

Congratulations!

By: Bruce Peterson, Editor, Journal of Bridge Engineering

The *Richard R. Torrens Award* honors volunteer Journal Editors who make outstanding contributions to the ASCE publications programs. It was a great pleasure to learn that the Founding Editor for the ASCE Journal of Bridge Engineering, Dr. Dennis R. Mertz, was awarded the Richard R. Torrens Award for 2003.

Dr. Mertz developed this journal into a leading publication serving both the academic and practicing members of the bridge engineering community. In the few years since its beginning, he has effectively

guided its growth from a quarterly publication to one that is now published bi-monthly.

On behalf of myself and all of the Associate Editors of the Journal of Bridge Engineering, past and present, I would like to express our congratulations to Dr. Mertz for this award and for the acknowledgement by the engineering community of his contribution and outstanding work.

Note: a list of previous recipients can be found at www.asce.org/pressroom/honors.

Report Card for America's Infrastructure

American Society of Civil Engineers
2003 Progress Report
An Update to the 2001 Report Card
Go to www.asce.org/reportcard for details.



Structures Congress 2005

New York, NY

Important Note –

change in *KEY DATES* for paper submissions:

Session Requests/Abstracts due –
March 15, 2004

Publication-ready papers due –
November 4, 2004

Congress topics include: Design and Analysis, Transportation Structures, Buildings, Bridges, Codes and Standards, Forensic Engineering, Business and Professional Practice in Structural Engineering, Construction and Constructability, International, Education.

For all Key Dates, and to make submissions, go to: www.asce.org/conferences/structures2005



News Release

At its August 13–16, 2003, Annual Meeting, the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) passed two motions of particular note to structural engineers. The Council added to its Model Law the definition of Model Law Engineer—Structural Engineer and modified the scoring of the Structural II exam.

Effective with the April 2004 exam administration, the Structural II exam will be considered and referred to as one 8-hour exam with no distinction between morning and afternoon portions, unless otherwise required by the current statutes of a jurisdiction. After April 2006, no jurisdictions will be allowed to administer the morning and afternoon portions separately. Currently, examinees may pass one portion of the Structural II exam at a time.

Also at the Annual Meeting, NCEES adopted the definition of a Model Law Engineer—Structural Engineer. This definition joins those of Model Law Engineer and Model Law Surveyor. An individual designated as MLSE must be a graduate of an EAC/ABET-accredited

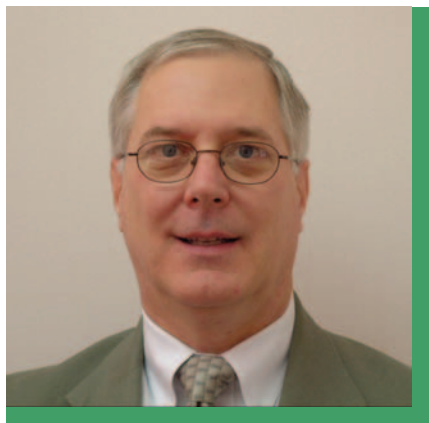
program; have passed a minimum of 18 semester (27 quarter) hours of structural analysis and design courses, with at least 9 of the semester (14 quarter) hours in structural design courses; have passed the 8-hour Fundamentals of Engineering exam; have passed 16 hours of structural exams; have completed 4 years of acceptable structural engineering experience; and have a record clear of disciplinary action. NCEES Model Law is developed by the Council to encourage common laws and legislation among engineering and surveying licensing boards.

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying develops licensing examinations for the engineering and land surveying professions. These examinations are used by engineering and land surveying licensing boards across the United States as part of their candidate assessment process. NCEES also provides examination administration and scoring services to licensing boards, as well as a variety of products and services to engineering and land surveying professionals. NCEES headquarters is located in Clemson, SC.

SEI Member Receives Dual Honors

David T. Biggs, FASCE of Ryan-Biggs Associates, P.C., in Troy, New York, has received the rare honor of being selected 2003 Engineer of the Year by two major professional societies in New York State.

The first designation is from the New York State Society of Professional Engineers. The award was recently presented to Mr. Biggs at its annual conference in Canandagua, New York. The society was founded in 1934 and represents individual licensed engineers in New York.



Principal, Ryan-Biggs Associates, member of STRUCTURE Editorial Board

The second designation was presented by the New York Association of Consulting Engineers at its annual awards dinner held recently in New York City. The association members are consulting engineering firms throughout New York State.

Mr. Biggs is a professional engineer with over 30 years experience as a civil/structural engineer. He is President of Ryan-Biggs Associates. Since 1973, the firm has been providing design services for a variety of buildings, bridges, and specialty structures from its main office in Troy, New York. RBA also has offices in Skaneateles, New York, and West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Both state organizations recognized Mr. Biggs for his professional achievements and commitment to the engineering profession. They added their recognition of his volunteer work as part of the ASCE-FEMA Building Performance Assessment Team for the

World Trade Center disaster. He makes presentations to professional and civic groups on the study of the disaster. All proceeds from these presentations are donated to a New York City firefighter's relief fund.

His expertise is in the fields of masonry design and restoration, as well as the evaluation of existing structures. He serves on the Masonry Joint Standards Committee of ASCE, The Masonry Society, and ACI. He has authored many publications and is a frequent lecturer at universities, professional seminars, and conferences. Recently he made presentations in Egypt, including one to the Egypt Section of ASCE.

He is a past national director of ASCE and has served on numerous committees including Publications and the Executive Committee of SEI's Business Practices Activities Division. Currently, he is on the Editorial Board of STRUCTURE magazine representing SEI. Past ASCE awards include the Daniel W. Mead Prize, the Edmund Friedman Young Engineer for Professional Achievement, and he was a winner of the essay contest for Civil Engineering magazine.

Mr. Biggs holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in civil engineering and has been an adjunct professor there as well. In 1992, the Civil Engineering Department honored him as its first recipient of an Alumni Association Fellow award.



Call for Papers PMC-2004

*Ninth ASCE Joint Specialty Conference
on Probabilistic Mechanics
and Structural Reliability*

July 26-28, 2004

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Hosted by Sandia National
Laboratories.

The overriding goal of the conference is to provide a medium for technical exchange between engineers, scientists and statisticians interested in all aspects of nondeterministic modeling, including uncertainty quantification, sensitivity analysis, risk and reliability analysis, model validation, random vibration, and decision-making under uncertainty.

**The abstract submission
deadline is December 12, 2003.**

For further information, please contact Steve Wojtkiewicz at Sandia (sfwojtk@sandia.gov) or visit the conference's web site at www.esc.sandia.gov/pmc04.html.

Mark Your Calendars

2004 Structures Congress

Nashville, TN; May 24-26, 2004

NOTE: This conference is on a Monday to Wednesday format rather than the usual Thursday to Saturday format.



Structures 2004 will explore the latest changes in code – including wind and seismic provisions – along with important new approaches, such as blast resistance, to enhance the security and stability of the structures we build. Rehabilitation and retrofitting are critical topics for this year, along with innovations in infrastructure design, computational methods, design comparisons for different model building codes, and much more.

Go to www.asce.org/conferences/structures2004 for further information.

