

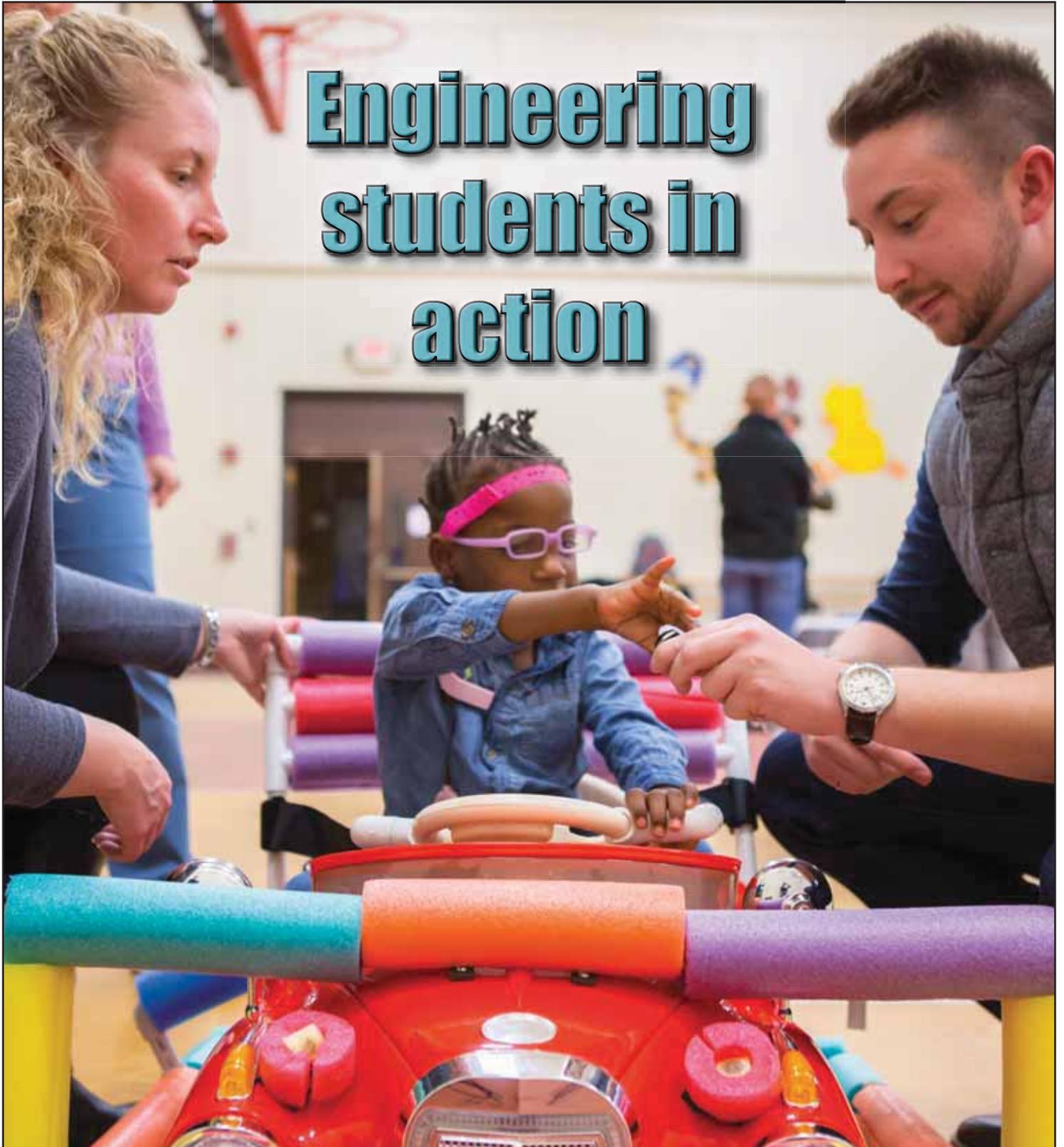
# OhioENGINEER

Volume 77/Issue 4

*The Official Publication of the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers*

2017

## Engineering students in action



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**LEADERSHIP VIEWS**

*by Joe Cherry, P.E., F.NSPE, President,  
Engineers Foundation of Ohio*



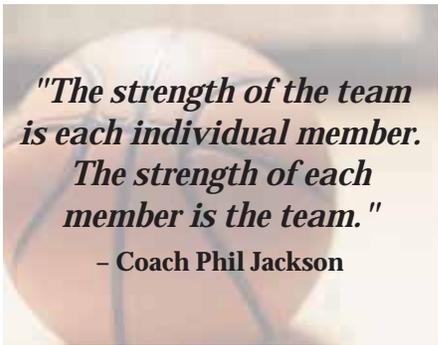
**You are an invaluable part of 'team EFO'**

I'm stepping into a new role as president of the Engineers Foundation of Ohio (EFO) after serving the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) as president in 2014 and as Ohio's representative to the NSPE House of Delegates thereafter.

In my new role, my challenge is to oversee EFO's CPD seminars and conferences, as well as its youth education programs and scholarships benefiting students from elementary school through college.

*It's a big job!*

Thinking about the job at hand, I'm reminded of a quote by Phil Jackson, former coach of the Chicago Bulls and the L.A. Lakers: "The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team."



That's EFO. We need OSPE's members to make EFO great. And together, as a team, EFO volunteers do great things that provide direct benefits to engineers or improve their communities.

For example, as president of "team EFO" I had the honor to host the recent Joint Societies Meeting, which included executive members from EFO, OSPE, American Council of Engineering Companies - Ohio, County Engineers Association of Ohio and State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors. From this meeting, great ideas emerged to improve the public's perception and understanding of en-

gineering work and how we engineers protect the public health, safety and welfare. Watch for ongoing efforts to reach out to the public via social media and through other venues!

EFO needs OSPE members to volunteer at the chapter or state level with the Imagine Engineering second grade coloring contest and Ohio MATH-COUNTS for sixth, seventh and eighth graders. Email EFO@OhioEngineer.com to express your interest in helping in these winter programs. The result

will be that the EFO team will have provided invaluable education to nearly 19,000 of Ohio's youth before June 30, 2018.

EFO is also busy promoting our many engineering scholarships to Ohio high school guidance counselors. We need your help to get the

word out! Visit [www.OhioEngineer.com](http://www.OhioEngineer.com) for our scholarship criteria, application and deadlines, and please pass the information on to friends and acquaintances with high school students who want to pursue an engineering education. EFO has nearly \$30,000 to award!

We're looking for volunteers to increase the strength of EFO's Professional Education Committee, which reviews CPD programs to ensure that they comply with Ohio's requirements. Our current volunteers have already done a great job evaluating our recent training,

*See "Team EFO," page 10*

**On the cover:**

Developmentally disabled children at Forest Rose School in Lancaster, Ohio, got new wheels thanks to industrial and systems engineering students at Ohio University's Russ College. OU students modified children's electric cars for safe play, movement and learning. Here, Occupational Therapist Lori Burns and graduate student Alex Molnar help student My'Only test the start button on her new ride. *Photo credit: Ohio University Russ College of Engineering and Technology.*  
**Learn more about Ohio's engineering schools, page 6.**





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## LEADERSHIP VIEWS

by Tim Schaffer, Executive Director, Ohio Society of Professional Engineers



# Thank goodness we have NSPE (and thank goodness I'm not a South Carolina electric customer)

On the surface, I am sure it appeared to be a wise cost-saving measure to the layperson who has never constructed anything. A contractor saving customer money on a multi-billion dollar project? Makes sense, right? After all, who needs experienced, licensed professional engineers to do complex design work and to make sure the health, safety and welfare of the public are protected when we're building a nuclear power plant, right?

WRONG! The licensed attorney who made the recommendation to ignore state PE licensing laws could not have been more wrong.

Here's what happened: the design contractor of the two nuclear power plants being built at the VC Summer power plant in South Carolina allegedly used unqualified and unlicensed persons to design them. This case amazes me even as I contemplate this boondoggle again since NSPE first alerted us to it a few months ago.

Several years and \$9 billion later, the owners—South Carolina Electric & Gas and Santee Cooper—have abandoned the project, which is fraught with “thousands of design revisions, construction setbacks, schedule changes, and the ultimate demise of the entire project,” according to NSPE

and news reports. Newspaper reports say subcontractors waited in line with workers and material for design revisions delivered onsite daily. Recently-installed material even had to be ripped out of the ground when poor designs were changed.

“This is going to shatter lives, hopes and dreams,” Swain Whitfield, chair of the state's Public Service Commission, said in the Charleston Post and Courier. Nearly 6,000 workers have already lost their jobs in this rural region of South Carolina, which already suffers one of the highest unemployment rates in the state.

Someone is going to have to pay for this fiasco. The question is, who? Electric utility customers? The contractor? Insurance companies? Who knows? It will probably be years before it is all settled. We do know that electric utility customers are already paying nearly \$30 per month extra just to pay for the abandoned nuke plants.

To put the project's failure in perspective, it is a \$9 billion loss (some estimates say it was a total \$25 billion project), and according to the Post and Courier the entire State of South Carolina budget is only \$8 billion.

Thank goodness we have NSPE, alerting the public and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to just how close we came to disaster—in addition to the financial disaster, as well.

In an October 26 letter to the NRC, NSPE President Tom Roberts, PE, FNSPE, said, “A professional engineering license demonstrates a commitment to standards of engineering practice and ethical conduct by individuals possessing the necessary education, experience, and qualifications to provide critical engineering services to the public.”

“The public interest is best served when qualified individuals have not only proper technical expertise, but also a clear safety obligation that overrides all other considerations,” Roberts continued.

Thank goodness we have NSPE. NSPE represents the best in engineering. We emphasize ethics, independence of thought, and disclosure. And when things don't stack up, professional engineers investigate and communicate. There is no place in our society for lower standards for design professionals, because the health, safety and welfare of our citizens are far too important to risk.

I wonder if the executives and legal counsel of the contractor cited above would be comfortable raising their families downwind from these two nuclear power plants—if they were to ever begin generating nuclear power. I doubt it.

I know a lot of professional engineers, and I can assure the public that the ones I know—NSPE members—use the “family standard” every day as they protect us all.

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# Welcome, new OSPE members

OSPE welcomes these 51 new members from October 12 through December 6, 2017:

**Blanchard Valley Chapter**

Justin McBride, P.E.  
Wil Young, P.E.

**Canton Regional Chapter**

Rick Rockwell, P.E.  
Terry Varn, P.E.  
Fred Wiegand, P.E.

**Dayton Chapter**

Stephen Butler, P.E.  
Eric Yerian, P.E.

**Franklin County Chapter**

Katie Anderson, P.E.  
Mark Antonetz, P.E.  
Patrick Bailey, P.E.  
Trenton Bledsoe, P.E.  
Jason Bryant, P.E.



"Welcome!"

**Franklin County Chapter (continued)**

Daniel Buttress, P.E.  
Mark Dunn, P.E.  
Gary Harsanye, P.E.  
Michael Haufe, P.E.  
Devin Hilty, P.E.  
WeiDong Huang, P.E.  
Sarah Jones, P.E.  
Stephen Matheny, P.E.  
John Medici, P.E.  
José Quiñones, P.E.  
Diane Roller, P.E.  
Donald Sharp, P.E.  
Rajeev Sinha, P.E.  
Hung Thai, P.E.  
Thomas White, P.E.  
Alan Whitlow P.E.  
Jordan Zamary, P.E.

**Lima Chapter**

Timothy Fulks, P.E.

**Mahoning Valley Chapter**

Jon Blair, P.E.

**Northeast Chapter**

Mark Amendola, P.E.  
Charles Anspach, P.E.  
Pedro Guilamo, P.E.  
Kurt Updegraff, P.E.  
Robert Venorsky, P.E.

**Southern Ohio Chapter**

David Fishel, P.E.

**Southwest Ohio Chapter**

Raad Muhanna Assaf, P.E.  
Stephen Michael Becht, P.E.  
David Coyle, P.E.  
William Getts, E.I.  
Michael Heitkamp, P.E.  
Brian Krych, P.E.  
William R. Lane  
Nicholas Scott, P.E.  
Eric Troidl, P.E.  
Josiah David Van Winkle

**Toledo Chapter**

Jennifer Lynn Abney  
Bryan Knepper, P.E.

**Members At-Large**

Jeffrey Mattingly, P.E.  
Nelson White, P.E.

## Bert Dawson, PE, PS is reappointed to State Board of Registration

Ohio Governor John Kasich has reappointed Columbiana County Engineer Bert Dawson, PE, PS, to a five-year

term with the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors. His current appointment will expire September 24, 2022.



Bert Dawson, PE, PS

Previously, Dawson was twice appointed to the State Board of Registration and served two five-year terms. His first term began in 2005 and his second in 2012. In seeking his current appointment to the State Board of Registration, Dawson was enthusiastically supported by the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE), of which he is a longtime member.

Dawson has a distinguished career as a professional engineer and professional surveyor in Ohio. He is currently the longest serving county engineer in Ohio having served 48 years in office. In addition to serving as Columbiana County Engineer, Dawson has also served as the Columbiana County Sanitary Engineer since 1990. Besides his membership in OSPE, he is a past president and a current member of the County Engineers Association of Ohio. He is also active in a number of other professional and civic organizations.

He has served as an adviser to the port authority, the airport authority and the regional planning commission in Columbiana County as well as the Ohio Sewage Advisory Committee.

Dawson has been the recipient of many awards for his professional and civic activities. He was the recipient of OSPE's 2014 Meritorious Service Award, which was presented for his service to OSPE and the Mahoning Valley Chapter and for outstanding contributions to the goals and objectives of OSPE.

## "Thanks, EFO Fiscal Year 2018 Sponsors!"

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# Ohio's engineering students in action



University of Akron rocket team. Photo credit: University of Akron College of Engineering.

## University of Akron 'Akronauts' team blasts off

When the University of Akron (UA) started the nation's only B.S. degree program in aerospace systems engineering earlier this decade, interest in rocketry among students increased dramatically. UA's rocket team, called the "Akronauts," was formed about four years ago and now boasts nearly 100 members from all eight engineering disciplines offered at UA.

"We believe in the power of diverse minds uniting to achieve the impossible," says Victoria Jackson, president of the Akronauts.

The team, one of 43 across the U.S. selected to compete in the prestigious NASA Student Launch Initiative earlier this year in Huntsville, won an "Excellence in Design Award."

## Cedarville University introduces new civil engineering program

Cedarville University's School of Engineering and Computer Science provides a stimulating atmosphere for students to grow spiritually and scholastically. And beginning in the fall of 2018, students will be able to choose from a new major in civil engineering, approved by the Ohio Department of Education and the Higher Learning

Commission. Civil engineering joins the School of Engineering and Computer Science's accredited degrees: computer engineering, computer science, electrical engineering and mechanical engineering. Cedarville's rigorous classroom experience, supportive faculty and God-honoring campus environment equips students for godly service, vocational distinction and cultural engagement.



Cedarville's engineering program has won 10 of the last 14 World Solar Splash competitions with its ground-breaking solar boat design. Photo credit: Scott Huck/Cedarville University.

## University of Cincinnati allows first-year students to 'test drive' research through Protégé program

The Protégé Undergraduate Research Program is enhancing the engineering student experience at the University of Cincinnati by allowing outstanding, first-year students to engage in research with leading faculty.

The University of Cincinnati College of Engineering and Applied Science developed the Protégé program to make students aware of opportunities for careers in research.

Typically, Protégé students contribute to an important, larger project that is funded by a government agency or industry partner. Students learn to conduct research, work as part of a team, keep laboratory notebooks, write reports and make presentations. They are paid for 40 hours of work each week during the summer program. In addition,

highly talented and motivated student researchers may be recruited by partners.

## Cleveland State University's Washkewicz College constructing a new engineering building!

Cleveland State University's new building is designed around the needs of engineering students. In the center of the building is a freshman design lab. Here, first-year students get a chance to learn about the fundamentals and the fun of engineering. Upper level students will enjoy the Dan T. Moore MakerSpace where they can work on their projects including using 3D printing. Students will also enjoy the modern classrooms and labs. And, there will be plenty of spaces dedicated for students to work on projects and meet with friends all through the building.

## University of Dayton engineering students to be listed on energy efficiency patent

Seven University of Dayton students from the School of Engineering's Innovation Center will be listed on a non-provisional patent filing with international food services company Hobart for an innovation that assists in trapping heat in industrial dishwashers.



Hobart Engineering Manager Alexander Anim-Mensah and Prasanna Murlidharan, University of Dayton student. Photo credit: Hobart.

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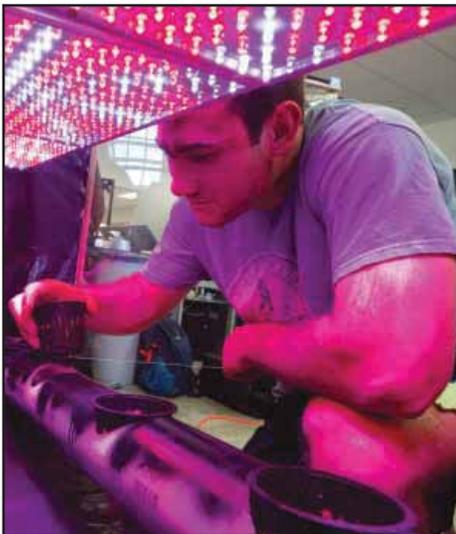
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The team estimates the invention will improve the energy efficiency of an Energy Star machine by at least five percent and the drying efficiency by at least 25 percent by capturing the hot, moist air that normally escapes when the dishwasher door is opened for reuse.

The non-provisional patent filing will be published on the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's website in early 2018.

Miami University values unconventional thinking processes & well-rounded grads

Some engineering schools are known for research, others for their attention to teaching. Miami University is committed to both. Take Dr. Kumar Singh, winner of both the 2017 College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) Outstanding Research Award and CEC's Outstanding Teaching Excellence Award. For Dr. Singh, it is about more than finding breakthroughs in areas like polymeric materials and rotor-dynamics at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. It is just as important to help undergraduates discover solutions using unconventional thinking processes. Additionally, Miami University expects more. Miami University produces well-rounded graduates — individuals who earn their degrees with strong ethics, know how to work as a team and can communicate clearly.



*A Miami University engineering student experiments with a hydroponic LED-illuminated grow box. Photo credit: Jeff Sabo.*

University of Mount Union adds new engineering majors, faculty, facilities & a summer program

Engineering at the University of Mount Union is thriving by adding three new engineering majors, more

than doubling the number of its engineering faculty, creating a new engineering summer program and nearly tripling its facilities footprint.

In addition to the two existing ABET-accredited programs in civil and mechanical engineering, Mount Union is adding new majors in electrical, computer and biomedical engineering to start in the fall of 2018.

Furthermore, a credit-bearing Experience Engineering Summer Program (EESP) will be offered at Mount Union, June 17-23, 2018.

Job placement rates for the 2016-2017 civil and mechanical engineering graduates were 100 percent and 95 percent, respectively.



*University of Mount Union engineering students testing – in conjunction with the Department of Physical Therapy – a temporary, adjustable prosthetic leg that they developed. Photo credit: University of Mount Union.*

Building impact at Ohio Northern University

Ohio Northern University recently broke ground celebrating the construction of a new home for the College of Engineering.

The new engineering building will accommodate the needs of today's engineering and computer science students. It will feature open spaces and natural light, flexible and functional space for learning and collaboration as well as expanded room for design projects. The building will double the size of the current engineering facilities, while maintaining the small classrooms that allow for the faculty-student interaction that distinguishes Ohio Northern.

Construction will begin in spring 2018; the building is expected to be ready to receive students in fall 2019.

Ohio State students set new records on land and in air

Student teams from The Ohio State University College of Engineering

nabbed several "firsts" this past summer, setting new records on land and in air.

In May, the Buckeyes bested 15 universities in the Department of Energy's EcoCAR 3 competition for the fourth consecutive year. In June, Ohio State's first team to compete in the all-woman cross-country Air Race Classic was the only collegiate team to finish with zero penalties and the Buckeye Current team raced to first place in the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb Electric Motorcycle Division. That same month, Brutus II, a student-built rocket, soared to an altitude of 23,232 feet, winning the Spaceport America Cup's 30,000-foot solid fuel rocket category.



*Members of the Ohio State University's Buckeye Space Launch Initiative at the Spaceport America Cup in New Mexico. Photo credit: Zac Strimbu.*

Ohio University's Russ College wins first place at Simio

Two industrial and systems engineering students at Ohio University's Russ College of Engineering and Technology won first place in the national Simio Student Case simulation competition, beating out 219 teams from 11 countries. Seniors Shayne Gillian and Anna Frankart assessed and improved a hypothetical pulp and paper manufacturing operation. Using Simio's software, they programmed a simulation with 100 independent logging companies in different counties, supplying three paper mills. This included building a baseline model to determine the cost of operating, then creating an improved model to reduce the logger transportation costs and handle low inventory at the paper mills.

University of Toledo students travel to Kenya to design drinking water system

The University of Toledo College of Engineering's Engineers Without Borders chapter traveled to Irkaswaa in Kenya to help provide fresh water

*See "Engineering students," page 9*



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From "Engineering students," page 7

to Maasai tribes. Water-related illness is frequent in Irkaswaa. The mortality rate in children under five years old is alarming in the Maasai population, and the adult fatality rate is also high. The students collected data and mapped sites for design of a water system that will distribute to four points in the community and include standpipe stations and animal troughs for livestock. Funds are currently being raised to complete the \$78,000 project.



University of Toledo chemical & bioengineering dual major, Lauren Spyker, surveys Maasai households to obtain information on their water needs. Photo credit: Jessica Censotti.

Wright State University's autonomous robot course attracts many kinds of engineering students

Intelligent Machine Design, a popular electrical engineering course at Wright State University, attracts students from many departments in the College of Engineering and Computer Science. Industrial, biomedical, mechanical, civil and computer engineering students register to obtain hands-on experience in designing autonomous robots. As Wright State's representatives indicate, there is a large job market for intelligent machine design.

Students have developed and produced a number of autonomous robots with various roles or functions – a pet, a firefighter, a pack mule, a mine detector, a predator and prey. The firefighting robot, for example, uses sensors to detect fire and a fan or spray to extinguish a candle. Another robot plays laser tag.

Students learn to work with sensors and a microcontroller to produce interesting robotic designs. They begin by identifying a task they want their robot to be able to complete. Robots are expected

to periodically demonstrate increased capabilities. Grades are based on milestones reached throughout the semester.

Youngstown State University's STEM College takes great pride in 3D printing capabilities & faculty

Youngstown State University's College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics is a leader in the additive manufacturing/3D-printing industry and is dedicated to hands-on student learning and engagement through research experiences. Demonstrating this commitment, Dr. Eric MacDonald was hired as the Friedman Chair for Manufacturing.

Working closely with Youngstown State students, Dr. MacDonald investigates *in situ* monitoring of 3D-printed sand molds and instrumenting the molds with Bluetooth sensors. As one of only two U.S. universities with the large ExOne SMAX printer used in this project, Dr. MacDonald's research and equipment improves the technical vitality and competitiveness of Ohio's metal casting industry.

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# The future of licensure is in jeopardy

In recent years, the topic of licensure has cropped up in numerous publications. The articles centered around the very necessity of licensure.

In the fall of 2017, the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers' (OSPE's) Legislative and Government Affairs Committee has been actively following legislation introduced in the Ohio House of Representatives that questions the indispensability of licensure. House Bills 75 and 289 both reflect a grave misunderstanding of the importance of licensure to the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the public.

House Bill 75 was drafted to establish an expedited process to grant professional licenses to active duty military (or their spouses) who hold valid licenses in another state. In theory, that sounds great. However, OSPE opposes the "license by endorsement" provision that would impair Ohio's ability to protect the public.

If passed in its current form, House Bill 75 would allow people who do not currently meet Ohio's requirements the ability to practice engineering for up to 12 months while they work to make up any deficits. By "dummying down" the qualifications for registration of engineers and surveyors in Ohio for a 12 month period, House Bill 75 plays fast and loose with the engineer's ability to responsibly safeguard the public. (Please note: House Bill 75 is applicable to numerous professions. OSPE is specifically concerned, of course, with the engineer's ability to protect the public health, safety and welfare.)

bound to a code of ethics – are in place to safeguard the public in matters of engineering practice.

If engineering licensure is an impediment to getting a job, it's with good reason. We can readily point to historic examples of catastrophe before states had engineering licensure. And we can also point to modern examples of catastrophe when the need for professional engineers was flat out ignored despite the law.

Yes, qualified engineers are needed.

Another argument against occupational licensure is that licensure inhibits development. Yet, there have been numerous cases documented proving just the opposite. In one instance, a nonprofessional was tasked with examining plans – a task for which he had no experience nor background. He questioned a number of planned improvements, which led to numerous delays in the release of permits and interfered with the projected commencement of construction. The issues, once resolved with a simple explanation by the design professional, resulted in the release of the permits – however, not without a disruption of the construction schedule.

A third argument is that licensed individuals cost more than unlicensed ones. As illustrated in the aforementioned example, in most cases the unlicensed individual lacks sufficient knowledge that hinders the review and approval process.

Should we be in a position of explaining why Ohio shouldn't "dummy down" the qualifications for practicing engineering? Or should we be in a position of justifying the very need for engineering licenses – the licenses that safeguard the public from catastrophe?

No. But here we are. And it's time to speak out for the public that we serve.

It is incumbent upon all registered professionals to illustrate the importance of licensure. Let your legislators know – and help them fully understand – how the public's health, safety and welfare is preserved and enhanced through engineering licensure.

*Within the last two years, 25 states have faced various threats to occupational licensure.*

If passed, House Bill 289 would require a "sunset review" of occupational licensing boards every five years. In other words, the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors would regularly have to justify its very existence.

Threats to engineering licensure aren't just a problem here in Ohio! No!

Within the last two years, 25 states (including Ohio) have faced or are currently facing various threats to occupational licensure, including engineering licensure.

One might wonder, why the trend against occupational licensure?

One argument we've heard is that licensure is an impediment to getting a job. Of course, we retort that engineering licensure ensures that people with the appropriate education, experience and examinations – and people who are

*From "Team EFO," page 1*

"Design Thinking for Better Engineering and Project Management," which was held in December in Cincinnati, Cleveland and Toledo. Thanks to our Professional Education Committee, which we hope will soon include you, EFO and OSPE will jointly offer Ohio's PEs up to 62 *worthwhile* CPD hours this fiscal year. Those are hours that PEs like you and I can count on.

Finally, as the president of this worthwhile, charitable organization, I am asking each EFO board member, along with all members of OSPE to donate to EFO through our "Pass the Hat" campaign. It's easy enough to do. Simply dig out from your mail the donation envelope that you received, or visit [www.OhioEngineer.com](http://www.OhioEngineer.com) and click the "Donate" button at the bottom of the homepage.

In donating time and money, you know you can count on a stronger EFO to serve you, the engineering profession and Ohio's youth.

# LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS: 132ND OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## *To follow is a summary of Ohio legislation that OSPE is monitoring:*

WATER SEWER BONDS, Senate Joint Resolution 4 (Schiavoni)	Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund sewer & water capital improvements.	<u>Status:</u> 1st hearing in Senate Finance, 9/6/17. <b>OSPE supports.</b>
TRANSPORTATION BUDGET, House Bill 26 (McColley)	To make appropriations for programs related to transportation & public safety for the biennium (7/1/17-6/30/19) & to provide authorization & conditions for the operation of those programs.	<u>Status:</u> Signed by Governor, 3/31/17.
WATER RESERVOIRS, House Bill 29 (Leland, Boggs)	To eliminate law authorizing the maintenance of buffers around municipal water reservoirs by contiguous property owners.	<u>Status:</u> 1st hearing in House Energy & Nat'l Resources, 4/25/17. <b>OSPE supports.</b>
BIENNIAL BUDGET, House Bill 49 (Smith, R.)	To provide authorization & conditions for the operation of state programs.	<u>Status:</u> Signed by Governor, 6/30/17.
PROFESSIONAL LICENSES, House Bill 75 (Gavarone, Merrin)	To establish an expedited process to grant a professional license to active duty military, or the spouse of such an individual, & holds a valid license in another state. ( <i>OSPE opposes the "license by endorsement" provision impairing Ohio's ability to protect the public.</i> )	<u>Status:</u> 2nd hearing in House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Homeland Security, 3/15/17. <b>OSPE opposes.</b>
PIPING MATERIALS, House Bill 121 (Edwards), Senate Bill 95 (Terhar)	To require a public authority to consider all piping materials that meet the engineering specifications for a state-funded water or waste water project. (11/1/17, HB 121 amendment says, "No public authority shall prohibit the use of reasonable piping material, based on sound engineering principles, in the construction, development, maintenance, rebuilding, or improvement of a water or waste water project that is funded in whole or in part with state funds.")	<u>Status:</u> HB 121, 5th hearing in House State & Local Gov't, 11/1/17, amended. SB 95, 2nd hearing in Senate Energy & Natural Resources, 10/25/17. <b>OSPE opposes both bills.</b>
STEEL WELDING, House Bill 127 (Perales, Dever)	To establish in the Ohio Building Code requirements pertaining to structural steel welding & bridge welding.	<u>Status:</u> 4th hearing in House Economic Dev't, Comm. & Labor, 11/28/17.
HOME INSPECTORS, House Bill 211 (Hughes)	To require the licensure of home inspectors and to create the Ohio Home Inspector Board to regulate the licensure and performance of home inspectors. (10/31/17, substitute bill makes changes to education requirements, the approach to grandfathering inspectors & limiting the liability of realtors who recommend inspectors.)	<u>Status:</u> 4th hearing in House Economic Dev't, Comm. & Labor, 10/31/17, sub bill.
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING, House Bill 289 (Hood, McColley)	To require the periodic review of occupational licensing boards regarding their sunset.	<u>Status:</u> 1st hearing in House Gov't Accountability & Oversight, 10/17/17. <b>OSPE opposes.</b>
ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS, Senate Bill 2 (Hite)	To revise specified laws relating to environmental protection.	<u>Status:</u> Signed by Governor, 7/7/17.
BRIDGE PROGRAM, Senate Bill 6 (Hoagland)	To extend the Ohio Bridge Partnership Program through the end of fiscal year 2019 & to require the Director of Transportation to submit a report to the Governor, Senate & House of Representatives recommending ways to continue to fund the program.	<u>Status:</u> 1st hearing in House Transportation & Public Safety, 12/13/17, amended.
SEWAGE SYSTEMS, Senate Bill 31 (Eklund)	To authorize a board of county commissioners or municipal legislative authority to elect to withdraw the county or municipal corporation from the application of any rule adopted by the Dep't. of Health after 1/1/14, that governs the design of household sewage treatment systems.	<u>Status:</u> 2nd hearing in Senate Energy & Natural Resources, 10/18/17. <b>OSPE opposes.</b>
BUILDING CODES, Senate Bill 43 (Bacon)	To enable limited home rule townships to adopt building codes regardless of any similar codes adopted by the county in which the township resides.	<u>Status:</u> Reported from Senate Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs, 6/27/17. <b>OSPE opposes.</b>
LAKE ERIE, Senate Bill 51 (Skindell, Eklund)	To authorize the creation of a special improvement district to facilitate Lake Erie shoreline improvement. (Amendments from 9/20/17 hearing deal with taxation & property owner approval of district formation.)	<u>Status:</u> 4th hearing in Senate Energy & Nat'l Resources, 9/27/17.
LAKE ERIE DRILLING, Senate Bill 53 (Skindell)	To ban the taking or removal of oil or natural gas from & under the bed of Lake Erie.	<u>Status:</u> 1st hearing in Senate Energy & Natural Resources, 2/22/17.
PREVAILING WAGE, Senate Bill 72 (Huffman)	To allow political subdivisions, special districts, & state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects.	<u>Status:</u> Referred to Senate Finance, 3/7/17.
FUEL TAX, SB 113 (Coley)	To levy an additional registration tax on passenger cars, noncommercial motor vehicles, & commercial cars & trucks; to authorize a motor fuel retail price reduction for consumers equal to the state motor fuel tax; & to exempt motor fuel that is sold at the reduced retail price from the state motor fuel tax.	<u>Status:</u> 2nd hearing in Senate Ways & Means, 9/20/17.

# Leaders of engineering societies meet to discuss trends

The annual Joint Societies Meeting, held in Worthington this past September, attracted leaders from design professional associations and a regulatory board to discuss current events and issues relevant to the engineering profession, as well as industry trends.

Of note, the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors discussed an Ohio registration fee increase for 2020-2021 as well as the need to promote the value of PE/PS licensure in the current anti-regulatory climate.

OSPE President Owen March continued the discussion about the anti-regulatory environment in which the U.S. finds itself and highlighted recent threats to licensure that made national news.

Meeting participants agreed that PEs need to do a better job promoting the value of the work that they do and their contributions to protect the public health, safety and welfare. A number of public relations campaign ideas to increase public awareness were vetted at the Joint Societies Meeting.

The meeting, hosted by Engineers Foundation of Ohio

(EFO) President Joe Cherry, PE, F.NSPE, also included EFO President-Elect Travis Rhoades, PE. Participants from the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers included President Owen March, PE, Treasurer Tony Grgas, PE, Secretary

Howard Jones, PE, F.NSPE, Vice President of Legislation and Government Affairs Joe Warino, PE, PS, F.NSPE, and staff. The Ohio State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors, the County Engineers Association of Ohio and the American Council of Engineering Companies of Ohio also sent representatives.



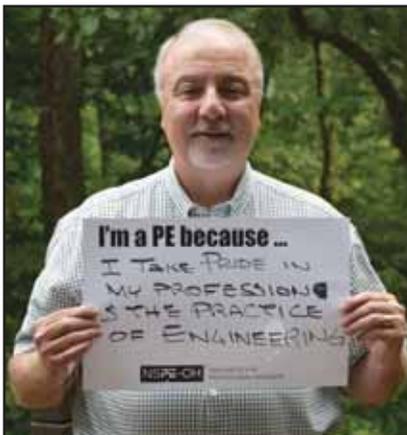
At the head of the table, EFO President Joe Cherry, PE, F.NSPE, hosts the 2017 Joint Societies Meeting. Around the table clockwise are Beth Easterday (ACEC-Ohio), Amanda Uwague (State Board of Registration), Owen March, PE, (OSPE), Howard Jones, PE, F.NSPE (OSPE), Mark Zimmerman, PE, PS (CEAO), Joe Cherry, PE, F.NSPE (EFO), Travis Rhoades, PE (OSPE), Joe Warino, PE, F.NSPE (OSPE), Tony Grgas, PE (OSPE), Dean Ringler, PE, PS (CEAO and State Board of Registration) and John Greenhalge (State Board of Registration).

## Leaders kick-off program year with annual Retreat

This year's Leadership Retreat was held at Sharon Woods Metro Park Spring Hollow Lodge, Westerville, Ohio, on Monday, August 28. It was a beautiful day in a scenic and secluded setting.

Participants had the opportunity to be video recorded saying, "I'm a PE Because..." You may view those responses on OSPE's social media accounts via Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube.

Retreat discussion topics included board duties, working together, energizing membership, managing chapters for success and financing chapters. There was also a rousing game of "Jeopardy" in the afternoon quizzing the group on their knowledge of OSPE, NSPE and EFO trivia. Representatives from Oswald Companies (liability insurance providers) and Holly Ross, OSPE's legislative agent, gave presentations for a total of 1.0 CPD hour.



At the Leadership Retreat, OSPE member Richard Miller proudly says why he is a PE.

## OSPE's Political Action Committee elects officers & selects legislators for endorsement

This past spring, members of the OSPE's Political Action Committee met in May and elected the following officers for Fiscal Year 2018:

- Chair – Rich Henry, PhD, PE
- Vice Chair – Fred Tito, PE, F.NSPE
- Secretary – Jeff Kennedy, PE
- Treasurer – Leon Winget, PhD, PE, F.NSPE

At its fall meetings, OSPE's Political Action Committee voted to endorse the following legislators:

- Senator Bob D. Hackett (R-London)
- Senator Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman)
- Representative Niraj J. Antani (R-Miamisburg)
- Representative Louis W. Blessing, III, PE (R-Colerain Township)
- Representative John A. Bocchieri (D-Poland)
- Representative Al Landis (R-Dover)
- Representative Jeffery S. Rezabek (R-Clayton)
- Representative Mark Romanchuk (R-Ontario)

## Make your pledge to EFO's Pass-The-Hat fundraising campaign to benefit education programs

EFO has just begun this fiscal year's Pass-The-Hat campaign. Currently donations are at \$2,290 with more coming in daily. With your help EFO will reach its budgeted goal of \$16,200 for the fiscal year.

The EFO General Fund supports most of the Foundation's youth and professional education programs, including the Imagine En-

gineering coloring contest for second graders, scholarships and the Engineer as Leader professional training.



Make your pledge to the current "Pass-The-Hat" campaign by calling EFO at 1-800-654-9481 (in Columbus, 614-223-1177) with your MasterCard or Visa. Or go to [www.ohioengineer.com](http://www.ohioengineer.com) to make a donation online.

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