



Report on NCEES POLC Meeting

By John Joyce, NCSEA President

On February 28, 2004, the annual meeting of the NCEES' Participating Liaisons Council (POLC) was held at the Embassy Suites in Phoenix, Arizona. Representatives of various engineering organizations exchanged reports and received first hand knowledge of current NCEES activities. For the first time, organizations representing solely structural engineers participated. NCSEA, CASE and SEI joined POLC during the past year and were represented as follows: John Joyce for NCSEA, Ray Messer for CASE, and Jim Rossberg and Hamid Adib for SEI. It was noted that the overlap in membership which exists between NCSEA, CASE and SEI is not unusual in terms of POLC members representing other engineering disciplines. Multiple societies represent land surveyors, mechanical engineers and electrical engineers.

The three structural engineering groups were reportedly the first additions to the POLC group in five years. All three organizations indicated support for NCEES' efforts to establish a model law

structural engineer. A fourth new member of POLC is the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB). Certification was mentioned by a number of POLC members, and NCEES President Don Hiatte emphasized that licensure should precede certification. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), however, is considering some type of specialty certification and reported that only about half of ASME's 122,000 members are currently licensed. Apparently, an industrial exemption applies to a number of ASME members. The ASHRAE representative stated that ASHRAE has also discussed certification in recent years.

“...how engineers might be recognized and licensed in the future.”

NCEES' Licensure Qualifications Oversight Group (LQOG) has produced a report that suggests some far reaching revisions as to how engineers might be

recognized and licensed in the future. POLC member organizations were asked to either endorse or comment on this report, which is available at www.ncees.org in its entirety. NCSEA Licensing Chairman Larry Meyers was asked to take the lead on this review. The review is especially important since the LQOG report was finalized when ACEC and ASCE were POLC members, but prior to NCSEA's or its partnering organizations' membership in POLC.

NCEES President-Elect Jon Nelson (from Tulsa, OK) looks to improve communication with ABET and will continue to emphasize exam security as an important issue. IEEE suggested NCEES increase exam security by establishing a database consisting of thousands of questions which could then be made public. Mr. Nelson did not specifically address this suggestion but did encourage engineering organizations like NCSEA to stress the importance of members volunteering to be exam item writers. He also encouraged SEA's to lobby at individual state levels with respect to engineering legislative issues, since state licensure boards are not usually free to promote the interests of engineers.

Breakfast, Anyone?

Emile W.J. Troup, NCSEA Past President

The publication of CASE Document 962 D 2003, "A Guideline Addressing Coordination and Completeness of Structural Construction Documents", represents an authoritative integration of numerous articles and discussions by structural engineers during the past 15 to 20 years. Up to now, the participants and audience for these discussions have been mostly the structural engineering community itself, "preaching to the choir" if you will. The time has come to involve the stakeholders, i.e., public and private owners/developers, construction managers, design-builders, general contractors, and architects, who have the most to gain from the benefits of adopting concepts presented in the CASE Guideline. The benefits should include reduced construction cost, fewer RFIs and change orders, more satisfied owners, higher profits, fewer conflicts and disputes among the parties, less litigation, lower insurance premiums, shorter construction time and, simply, making life easier for everyone on the project by doing things right the first time.

How do we accomplish this? CASE and AISC are collaborating on a series of 35 to 50 breakfast meetings about the Guideline that will be launched this spring in major cities across the country. Members of the CASE National Guidelines Committee will lead these programs, but delivering the message effectively will depend on participation of the Stakeholders. CASE members, NCSEA Member Organizations, and AISC members and staff will be asked to contact Stakeholder leaders.

Is the structural engineering profession ready and willing to resume its rightful and respected role in the building design and construction process? Are we ready to carry the message to the Stakeholders and effect change? If so, join us at these upcoming programs and help us attract the Stakeholders, whose support is essential to implementing the recommendations in the CASE Guideline.

Call for Entries

NCSEA 2004
Excellence in
Structural Engineering
Awards Program

Entries are due on July 9, and awards will be presented at the Monteleone Hotel on September 25 at the conclusion of the NCSEA Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Winning projects will be featured in future issues of STRUCTURE magazine. For awards program rules, eligibility, and entry forms, see the Call For Entries on the NCSEA web site at www.ncsea.com.





**National Council of Structural Engineers Associations
Twelfth Annual Conference • New Orleans, Louisiana • September 23 - 25, 2004**

**Designing for the Coastal Environment
Preliminary Program Highlights**

Technical Presentations

Keynote Address: *History of Pile Foundations in New Orleans*

Lloyd Held

Designing Buildings for Floodplains: Recent Developments in Codes and Standards

Chris Jones

Calculating Wind Loads using the Simplified Method of ASCE 7-02

James M. Delahay

Hurricane Engineering

Dr. Marc Levitan

Marine Structures on Inland Waterways

Clovis Morrison

Corrosion Protection of Structures

Ian Chin

Hotel Monteleone

in the French Quarter
214 Rue Royal
New Orleans, LA 70130-2201

Reservations: Call the Hotel Monteleone at 1-800-217-2033 or (504) 523-3341.

Single or Double Room Rate: \$149
Mention NCSEA to receive this special room rate. **This room rate is guaranteed only through September 1, 2004.**



One of only two French Quarter Hotels rated Four Diamonds by AAA. Consecutive winner of the J. D. Power Award for outstanding customer service, the Pinnacle Award and Stars of the South.



Friday evening will feature a special visit to The Musee Conti Wax Museum in the French Quarter. The Musee Conti Wax Museum tells the fascinating story of New Orleans from her founding to the present day. Experience more than 300 years of history, legend and scandal with the 154 life-size figures displayed in historically accurate settings.

Discounted airfares are available for travel to and from New Orleans on United or United Express between September 18 and September 29, 2004. Receive 5% off the lowest applicable discount fare, or 10% off the unrestricted coach fare. **An additional 5% discount will apply when tickets are purchased at least 30 days in advance of your travel date.** To receive these special fares, you or your travel agent must call the United Airlines Meeting Reservations Center at 800- 521-4041 and refer to Meeting ID 524AF.



Visit New Orleans - for the history, for the food, for the FUN!

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Companion _____

Firm _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ Fax (_____) _____

_____ Email _____

_____ Delegate from _____

Member Organization _____

Member Registration - \$495 per person

Registration fee includes Thursday evening Welcoming Reception, Professional Program, Trade Exhibits, breakfast, lunch and refreshment breaks on Friday and Saturday, Friday evening dinner at the Musee Conti Wax Museum and Saturday evening dinner at the Closing Awards Banquet.

Companion Registration - \$225 per person

Companion fee includes Thursday evening Welcoming Reception, Friday continental breakfast, Friday evening dinner at the Musee Conti Wax Museum, Saturday continental breakfast, and Saturday evening dinner at the Closing Awards Banquet.

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ Visa MasterCard American Express

Disability Requirements? _____

**If paying by check, mail check payable to NCSEA, with this completed Registration Form, to:
NCSEA • Suite 2010 • 203 North Wabash Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60601.**

If paying by credit card, fax this completed Registration Form to NCSEA at 312-372-5673.

