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FEBRUARY 2024



DAPE NEWS

President's Message

BY MICHAEL CLENDANIEL, P.E.

Remember we are only four months away from having to renew your PE license. Please make sure you have all your PDH's complete prior to renewing. Please be aware we do audit a portion of the renewals and if you cannot produce an accurate log of work completed you could face discipline. Also, if you need an ethics class, we are holding another one on April 18th.

The council will be voting at the March meeting on the language that has been prepared by an ad hoc committee for a successor engineer to have it proceed for a sponsor to become law. If you have any questions or comments, please provide them to Jen (office@dape.org) by the end of February. A link to the language is provided later in this newsletter. Thank you to everyone who served on the Ad Hoc committee.

As we move forward in today's society the use and mention of artificial intelligence continues to grow. Even in engineering it is being utilized. As it is integrated further into engineering, we really need to weigh the benefits and negatives that it brings. Some of the benefits being design optimization as AI algorithms can analyze large datasets and perform complex simulations to optimize designs for performance, cost, and other parameters. They can also provide predictive maintenance systems that detect equipment failures before they occur, to reduce downtime and maintenance costs in certain industries such as manufacturing, aerospace, waste water treatment and energy. AI can improve safety by detecting hazards, monitoring environmental conditions, and providing real time data to operators. Lastly, as I learned last year, AI is starting to be utilized in land design to provide multiple layouts for firms to provide to clients without having to utilize staff time to produce multiple renditions for clients.

of to ensure it is being utilized correctly. A few of the biggest negatives are security, ethical and bias/fairness. With anything that utilizes the internet AI are susceptible to cybersecurity threats such as data breaches, hacking, and malicious attacks. In regard to ethical concerns, engineers must weigh the options related to privacy, consent, data, and the responsible use of the technology. One item one would hope we would not have to worry about is bias and fairness within a computer system. However, AI is no different and can inherit biases from the data they are trained on, leading to unfair outcomes or perpetuation of existing societal biases.

If and when we start to embrace and utilize AI in our daily engineering work, we will need to be cognizant of the benefits which will draw us to utilize it. However, we must carefully consider these factors and address any negatives to use it ethically in engineering.

I hope everyone is ready for an earlier spring as we move out of winter. Please mark your calendar to join us this year for a Blue Rocks game on June 6th. It has been great to see our engineers get together and enjoy time together. Lastly, if anyone is still interested in volunteering with DAPE please contact me or [Jen Wootten](#) and we will help you find a place for you.

Executive

BY JENNIFER WOOTTEN

Director's Message

Happy Engineers Week! DAPE will be celebrating at a few events this week, including outreach to University of Delaware students at the College of Engineering. We'll also be hosting several of Delaware's newest PE's as our guests at the Delaware Chapter of NSPE's Engineers Week Celebration. Congratulations to the following individuals that will be honored that night:

2024 Engineer of the Year D. Preston Lee, Jr. P.E. (Ret.)

2024 Government Engineer of the Year Shanté A. Hastings, P.E.

2024 Young Engineer of the Year Breanna Kovach, P.E.

One of our Law Enforcement & Ethics (LEE) Committee's charges last year was to evaluate the need for an investigator position within DAPE. The Committee helped me craft a job description for a new part-time position focused on research and communications related to violations (most frequently firms that are offering engineering in Delaware without a Certificate of Authorization). The position will also include outreach to Delaware building officials, with the goal of communicating DAPE's purpose, licensure requirements, and investigation process, and enabling

As a self-regulated board, DAPE relies a great deal on the time and energy of our LEE Committee volunteers. In most other States, this work is done by staff investigators. We are hoping to provide more support to the LEE Committee members and keep our licensees in compliance with the Delaware Professional Engineers' Act.

DAPE is nearing the end of our search for a part-time investigation and outreach assistant, and I hope to introduce you to a new staff member in our next issue.

ETHICS TRAINING APRIL 18



Thursday April 18
University of Delaware's Clayton Hall
100 David Hollowell Dr, Newark, DE 19716
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (doors open at 9:15 AM)

We'll be reviewing DAPE's Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) requirements, and talking through case studies from past hearings related to CPC requirements to help you avoid common mistakes.

While space for the in-person training is limited, this session will be recorded and available online after the event.

[Register here.](#)

Legislative Amendment Update

If you are a regular reader of DAPE's newsletter, you may recall that the Delaware Professional Engineers' Act was amended in 2023 to add several definitions to the law (incompetence, misconduct, and negligence), and to remove reapplication requirements for candidate with four or more failed attempts in taking the Practice & Principles of Professional Engineering (PE) exam. However, the 2023 legislative amendment did not include a definition or guidelines related to the term "Successor Engineer," as originally planned.

After we shared an early draft of a legislative amendment with our members, DAPE received feedback from State agencies and professional groups, resulting in the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss this topic further. This Committee met four times since July 2023, working in conjunction with DAPE's Law Enforcement and Ethics Committee to clarify the proposed language for Council approval.

We are happy to report that DAPE's Council is close to voting on [proposed language for a legislative amendment](#) which is meant to provide guidance to our licensees on the responsibilities related to taking on a project as a successor engineer, incorporating feedback from the Delaware engineering community and drawing from other States with similar regulations already in place. A vote on this topic will be on the March 13, 2024 Council meeting agenda. The next step would be to secure a legislative sponsor, and then review by legislative committees, with hopes to have this amendment signed by the Governor in 2024.

DAPE Council 2024 Open Seats

The following seats will be on the ballot for the 2024 Council election. Please contact office@dape.org for a nominating ballot if you are interested. Nominating petitions are due May 1. Ballots will be emailed to eligible voters on June 15.

Sussex County Seat (4-year term)
Mechanical Engineering Seat (4-year term)
Education Seat (4-year term)

A person elected as a Council member shall, at the time of election, and during the term of office, be a citizen of the United States of America, a resident of the State, a

Welcome to Delaware's Newest Professional Engineers

License Number	Name	License Number	Name
26326	Ahmed A Abdelmaksoud	28897	Andrei A. Kuriatnikov
23134	Azeez Abdul	29062	Christopher Harold Lashley
28133	Daniel Allen	28660	Adam Q Levensgard
28821	Nizar Alsankary	29237	Taylor Marie Linues
24901	Bryan Patrick Ammermon	28523	Zhouhai Liu
28804	Ivan S. Baldychev	28972	Nicholas Steven Maloney
28586	Mark David Billips	27819	Marjan Martinovic
25605	Sean Boston	28394	Michael P Megalla
28373	Veronica A. Boyce	28418	Anas M. Muhamed
27853	Michael R Brereton	29016	Daniel I Offenbacher
28706	Adam J Broxton	28199	Zachary G. O'Hara
24426	Carlos E. Cary	26584	Luar Raul Orriola-Cruz
29268	Brian M. Celeste	27123	Michael Brian Papciak
29003	Marissa N. Ciocco	21884	Sanil N. Patel
29050	Alexander Costa	24924	Chintan Patel
27976	John C Darden	28907	Nicolas R. Pereira
28533	William L. Davis	27742	James D. Powell
28300	Rocco DeFelice	28830	Madison Sage
28230	Anthony J. Dennis	28501	Anthony James Santoro
26163	Christopher H Dougherty	28207	Alex Schaal
28673	Seth Alan Fair	22426	Viral Shah
27099	Jessica L. Fedetz	28479	William F Skwirut
24944	Evan M.H. Ferguson	27386	Genevieve Rose-Bayly Smith
28935	Julie A. Giannino	28089	Trevor H.M. Smith
27357	Eric Gibson	28835	Alexa N. Smith
28666	William A. Groves	28618	Austin Robert Spencer
28807	Harry Samuel Highley-Gergel	28525	Christian Stabelli
28070	Alexander Hinds	28508	Alexander C. Steuerwald
28843	Patrick Glenn Horsky	28806	Samantha Rose Suero
21363	Varun K Kasaraneni	29252	Patrexia Jumaylh Tampon
25417	Nolan B Kinslow	28809	Kevin Allen Wilson
28812	Mark Kondelis Jr	28463	Jaclyn Rose Zimmermann
28868	Snehil Kumar		

Plan now for 2024 P.E. renewals

DAPE expects to open our renewal window for all licensed Professional Engineers in early May 2024, with a deadline of June 30, 2024. This is a perfect time to review your Professional Development Hours (PDH) log to see how many PDHs you have from July 1, 2022 to the present. While our April 18, 2024 ethics training will be all about

frequently asked questions that start to pop up when we get close to renewal season:

I know I won't be able to meet the CPC requirements by June 30, 2024. What are my options?

Licensees experiencing disability, illness, or other extenuating circumstances may apply for an exemption or an extension of time to obtain the credits, subject to the review and approval of the Council. Please note that you must do this PRIOR to renewing your license.

If there are not extenuating circumstances, but you haven't met the requirements, you may request inactive status either by email or online during the renewal window. You may not practice engineering while your license is in inactive license, and all reinstatements require an audit of your PDHs. After the expiration of the 4-year period permitted for inactive licenses, licensure may be obtained only by reapplying for licensure pursuant to §2817 of the Delaware Professional Engineers' Act.

I renewed on time but I didn't get my new certificate. When can I expect it?

All active PEs can print an updated wallet card after each renewal by logging in to your account on our website. We do not mail certificates after each renewal.

I can't remember if I renewed my license. How can I check to be sure it's complete?

Search the active roster on our website. Be sure to check the expiration date to verify that it has been renewed.

I want to get a jump on renewing. Can I just do it now?

Sorry, no. We don't open the renewal window until our new fiscal year starts, and our website and staff are both ready to go.

I didn't get/lost a certificate from a program I recently attended. I learned a lot and think it should qualify for 1 PDH. What can I do?

Use this PDH assessment form to summarize the event.

I didn't get your email and renewed late. Can I get the late penalty refunded?

No (mark your calendar!).

I was on vacation the last week of June and forgot to renew. Can I get the late penalty refunded?

No (plan ahead!).

NCEES is seeking licensed environmental engineers to participate in a professional activities and knowledge study, or PAKS, for the PE Environmental exam. The results of this online survey will be used to update the content of the PE exam, which is a process that occurs every six to eight years.

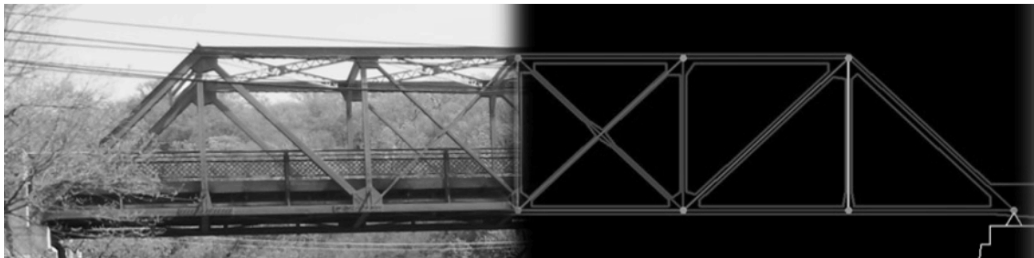
NCEES requires a cross section of licensed professional engineers practicing environmental engineering—including those working in industry, consulting, the public sector, and academia—to complete the survey. If you are a licensed professional engineer, we would appreciate your input. The survey can be completed in about 15–20 minutes.

The survey will be open until May 5, 2024. Please help us spread the word about this important study by sharing this email with any colleagues who are licensed environmental engineers. NCEES sincerely thanks you for your contribution to ensure the PE Environmental exam is reflective of the current practice of P.E.s.

[Click here for access to the online survey.](#)



DeIDOT Bridge Design Competition



Our friends at the Delaware Department of Transportation are hard at work organizing the 2024 Delaware Bridge Design Competition. This event is a hands-on engineering competition aimed to engage students interested in the math, science, and engineering fields. The program is designed to encourage middle school and high school students to address real-world problems and inspire them to consider careers in transportation and civil engineering. Students will use Computer Aided Drafting

a portfolio and PowerPoint presentation outlining their design. Their bridge models will also be tested on the day of the competition. The Delaware Bridge Design Competition and all associated software and materials are FREE to all participating students.

There are currently 145 teams are registered, with approximately 450 students competing this year. This is more than double the largest event to date held in 2019!

DAPE will be there to encourage these young students to pursue careers as Professional Engineers. [You can find more information about this event and contact the organizers to share ideas for exhibits or demonstrations.](#)

SAVE THE DATE: PE Night at the Wilmington Blue Rocks June 6

A sure sign that spring is coming....the Blue Rocks' home opener is less than 50 days away.

We started this tradition as part of our 50th Anniversary celebration in 2022, and decided to keep it going. Stay tuned for details on reserving tickets (family members are welcome to join you!).



Council Executive Committee

- Michael Clendaniel, P.E., President
- Karen Maxson, P.E., Vice President
- Kenneth Tadler, P.E., Secretary
- Vincent Fazio, P.E., Treasurer
- Joseph Jakubowski, P.E., LEED AP, Immediate Past President

Council Members (Term Expiration Date)

- Ronald D. Smith, Esq., Kent Co. – Appointed (8/31/23)
- William Gamgort, Esq., New Castle Co. – Appointed (8/31/23)

- Kenneth Tadler, P.E., Mechanical Engineering (8/31/24)
- Michael A. Clendaniel, P.E., Gov't Employment (8/31/25)
- Jeremy Kalmbacher, P.E., "Other" Engineering (8/31/25)
- Melanie A. Smith, P.E., Chemical Engineering (8/31/25)
- Daniel Barbato, P.E., New Castle County (8/31/26)
- Joseph Jakubowski, P.E., LEED AP, Civil Engineering (8/31/26)
- Chad R. Lingenfelder, Esq., Sussex Co. - Appointed (10/6/26)
- Karen Maxson, P.E., Industry (8/31/26)
- Vincent Fazio, P.E., Electrical Engineering (8/31/27)
- James Puddicombe, P.E., Kent County (8/31/27)
- Theodore A. Thomson, P.E., Private Consulting (8/31/27)

DAPE Staff

- Jennifer Wootten, Executive Director
- Kathy Davis, Executive Assistant
- Beth Baughman, Administrative Assistant



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