

Communication and public protection are focus for 2008–09

Henn Rebane, P.E., accepted the office of NCEES president during the Farewell Banquet August 16 at the Annual Meeting in Minneapolis. The following is from his inaugural speech.

This year is going to be a busy one, with lots of travel and many opportunities to represent NCEES. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as president, to follow in the footsteps of leaders like Gene Corley, whom I have had the pleasure of getting to know over the past year. I look forward to building on our progress, and I welcome the new members of the Board of Directors and look forward to working with them and with all of you who are here tonight.

I want to thank everyone who volunteers with NCEES. That includes those of you who serve on NCEES committees and task forces. You spend countless hours traveling to and from all corners of the country and corresponding over the phone and through e-mail as you work to meet your committee charges. Sometimes it can seem like a thankless task. Well, tonight I want to take this opportunity to thank you.

There are more exam development volunteers than could comfortably fit in this room tonight. Some of you are included in that group. You converge on Clemson several times each year to devote your time and expertise to the creation of the engineering and surveying licensure exams. Your work ensures that NCEES exams are effective measures of professional competence. Your work protects the public from unqualified individuals. People benefit from your efforts every time someone in this country drives across a bridge or drinks a glass of tap water or calls a friend on the telephone. I want you to know how much your work matters and how much it affects everyone's daily life. You are a credit to your profession.

Advancing the Council's interests

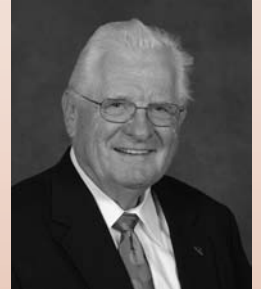
NCEES is a dynamic, complicated organization. It has many moving pieces. One of my goals for my term is for NCEES to become more effective at communicating the objectives of its leadership to the Member Boards and to other influential organizations within the engineering and surveying professions.

NCEES has relations with a large network of related organizations called the Participating Organizations Liaison Council, or POLC. The POLC meets once a year. Many of their leaders are also here with us this week. The fact that these engineering and surveying organizations agree to meet with us every year reflects the fact that NCEES carries a lot of weight. We need to do a better job of leveraging this weight to promote the interests of licensure. We cannot expect to accomplish our strategic goals if we are not effective at communicating with these organizations.

NCEES is taking steps to strengthen our communications. Staff recently selected an advertising and branding agency to help develop a stronger, more effective communications structure. At this point, the project is a work in progress. But we will be seeing the results of this branding effort in the near future, and I look forward to seeing its effects over time.

I consider it the duty of the NCEES president to follow through on the will of the Council as effectively as possible. The Council has studied and debated the issue of higher education for engineers for many years now, and it has made its will known. I pledge to work with the Council to ensure that its concerns are addressed.

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Henn Rebane, P.E.
 NCEES President

There is wide agreement throughout the Council that the higher education model for engineers needs to be improved. There is plenty of room for differences of opinion on how best to accomplish this task. Of course, after the business sessions yesterday, I don't really need to remind you of that. We're all very familiar with the pros and cons of the bachelor's plus 30 initiative. I assure you that I do not take a position on the bachelor's plus 30. My only objective is to work with the Council to enact its will as expressed in its votes on the issue.

It is important for NCEES to have a healthy relationship with ABET. It is in our best interest to foster a mutual understanding with this organization. In some cases, our objectives overlap. In other cases, they don't. I look forward to working with ABET to address the Council's concerns with the higher education model and to establish a pattern of candid, friendly dialogue with their leadership.

Licensure for emerging disciplines

Another goal for my term is to pursue opportunities to offer examinations in emerging disciplines. The engineering and surveying professions are constantly evolving. New technologies present opportunities for new industries to emerge. Established disciplines sometimes splinter into two or three separate, but related, disciplines. NCEES must adapt to these developments by offering exams that reflect the profession, and it must do so in a cost-effective manner. I am committed to ensuring that NCEES does exactly this. I think it is very likely that we will be adding an examination in software engineering in the near future. I am also open to the possibility of NCEES creating new exams in other areas where demand is sufficient. Whether it involves the higher education model or exams that test knowledge of emerging disciplines, NCEES must be proactive and not reactive in order to thrive.

Many of you know that energy efficiency is a topic that I am passionate about. I believe state licensing boards have a role to play in promoting energy efficiency through the enforcement of energy efficiency codes.

Every state has statutes related to efficiency standards. It is the duty of Member Boards to enforce adherence to these codes when licensees are involved. Energy conservation is not a political issue. It is a national security issue. I look forward to hearing ideas from the Member Boards about ways we can go about enforcing energy codes.

A commitment to protecting the public

NCEES is fortunate to have so many dedicated and talented professionals in its membership. The decisions we make affect individuals and industries, colleges and universities, family-owned firms and corporations. To most, NCEES is a progressive, thoughtful group of professionals. To a few, NCEES and its Member Boards seem intrusive, a source of obstruction to business. In nearly all instances, this intrusion is warranted, and our commitment to the protection of the public demands it. I am not saying that NCEES is always right, but our collective wisdom is substantial. We're right most of the time. We're definitely coming to the plate with a higher batting average than politicians, for example—although that would probably be damning with faint praise.

I leave you with one promise: a year from now, NCEES will be even more effective at serving its Member Boards, at promoting the interests of the professions, and at protecting the welfare of the public. Thank you, and I look forward to working with all of you over the coming year.

*Henn Rebane, P.E.
NCEES President*

UPDATE

MBA meeting to bring together administrators and NCEES staff

On October 15, NCEES will host a meeting for Member Board administrators at its headquarters in Clemson. This will be the first time many MBAs have met with Council staff in person. Normally, communication is limited to telephone or e-mail, so this will be a great opportunity for open discussion about NCEES and its services.

To give MBAs a fuller understanding of the work done at Council headquarters, NCEES directors and managers will speak about the activities of their respective departments.

Impending changes to NCEES examinations will also be discussed. In April 2009, the Electrical and Computer PE exam will be divided into subdisciplines. Following in October, the Civil PE exam modules will be printed in separate booklets, with the FE and Mechanical PE exams following suit in April 2010. NCEES staff and attendees will look at the impact on exam registration and administration.

Discussion of the proposed national system for exam registration is on the agenda as well. A national registration system has the potential to improve exam security, save money and resources, and increase efficiency. This meeting will bring MBAs from across the country together with NCEES staff to explore how this system could best benefit Member Boards and strengthen the licensure process.

Council collaboration on education requirements

The recent efforts of the Council to address the issues surrounding additional education requirements for engineering licensure are an excellent example of individual Member Boards uniting to solve complex challenges.

Delegates debated these issues both at the Annual Meeting and at the zone meetings leading up to it and worked together to find the best way forward.

At the Annual Meeting, the Council passed a motion pushing the requirement's earliest implementation date to 2020 and passed a resolution calling for analysis of

- ♦ The potential educational, professional, regulatory, and economic impacts of the requirement in its current form; and
- ♦ Any alternative solutions that could potentially address the challenges of preparing engineering licensure candidates to enter the profession.

This year, the Engineering Education Task Force will examine the points raised in the resolution and produce a white paper to help Member Boards make informed decisions about the additional education requirement. This analysis is expected to be completed before the interim zone meetings next spring.

One immediate change is the name of the requirement. It has gone by several designations, most commonly the "bachelor's plus 30." NCEES now refers to this requirement as the "master's or equivalent." For consistency and simplicity, I encourage you to do the same.

Recognizing exemplary service

Finally, congratulate the 2008 NCEES service award winners. They were honored at an awards luncheon on August 16 at the Annual Meeting.

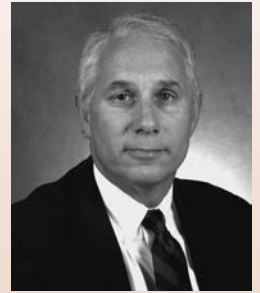
Distinguished Service Award

Nabi R. Fakroddin, P.E., S.E., Illinois
James T. McCarter, P.E., South Carolina
Martin A. Pedersen, L.S., Wyoming
Ralph F. Sweet, P.E., Maine

Meritorious Service Award

Joseph T. Clements Jr., P.E., Arkansas
Louise Lavertu, New Hampshire

Jerry T. Carter
NCEES Executive Director



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NCEES Executive Director

Highlights from the 87th NCEES Annual Meeting

The following are some of the items delegates voted on during the Annual Meeting business sessions on August 15. The complete Annual Meeting Minutes will be posted on CouncilNet in October and soon thereafter mailed to all Member Board members, administrators, and emeritus members. It will include a form for requesting hard copies of the revised board member manuals—the *Model Law*, *Model Rules, Bylaws*, and *Manual of Policy and Position Statements*. The manuals are also available for download on CouncilNet (www2.ncees.org).

Council Governance

Advisory Committee on Council Activities

The Council passed an ACCA motion to clarify term limits for the office of treasurer. NCEES treasurers are limited to two terms of two years each, but the Council's governing documents did not address term limits for a treasurer who completes a predecessor's unfinished term. The Council approved the ACCA's proposal that serving a partial term of one year or less does not constitute a full term. The 2008–09 Special Committee on Bylaws will review this change to the Bylaws, and the Council will vote on ratifying the amendment next year.

The Council also passed an ACCA motion to require all NCEES committee and task force members and consultants to sign a conflict of interest statement similar to that signed by the NCEES Board of Directors and staff. This statement will testify that the signer has no financial or other personal interest in the decisions made by the committee or task force.

Special Task Force on Governance

The Governance Task Force had one motion, which was passed by the Council. Rather than having a separate Constitution and Bylaws with different amendment procedures, NCEES now has one governing document requiring a two-thirds majority for amendments. In rewriting the two documents as one, which is now named the Bylaws, none of the specific provisions were altered except to remove duplicate language. The motion to merge the Constitution and Bylaws was made at the suggestion of NCEES legal counsel.

Special Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee presented five motions asking the Council to ratify amendments decided at the previous year's Annual Meeting. All five motions passed with the required two-thirds majority.

Council Finances

Committee on Finances

The Finance Committee presented several motions that were passed during the business sessions. One motion will allow the NCEES president and president-elect to fly business class when traveling on Council business for flights of at least three hours. The Council also passed a motion creating a separate class of membership fees for NCEES Member Boards with 150 or fewer registrants. Annual fees for these boards will be \$750. Those with 151–500 registrants will continue to pay \$2,600 annually, and those with more than 500 registrants will continue to pay \$6,500 annually.

Another motion presented by the Finance Committee and passed by the Council will waive the Annual Meeting registration fees for each NCEES past president and a guest and fund travel expenses for each past president to attend the Annual Meeting.

Also, the Council passed a Finance Committee motion to amend the position statement on Council funds to state that the Council's designated reserves should be sufficient to cover a total exam breach.

Licensure

Western/Southern Zone resolutions regarding the additional education requirement

The Western Zone submitted a resolution under New Business calling for a suspension of the criteria development for the additional engineering education requirement pending investigation by an NCEES committee into the potential impacts of the requirement and any possible alternatives to raising the education requirements for engineering licensure.

The Southern Zone presented a substitute resolution containing many of the same provisions as the Western Zone resolution.

The Southern Zone resolution, however, did not call for immediately suspending development of the requirement's criteria. The Council chose to adopt this substitute resolution with some amendments. As a result, the 2008–09 Engineering Education Task Force will examine the potential impacts of raising the education requirements and will look into any alternative solutions to the existing requirement.

Bachelor's Plus 30 Task Force

The Bachelor's Plus 30 Task Force delivered its report immediately following the adoption of the Southern Zone resolution. The Council passed each of its three motions.

The first motion called for a committee to be charged with exploring the idea of creating a clearinghouse to carry out activities needed to implement the higher education requirement for engineering licensure. The second motion presented language defining the coursework and course providers acceptable in fulfilling the requirement. The third motion addressed whether a degree from an ABET-accredited master's program (M-ABET) should be included in the definition of Model Law Engineer. The motion was to charge the UPLG Committee with incorporating this M-ABET concept into the *Model Law* and *Model Rules*.

Committee on Uniform Procedures and Legislative Guidelines

The UPLG Committee performed its five-year review of the *Model Law* in 2007–08 and had numerous motions related to updating language in the document to conform to current Council practices. During 2008–09, it will perform the same review of the *Model Rules*.

The Council passed a UPLG motion to postpone by five years the implementation of the additional education requirement for engineering licensure. It now has an effective date of January 1, 2020. It also amended the existing *Model Rules* language regarding the requirement to state that credit toward completing the requirement will be granted for coursework completed in excess of that required for the candidate's bachelor's degree in engineering. Previously, it said credit would be granted for coursework exceeding 120 hours, but this raised concerns that the provision carried an implicit approval of a 120-hour undergraduate program.

Two motions to amend the *Model Law* to equate the words “engineer” and “surveyor” to the terms “professional engineer” and “professional surveyor” were defeated, with the Board of Directors taking a position against the motions.

Several UPLG motions that were placed on the Consent Agenda were removed at the request of delegates. These motions were passed with amendments from the floor.

The committee's Motion 4 was withdrawn until next year. It outlined the experience requirement for engineering licensure candidates with advanced degrees. It was withdrawn to allow the committee to address an inconsistency with the existing language regarding the requirement for candidates earning ABET-accredited bachelor's degrees, which states that these candidates may complete their experience requirement prior to passing the FE exam. The proposed language stated that candidates with master's degrees and doctorates were required to demonstrate three and two years experience, respectively, after becoming engineer interns.

Examinations

Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures

The Council passed both of the motions presented by the EPP Committee during the business session. Four other motions passed as part of the Consent Agenda. The committee's Motion 5 added language to Exam Administration Policy 8, Release of Examination Results. It states that NCEES treats exam scores as final after a year has passed from the date of release to Member Boards, but that NCEES reserves the right to notify Member Boards if it later finds that a candidate engaged in any improper conduct related to NCEES exams. The committee's Motion 6 defined Group I and Group II PE examinations in Exam Development Policy 1, Examination Titles. The policy now states that Group I exams are prepared solely by NCEES, while Group II exams are prepared jointly by NCEES and a sponsoring society from that discipline.

Computer-Based Testing Task Force

The CBT Task Force presented its findings and had two motions for Council action, both of which were passed. The Council authorized a feasibility study that will assess the viability of computer-based testing by gathering

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information from potential examinees to determine their acceptance of this form of testing. The task force estimated that the study will cost \$175,000.

The Council also authorized the development and distribution of a request for information to potential vendors. It will be designed to help the Council evaluate the logistics of implementing computer-based testing and, thus, will inform its decision on whether or not to move forward with replacing paper-and-pencil testing with computer-based administration. The cost of the request for information is estimated at \$35,000.

Southern Zone resolution regarding the proposed professional practice exam

The Southern Zone submitted a resolution that called for the NCEES Board of Directors to authorize the continuation of a feasibility study for a professional practice exam that would test candidate knowledge in nontechnical subject areas. The Board of Directors had voted against conducting a PAKS for a professional practice exam, citing the failure of the feasibility study to justify the expenditures needed to continue with developing the exam. The Council voted against the resolution.

Board approves exam item costs

At its meeting on August 12, 2008, the Board of Directors approved the following amounts as reasonable valuations of each exam item for 2008–09:

FE Exam Item Cost	\$2,066
PE Exam Item Cost—Group I	\$2,912
PE Exam Item Cost—Group II	\$2,370
FS/PS Exam Item Cost	\$2,161
Structural II Exam Item Cost	\$38,278

Each year, NCEES assesses the financial damages associated with an exam breach. Factors such as travel, subject-matter experts' time, psychometric costs, and office and personnel costs are considered when establishing the dollar value for each exam item. The Board of Directors then reviews these recommendations. Item costs for Group II exams do not include travel expenses borne by the sponsoring technical societies for their volunteers, who write items and assemble Group II exams. The updated exam item costs will be in effect for fiscal year 2008–09, which began October 1.

NCEES seeks volunteers for Structural PE exam PAKS

NCEES is currently seeking licensed structural engineers to participate in a Professional Activities and Knowledge Study, or PAKS, for the Structural Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam. The results of this study will be used to determine the specifications for the exam, which is scheduled to replace the current Structural I and II PE exams by April 2011.

Participants will complete an online survey about the tasks and knowledge required of a licensed structural engineer with 4 to 6 years of experience. The survey can be completed in less than 45 minutes.

For access to the online survey, please visit www.ncees.org. **Please respond by November 10, 2008.**

Annual Meeting evaluation results

Below is a summary of the results from the 143 respondents (actual number of responses shown in parentheses). A drawing for a Nintendo Wii was held for survey respondents. David Atwell, P.L.S., of the Kentucky Board was the winner.

Registration Materials	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
The registration brochure and form were informative and clear.	0% (0)	1% (2)	1% (1)	45% (64)	53% (76)
I received my registration confirmation in a timely manner.	0% (0)	1% (2)	1% (1)	27% (39)	70% (100)
The information in the registration confirmation was clear and easy to follow.	0% (0)	0% (0)	3% (4)	38% (54)	59% (85)
I found the pocket schedule to be helpful during the Annual Meeting.	0% (0)	0% (0)	1% (2)	8% (11)	91% (130)
Business Sessions	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
The business sessions were efficient and well-run.	0% (0)	1% (1)	5% (7)	39% (54)	55% (77)
I enjoyed the keynote speaker's presentation.	1% (1)	3% (4)	16% (22)	41% (57)	39% (54)
Workshops	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
I was pleased with the number and variety of workshops.	0% (0)	1% (1)	8% (11)	53% (72)	39% (53)
I was pleased with the number of workshops that offered PDHs.	1% (1)	2% (2)	20% (27)	44% (58)	34% (45)
Social Events	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
I enjoyed the Bootleggers and Blue Tops Kickoff Party on Wednesday evening.	1% (1)	4% (5)	15% (20)	32% (42)	49% (65)
I enjoyed the Great Council River Festival on Thursday evening.	1% (2)	1% (2)	15% (20)	36% (49)	46% (63)
I enjoyed the Awards Luncheon on Saturday.	1% (1)	2% (2)	24% (28)	49% (58)	25% (29)
I enjoyed the Farewell Reception/ Banquet on Saturday evening.	1% (1)	1% (1)	26% (28)	36% (39)	36% (39)
I enjoyed the After Party on Saturday evening.	1% (1)	3% (3)	47% (47)	21% (21)	29% (29)
NCEES Staff	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
NCEES staff were available when I needed them.	0% (0)	0% (0)	2% (3)	21% (30)	77% (110)
NCEES staff were knowledgeable.	0% (0)	0% (0)	1% (2)	17% (24)	82% (116)
NCEES staff were professional and courteous.	0% (0)	0% (0)	1% (2)	11% (16)	87% (124)
Hotel	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
The Minneapolis Hilton meeting space was clean and comfortable.	0% (0)	1% (1)	4% (5)	24% (34)	72% (101)
I received good value for money at this hotel.	1% (1)	3% (4)	9% (12)	39% (54)	49% (69)
The hotel staff were helpful and courteous.	2% (3)	1% (1)	5% (7)	36% (50)	56% (78)

MISSION

- ◆ Assist Member Boards in the promotion and promulgation of regulatory processes for engineering and surveying which demonstrate high standards of knowledge, competence, professional development, and ethics.
- ◆ Provide services to Member Boards that promote uniform licensing procedures which emphasize quality education, examination, experience, and continuing professional competency.
- ◆ Coordinate and cooperate among domestic and international organizations to promote licensure of all engineers and land surveyors.

NCEES Strategic Plan

Annual Meeting debate adds insight to higher education issue



Howard C. Harderode II, P.E.
Maryland State Board for
Professional Engineers

In 2006, the Council passed a motion to add language to the *Model Law* requiring engineering licensure candidates to earn 30 additional credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree. Since then, the Council has typically referred to this requirement as the "bachelor's plus 30," with the understanding that a master's degree of engineering would also meet the requirement. But based on the debate at this year's Annual Meeting, it seems as if a consensus is building that it would be more appropriate to refer to this requirement as the "master's or equivalent." During the workshops and forums, several well-known and experienced delegates, including some past presidents, spoke in support of more stringent education requirements. However, they said that the emphasis should be placed on the master's degree because the bachelor's plus 30 language lends itself to misinterpretation by several key groups.

There are several reasons why it may be a good idea to emphasize an engineering master's degree as the best way to meet the education requirements for licensure.

Selling the concept to state legislatures

The NCEES *Model Law* and *Model Rules* spell out requirements for engineering licensure. These documents provide NCEES Member Boards with the model to use when working with state legislatures to update their practice laws for the engineering and surveying professions. Consequently, comity depends upon the ability of the Member Boards to successfully get their legislatures to incorporate the language of the *Model Law* and *Model Rules* into their professional practice laws. If the majority of Member Boards do not have the provisions contained in the model enacted in their state laws, then interstate comity is far more difficult for P.E.'s, to the detriment of the profession as a whole. This is an important consideration when the Committee on Uniform Procedures and Legislative Guidelines (UPLG) and the Council deliberate amendments to these documents.

Framing the education requirements in terms of a "master's or equivalent" would be far easier to sell to the state legislatures than the "bachelor's plus 30" in its current

form. During Annual Meeting discussions, delegates and administrators appeared to agree that selling the bachelor's plus 30 to the legislatures will be an uphill battle. They anticipated concerns related to the specifics of the requirement, such as defining approved coursework and approved course providers.

The *Model Rules* language proposed by the Bachelor's Plus 30 Task Force and approved by the Council in August defines the terms "acceptable upper-level undergraduate and/or graduate-level coursework" and "approved course provider" as stated in the *Model Law* language outlining the 30 additional credit requirement.

While the current language provides guidelines for what is acceptable in fulfilling the requirement, it does leave room for interpretation. For example, coursework in technical topic areas (which must account for at least half of the 30 additional credits) can include both engineering coursework and "sciences and mathematics related to engineering." Who will determine which of these courses are related to engineering? The requirement states that "all coursework shall be equivalent in intellectual rigor and learning assessment to upper-level undergraduate and/or graduate courses offered at institutions that have a program accredited by EAC/ABET." Who will make this determination?

Council delegates also passed a Bachelor's Plus 30 Task Force motion to charge a committee with exploring the idea of creating a clearinghouse for the requirement. The work of the committee assigned this charge—this year's Engineering Education Task Force—could begin providing answers to these and other questions.

However, the goal remains to provide Member Boards with something that they can persuade their legislatures to pass into law. This could be done by emphasizing that a master's degree in the candidate's field would meet the additional education requirements—without the need for the candidate to go through the proposed clearinghouse. The clearinghouse could then be used only to determine whether the qualifications of candidates without master's degrees should be considered equivalent.

Allowing educators to do their job

Some critics of the additional education requirement have argued that NCEES does not have the expertise to determine university curricula for engineers and that the engineering deans and ABET are the appropriate parties for adjusting coursework requirements in response to changes in the body of knowledge. By reframing the additional coursework requirement as a master's or equivalent, the Council will allow the organizations best equipped to respond to the expanding body of knowledge to do so.

ABET recently decided that it will allow institutions to pursue dual-level accreditation of both bachelor's and master's degree programs, beginning in 2009. This decision makes the master's or equivalent concept even more appropriate. In the past, engineering schools could not offer both accredited bachelor's and master's programs in the same discipline. With ABET performing accreditation for master's degrees in engineering, the task of evaluating degree programs for licensure candidates of 2020 and beyond will remain with ABET. NCEES would then be making determinations on equivalency only for those candidates without a master's degree.

Dual-level accreditation will also allow for a greater level of flexibility in the path toward licensure under the heightened education requirement. In August, the Council passed a motion presented by the Bachelor's Plus 30 Task Force that will charge the UPLG

Committee with incorporating the M-ABET concept into the *Model Law* and *Model Rules*. Dual-level accreditation will allow candidates with undergraduate degrees in non-ABET-accredited programs or in non-engineering disciplines the opportunity to pursue engineering licensure by completing an accredited engineering master's degree.

There still remains the criticism that the increased education requirement, whether it is the bachelor's plus 30 or the master's or equivalent, will affect only the 20 percent of practicing engineers who are licensed P.E.'s. "What about the other 80 percent of engineers who are not licensed?" they ask. I believe that raising the educational requirements for engineering licensure will have a positive effect on all engineers and engineering students. The entire profession will benefit from efforts to elevate the requirements if, as a result of our efforts, a career in engineering will be considered more prestigious. Engineers would join the ranks of other professions requiring an advanced degree. It would elevate the profession as a whole. What other justification is needed?

*Howard C. (Skip) Harclerode II, P.E.
Maryland State Board for Professional Engineers*

Skip Harclerode served as chair of the UPLG Committee from 2006 to 2008 and as an ex-officio member of the 2007–08 Bachelor's Plus 30 Task Force. He is currently a member of the 2008–09 Engineering Education Task Force and a consultant to the 2008–09 UPLG Committee.

Send letters to *Licensure Exchange* editor at NCEES, PO Box 1686, Clemson, SC 29633 or dmcgurt@ncees.org.

Please include your name and state of residence on the letter. Letters may be edited for clarity, brevity, and readability.

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Awards Committee accepting nominations

The Committee on Awards is accepting nominations for the Distinguished Service Award, the Distinguished Service Award with Special Commendation, and the Meritorious Service Award. These awards will be presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. In accordance with Council policy, nomination

materials were mailed to Member Board administrators by October 1. They are also available on CouncilNet or by contacting Executive Assistant Sherrie Holcomb (sholcomb@ncees.org). The deadline for Member Board officers or administrators to submit nominations is **January 31, 2009**.

Alabama

- ◆ C. Michael Arnold, P.L.S., is a new appointee to the board. Veston Bush, P.L.S., is no longer on the board.

Idaho

- ◆ David K. Bennion, P.E., is a new appointee to the board. Scott McClure, P.E., is no longer on the board.

Puerto Rico

- ◆ Fredy Reyes Sorto, P.S., is the board's president for 2008–09.
- ◆ The board's phone number is (787) 722-2122 ext. 248. Its fax number is (787) 722-4818. The contact e-mail for Glennis Matos-Otero, the board's secretary, is gmatos@estado.gobierno.pr.

Texas PE

- ◆ G. Kemble Bennett, Ph.D., P.E., is the new board chair. Gary Raba, P.E., and Elvira Reyna are new appointees to the board. Elsie Allen and Gerry Pate, P.E., are no longer on the board.

Correction: In the August 2008 issue of *Licensure Exchange*, the article "Civil PE candidate pleads guilty in exam theft case" incorrectly stated that Professional Credentialing Services is a company that contracts with NCEES to supervise exam administration for engineering and surveying licensure candidates in Puerto Rico. NCEES does not contract with Professional Credentialing Services. Rather, Professional Credentialing Services contracts directly with the Puerto Rico Board of Examiners of Engineers and Land Surveyors.

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Introducing the 2008–09 NCEES Board of Directors



Standing (l–r): Smith, Jans, Timms, Dinkins, Tami. Seated (l–r): Whitman, Rebane, Corley

At the 2008 Annual Meeting, Henn Rebane, P.E., accepted the position of president, and Gene Corley, Ph.D., P.E., S.E., stepped into the role of immediate past president. Delegates elected David Whitman, Ph.D., P.E., president-elect.

Dale Jans, P.E., was commissioned Central Zone vice president, and Patrick Tami, P.L.S., was commissioned Western Zone vice president. Beginning the second year of their terms are Treasurer Larry Smith, P.E., Northeast Zone Vice President Joe Timms, P.E., and Southern Zone Vice President Gene Dinkins, P.E., P.L.S.

Licensure

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