day. Experience shows that many do not know the answers. Even though professional liability insurers and claims counsel preach the gospel of risk management, thousands of design professionals—engineers, architects, surveyors and others—are hit every year with claims that could have been avoided with well-written, well-timed C-Y-A letters.

Our instructor for this workshop is an experienced claims counsel and uses examples and documents taken from real-life cases. (The names have been changed, of course.) This workshop will provide an invaluable lesson in when to write the C-Y-A letter and what to say when you do.

You will leave with a handy checklist showing the types of cases when a C-Y-A letter is recommended. You will also get a handy checklist of things to include in your C-Y-A letters. You will have the chance to view others’ C-Y-A letters—the good, the bad and the ugly. Perhaps best of all, you will also receive frank advice on how you can use the power of the pen to prevent lawsuits from ever being filed against you.

Presentation Skills

Can you use a brush-up on your presentation skills? Whether you’re giving a report at an internal meeting, communicating with clients, attorneys or other interested parties, testifying in court as an expert witness, or making a presentation addressing an official agency, fellow members of an organization or a group of strangers, presenting can be a difficult challenge.

“Presenting Yourself with Impact” is a one-day or two-day program. You’ll learn the basics on Day One. If you choose to proceed to Day, Two, you’ll sharpen your skills by videotaping and reviewing your presentation in a smaller group—limited to 15 participants.

Learn 21 action steps to sharpening your presentation skills, using proven techniques to organize your thoughts, connect with your audience, send powerful messages and master the finishing touches. And take home your 60-page notebook for later reference.

The contents of the course include: Kickoff - Four Parts of a Presentation . . . Four Methods of Delivery . . . The Seven Deadly Sins of Speechmaking.

Organize Your Thoughts - Analyze and adapt to your audience . . . Determine your presentation purpose . . . Generate the 3 to 5 main points that sell your ideas best . . . Create compelling content.

Connect With Your Audience - Plan and control the setting . . . Open decisively . . . Tell your audience where they’re headed . . . Build credibility

Send Powerful Messages - Free your language of sexism, racism, and other offenses . . . Use correct language .

. . . Use forceful language . . . Speak clearly, distinctly and eloquently . . . Avoid unnecessary utterances . . . Vary your vocalics . . . Harness your body language

Master the Finishing Touches - Use notes that do the job . . . Use audiovisual aids to your advantage . . .

Defeat nervousness . . . Plan for impromptu presentations . . . Manage the Audience . . . Close with a bang!

Stream Workshop Series

Our stream workshop series builds on our successful earlier programs on stormwater management and stream restoration. Stream restoration is a market for design professionals on the verge of booming, with the Clean Water Act being gradually implemented. Studies report that 80 percent of Maryland’s streams are impaired and in need of work. We’re already seeing mitigation of impact on stream crossings, culvert, bridges and even wetland mitigation in some cases.

The first of our fall series will cover **Stream Channel Surveys and Site Documentation**. It is designed for environmental consultants, surveyors, engineers, consultants, wetland scientists, stream restoration specialists, environmental planners and environmental regulators. Whether you actually conduct field surveys or just want to prescribe the survey data you need this course will help you. You’ll learn about how to survey the important features of streams for NPDES monitoring, do preliminary assessments of streams, restoration designs, wetland mitigation designs, stability monitoring, aquatic life inventories, watershed restoration action strategies, or stakeouts for restoration construction and as-built surveys of completed restoration projects.

This course will be conducted at Montgomery Community College on October 8 and 9.

Fundamental Principles of River Morphology and Their Application will be offered at Montgomery Community College on

See Workshops on page 10

MDSPE Honors Outstanding Members



Ilene Busch-Vishniac, P.E., Ph.D., has been awarded the 2003 MDSPE Distinguished Service Award in recognition of her professional achievements, professional and technical society activity, and humanitarian and civic contributions. Dr. Busch-Vishniac has been a member of MSPE since 1999, and was instrumental in arranging for Johns Hopkins University to host the Maryland MathCounts competition for the past two years.

After serving as Dean of the Whiting School for the past five years, Dr. Busch-Vishniac has decided to step down at the end of her term to dedicate more time to research, family, and a prestigious professional leadership post as President of the Acoustical Society of America. She will continue at Hopkins as a professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Dr. Busch-Vishniac is one of the world's leading experts on electrical mechanical transducers and has recently published a book on the subject. Her major research interest is acoustics and is presently researching the most cost-effective way of designing highway noise barriers. She has invented a number of devices for use in telephony and automatic blood pressure monitoring. These devices have been recognized through patents, awards and industrial interest.

She served as Dean of the Whiting School of Engineering at The Johns Hopkins University for five years. She was the first female to hold such a position at Hopkins other than in the School of Nursing at Hopkins. Of the approximately 350 engineering schools in the country, there are only about 15 woman deans. Further, among the research-intensive, high-prestige academic institutions, there are only five female engineering deans.

While serving as Whiting School dean, she is credited with helping attract more research funding, which rose from \$34.4 million in 1998 to nearly \$51 million in 2002. She also has emphasized aggressive recruitment of students and faculty.

The school has roughly 4,500 full- and part-time engineering students (27 percent of whom are female) and 100-plus professors. Undergraduate engineering enrollment has risen more than 20 percent from fall 1998, hitting 1,655 in fall 2001. The school also has added such offerings as a new major in environmental engineering. Though it is mainly still a research institute, Dr. Busch-Vishniac has dedicated herself to promoting both undergraduate and graduate education in Engineering. She has been quoted as saying, "It is my opinion that the time is right for Hopkins to emerge as a world leader in Engineering education."

To foster groundbreaking research, the Whiting School also has increased the number of research centers from nine in 1998 to 16, including the interdisciplinary Information Security Institute, which focuses on such areas as computer law and criminology, database confidentiality, and e-commerce security.

Dr. Busch-Vishniac received her PhD in Mechanical Engineering in 1981, her Master of Science, also in Mechanical Engineering, in 1978, both from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She earned her undergraduate Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees from the University of Rochester in 1976. She held Assistant and Associate professorships at the University of Texas, Austin, in Mechanical Engineering. At present she also teaches mechanical engineering at Johns Hopkins.



Indranil Goswami, P.E., PhD, associate professor in the civil engineering department at Morgan State University, has been honored by MDSPE with the MDSPE Engineering Education Excellence Award. This award recognizes engineering faculty who have demonstrated the ability to link engineering education with professional practice. Indranil earned his BCE degree in 1987 at Jadavpur University in Calcutta, India and his Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins University in 1992. In addition to a full

teaching load, he conducts research in flow-structure interaction—the complex aerodynamic phenomena involved in the coupling of vibrations of flexible structures immersed in fluid with pressure and velocity fields in the flow. He was instrumental in organizing the student chapter of NSPE at Morgan State and has served as president of the Baltimore chapter of MDSPE. He has been nominated for AGC Outstanding Educator courseware development.



Dwight Williams, P.E., a 32-year old senior nuclear engineer with the U.S. Department of Defense, has been honored as MDSPE's Young Engineer of the Year. The society presents this award to an engineer under the age of 35 who has made the most significant contributions to society and the engineering profession. In less than a decade, Dwight has excelled to the top of the engineering field. Within DOD, he oversees engineering research activities at U.S. Department of

Energy national laboratories and provides technical assessments to Congressional and senior military staff. He also served as a nuclear and radiological expert within the Pentagon's terrorism analysis center during Operation Enduring Freedom. Prior to his work with DOD, he instructed international scientists in gamma-ray spectroscopy before their service within the United Nations system in Vienna, Austria.

In addition to his professional endeavors, he is completing his Ph.D. in nuclear engineering at the University of Maryland, having earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in nuclear engineering from North Carolina State University. A decorated scholar, Dwight was awarded a Southern Regional Education Board fellowship

Welcome New MDSPE Members

■ **Ernest Addu, P.E.**, associate engineer, PEPCO. Mr. Addu is a mechanical engineer. He graduated from RPI in 1995 and earned his master's degree in 1996. He resides in Lanham.

■ **John Barringer, P.E.**, principal engineer, Southern Maryland Electric Coop Inc. Mr. Barringer is an electrical engineer and graduated from NC State University in 1980. He resides in Mechanicsville and is a member of Professional Engineers in Industry.

■ **Rameshwar D. Khullar, P.E.**, chief electrical engineer, Sidhu Assoc., Inc., Hunt Valley. Mr. Khullar resides in Jarrettsville.

■ **Dwight Little, Jr., P.E.**, president, Little & Associates Inc., Towson. Mr. Little graduated from Penn State Univ. in 1980. He resides in Baltimore and is a member of Professional Engineers in Private Practice.

■ **James A. Markle, Jr., P.E.**, vice president, George W. Stephens Jr. Assocs. Inc., Towson. Mr. Markle is a civil engineer and is a member of Professional Engineers in Private Practice.

■ **Charles McDuff, P.E.**, vice president, Lewis & Zimmerman Assocs., Inc., Rockville. Mr. McDuff is a civil engineer from UMOB in 1966. He resides in Rockville.

■ **Michael J. Mosman, P.E.**, vice president, CCG Facilities Integration Inc., Baltimore. Mr. Mosman is an electrical engineer and graduated from WASTU in 1974. He resides in Columbia.

■ **Dexter Smith, P.E.**, is employed at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Columbia. Mr. Smith is a biomedical and electrical engineer and earned his bachelor's degree from RPI in 1980 and a graduate degree in 1983. He resides in Columbia and is a member of Professional Engineers in Private Practice.

■ **Elizabeth Springer, P.E.**, project engineer. Ms. Springer is a civil engineer and graduated from Bucknell University. She resides in Silver Spring.

■ **Joseph O. Arumala**, engineer, Department of Technology at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Mr. Arumala graduated from Clemson University in 1978. He resides in Salisbury.

■ **Paul H. Lee**, engineer, City of Frederick. He resides in Elkridge.

■ **Tayo Olagunju**, engineer, FAA DOT. Mr. Olagunju is an electrical engineer and graduated from Howard University in 1989. He resides in West Hayettsville.

■ **Shana M. Opdyke**, staff engineer, GeoSyntec Consultants, Ellicott City. Mr. Opdyke is a civil engineer. He graduated from Bucknell University in 1901 and earned a graduate degree in 2002. He resides in Ellicott City.

■ **Noah Ryder** is a fire protection engineer who graduated from the University of Maryland in 1999. He resides in Silver Spring.

■ **Omar Yousif**, project manager/director, PCC Construction, Gaithersburg. Mr. Yousif is a civil engineer and graduated from Catholic University in 1997. He resides in Montgomery Village.

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

■ **Nishadi Karunarathne**. Mr. Karunarathne is a student at Catholic University and resides in Bethesda.

■ **Arnold Kinney** is a student at the University of Maryland and resides in Hanover.

■ **Nicki L. Lehrer** is a student at MIT and resides in Rockville.

■ **Jennifer Roberts** is a student at the University of Maryland resides in College Park.

■ **Frank D. Rudilosso** is a student at the University of Maryland and resides in College Park.

■ **Ryan Schoonmaker** is a student at the University of Maryland and resides in Berwyn Heights.

■ **Bruke G. Siraga** is studying civil engineering and resides in Baltimore.

■ **Melany Vargas** is a student at the University of Maryland and resides in College Park.

NSPE Honors from page 5

capacities since that time. He "went through the chairs" in the Annapolis chapter, serving in every office, and was co-founder of the former Southern Maryland Chapter. He served as vice president of the state society for public affairs and professional affairs before being chosen present-elect in 1992 and president in 1993. He served as chair of Professional Engineers in Private Practice from 1994 through 2000.

He has been particularly active in legislative and government affairs, including co-founding the Maryland Council of Design Professionals and in establishing legislative liaison with the Consulting Engineers Council of Maryland. He was one of the founding trustees of the Maryland Professional Engineers Political Action Committee and co-sponsored legislation in the Maryland General Assembly on a number of important topics including increased responsibility for the Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation, the Good Samaritan Bill, the Certificate of Merit Bill, and the bill authorizing punitive authority for Boards over unlicensed practice. He was a candidate for the Young Engineer of the Year award in 1979 and the Meritorious Service to the Profession award in 1998, and was presented the MSPE Outstanding service Award in 1991.

Mak, Segovia Receive MDSPE Scholarships

The Educational Foundation has established good communications via e-mail with both Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland, who administer our scholarship program.

The following winners of these scholarships are chosen by the Universities as meeting our strict criteria, approved by the Trustees of the Educational Foundation and the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers Board of Directors.

Candice Mak is the winner of the MDSPE Educational Foundation scholarship at Johns Hopkins University for the Fall and Spring 2002/2003, and Katryna Segovia is the winner of our scholarship at the University of Maryland, A. James Clark School of Engineering. Candice hails from Glenn Dale, Maryland. She is currently a junior at JHU majoring in Biomedical Engineering with a 3.90 grade point average. Candice has been named to the Dean's list every semester that she has been at Hopkins! She is a current member of Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and Alpha Eta Mu Beta Biomedical Engineering Honor Society.

During the summer of 2001, Candice completed an internship at the National Institutes of Health in the Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. She also completed a research internship during the summer of 2002 with the Wilmer Eye Institute of John Hopkins in the Department of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus.

Not only is Candice strong academically, she has also made significant contributions to the Johns Hopkins University community and the surrounding community. Candice has served as instructor and co-president of Students Against Sexual Assault as well as a leader and treasurer of Agape Campus Christian Fel-

lowship. Within the community, Candice has served as an emergency room volunteer at Union Memorial Hospital.

Katryna Segovia is a junior Biological Resources Engineering student with a 3.0 GPA, financial need. A U.S. citizen and Maryland resident, Katryna works as a research assistant in the Bio-Transport and Cellular Engineering Laboratory for Dr. Paul Schreuders. She is a member of the Society of Women Engineers, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and has served as Secretary, Treasurer and Public Relations officer for the Biological Resources Engineering Society. She has been a recipient of the Office of Multi-Ethnic Student Education (OMSE) academic excellence award for two years (2000/2001 and 2001/2002). Katryna transferred to the University of Maryland from Howard Community College where she also worked as a math tutor and teacher's assistant.

Congratulations Katryna and Candice.

The Foundation Board extended their thanks to Dean Nariman Farvardin, Jane F. Fines, director of special programs, and Radka Zach, external relations coordinator for stewardship & research, at the A. James Clark School of Engineering, University of Maryland, and to Dean Ilene Busch-Vishniac, Martha Q. McCollum, associate director Whiting School of Engineering, Johns Hopkins University, and to Ellen K. Ostendorf, senior assistant director of the Office of Student Financial Services, Johns Hopkins University, for coordinating the MSPE Educational Foundation Scholarship.

Special thanks also to EBA Engineering, Inc. for becoming our first Corporate Sponsor.

Workshops from page 7

October 22 and 23, with plans for a repeat offering in Northern Virginia on November 5 and 6. This workshop is designed for hydrologists, engineers, landscape architects, surveyors, environmental regulators, fisheries biologists, water resources planners and other specialists involved in watershed protection and restoration activities. These activities can include; stream assessment and restoration, watershed analysis, water quality management, evaluation of riparian ecosystems, and cumulative impact assessment.

The course provides an integrated approach that introduces the fundamental principles of hydrology, hydraulics and fluvial geomorphology and describes the linkages among these sciences as they relate to river morphology. This is the basic entry-level course that is a prerequisite for advanced training and eventually, stream restoration design techniques.

Stream Classification Procedures and Application will be offered at Montgomery Community College on October 22 and 23, with plans to repeat in Northern Virginia on November 5 and 6.

This workshop is designed for hydrologists, engineers, landscape architects, surveyors, environmental regulators, fisheries biologists, water resources planners and other specialists involved in watershed protection and restoration activities. These activities can include; stream assessment and restoration, watershed

analysis, water quality management, evaluation of riparian ecosystems, and cumulative impact assessment. Fundamental Principles of River Morphology is a prerequisite for this workshop.

Fundamental Principles of River Morphology will be presented at Montgomery Community College on November 12 and 13, with plans to repeat in Northern Virginia on November 19 and 20.

The workshop provides an overview of stream classification systems and detailed instruction in the use of the Rosgen Stream Classification System, the most widely used classification system. The Rosgen classification system offers a number of advantages: it is totally integrated with the fundamental principles of stream morphology presented in Fundamental Principles of River Morphology and their applications, and it includes considerable guidance in its application with respect to sensitivity to disturbance, recovery potential, sediment supply, and streambank erosion potential.

Basic Stormwater Management, a two-day workshop covering the requirements of the MDE Stormwater Management Regulation, will be presented on Dec. 3 and 4 at the Catonsville campus of the Community College of Baltimore. Several hundred engineers and surveyors have participated in this workshop over the past several years.

LETTER



MDSPE Honors from page 8

to pursue his Ph.D., and a DOE fellowship as a M.S. degree candidate. Beyond Dwight's NSPE affiliation, he is a member of the American Nuclear Society, the American Society for Engineering Education, and many other professional and technical organizations. Dwight believes that he has benefited from many outstanding scientists and engineers who have invested in his development. In an effort to help others to maximize their potential, he is active in his community as a Freestate Academy mentor, math and science tutor, and church lay leader. In addition to Dwight's personal interaction within the community, he speaks to science and mathematics students at Eleanor Roosevelt High School on behalf of DOD.

EBA Engineering, Inc., Baltimore, received an MDSPE Project



Award for design and construction administration services for a 52,800 square foot, \$3.8 million project—a recreational trail that is only 10 feet wide but stretches for 10 miles through the mountains of Western Maryland. The contract was awarded by the Maryland Department of General Services on behalf of the Department of Natural Resources.

The goal of the project is to promote hiking and biking by going from rail-to-trail in spectacular scenic environment between Hancock and Fort Frederick. The trail starts at Fort Frederick and , extends past Hancock to the Washington-Allegheny County boundary. This is an abandoned railway track, constructed around 1905 and used for Western Maryland railroad traffic. The trail is sandwiched between I-70 to the north and C&O canal — constructed in mid-nineteenth century — and the Potomac River to the south.

A 20-mile section has already been completed and open to public for use. The last 2-mile section is currently under design and the construction is expected to start this fall.

The trail is to become part of “Bike Across America” and will provide an excellent connection through the Baltimore-Washington area for national and international bike events. Us-

ers of this trail are supposed to be non-motorized — bicyclists, in-line skaters, roller skaters, wheelchair users and pedestrians, including walkers, runners, people with baby strollers, people walking dogs, etc. This trail is especially suitable for families, for novice cyclists, and for anyone seeking a pleasant, leisurely ride. Most notably, it is completely paved, making it easy pedaling for any type of bicycle. Although the trail runs geographically uphill from east to west, the grade is hardly noticeable, and the ambient breeze is more likely to affect the effort of pedaling in one direction or the other. Parking is available in Hancock near Church Street and Big Pool. Another parking lot will be constructed at Pearre in last phase of the project.

EBA is responsible for civil and geotechnical engineering design and construction phase services. The work includes rehabilitation of numerous railroad bridges, safety gates, signage at existing roadway crossing, pedestrian barriers behind existing buildings. Car parking and restroom facilities are also provided at appropriate places for the trail users. The replacement/rehabilitation of some bridges and existing drainage culverts was included in the project. An old steel bridge was replaced with an underpass.

“The project is very challenging with numerous environmental and site constraints and required innovative and prudent design approach to accomplish a successful project,” says MDSPE member Rizwan A. Siddiqi, P.E., EBA's project manager. While rehabilitating the bridges, culverts, pipes, etc., importance has been given to the environmental, aesthetic, cultural and historic values of the area. Native stone was used on both faces of the tunnels; several interpretive signs were placed at strategic locations along the trail to provide the users with information about the historic background of the railroad, the pipe crossings have been provided with geosynthetic mat instead of riprap, which can grow grasses through it while controlling the erosion of soil, the wetlands found on site were delineated and protected during construction. Stormwater management has been provided for water quality based on Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) requirements. The construction of the trail has been very beneficial for the local economy and a significant increase in the tourism has been noted in the area around Hancock and Big Pool. This rail-to-trail project is an excellent example of rehabilitation of an abandoned facility for a recreational use for the benefit of public.

Slight Dues Increase Budgeted

The MDSPE Board of Directors voted to raise dues for Members and Licensed Members for the 2003-2004 fiscal year. The \$10 increase is the first in more than five years. There will be no increase in NSPE dues this year.

Here is the approved budget for the fiscal year, which began on June 1.

BUDGET	2003/2004	2002/2003
INCOME		
DUES	42,500.00	39,550.00
ADVERTISING	1,000.00	1,000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	500.00	
INTEREST	300.00	500.00
NSPE Membership Develop. Grant (Withdrawn)		3,500.00
SEMINARS	1,000.00	5,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$45,300.00	\$49,550.00
EXPENSES		
ADMINISTRATION GROUP		
AUDIT COMMITTEE		
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	500.00	500.00
BOARD EXPENSES	500.00	500.00
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OPERATION	16,000.00	16,000.00"
POSTAGE	500.00	500.00
TELEPHONE	1,200.00	1,200.00
OFFICE EXPENSE MISCELLANEOUS	1,500.00	1,500.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$20,200.00	20,200.00
LEADERSHIP TRAVEL & EXP.		
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	300.00	300.00
PRESIDENT	500.00	500.00
PRESIDENT-ELECT	500.00	500.00
SUB-TOTAL LEADERSHIP T & E	\$1,300.00	1,300.00
MEMBER SERVICES		
ANNUAL MEETING	0.00	400.00
CHAPTER AWARDS	100.00	100.00
CHPT OFFICERS WORKSHOP	0.00	200.00
CONTINUED EDUCATION	0.00	
DIRECTORY	0.00	
MD PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER	10,000.00	10,000.00
MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	1,000.00	6,000.00
WEB PAGE	350.00	1,000.00
SUB-TOTAL MEMBER SERVICES	\$11,450.00	17,700.00
OUTREACH		
ENGINEERS WEEK	600.00	300.00
INTER-SOCIETY RELATIONS	150.00	150.00
LEGISLATIVE	7,000.00	7,000.00
MATHCOUNTS	500.00	300.00
BRIDGE CHALLENGE	400.00	300.00
NLE DINNER	1,200.00	2,000.00
PUBLIC RELATIONS	400.00	
QBS PROJECT	1,000.00	
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION	300.00	300.00
EDU. FOUND. ADMIN. Expenses	50.00	
SUB-TOTAL OUTREACH	11,600.00	10,350.00
CONTINGENCY	750.00	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	\$45,300.00	\$49,550.00

FULL PG AD

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