

## **ASPE Annual Statewide Meeting (Fairbanks, April 12 and 13)**

The statewide ASPE board will meet in Fairbanks on April 12th and 13th. All are invited. In conjunction with the board meeting, a luncheon hosted by the ASPE Fairbanks Chapter will be held at the Westmark Hotel on Friday, April 12th at noon. Members from other professional societies in Fairbanks including ASCE, ASHRAE, SWE, IEEE, ITE, etc. will be invited to attend. The topic will be a group roundtable discussion on the value of professional societies to individual members and the larger community. The current National president of NSPE, Mark Golden, will be in attendance, and will share some of his national insights. The ASPE statewide officers for the next year will also be installed at the meeting. Chris Miller of Design Alaska will be installed as President, and he will be hosting the board meeting. Please come to the lunch meeting if you are in Fairbanks!

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## **E-week Roundup**

### **Fairbanks**

Fairbanks held a variety of activities related to E-week 2019. The College of Engineering and Mines held an open house on campus to showcase hands-on activities for youth to excite them about engineering opportunities at UAF. The ICE ARCH team erected the 2019 arch in the middle of campus. At the E-week banquet an engineer who erected the very first arch in 1965 was present and was thanked for setting the standard of the enduring tradition. The E-week banquet was held with 100 in attendance to celebrate our Engineers of the Year, hear a presentation about seismic safety from the viewpoint of an emergency planner, and acknowledge scholarship and local MATHCOUNTS winners.



### **Fairbanks Engineers of the Year**

Fairbanks presented Engineer of the Year honors to three individuals at the annual E-week banquet on February 23rd. The student Engineer of the Year was awarded to Samuel Mitchell, Civil Engineering student at UAF, noting his strong involvement in advocacy at the state legislature and in student government. The Young Engineer of the Year was presented to Lauren Little, P.E., with DOT, for her work associated with significant road projects in the northern region. Engineer of the Year went to Bob Tsigonis, P.E., of Lifewater Engineering. He has raised a family of engineers, while entrepreneuring a successful packaged wastewater treatment system for rural locations. His work has taken him around the world exporting our Fairbanks experience to other harsh environments.



Samuel Mitchell (left) and Lauren Little, P.E., (right) were honored at the Fairbanks E-week banquet on February 23rd.

## Juneau

Alaska Capital Engineers hosted the 2019 Awards Banquet at the Baranof Hotel on Saturday, February 23rd. The event was well attended with over 80 guests. We even had the pleasure of presenting this year's Alaska Engineering and Education Foundation \$2,000 Scholarship to Kyle Farley-Robinson in person; he was joined by his proud parents. Attendees enjoyed a presentation by guest speaker Michael Ulroan, Regional Director of the Acceleration Academy at the Alaska Native Science & Engineering Program (ANSEP). Mr. Ulroan shared how ANSEP is successfully effecting systemic changes in hiring patterns of Alaska Natives by providing focused STEM educational and mentoring opportunities starting in middle school through employment.

### Juneau Engineer of the Year

Nominees for this year's Engineer of the Year included Laura Kelly, Supervisory Engineer with the USCG Civil Engineering Unit, and Erich Schaal, Project Manager, CBJ Docks & Harbors. The honor went to Ms. Kelly for her work with the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission in addition to using Rapid Visual Screening to evaluate Alaska's schools following the 7.0 earthquake on November 30, 2018. There were four projects nominated for Project of the Year: Portage Cove Harbor Expansion for the City of Haines by PND Engineers, Aurora Harbor Phase II for CBJ by PND Engineers, Lemon Creek Substation Wildlife Protection by AEL&P, and the Downtown Seawalk: Bridge to Gold Creek for CBJ led by Tetra-Tech. The distinction went to the Downtown Seawalk. Many thanks to those who took the time to submit nominations, to the officers who organized

the event, and to corporate sponsors for donations and door prizes.

## **Anchorage**

The Anchorage E-week committee pulled off another fantastic week of engineering events aimed at helping children and adults in our community understand and gain appreciation for the field of engineering. Events included a Bowl-A-Thon fundraiser for MATHCOUNTS, student engineering competitions, classroom presentations, and an engineering-themed field trip for high school juniors and seniors. At the E-week Banquet, held on Saturday, February 23rd, we celebrated MATHCOUNTS winners, scholarships for high school seniors, excellent engineering projects, and the Engineer of the Year nominees. Our banquet speaker was Don McMillan, renowned engineer turned stand-up comedian, who taught us the difference between a nerd and a geek using Venn diagrams.

### **Anchorage Engineer of the Year**

The Anchorage 2018 Engineer of the Year competition featured five outstanding engineers: Amy Mestas (nominated by the Structural Engineers Association of Alaska), Katie Johnson (nominated by the Society of Women Engineers), Bradley Sordahl (nominated by American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers), Erica Jensen (nominated by the Institute of Transportation Engineers), and Nicole Knox (nominated by both the National Association of Women in Construction Alaska Chapter and the Society of American Military Engineers). Amy Mestas took home the prize. She is a civil and structural engineer working at PDC Engineers. Amy has served on the board of SEAAK and SWE. She is the head volleyball coach at South Anchorage High School, and the Northern Lights Math and Science Night Chair. Since the Anchorage earthquake on November 30, Amy has spent countless hours organizing post-earthquake inspection efforts for PDC's structural engineers.

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## **Scholarship Awards (AEEF)**

2019 has been another great year for the Alaska Engineering Education Foundation (AEEF) Scholarship Program. By partnering with the Alaska Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE) and other like-minded professional societies, AEEF awarded \$26,000 during the 2019 National Engineers Week statewide to one continuing engineering college student and eight graduating high school seniors, including one from a remote school in Unalaska, Alaska. Awarded scholarships ranged from a high of \$5,000 to \$1,500 with some awardees receiving scholarships from multiple societies. Since 2000, AEEF has offered over \$330,000 in scholarships to students pursuing a career in engineering. These scholarships are funded from generous donations from local engineering firms and societies, professional engineers, and through the AEEF Endowment. AEEF thanks their partners in the Scholarship Program and the many donors that make all this possible.

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## Board Members and Other Volunteers Needed

ASPE Statewide is taking nominations for the President-Elect and Secretary positions. The President-Elect position is part of a three-year rotation. The President-Elect learns the ropes of the statewide board for the first year, takes the helm of the statewide board as ASPE President in the second year, and then serves as AEEF President in the third year. The ASPE Secretary position is generally held for multiple years, and involves sending out notices of upcoming meetings and keeping records, including minutes of the monthly teleconferences. Note that all of the local chapters (Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Juneau) are also seeking new board members. Volunteering on the boards is a great way to meet new people and improve your leadership skills. Contact Jeanne Bowie ([jeannebowie@kinneyeng](mailto:jeannebowie@kinneyeng)) or your local board members for more information.

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## Take the 2019 Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest Challenge!

All current NSPE members through their state societies and chapters (including student chapters) are invited to participate in the 2019 NSPE Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest.

The winning entry will receive an award of \$2,000, a certificate, and recognition in *PE* magazine.

### How to Participate

NSPE's Board of Ethical Review is furnishing you with two different fact situations to choose from regarding the ethics of engineers, or you can submit your own case! Please choose either of the two situations (or use your own case) and develop an essay, video, photo essay, poster, or PowerPoint presentation, which could include embedded videos/sound, etc., to demonstrate your understanding of the facts and the [NSPE Code of Ethics](#).

Contestants are asked to read the facts of the case, then develop a discussion and conclusion to respond to the included question(s). Contestants should also provide references, citing specific sections of the Code of Ethics. Contestants may also want to check the NSPE Board of Ethical Review's [website](#) for additional cases decided by the BER.

All entries must be received by **Monday, April 15**.

[Access all the contest rules and download the flyer.](#)

*The contest is named for NSPE's former general counsel, who played a key role in the founding of the NSPE Board of Ethical Review.*

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## As Heard on Communities

NSPE's [Communities](#) is the place for members to connect online with colleagues. Log in for knowledge exchange, content curation, collaboration, and professional networking.



No matter what your interest, you can find great content in the Open Forum. Check out these recent discussions:

### [Driver's License Approach](#)

"We need to point to the way driver's licenses work nationally as a model for national respect of a professional engineer. A driver has a license in one state and it is recognized in every other state. Are driving laws different state to state, and is safety involved in driving a vehicle? Clearly the answer is yes."

### [Role of Safety Through Engineering in the Natural Gas Pipeline Industry](#)

"I would like to take a moment to expand on the role of the engineering profession in the natural gas pipeline industry. This statement is intended to be an informative piece on how this role aligns with the fundamental canons of NSPE's Code of Ethics. My statement will explain the fundamentals of pipeline safety regulations to my fellow members—regulations that are rooted in sound engineering principles."

Also see: ["Emergency Response"](#)

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