Message from the President

By: Chett Siefring

Welcome to a new year at TSPE. This year is shaping up to be a good year. Our monthly meeting speakers have already included Representative McColley (see below for more on his presentation) and Dean Michael Toole of The University of Toledo (UT). Future speakers will include Mike Gramza of ODOT District 2, Jason Toth from UT Facilities and Construction, and Todd Audet of Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority. Additionally, TSPE will sponsor the financial outlook meeting in January and the TSPE Golf Outing in the spring. The TSPE Golf Outing supports our scholarship fund, so please plan to attend so TSPE can continue to support engineering students in the form of scholarships. Engineers Week activities are currently being planned for the week of February 18-24, 2018. If you are interested in helping out with Engineers Week, please let me know via the email address below or at an upcoming monthly meeting.

On a final note, I would like to mention TSPE’s new email address is tspeohio@gmail.com. Look for meeting notices and other information from the new email address.

Ohio House of Representative McColley Visits TSPE

On September 25, 2017 TSPE welcomed Representative Robert McColley of Ohio House District 81 to the Toledo Club for TSPE’s yearly legislative update meeting. Representative McColley discussed the recently passed transportation bill, House Bill 289 (Establish Occupational Regulation Policy and Review) that he sponsored, and other legislation that may impact engineers.

Representative McColley provided an informative presentation with an active question and answer session that addressed the numerous bills that impact engineers and the engineering community. The presentation was attended by 19 Professional Engineers from the Toledo area.

Legislative Update

According to OhioEngineer 2017 Volume 77, Issue 3, OSPE is monitoring 18 bills that may affect professional engineers. Included is House Bill 211 (home inspectors) to require the licensure of home inspectors and to create the Ohio Home Inspector Board to regulate the licensure and performance of home inspectors. A third hearing for this Bill occurred in the House Economic Development, Commerce, and Labor on September 19, 2017. Senate Bill 31 (sewage systems), which OSPE opposes, was introduced 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 Department of Health after January 1, 2014, that governs the design of household sewage treatment systems. A second hearing for this Bill occurred in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources on October 18, 2017. The Bill was amended to clean up language regarding jurisdiction in order to account for entities that are not boards of county commissioners or municipal legislative authorities, such as townships. OSPE has not yet taken a position regarding the amendment.

Upcoming TSPE Events

Michael T. Gramza, P.E., ODOT District 2 Capital Programs Administrator
Program: Anthony Wayne Bridge- Rehabilitation, Lighting, Cable Dehumidification and Painting
November 29, 2017 at The Toledo Club
11:45AM Registration Opens; 12:15PM Buffet Lunch with Program to Follow
Registration information will be coming out soon

2017-2018 TSPE Board Members

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Contact us at tspeohio@gmail.com
Website: ohioengineer.com (Under the “Member Chapters” Link at the Top of the OSPE website, Select the “Toledo” Link)