



THE PELS NEWS

A Publication of the State Board of Licensure For Professional Engineers & Professional Surveyors

October, 2015

Newsletter

Thirty-Sixth Edition



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

by Heather Richardson

Since this is my first PELS Newsletter since being named Executive Director by the Board in May 2015, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. A year ago, I joined the Board staff as the Chief Investigator replacing James Atchley, who had retired. Prior to that, I was the Chief Investigator for the Public Protection Department at the Arkansas Attorney General's Office. I have a B.S. degree in Environmental Science and Natural Science from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and have investigated, resolved, and testified in many cases involving utility, environmental and consumer disputes. I appreciate the opportunity that the Board has given me, and I'm honored to serve the engineers and surveyors of Arkansas.

In other news, our building, which was purchased by the Board and is located across the street from the Arkansas capitol, is getting some much needed repairs and renovations. This project should last for the next couple of years, starting with exterior repairs after the first of the year. The Board has appointed a Building Committee to assist with all the details of this project.

This year's NCEES annual meeting was held in Williamsburg, Virginia. The Board was well represented by Vice President David Beasley, Ivan Hoffman, and Ronnie Hawkins. It was my first meeting, and I was extremely impressed with the organization, pertinent material, knowledge of the presenters, and the dedicated, competent professionals serving on boards.

NCEES notified the Board of some future changes to the Principles and Practice of Surveying examination. Starting in October 2016, the exam will be converted to a computer based exam.

On November 5, 2015, at 5:00pm, Board Member Jim Engstrom will present the NCEES Engineering Award to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Department of Construction Management and Civil Construction Engineering for their American Red Cross Seismic Retrofit Feasibility Study.

On a final personal note, I'd like to express gratitude to our 3 departing Board Members, Tommy Bond, P.E. P.S., Frank Vozel P.E., and Nora Moses. They provided outstanding service to our Board and to our licensed surveyors and engineers, not to mention immense help to me personally. Thank you!



Steve Haralson, Executive Director Retires

Steve Haralson, the Board's Executive Director, retired at the beginning of September 2015, serving the needs of the Board, engineers, and surveyors for the past 8 years. Haralson, a licensed Professional Engineer in Arkansas since 1984 and an attorney since 1996, continued to advance the Board by developing a paperless filing system in 2010 and establishing a website that supports online applications and renewals. Haralson is looking forward to spending time with his wife Regina in their home in Cleburne County with their dog, Elvis.

"Steve did so many good sustaining things for this Board, too many to mention. His easygoing nature, outstanding leadership, and knowledge will be missed." – Heather Richardson

Board Members

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President
Consumer Member

David Beasley, PhD, PE
Vice President
Engineer Member

Ronald R Hawkins, PE PS
Engineer & Surveyor Member

Robert Holloway, PE
Engineer Member

H James Engstrom, PE
Engineer Member

Ivan Hoffman, PS
Surveyor Member

Brian Moore, PE
Engineer Member

Scott Bennett, PE
Engineer Member

Thomas Scott
Consumer Member

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Regulatory Board
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Board Changes - New Appointments and officers

Governor Asa Hutchinson recently appointed Scott Bennett, P.E. (Engineer Member); Brian Moore, P.E. (Engineer Member) and Thomas Scott (Consumer Member) to the Arkansas State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors.

Scott Bennett, P.E began his career with the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department in 1989 and has served as the Director of the department since September 2011. Bennett graduated from U of A at Fayetteville with a B.S. in 1989 and an M.S. in 1994 in Civil Engineering. He obtained Arkansas licensure in 1994. Bennett replaced Frank Vozel, P.E. (Engineer Member).

Brian Moore, P.E. is the current Vice-President and part owner of Engineering Services, Inc. (ESI) in Springdale, Arkansas. He joined ESI in 1992. Brian graduated from U of A at Fayetteville with a B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1994 and obtained Arkansas licensure in 2000. Moore replaced Tommy Bond P.E, P.S (Engineer Member).

Thomas Scott is the current owner of Arkansas CAMA Technology, Inc. and DataScout, LLC in Little Rock, Arkansas. Scott graduated from the U of A at Fayetteville with a B.S. in Public Administration and is a Certified Appraiser in Arkansas and Louisiana. Scott replaced Nora Moses (Consumer Member).

Officer elections for 2015-2016 were held at the May 2015 Board Meeting. Members Young and Beasley are serving as President and Vice-President, respectively.



Grant Grigg, hired as Regulatory Board Chief Investigator

Grant Grigg joined the Arkansas Board for Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors on August 24, 2015 as Chief Investigator.

In 1998, Grigg was hired at the Arkansas Commissioner of State Lands' Office as a Research Analyst and later promoted to a Deputy State Land Commissioner. In 2003, Grigg was hired as an Investigator and in 2011 was promoted to Senior Investigator at the Arkansas Real Estate Commission. Grigg earned a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 2007. He also holds Professional Certifications from the Association of License Law Officials and has the title of Certified Real Estate Investigator, as well as Arkansas Governmental Manager and Certified Public Manager from the Arkansas Public Administration Consortium.

"We feel very fortunate to have been able to hire someone with Grant's education, background and experience" - Heather Richardson.



REPORT ON DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS Taken by the Board since November 2014 By Grant Grigg

CASE NUMBER #2014-05, in the matter of Matt Johnston, unlicensed

COMPLAINT: Johnston and the firm Precision Foundation Specialists, Inc. advertise engineering services and issued a report considered the work product of the practice of engineering.

RESOLUTION: On January 15, 2015, Matt Johnston entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board and was assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.00.

CASE NUMBER #2014-07, in the matter of Viiram McKenney, P.S.

COMPLAINT: McKenney surveyed and filed four (4) different plats showing quarter sections and boundary lines measured from two (2) different established Common Corners.

RESOLUTION: After a hearing on March 10, 2015, McKenny was found negligent in the practice of surveying and issued a formal reprimand.

THE WAY WE WERE

A history of the Arkansas Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors

The Evolution of Engineering & Surveying Education in Arkansas

By Steve Haralson

Part II – Surveyor Education

The first article traced the history of engineering education in Arkansas and this does the same for surveying education. As we will see, “stand alone” surveying education is relatively new as compared to engineering education. Also, most Arkansas non-engineer surveying applicants qualifying by education have historically come from programs at four (4) state schools, and while programs still exist at two (2) of the schools the others don’t.

The relatively recent emergence of surveying education programs is explained by Dr. David Gipson, long-time educator from Florida, in his article “The History and Status of Geomatics Education in the U.S.”. In that article, he notes that until the mid to late 1950’s, Civil Engineering was the traditional “educational home” of Surveyors and Surveying. Dr. Gipson also credits the end of World War II with at least starting the migration of surveyor education to its own field by replacing engineering curricula with some of the newer technologies developed or refined as part of the war effort.

As a result of these changes, separate surveying programs begin to emerge across the United States and the first 4-year program dedicated to Surveying was established at the Oregon Institute of Technology in the mid to late 1960’s. Also around this time, many Civil Engineering programs began reducing the number of surveying classes so that by the 1980’s an ASCE survey found that a two thirds majority of programs taught either one or no required surveying classes and the other third only offered surveying as an elective.

In Arkansas and for the first 40 or so years of its history, there are few if any references in Board minutes to surveyor licensure or education. Minutes from the January 1951 meeting show that the Board reviewed preparation of a bill “to govern the practice of surveying”, but there is no further mention until December 1962 when members of the Arkansas Society of Professional Engineers presented a proposed law regulating surveying and asked the Board to administer it. Although not fully clear, it appears this law or at least some version of it was finally passed as Act 101 of the 1967 Legislative Session.

As it did then, and until January 1, 2017¹, Act 101 (since codified at A.C.A. §17-48-101 *et seq*) provided for licensure for applicants with a degree from either an “approved engineering curriculum with sufficient surveying courses” or a two-year surveying technology curriculum followed by two years of acceptable experience. As it does now too, the law also provided for licensure with six (6) years of acceptable experience which could include

¹ In 2009, former licensee and State Senator Jerry Taylor sponsored and the Legislature passed Act 392 which, among other things will change the educational requirements significantly beginning January 1, 2017. A document containing the full description of those changes can be found on the Board’s website at the following link: <http://www.pels.arkansas.gov/rulesRegsStandards/Documents/Guidance%20Document.pdf>

credit for “each year of satisfactory work in an approved engineering or engineering technology curriculum” not to exceed two years.

The initial Rules adopted February 16, 1967 added little to the law’s education requirements except that it clarified to some extent what education might be creditable toward experience. For example, Section 2., subsection c. provided that completing the International Correspondence School of Scranton, Pennsylvania (ICS) could count “a maximum of four years credit” toward the required six years.²

Since 1967, the pool of Surveyor applicants seeking to qualify solely or partially on education has come largely from programs at four (4) Arkansas schools. Some of those programs no longer exist and the ones that do have seen a change in their programs over the years. Because the Board’s records are not clear, the dates and descriptions that follow are admittedly sketchy and approximate.

ICS

By the time, the Arkansas Surveyor licensing laws and rules were written, the ICS had been in existence for almost 80 years. It was started in 1891 in response to the State of Pennsylvania passing the Mine Safety Act that required miners to pass examinations on mine safety and later expanded its offerings to many other areas including surveying.

“Certificates” or “Transcripts” in 2 Arkansas Surveyor licensee files show that the ICS surveying program contained instruction in a number of subjects much like a traditional surveying education program. A 1972 certificate showed letter grades for 49 “Instruction Texts” ranging from “Practical Arithmetic” to “Fundamentals of Law for Surveyors”. Similarly, a 1981 certificate gave numeric grades and overall “lesson average” to 55 Instruction texts completed from May 1979 to August 1981 with topics ranging from “Engineering Orientation” to “Earthwork.”

University of Arkansas-Fayetteville (UAF)

Beginning around the mid-1970’s UAF offered an Associate degree in Land Surveying taught by faculty in the school’s Civil Engineering department. The program no longer exists.

University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR)

Minutes from a 1989 meeting shows the Board approved apparently the first 4-years surveying degree program offered at an Arkansas School. UALR offered both a Bachelor of Science in Surveying program and an Associate of Science degree in Land Surveying Technology. Neither program still exists.

University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton (UACCM)

As early as 1972, Board minutes reflect it took note of instruction at this institution (then called Petit Jean Vocational Technical School) first giving students a year of experience credit, later increasing the credit to two (2) years and finally in 1997 approving its program as meeting the education requirement. Currently, applicants can qualify by education with its Associate of Applied Science in Surveying degree.

University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM)

The Board licensed applicants with Forestry degrees from this south Arkansas school as early as 1968. In fact, the first Surveyor applicant licensed by examination rather than by grandfathering had a BS in Forestry from the school which was then called Arkansas A&M. Later in 2004, the Spatial Information Systems program (still taught by faculty in the School of Forest Resources) was approved as satisfying the education requirement. The school also offers an Associate of Science degree in Land Surveying Technology.

² Interestingly, the cited rule appears to conflict with the law in that it provides that the ICS school credit could be up to 4 years while the law provides that the education credit for those qualifying by experience could not exceed 2 years.

CONGRATULATIONS to those who passed exams!
New licenses issued October 8, 2014 – October 16, 2015

ENGINEER INTERNS - FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGINEERING

Mahbub Ahmed 8467	Thomas Cusick 8470	Justin Hays 8514	Charles Mantione 8488	Kevin Paletskih 8453	Chris Siebenmorgen 8494
Joshua Bishop 8463	Braden Davidson 8498	Ross Helliker 8513	Connor Marlin 8489	Jordan Patoka 8493	Brooker Siemens 8455
Johnathan Blanchard 8501	Samuel Davies 8512	Damon Hill 8485	Angela Matika 8473	Turner Pendergrass 8454	Quentin Skelton 8495
Matthew Bradley 8452	Jeffrey Dettelbach 8462	Jeffrey Holmes 8475	Stephanie Maxwell 8490	Ryan Pickett 8481	Zachary Slinkard 8457
James Bradley 8482	Keith Ericksen 8502	James Isenhour, III 8486	Timothy Moody 8491	Jacob Rennick 8459	Scott Smart 8496
Mitchell Brady 8464	James Fields 8450	Alexander Kreps 8477	Sierra Morgan 8466	Cardia Rolle 8507	David Smith 8447
Taryn Brown 8476	Stephen Fitch 8505	Marla Larey 8460	Andrew Naeyaert 8508	Tyler Samuel 8479	Andrew Smith 8468
Robert Bullis 8519	Rachel Gatling 8458	Rachel Ledat 8480	Vu Nguyen, PhD 8510	Robert Sanders 8446	Holly Vetsch 8516
William Carlisle 8483	Benjamin Grantham 8469	Andrew Leeper 8504	Tim Nichols 8472	Jed Schales 8503	Jordan Watson 8449
Phillip Choi 8517	Christopher Halbrook 8451	Kevin Lester 8499	Shane O'Brien 8471	Steven Schultz 8511	Benjamin Whatley 8497
Tavis Clemmer 8465	Taylor Hamilton 8461	Steven Lewis, Jr. 8478	Casey O'Grady 8492	Bob Sell 8509	Essie Whitmore 8474
Zachary Clevinger 8500	Emily Harrison 8484	Taylor Lindley 8487	Ibett Olaeche Taibe 8518	Sanjay Selvam 8515	Justin York 8456
Josh Collins 8448					Jian Zhang 8506

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS - PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING

Roxanne Adeuya 16419	Kimberly Daggitt 16398	Corey Granderson 16668	Josh King 16440	Rosemary Mittal 16678	Aaron Short 16171
Stephen Allen 16653	Chad Davis 16427	Matthew Green 16432	Gabriel Knight 16441	Boyd Mullins 16450	Joel Skinner 16458
Trevor Armstrong 16420	Frederick Doss 16660	Brian Hall 16433	Jonathan Langford 16442	Andy Nanneman 16451	Annette Smalley 16459
James Bailey 16421	Micah Edwards 16661	Samantha Harper 16669	Bradley Marotti 16443	Stephen Nickell 16679	Chance Smith 16460
Adam Benzabeh 16654	Patricia Edwards 16428	Steven Head 16434	Richard Mattox 16444	Andrew Nolen 16452	Edward Smith 16461
Jerry Bisswanger 16655	Jorge Espinosa 16773	Eric Heinrichs 16435	Stephen McCall 16674	James O'Kelley 16680	Puneet Srivastava 16685
Kiron Browning 16656	Alexander Font 16662	Gregory Herndon 16670	Lindsey McConnell 16445	Adam Osweiler 16681	James Steuber 16172
Zachary Buckmiller 16422	Christian Foshee 16663	Aaron Hilborn 16436	Kathryn McCoy 16446	Jay Pascual 16453	Daniel Stout 16462
Mark Chinery 16423	Timothy Foster 16429	William Holden 16671	Jeremy McDonald 16447	Ashley Pifer, PhD 16682	Luke Stovall 16463
Bryan Clark 16657	Christina Franco 16430	Edmund Howe 16437	Claire McKinney 16675	Sarmad Raheem 16454	Jason Strong 16686
Douglas Clark 16424	Matthew Fritsche 16664	Rachel Hulett 16672	Jeffery Meier 16448	John Raley 16683	Jairus Stroupe 16173
Luis Cobos 16658	Christopher Gatling 16665	Kevin Jensen 16438	Bradley Miller 16676	Kevin Reese 16684	Thomas Talley 16174
Robert Colebank 16425	Andrew Gertsch 16431	Zachary Johnson 16673	Minghua Miller 16449	Grace Richardson 16455	Chris Williams 16175
Bradley Coleman 16659	Scott Geurin 16666	Ryan Johnston 16439	Brent Miranda 16677	Eric Scarbrough 16456	Jason Winget 16687
Benjamin Cottrell 16426	Daniel Goad 16667			Ilwoo Seok, PhD 16457	Michael Wolfe 16464

SURVEYOR INTERNS - FUNDAMENTALS OF SURVEYING

Justin Cody 688	John Miller 687	Daniel Phillips 685
John Legere 686	James Newton 683	Justin Taffner 684

PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS - PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF SURVEYING

Kevin Beadle 1794	Andrew McCollum 1791	Andrew Waits 1796
Kevin Hall 1789	Derick Reynolds 1795	



- 2015** Nov 9 Complaint Committee Meeting
- 10 Board Meeting, PELS Board Office
- 11 Veterans Day – State offices closed
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Day – State offices closed
- Dec 7 Registration for the NCEES April 2016 PE/PS/SE exams opens
- 24-25 Christmas Eve & Day – State offices closed
- 2016** Jan 1 New Year's Day – State offices closed
- 1 Cut-off date for PE/PS applications for April 2016 exams
- 12 Board Meeting, PELS Board Office
- 18 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday – State offices closed
- Feb 15 George Washington's Birthday & Daisy Gatson Bates Day – State offices closed
- TBA Board meeting, PELS Board Office
- Mar 8 Board Meeting, PELS Board Office



NCEES

*advancing licensure for
engineers and surveyors*

2015 NCEES Engineering Award winners

The Marquette University Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering is the grand prize winner of the 2015 NCEES Engineering Award for Connecting Professional Practice and Education. The award jury met June 2, 2015, in Clemson, South Carolina, to select the \$25,000 grand prize winner.

The department received the top prize for its submission, [Sechum Vehicle Bridge \(PDF\)](#). For the project, civil engineering students worked as part of a team that also included faculty, professional engineers with specific technical backgrounds to support each discipline on the project, other professionals, and over 100 community volunteers from the Mayan community of Sechum. The team designed and constructed a vehicular bridge, which impacted three rural communities seeking safe, reliable crossing of the Rio Pasaguay to access education, markets, and health care.

The jury praised the project for its strong interaction with professional engineers as well as improving the quality of life in this community.

The jury selected five additional winners to receive awards of \$7,500 each:

University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Department of Construction Management and Civil and Construction Engineering
[American Red Cross of Greater Arkansas Seismic Retrofit Feasibility Study \(PDF\)](#)

The Citadel, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

[Multidisciplinary Evaluation and Rehabilitation Design of Sacred Heart Catholic Church \(PDF\)](#)

George Mason University The Sid and Reva Dewberry Department of Civil, Environmental, and Infrastructure Engineering

[Water Supply, Distribution and Storage Sabana Grande, Nicaragua \(PDF\)](#)

Seattle University, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

[Seismic Analysis and Retrofit Design of a Historic Substation Control Building \(PDF\)](#)

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Charles W. Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction

[Multidisciplinary Vertical Farm Design \(PDF\)](#)

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