



<sup>TM</sup> MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

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**MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**2017-2018  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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*As MSPE celebrates another year of service to the public and its members, let us reflect on our Mission Statement and the Engineer's Creed we are all dedicated to upholding.*

## **MSPE Mission Statement**

The Mission of NSPE/MSPE is to promote the ethical, competent practice of licensed engineering, advocate licensure, and enhance the image and well-being of its members.

## **Engineer's Creed**

As a Professional Engineer, I dedicate my professional knowledge and skill to the advancement and betterment of human welfare.

*I pledge:*

To give the utmost of performance;

To participate in none but honest enterprise;

To live and work according to the laws of man and the highest standards of professional conduct;

To place service before profit, the honor and standing of the profession before personal advantage, and the public's welfare above all other considerations;

In humility and with need for Divine guidance, I make this pledge.

*Adopted by the National Society of Professional Engineers, June 1954*

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## **In Memoriam**

The Michigan Society of Professional Engineers wishes to remember its members who have left this life since the time of our last Annual Meeting. Let it be known that our Society shares in the heartfelt sorrow of the families of our departed members and beloved friends.

*Charles J. Allen, PE  
Patrick W. Bergmann, PE  
Dr. Charles E. Cutts, PE  
Arthur E. Frazho, PE  
Charles P. Reynolds, PE*

*Lynn H. Barber, PE  
Gunther E. Brauning, PE  
Robert J. Davis, PE  
D.W. Granger, PE  
James A. Roberts, PE  
Walter J. Vaclavik, PE*

*Stewart C. Barnett, PE  
Carl M. Conner, PE  
Michele Dorian, PE  
Wsewolod Hnatzuk, PE  
David T. Rowe, PE  
Robert C. Worthington, PE*

*Robert H. Bauer, PE  
Gerard J. Cottrell, PE  
John G. Frank, PE  
Paul D. Hodges  
Dr. Wilbert Simkovitz, PE*

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## President's Report

*Submitted By Robert Wheeler, P.E., President*

As I look back on this year I think of how to best summarize my thoughts. The only word that comes to mind is *catharsis*. Last week I sat with a few board members and volunteers in the building after emptying our last few odds and ends from the building and reflected on where we have been this year. We have closed a door on this chapter of our organization and are looking forward to the future.

I took a picture of the board room table before everyone left the last time and couldn't help but think of how many of our predecessors sat the table in that room and made tough decisions not unlike what our current board went through this year. To say that we stand on the shoulders giants is too trite or cliché. Our organization continues to be successful year after year because of our great members.

This organization, although much smaller in size than it was in the past, is still a very active group. We struggle with engagement, as many organizations do, but we have a great group of members that refuse to give up on our quest. We continue to fight legislation that interferes with our vision.

We must remain vigilant in our goal and vision for our organization. My departing wish for this organization and my continued efforts and motive in staying involved is to achieve this vision. I have been inspired this year to see many younger members join our society and pick up the torch.

For those that are unaware, our vision is this:

"To **proMote** licen**Sure** within the **P**rofession of **E**ngineering and elevate the awareness of the continued service by licensed professionals in the public sphere."

Please join me in assisting this great organization to arrive at this destination!

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## **Executive Director's Report**

*Submitted by Shada Biabani-Kanine, Executive Director*

After completing my second year as your Executive Director I feel that we made a great deal of progress over the past year and are moving in the right direction. The organization, as a whole, is much healthier and members have become more engaged over the past year. Many of the chapters have enjoyed much success and some have even increased in numbers. There is still work to do in some parts of the state as the Chapters figure out what there local members want from MSPE.

The 2017, Annual Conference was held in Ann Arbor and was deemed a success for MSPE. We saw an increase in attendance over the prior two years. The conference included a number of educational sessions, a tour of MCity, networking opportunities, legislative update and the vendor showcase. This was the first year that the conference was down-state and was shortened to two days.

In July, I attended the NSPE Annual Conference in Atlanta. This was a great opportunity for me to work with other Executive Directors from around the country. We spent a large part of our time discussing the dues model change that will be going into effect this year. We also discussed what we needed from National to help at the State level. It was very productive and educational for me.

We have been very active legislatively over the past year. We worked on a number of bills in both the House and Senate, most notably, the "Pipe" bill. We were able to mobilize members to contact legislators and encourage them to oppose the bill. We also had a successful Legislative Day in March. Our members, along with member from our AESLC partners, met with nearly all legislators during the event.

During the past year, I had the opportunity to visit most of the Chapters. I attended a number of Chapter meetings, as well as a few golf outings. We also experimented with holding virtual meetings for our Northern and At-Large Chapters. We have had small groups participate but they have been working toward putting together a networking event this spring. That group is challenged by geography and is looking for ways to connect. The virtual meeting is a start and, hopefully, will be a way for those chapters to become more active.

I had the opportunity to attend the Western Chapter MATHCOUNTS event this year as well as the State event. This is a great program and continues to offer a fun and challenging competition for the Mathletes that participate. MSPE does an outstanding job with MATHCOUNTS and should be proud of this program and the students that represent our State at the National Competition.

The other big accomplishment over the past year was the selling of the headquarters building in Lansing. This was a very difficult decision for the Board of Directors, but they did a great job gathering information and sifting through it to come to the best decision for the members of



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## **2018 Annual Business Meeting Agenda**

**Friday, May 4, 2018 – 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.**

**Eberhard Center, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan**

- 8:30 a.m. Call to Order of the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Business Meeting of MSPE (R. Wheeler)
- Invocation (N. Uddin)
  - Roll Call / Sign-in Sheets (P. Lewis)
  - Moment of Silence for Deceased Members (R. Wheeler)
  - Welcome/Opening Remarks (R. Wheeler)
- 8:40 a.m. Officer / Committee Reports
- Minutes from May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Annual Business Meeting, The Kensington Hotel, Ann Arbor, Michigan (P. Lewis) – Action Needed
  - Approval of the Financial Report (K. LaFrance)
  - Review / Questions on Board / Committee Reports (previously submitted)
- 8:45 a.m. New Business (R. Wheeler)
- Presentation of Presidential Citations
- 8:50 a.m. Teller's Report (P. Lewis)
- Approval of the Newly Elected Officers – Action Needed
  - Bank Signatures Resolution – Action Needed
- 8:55 p.m. Installation of New Officers
- 9:00 a.m. Closing Remarks (R. Wheeler)
- Adjournment of Annual Business Meeting – Action Needed

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# 2017 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 5, 2017

The Kensington Hotel, Ann Arbor, Michigan

1. Call to Order of the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting of MSPE
  - President Michael Schwartz called the meeting to order at 10:08 A.M. Member sign-in sheet was passed around and collected, and there were 47 members in attendance. N. Robert Uddin, Past President, led the invocation and a moment of silence for members deceased within the past year.
  - President Schwartz gave brief opening remarks.
  
2. Officer / Committee Reports
  - The minutes from the May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Annual Business Meeting at Garland Lodge and Resort, Lewiston, Michigan were presented for approval by Secretary Lewis. It was moved by Patrick Lewis and supported by Alex Yazdani to approve the minutes, and the motion was passed.
  - The 2016 financial report was presented for approval by Treasurer Kurt LaFrance. It was moved by Don Nedervelt and supported by Rene Novak-Arze to approve the financial report, and the motion was passed.
  - Board and committee reports were included in the agenda packet that was distributed to the membership. Secretary Lewis read a report on behalf of the Detroit Metro Chapter from Nancy McClain that was not included in the packet.
  
3. New Business
  - President Schwartz indicated he will make his Presidential citations at the luncheon banquet.
  - Secretary Lewis presented the Teller's Committee report. 78 ballots were returned, and all voted for the slate of officers, which are detailed in the meeting agenda packet. It was moved by Leanne Panduren and supported by Kurt LaFrance to accept the Teller's Committee report, and the motion was passed.
  - Treasurer LaFrance presented a resolution to authorize the 2017-18 President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Executive Director to sign checks on behalf of MSPE. It was moved by Leanne Panduren and supported by Rene Novak-Arze to approve the resolution, and the motion was passed.
  
4. Adjournment
  - President Schwartz gave brief closing remarks.
  - It was moved by Leanne Panduren and supported by Patrick Lewis to adjourn the meeting, the motion was passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:19 A.M.

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## Treasurer's Report & MSPE Financial Statement

For the Year Ending December 31, 2017

Submitted by Kurt K. LaFrance, P.E.

May 4, 2018

### A. Status of Accounts at Fifth/Third Bank:

	<u>Dec. 31, 2016</u>	<u>Dec. 31, 2017</u>
Business Checking	\$38,388.76	\$ 33,840.59
Paypal	0.00	0.00
Foundation (Mathcounts)	11,699.92	13,494.15
MSPE PAC	<u>7,275.19</u>	<u>6,065.19</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$57,363.87</b>	<b>\$53,399.93</b>

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**Net change in assets** **(\$3,963.94)**

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### B. Status of Outstanding Loans:

MSPE sole loan was paid off in February 2017.

### C. Profit & Loss Statement:

We ended the year with a **\$16,801.22 loss**. Our income was \$148,253.64 and our expenses were (\$165,054.86).

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## **Regional, Practice Division, and Committee Reports**

### **Eastern Region Annual Report**

*Submitted by Patrick M. Lewis, P.E., Southeastern Chapter, on behalf of Pamela Lemme, P.E., Eastern Regional Vice President*

The Eastern Region consists of two chapters: Detroit Metro and Southeastern.

#### Detroit Metro Chapter:

A group of past chapter presidents and state officers have formed a committee to continue to try to revitalize the Detroit Metro Chapter, though there is no set leadership structure at present. Two (2) general membership events were held during the past administrative year, these were a viewing of an NSPE webinar and a tour of the Northern Concrete Pipe plant. Two (2) MATHCOUNTS competitions were held, corresponding with the previous Chapter boundaries of Detroit Metro and Oakland. The Detroit Metro Chapter competition consisted of eight (8) teams and a total of 67 individuals and was held at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, whereas the Oakland Chapter is the state's largest, consisting of seventeen (17) teams and a total of 150 individuals and was held at Oakland University.

#### Southeastern Chapter:

The 2017/2018 administrative year was again one of continued stability and activity within the Southeastern Chapter. As has been the case for several years, the Chapter has been fortunate to be served by a core group of roughly 15 members that attend most functions, and continue to provide the vitality that is often lacking in other groups of this type. The signature scholarship program continues to thrive, and the endowment continues to grow, while the Chapter is still able to maintain its consistent level of sponsorship from year to year. Membership has now remained mostly steady, with an increase of one (1) member this year to 48 total at the present time. The MATHCOUNTS program continues to be strong, as eleven (11) schools and a total of 101 students participated, which ranks among the top 3-4 chapters annually despite a relatively small geographic and population footprint compared to some others. The Chapter also hosted two (2) educational programs and one (1) social / other event, and was planning to assist the Salvation Army with its annual holiday campaign until cancelled by the agency on the day of the event due to inclement weather.

### **Mid-Michigan Region Annual Report**

*Submitted by Peter A. Mulhearn, P.E., Mid-Michigan Regional Vice President*

The Mid-Michigan Region consists of two chapters: Jackson, and Capital Area chapters.

#### Jackson Chapter:

The Jackson Chapter held monthly board meetings and several monthly programs. The programs included, the annual golf outing, the annual Christmas Dinner and Auction, lunch and learn presentations, and some evening social events. Five scholarships will be awarded to local students. They will be presented at the President's Night Dinner on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Also at the President's Night dinner, the officers for the 2018-2019 year will be sworn in by Rob Wheeler.

The Chapter held its MathCounts Competition at Jackson College with a record number of students in attendance this year.

Capital Area Chapter:

Capital Area chapter has held monthly board meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. The Chapter has also had some program meetings and discussion including a tour of the Meijer Distribution Center 84. The chapter held their annual Engineers Week Banquet that included discussions concerning the MSU Solar Carport Initiative. The MathCounts Competition was held on the MSU campus with seven schools and nearly a hundred participants.

**Northern Region Annual Report**

*Submitted by Jay Wheeler, P.E., Northern Regional Vice President*

There is no activity of substance to report among the Northern Region members.

**Thumb Region Annual Report**

*Submitted by Amanda N. Hemeyer, P.E., Thumb Region Vice President*

The Thumb Region contains three Chapters: Flint, Blue Water, and Great Lakes Bay Region Chapters.

Flint Chapter:

The Flint Chapter held monthly board meetings and several monthly programs. The programs included the annual golf outing, evening social events, a lunch and learn presentation, and a food drive. Three scholarships were awarded to local students during the 2017 Scholarship Luncheon and Officer investiture, who were sworn in by Amanda Hemeyer. The Chapter board members volunteered at the Bay Central Region MATHCOUNTS competition and at the Carriage Town Ministries Food Bank. Chapter members participated in the 2018 Legislative Day and gave a presentation at the University of Michigan Flint Campus to engineering students about the importance of taking the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam. The Flint Chapter sent out quarterly newsletters to its membership and maintains their Facebook page. The annual scholarship golf outing is planned for May and the new officers will be inducted in June at the Scholarship luncheon.

Blue Water Chapter:

The Blue Water Chapter held several monthly programs. The programs included a facility tour of the Offshore Spars Company, several lunch and learn presentations, and a Christmas dinner. They also participated in the 2018 MATHCOUNTS competition.

Great Lakes Bay Region Chapter:

No report.

## **Western Region Annual Report**

*Submitted by Josh Syzmanski, P.E., Western Region Vice President*

### Muskegon Chapter:

The Muskegon Chapter had a successful year by holding quarterly Executive Board meetings and several programs throughout the year. The Programs included:

- JR Automation – Automated Assembly Plant Tour
- Kent County Recycling Center Tour
- MCC Sturris Technology Center Tour
- Holland Board of Power and Light Tour
- Hilite Tour – (manufacturer of automotive control components)

The Chapter continued to do an outstanding job of fostering professional growth and allowing for networking among area engineers. The chapter also continues to support a successful program in MATHCOUNTS and nominated 4 students for MSPE scholarships. One of those students was awarded the Kenneth B. Fishbeck Scholarship for \$1000. The Muskegon Chapter continues to work with the Muskegon Community foundation on a scholarship for Muskegon Community College students transferring on to four year degree programs. Muskegon also reached out to the Western Michigan Chapter to share in joint chapter education and continuing education credits. The Executive Board has a full slate of members with the exception of one vacancy with the State Director and holds quarterly meetings. The chapter is also in good financial standing with a positive fund balance.

### Western Chapter:

The Western Chapter had a successful year by holding monthly Executive Board meetings and monthly programs. Each of these programs are structured to earn 1 hour of PDH credit.

The Programs included:

- September 13, 2017 - Commercial and Industrial-Scale Solar Power in Michigan
- Oct. 4, 2017 - Designing a Non-Motorized Path: If You Build It They will Come
- November 1, 2017 - MDOT West Michigan Construction Projects.
- December 6, 2017 - Line 5 at the Straits of Mackinac, Enbridge Energy
- February 7, 2018 - Grand Rapids Biodigester, joint meeting with ASCE
- March 7, 2018 - Challenges in Integration of Renewables in the Grid, 2018 U of ND Hesburgh Lecture series
- April 17, 2018 - Holland BPW Energy Plant Tour and Presentation, Joint meeting with Muskegon Chapter
- May 2, 2018 - Engineer of the Year, Scholarship, topic to be determined

The Western chapter is a relatively large group of engineers. Their turnout for meetings regularly tops 50, with one meeting that was joint meeting with the ASCE Chapter reaching 101 attendees. This group reaches out to newly licensed engineers to offer a free lunch as part of their congratulations for their achievement. Through these actions, and the participation of their many consulting partners, they are able to maintain a very strong membership. The chapter also supports a successful program in MATHCOUNTS and nominated several students for MSPE scholarships. The chapter also gave out a scholarship with the proceeds from their annual golf outing. The Executive Board has a full slate of members that all remain very active both at Board meetings and with general membership events. The chapter is also in good financial standing with a positive fund balance. A fall golf outing is

planned in August to raise money for scholarships. This outing has been a steady source of scholarship funding for the last 15 years.

The Western Chapter is assisting the State in planning a social activity at the State Conference. Several members are on the conference planning and education committees.

#### Southwestern Chapter:

The Southwestern Chapter had a successful year by holding monthly Executive Board meetings and programs. The Programs included a variety of interesting topics. The group works to foster professional growth and allow for networking among area engineers. The society covers a large geographic area, representing a variety of engineering disciplines. The chapter also supports a successful program in MATHCOUNTS program. This past year's MATHCOUNTS Event was held on February 2nd at Western Michigan University, with eleven schools competing. The Executive Board has a full slate of members who are active in the society. The chapter is in strong financial standing, with a positive fund balance. The primary income for the Chapter is the annual golf outing, held in September, generating in excess of \$2,500.00 for the chapter. The group celebrates Engineers Week with a dinner event in coordination with Western Michigan University. This event includes all the local engineering societies, with attendance over 250.

### **NSPE House of Delegates Annual Report**

No Report Submitted

### **Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Leanne Panduren, P.E., F.NSPE, Chair*

The Legislative and Governmental Affairs (L&GA) Committee met via conference call and communicated via email during the year. This year, we added all members of the PAC Board to the L&GA committee as well so that the two groups could actively discuss legislation and potential legislator support. The committee includes members from eight different chapters and the MSPE Executive Director participated with the committee in all activities.

The Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee also works through the Architects, Engineers, and Surveyors Joint Legislative Coalition (AESLC) through our delegates John Condie, PE; Leanne Panduren, PE; Jay Wheeler, PE and Executive Director Shada Biabani to represent MSPE. AESLC consists of representatives from MSPE, AIA-M, ACEC-M and MSPS and meets regularly with our lobbyist (Kelley Cawthorne) to discuss issues that the coalition wants to monitor/push during each legislative session. In addition, this allows the groups to collaborate on the use of PAC funds and making our limited funds have greater impact.

The past year has been very active on the legislative front. The committee reviews and comments on current and pending legislation that impacts design professionals. We are still addressing legislation that was introduced early in the session last year as well as bills that have been introduced throughout the past year. The 2-year session will close at the end of 2018. In addition to reviewing and working on new legislation, we engage with legislators through fundraising and Meet and Greet style functions. We will be increasing this work as we move into the election season this summer and fall.

The fight against SB 157 and more recently HB 5723 has been a major focus of the committee this past year. Both bills would require the allowance of plastic pipe materials on all water and sewer projects and restrict the professional engineer's judgement in specifying materials based on the individual site conditions and owner's long-term maintenance and operation costs. Our AESLC group is working with a larger coalition to fight this bill including MML, MTA, AWWA, APWA, and various other industry groups. This bill was a focus of our efforts during our annual Legislative Day meetings with our legislators.

Other bills the committee has focused on for 2017-18 include:

- HB 4447-4452 (QBS legislation) – these bills have seen little movement this session
- SB 465 which proposes Lien Law modifications is moving into committee hearings and we are hopeful it will get voted out positively during this session
- SB 469 which reinstates the Historic Preservation Tax Credit and also should be passed during this session
- A variety of bills focusing on infrastructure including but not limited to HB 5335 creating the Michigan Infrastructure Council, HB 5406 and 5408 which create the Water Asset Management Council and improve the Transportation Asset Management Council, and SB 97 which would allow Public Private Partnerships
- Certificate of Merit legislation is still a priority for AESLC, but this is likely sidelined until the next session when new legislators are in place.

In December, the committee produced a document titled "MSPE Best Practices for Chapter Legislative Events" which was shared with all chapter leadership and is available on the website. The committee would like to work with chapters/regions to educate our members on legislative issues and to engage more members in the process. This can be achieved by more chapters hosting legislative events providing opportunities for legislators to meet with constituents in their districts.

This year's AESLC Legislative Day (held every March in Lansing) was attended by over 110 architects, engineers, and surveyors. We were also very successful this year in engaging members in contacting their legislators regarding the pipe bill and more recently on the Lien Law bill. These grassroots efforts are critical to our efforts to support or oppose legislation.

## **Personnel Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Robert Wheeler, P.E., President*

The MSPE Personnel Committee consists of the President, Past President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer, and is generally tasked with more regular oversight of the Executive Director position. Should issues arise, recommendations are made to the full Board of Directors, who has ultimate authority of the affairs of any employees. Conference calls were held as needed throughout the year to discuss issues relevant to the Executive Director. Most recently, due to the departure of the Executive Director, the committee has met to divvy up the Executive Director duties until such time as the position can be filled or other arrangements can be made to cover these duties. Proposals from two (2) Association Management companies are being reviewed at the May 2 Board of Directors meeting, and other options including again hiring a dedicated employee may also be considered.

## **Strategic Plan & Goals Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Robert Wheeler, P.E., President*

The Strategic Planning Committee did not meet as a group during the 2017-18 Administrative Year to prepare new goals and objectives. However, many of those previous items set forth have been accomplished during the past year, chief among them the sale of former headquarters building, which brought some much needed finality to that long-standing issue, which provides greater freedom to in turn focus on many of the long-term objectives related to membership growth and engagement, and revenue opportunities. It is expected that during the upcoming Board of Directors term, this committee will again convene and revise these items so that we may move forward as a society.

## **Building Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Scott Conners, P.E., President-Elect*

The 2017/2018 MSPE year has been a busy one. In the Fall, after almost 2 years of debate and deliberation, the Society decided to sell our Lansing office. This decision did not come easily. Members of the board canvassed the state reaching out for input from members, past and present. Ultimately the majority of MSPE believed that we did not need to own a building in downtown Lansing in order to adequately serve our membership. In most cases our members could see a benefit in removing the property management duties and allowing our Executive Director to focus more on serving the membership.

Shortly after making the decision to pursue the sale of our building we were approached by our neighbors, the Michigan Automobile Dealers Association (MADA), about the purchase of the building. Our Board of Directors worked closely to perform all the due diligence we believed was necessary to consider the offer from MADA. That included legal work, appraisals, title work and many hours of deliberation. Ultimately the decision to sell the building to MADA made a lot of sense. We did not need to retain a real estate agent and we also did not need to make any repairs or inspections on the building. We believe that we maximized the value of our transaction.

The cost breakdown for our due diligence is generally as follows:

Legal Work (Schenk, Boncher & Rypma)	\$1800
Appraisal (Professional Valuation Services, In)	\$1200
Survey (Wolverine- Don Heck)	\$859
Title Commitment	\$1267

After accounting for these costs and other taxes, balancing of lease agreements, filing fees, etc, we cleared \$243,228 from the \$250,000 sale price to establish our Investment Policy Statement. I think I can speak for everyone on the subcommittee that worked so diligently to make this happen when I say that we are very proud of the way that we limited cost to maximize our return and protect the investment of MSPE, past, present and future.

Working on a concurrent path we were tasked to create a committee or trust to oversee the funds from the building sale. Again, extensive debate took place. Several members volunteered to serve on a committee to explore various options. We began this process with the intention of forming a legal trust to oversee the funds. As engineers often do, we explored numerous ways to achieve the goal of protecting this funding for future generations while still allowing the Society to use the interest to help pay for operational expenses. With help from both legal and financial advisors, the committee proposed bylaw changes that would create a Building Fund Advisory Committee to oversee a restricted account that would be termed an Investment Policy Statement. This type of account and process provides all the benefits of a trust without the legal cost to create and maintain the trust. As of this date the Board has given the nod to engage our Bylaw Committee and the inaugural members of the Building Fund Advisory Committee. We hope to get their input on this effort and finish out the task later this Spring. Then the committee and Board can work on the details of our IPS and get the funds working on our behalf to begin generating interest to supplement future operations.

The path forward for the remainder of this MSPE year will include the vacation of our office at 215 Walnut. The Board of Directors will be allowing our Executive Director to work from home for about 6 months. We will save some money with this action. The goal will be to get some office space in the middle of the state once the budget is solvent and the Building Fund is invested and generating interest. We also hope to preserve some of the important parts of the office like the wall of presidents. I'm hoping that we can find a champion to lead some of this historical preservation and find a way to incorporate this MSPE history into our digital portal and perhaps our future office space. As we begin to prepare our 2019 fiscal year budget we hope to make some decisions about office space and a new mailing address for the society. For now we will count on our many members to provide meeting space from time to time as we transition into this new model of service.

Thanks to all the members that welcomed us into their chapter meetings and engaged in this difficult issue over the last several years. These were difficult discussions but the collaboration was a great sign of the teamwork that makes MSPE such a great organization.

A special "Thank You" goes out to the other Subcommittee members that worked so hard to balance the interests of all our members.

Patrick Lewis, P.E., MSPE Secretary  
Josh Szymanski, P.E., MSPE Vice President – Western Region  
Pam Lemme, VP – MSPE Vice President - Southern Region

### **Nominating Committee Annual Report** *Submitted by Robert Wheeler, P.E., President*

The Nominating Committee (NC) secured an entire slate of officers for next year's MSPE State Board of Directors, and all five (5) positions that were up for election will be filled with new board members.

## **Constitution and By-laws Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Patrick M. Lewis, P.E., Chair*

Generally, the Constitution and By-laws Committee generally only convenes when changes to the MSPE governing documents are deemed necessary. During the 2016-17 Administrative Year, our governing documents were completely revamped in order to “streamline governance and operations” and for consistency with the NSPE model documents, now referred to as the by-laws and operating procedures. Future amendments to the By-laws will now require only a two-thirds vote of the Board, while the Operating Procedures can be amended by a majority vote of the Board.

The one item of business that was undertaken by the committee during the 2017-18 Administrative Year is still pending as of the writing of this report. In order to provide for the management of proceeds from the sale of the former MSPE headquarters in Lansing, a new By-law 12 is being proposed to the Board of Directors, with action expected at the May 2 meeting, ahead of the annual meeting of the society. The remaining sections of the By-laws will then be re-numbered if this new By-law passes with the required two-thirds majority.

## **MATHCOUNTS Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Nancy McClain, P.E., F. MSPE, F. NSPE, Chair*

The State Competition was held at Michigan State University on Saturday, March 10th. There were 146 students representing 53 schools from our 15 Chapter Competitions. The following Mathletes finished in the top four places of the Countdown Round and will represent Michigan at the National Competition in Washington, DC, May 13th & 14th:

- Reagan Choi\*, Boulan Park Middle School (Troy), 8th Grade (3rd time to National!)
  - Vikram Goddla, Country Day Middle School (Beverly Hills), 6th grade
  - Jason Zhang, East Middle School (Plymouth-Canton), 6th grade
  - Aaryan Chandna, Abbott Middle School (West Bloomfield), 8th grade
  - Coach Mark Martin\*, Boulan Park Middle School (Troy)
- \* 2017 State Team Members

The top ten teams were:

- Boulan Park Middle School (Troy) – Oakland Chapter
- Hillside Middle School (Northville) – Detroit Metro Chapter
- Detroit Country Day Middle School (Beverly Hills) – Oakland Chapter
- East Middle School (Plymouth-Canton) – Detroit Metro Chapter
- Abbott Middle School (West Bloomfield) – Oakland Chapter
- Houghton Middle School (Houghton) – Douglass Houghton Chapter
- Jefferson Middle School (Midland) – Great Lakes Bay Region Chapter
- Macdonald Middle School (East Lansing) – Capital Area Chapter
- Greenhills Middle School (Ann Arbor) – Ann Arbor Chapter
- Chippewa Middle School (Okemos) – Capital Area Chapter

In an effort to increase our fundraising revenue for the chapters, an online platform was used to provide the chapters with the opportunity to get the word out electronically and accept

credit cards for donations. The Michigan Engineers Foundation (MEF) page on Mightycause (formerly Razoo) has the ability for each Chapter to set up their own "Team" for MEF. This year 4 Chapters created a Team Page: Blue Water, Capital Area, Detroit Metro, and Great Lakes Bay Region. This allowed them to tell their own story and to separately track funds that had been donated. In addition, a Michigan MATHCOUNTS Team was created for the State Competition and those chapters that have not created a team. Overall \$1,350 was donated through the teams for the chapters. The MEF online page is active year round (<https://www.mightycause.com/organization/Michigan-Engineers-Foundation>) and donations are tax deductible as the MEF is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

In addition, the Michigan Engineers Foundation sends \$2.50 of the \$5.00 per student that is reimbursed by MATHCOUNTS back to each chapter. This year an initial disbursement was made in January to provide some funding up front for each chapter.

In October, the National MATHCOUNTS Foundation hosted the state coordinator and 2 chapter coordinators from each state at a Coordinators Convention held in Dallas, Texas. Nancy McClain, Pat Lewis, and Casey Ries represented MSPE. The two day conference provided a great experience to meet with the national staff, the MATHCOUNTS Foundation Board, and other coordinators.

I would like to personally thank Pat Lewis, Martha Thompson, Casey Ries, Kate Hennicken, Pari Nayak, Don Nedervelt, Steve Bouws, Debbie Dawson, Rob Wheeler, Fernando Arze-Peredo, and Shada Biabani, for their assistance at the state competition. These are our folks who come through for this program. Without volunteers in these roles, we could not bring this opportunity to the students. I would also like to recognize the efforts of Ashely Ahlin, MSU Professor and coach of the Macdonald Middle School Team, who coordinated with MSU to bring us back there after many years.

Lastly, I would like to thank Lisa Anneberg, Ph.D, P.E., for her many years of service coordinating the Fairlane Chapter Competition. She has retired from coordinating this year and the former Fairlane Chapter competitors will be welcomed into their choice of the Southeastern or Detroit Metro Competition in the future.



## **Scholarship Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Donald F. Nedervelt, P.E., Chair*

Each year the MSPE Scholarship Committee evaluates and awards scholarships to students, focusing primarily on graduating High School Seniors planning to attend a Michigan ABET accredited college engineering program starting in the fall semester. Additionally, one to four scholarships have been awarded in the past to college undergraduate students currently enrolled in a Michigan ABET accredited college engineering program. This year, 113 graduating high school seniors applied for 18 scholarships valued at \$36,500 with \$20,000 of

that amount funded by MSPE. In addition to MSPE, the scholarships were sponsored by Grand Valley State University, Kettering University, Lake Superior State University, Michigan Technological University, Saginaw Valley State University, University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, Wayne State University, and Western Michigan University. For the high school program, application forms were revised and made available at the MSPE website in the fall of 2017. Applications were due to the Chapter Scholarship chairs by February 7, 2018. The Scholarship Committee met March 7, 2018 and selected the winners for each scholarship. Award letters were sent out notifying the winners by late March 2018, final awards will be completed by May 2018. Due to financial constraints, the committee did not offer any college undergraduate scholarships. The lack of applicants for the engineering programs at some schools remains a concern. As of early April, four (4) of the 18 scholarships will go unfilled due to a lack of applicants. This year's scholarship program was well received by participating Universities and Colleges and was a success. Scholarship committee plans for this summer include a review of the scholarship scoring instructions.

### **PAC Annual Report Annual Report**

*Submitted by Christopher Cruickshank, P.E., Chair*

MSPE – PAC Mission: The purpose of the MSPE PAC is to make contributions to candidates and incumbents for local and state public office (without regard to party affiliation) who, by their acts, have demonstrated interest and/or support for the services of design professionals in matters of public interest.

2017 Accomplishments:

- Raised \$1640 from proceeds of Legislative Day and 148 Club members.
- Supported 14 Michigan House and the Senate legislators, with total contributions of \$3,900.

Trustees and Terms Expiration date:

John Condie, PE, Member 12-31-2018 end of second term  
Chris Cruickshank, PE, Chair 12-31-2018 end of second term  
Jay Wheeler, PE, Member 12-31-2019 end of first term  
Larry Stover, PE, Member 12-31-2019 end of first term  
Tom Wheat, PE, Treasurer 12-31-2017 end of second term  
Vacant, Member 12-31-2017

### **Membership Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Michael Schwartz, P.E., Chair*

First I would like to thank Renee Novak for her years of service on this committee and helping me to transition into this position. The Membership Committee met via phone call monthly over the past year. The group is comprised of chapter membership chairs, chapter presidents, regional VPs, and a few at-large personnel. Typical meeting were generally 8-10 people though out the year. As of April 2018, MSPE had 915 members, which is an increase of 1 member from April 2017. However, we had an increase of 18 paying member (Standard members & Enterprise members) over the same time period. Our lowest period of membership was in June 2017 with 900 members, but has been increasing over the past 9

months. We are optimistic that we are beginning to reverse the trend of lost membership. Some of the accomplishments this year included:

- Developing a New Membership Protocol
- Reviewing NSPE Membership Recruitment/Retention for local chapter process and implementation of portions of it as applicable
- Began tracking on a quarterly basis membership trends (chapter membership, standard member, etc.)
- Reducing the number of “unassigned” member to actual chapters

### **Education Committee Annual Report**

No report submitted.

### **Assembly of Fellows Annual Report**

*Submitted by Nancy M. McClain, PE, F.NSPE, F.MSPE, Chair*

The Assembly of Fellows has recommended to the Board of Directors the addition of two longtime MSPE members to the Assembly:

Donald F. Nedervelt, PE, is a very represented the Southwestern Chapter on the Board of Directors as a Chapter Director and as the current Region 6 Vice President. He has also been the chapter Scholarship chair for over 20 years, and now holds that position at the state level. In addition, he has served as the President and Secretary of the Southwestern Chapter and has been a member of their board for almost 30 years.

Najim Robert Uddin, PE, is a Past-President of the Society and is currently the NSPE House of Delegates representative from Michigan. In addition, he served as the Mid-Michigan Region Vice-President. He has also held several positions in the Jackson Chapter, including that of Chapter President twice. He is one of the Jackson Chapter’s most respected members as he is constantly willing to lend his time and efforts to the betterment of the Chapter.

The Fellows were also pleased to be part of the discussion regarding the disposition of the MSPE Building. They provided several view points and much historical information regarding the original purchase of the building and advocated for restrictions on the proceeds from the building to be used strictly to provide office space for the Society.

As of April 1, 2018 the membership of the Assembly of Fellows stands at 44 current Fellows, 2 pending Fellows, 26 Deceased Fellows, and 34 Inactive Fellows. There are 632 PE’s in the MSPE Membership, thus the Fellows currently comprise 7% of the Professional Engineers in MSPE.

## **Awards Committee Report**

*Submitted by Patrick M. Lewis, P.E. on behalf of Jeff Elliott, F. MSPE, and Douglas J. Thompson, P.E., Co-Chairs*

The Awards Committee reviewed annual reports from the eight (8) chapters that submitted annual reports, and reviewed multiple applications for both Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year. Both individual honors will be awarded this year at the annual conference, and Chapter awards will be given out in all categories as well, divided into small and large chapters.