



The

Oregon

Professional

Engineer

## Summer 2020 ISSUE

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## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE - Tom Headley, PE, CWRE

The last several months since our State Conference Webinar have affected all of us. Some may be moving forward with business-as-usual, while others may be feeling the direct health or economic effect today. Whatever the degree of immediate effect may be, each one of us as Professional Engineers in the state of Oregon are living through this historic and turbulent moment in time.

### *My message to my fellow PEO members is this...*

Maintain the strengths that drew you to the engineering field and have propelled you through your careers. We are engineers and are able to think calmly and critically in the face of problems. We seek solutions and are continually building the skills to bring those solutions to reality. Engineers learn from the successes and failures of generations before us and understand that the uncertainty of today unfailingly becomes the history of tomorrow. Our collective commitment to the protection of the public's health, safety, and welfare will ensure we do not lose sight of the work before us.

As the members and leaders of the Professional Engineers of Oregon, you have entrusted me with leading our organization through the next two years. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue the momentum created by the leadership of Past Presidents David Etchart, Matt Cash, David Bassett, and those who served before them. The active and engaged members of the local chapters and the State Board are the engines of PEO's success. I assure you that our achievements over the next two years will be the work of many to the benefit of all.

As I noted during the May 1 conference webinar, my goal is to advance three primary objectives of the state leadership throughout my term:

**Proactive Legislative Advocacy.** Individually, we do not have the time or expertise to track every decision-making group and legislative committee that could potentially erode the value of our PE license—or far worse, cause long-term harm to the public's health, safety, and welfare. The legislative realm can be overwhelming. And so, like all large projects, we do this together as a team. The State Board is currently working to create a framework for how PEO will proactively keep engineers at the decision-making table when it counts most. To do this, I ask that you let us know—via the forthcoming survey—any groups, commissions, boards, and other activities in which you are engaged. Likewise, we will keep track and broadcast opportunities for you to match your expertise with civic engagement.

**Broad Membership Access and Value.** “Be a member, get a member.” These are the words of David Bassett that I heard in the first year I sat to observe a State Board meeting. As members, we know what the value of membership in NSPE/PEO is to each of us. If you would like to help shape the value brought by membership, you can do so through engagement at the Local Chapter and State leadership level. Attendance is easier than ever before now that we are using Zoom videoconferencing. We are all recruiters for NSPE/PEO. In May, we proved to ourselves during the Virtual State Conference that we can stay socially and professionally connected despite physical distance. We are now charged with a responsibility to reach engineers across our cities and across the state to join in our local meetings and to participate in our statewide Town Halls. Included in this broadening access to membership is our drive to increase professional licensure within industrial fields.

**Investment in Our Collective Future.** Professional development is a core principal of PEO. Our commitment to continued education keeps our skills sharp and our knowledge current. As an organization, NSPE/PEO provides all of us with opportunities to learn across a broad range of topics. As a member you are encouraged to let your chapter leadership know about interesting, PDH-eligible, meeting topics for local meetings. Now we have the tools to share those chapter meeting events across the state. In addition to our own education, we must acknowledge the importance of illuminating the path for future engineers who will soon be navigating uncharted territory. Engineering education, and PEO's commitment to it, remains as strong as ever. You, as members, continue to show your support of programs like MATHCOUNTS and the PEO Education Foundation. I thank you for that. I ask that you find any avenue you can to encourage today's STEM students to keep their chins up and maintain their problem-solving mindset. They are the future of our profession.

I will close with a call to action. Please contact me. If you have long-wondered questions about NSPE/PEO, if you have just joined and are looking to get involved, if you were wondering how to weigh next year's renewal with the uncertainty of our current times, if you catch a grammatical error in my message, just email me or call me. I want to hear from you. You are the engineers I am honored to represent.

Thank you,

Tom Headley, PE, CWRE

# ATTENTION PEO MEMBERS...

## Oregon's Unprecedented Wildfires

As the deadline for publication of this PEO newsletter neared, the western region of Oregon was inundated by a series of wildfires and stifling smoke. While emergency responders are still in the early stages of life safety, fire control, and fire cleanup, we have yet to fully comprehend extent of the damages and loss of life. Undoubtedly we will find that some of our own members, or their families, friends, or peers, have been directly affected. This year has presented a barrage of challenges, and yet we remain resilient. Many of us are already finding ways to help during this far-reaching wildfire emergency, piled atop a global pandemic. By continuing to help one another, we will carry our community through this hardship.

Financial donations to reputable, established relief organizations are likely the most effective means to help in the immediate term. The Red Cross is accepting donations, though you must specify if you want your financial donation to reach Oregon wildfire relief or to provide assistance within your region of residence. Additionally, you may set up an account with the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (<https://oregonrecovers.communityos.org/volunteer-registration>) to match your skills with volunteer opportunities. The Governor's office has set up a website to follow wildfire information as it develops, including ways to help: <https://wildfire.oregon.gov/>

In the coming days, weeks, and months, there will be an increasing need to donate food, water, clothing, hygiene supplies, pet supplies, and anything else to those who have lost their homes, been evacuated, or both. It is likely that such material donations will be channeled through individual efforts or religious groups as governmental and quasi-governmental (such as the Red Cross) organizations may be limited by COVID-19 precautions. Pandemic or not, winter is coming to Oregon. Those who have lost everything need our help today.

We engineers are civil servants in many ways. Our professions work to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. We as individuals do the same outside the office. Seemingly small measures, such as providing a bag of donated clothes to the relief effort, will add up across our state to put our neighbors back on their feet. Lastly, this wildfire conflagration is a raw reminder of the turmoil that will follow the Cascadia Subduction Earthquake event. Please, all of you, be vigilant in your emergency preparedness. Not just for your own safety, but also for our statewide resilience. Having a plan is the first crucial step to rebuilding. Whatever the challenge, we will rebuild.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and may we all see a brighter 2021.  
Tom Headley, PE, CWRE  
PEO President



**PEO Fellow Award** - A small committee has undertaken finalizing an earlier effort to create a PEO Fellow award similar to the NSPE Fellow award. The criteria focuses on long term contributions to PEO as well as Professional and Community organizations through elected offices and/or committee work. The award criteria is being reviewed by the PEO Board and the program is expected to be initiated before year end.

Ralph Cohen, P.E., PEO Vice President

## Mark Hampton



Our friend and colleague MARK HAMPTON PE has always been a gracious and creative leader, strong Engineer and a kind, dependable, loving man with integrity and humor ingrained in his soul.

We will miss his gentle insightful ways as he has gone to solve problems on a grander scale in the universe....but leaves us with fond memories, strong traditions and a bright future including an ADVANCE that continues to serve our Profession in many ways.

Following Mark into the PEO Presidency was an honor and privilege as all I needed to do was continue building on the strong foundation he and our Giants of the past gave us all as their gift to the future.

Well done Mark, we miss you.

Dave

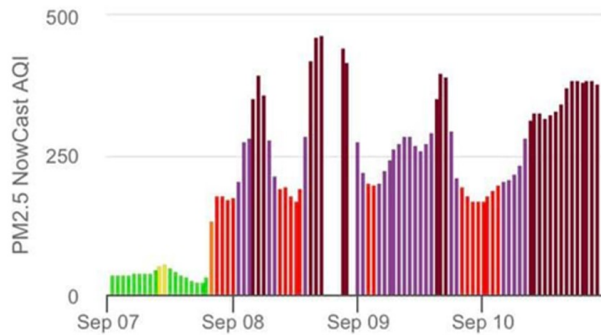
David Bassett, P.E.  
PEO Secretary



## Worst Wildfire Smoke Impacts in Oregon

Wow, what a week. And it's not over yet.

On Labor Day, the Air Quality Index (AQI) in Eugene was Green ("Good") for most of the day, but wildfire smoke from the Beachie Creek and Lionshead fires steadily increased the AQI in the evening hours to Yellow ("Moderate"), then Orange (Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups"), Red ("Unhealthy"), then Purple ("Very Unhealthy"). By Tuesday morning, September 8, 2020, the AQI in Eugene was Maroon ("Hazardous") as extreme winds and historically challenging fire conditions fueled multiple wildfires across the region. "The fire weather forecasted is extremely rare and occurs only a few times a century," said Eric Johnson, Deputy Fire Staff for Northwest Oregon Fire Management.



Smoke impacts (measured as fine particulate matter, or PM2.5) in Eugene and Cottage Grove on Thursday-Friday were the worst ever recorded in the 52 years of the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA).

By Thursday, the AQI was Hazardous throughout the Willamette Valley. Deadly windblown wildfires raging across Oregon (and throughout the Pacific Northwest) destroyed hundred of homes, and Oregon Governor Kate Brown warned, "This could be the greatest loss of human life and property due to wildfire in our state's history."

This morning, Saturday, September 12, 2020, the Air Quality Advisory was extended to the entire State of Oregon, with Hazardous smoke levels expanding into much of Central Oregon. Governor Kate Brown said more than 40,000 Oregonians have been evacuated and about 500,000 (of the 4.2 million residents in Oregon) are in different levels of evacuation zones. (Level 1 is Get Ready, Level 2 is Get Set, Level 3 Evacuation Zones are GO NOW!)

The statewide Air Quality Advisory is in effect through at least next Monday afternoon. The Oregon wildfires continue to grow, but not as rapidly as in recent days. Onshore winds from the south are expected to reach the Willamette Valley by Wednesday afternoon, September 16th, according to Rebecca Muessle, National Weather Service meteorologist in Portland. Until we see relief, please follow the health guidelines for various pollution levels.

For updates for your area, please see:

[www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov)

[www.fire.airnow.gov](http://www.fire.airnow.gov)

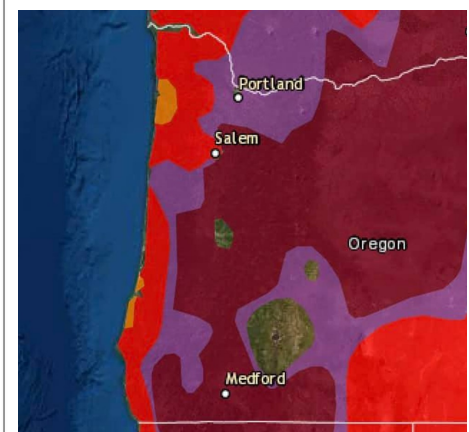
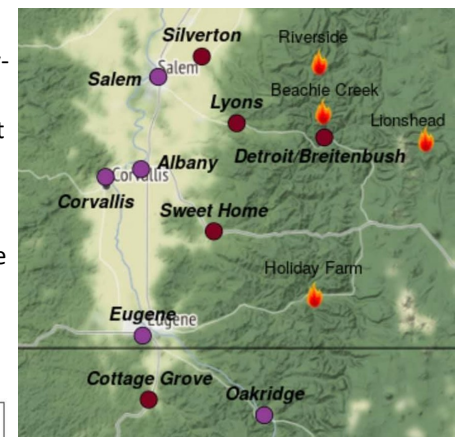
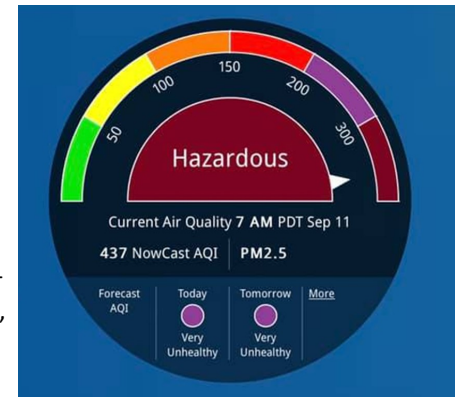
Take care and keep safe!

Merlyn

Merlyn L. Hough, P.E., BCEE

Director

Lane Regional Air Protection Agency



Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
Good	None
Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
USG	People within Sensitive Groups should <b>reduce</b> prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups should <b>avoid all</b> physical outdoor activity.
Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.



# UPDATES AROUND THE STATE & NATIONAL...



**Advocacy Month** - Last month, NSPE government relations staff launched “Speak Up: For the Future of the Profession”—a series of fireside chats that engage elected officials in a conversation surrounding some of NSPE’s core issues relating to the future of the engineering profession.

So far, we have discussed expanding funding opportunities to gain licensure related to the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow’s Workforce Act with both of the bill’s sponsors from the House of Representatives and talked about the value of STEM education and the INSPIRES Act.

Our final fireside chat on September 14<sup>th</sup> will feature Rep. Bruce Westerman, PE (AR-04) and a discussion on infrastructure and what it is like to be a professional engineer in Congress.

**Greenhouse Gas Programs Political Advocacy** - In response to the governor’s Executive Order 20-04 requiring state agencies to propose plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is holding six weekly workshops in order to solicit inputs on aspects of their plan and to encourage dialogue amongst interested parties. Examples of the topics covered during the first three workshops are whether to regulate at source or end user or a combination, what gases to include, whether to delay implementation due to Covid-19, whether to have a mass based or intensity based emission standard, annual rate of emission reduction, credits for early action, alternative compliance provisions, and whether all economic sectors should be treated the same. Ralph Cohen has been attending and providing input as a “concerned citizen” / engineering consultant which parallel the PEO issues we previously identified with the Cap and Trade bills proposed for the DATC/2020 legislative session. More information is available on the Executive Order and ensuing program at: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/ghgp/Pages/ghg-cap-and-reduce.aspx> and from the ODEQ link specific to their program and workshops: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/ghgp/Pages/capandreduce.aspx> and <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/ghgp/Pages/programscoping.aspx>.

Thank you to Ralph Cohen, P.E. PEO Board Director, Vice President for providing this report.



## BRIC FY20 Notice of Funding Opportunity

As PEO’s representative on Gov. Brown’s Resilience Mitigation Advisory Council I am passing along to you the updated information on FEMA’s new Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant funding. The funding application period for this very first year of this new program closes on September 30<sup>th</sup>. This is a program designed to fund projects PRIOR to a catastrophic event that will help to make communities and infrastructure more resilient and/or quicker to recover after an event. Contact information for training and additional details is included in the attached slide deck.

In other updates, the first alert seismic system has been funded in the last special session which relieves some grant funding for other projects.

Best, Shannon Souza, P.E., PEO Board Director, Private Practice

BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity Fact Sheet: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>



## Shaping Public Policy

NSPE’s Government Relations staff stands at the ready to protect and promote the license and is working tirelessly to engage both NSPE members and elected officials in the protection and promotion of the PE license.

Part of the government relations team’s recent advocacy efforts include creating resources for members to use as part of this work. Redesigning the NSPE Advocacy Center, which was relaunched as part of PE Day, lies at the heart of this effort. The redesigned advocacy center features new materials and resources from core issues one-pagers to training modules on how to engage one’s elected officials.

Also, NSPE staff continues to track any threats to licensure, in addition to monitoring new legislation and executive orders related to COVID-19 that impacts our members. All of this information, as well as the link to the advocacy center, can be found on the NSPE website.

# OREGON MATHCOUNTS REPORT

Oregon MATHCOUNTS middle school mathletes wrapped up their competition season this year with the State meet that was held at Mentor in Wilsonville on March 7<sup>th</sup>! The MATHCOUNTS competition season was abbreviated when COVID-19 precautions drastically altered everyone's daily routines and activities. National MATHCOUNTS recognized that the safety and health of all Mathletes was their top priority and on March 15<sup>th</sup> cancelled all remaining 2020 competitions. In lieu of the usual National Competition, National MATHCOUNTS declared May 11th through 15th "Math Week" and set up activities for students to engage in every day of the week at 3:14 pm ("pi hour"). All middle schoolers, regardless of their MATHCOUNTS affiliation or standing, were invited to participate.

As we all know, every Oregon middle-schooler who participates in the MATHCOUNTS Competition series and/or Math Clubs is awesome, and their coaches extraordinary. The competition program would not thrive in Oregon if not for the many wonderful volunteers from all over the State.

The students all benefit from their exposure to problem solving as well as interaction with other kids who have the same drive to succeed. The 2020 season, while shorter than usual, was every bit a success! 64 Oregon middle schools, 454 students, participated in the competition series. Once again, both numbers were up from the previous year's 62 schools and 429 students. In addition, there were over 30 Math Club Programs, with over 600 Oregon students registered in the programs.

We are grateful to the many coaches, students, volunteers, Board members, and financial supporters without whom Oregon MATHCOUNTS would not continue to grow.

## **2020 MATHCOUNTS Competition Details**

During the month of February, eight Oregon region/chapter competitions were held. On March 7th, 72 students from 29 schools participated in the state competition, which was held at Mentor in Wilsonville. Many of the students, their parents, and coaches, traveled long distances and stayed in Wilsonville making an event of the weekend. The top 2019-2020 teams are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Stoller Middle School** of Portland coached by Manny Norse
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ashbrook Independent School** of Corvallis coached by Paul Hunt and Tsuyoshi Yamashita
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sellwood Middle School** of Portland coached by Patrick Vennebush and Linda White
- 4<sup>th</sup> – ACCESS Academy** of Corvallis coached by Amy MacKinnon and Yongkang Chen
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Meadow Park Middle School** of Portland coached by Mark McGuire

Had there been a National Competition, the Oregon team of Mathletes, who would have competed with the top Mathletes from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, several U.S territories and overseas U.S. schools, would have included the following Oregon Mathletes:

- #1 – Justin Xia**, Stoller Middle School, coached by Manny Norse
- #2 – Ryan Lu**, Highland Park Middle School, coached by Alison McCarthy
- #3 – Derek Aslan**, Stoller Middle School, coached by Manny Norse
- #4 – Ethan Zhang**, Stoller Middle School, coached by Manny Norse

Manny Norse, the coach of the first place Oregon school team, would have been the Oregon team's coach for the National Competition.

The program is successful due to the volunteer effort and dedication of the regional coordinators:

- Ann Marie Hardin, NE Oregon Region
- Thomas Headley, P.E., Central OR Region
- Michael Hardy, P.E., Washington County Region
- Steve Alexanderson, P.E., Benton-Polk-Lincoln Region
- Jim Fischer and Gregg Waterman, Klamath Basin Region
- Wendy Coffin, P.E., Clackamas and Multnomah County Region
- Tyler Duncan, P.E., Michael Ribiero, and Dawn Lamb, Rogue Valley Region
- Jennifer Wirsing, P.E. and Matt Whitty, P.E., SE Oregon Region

## **Outlook for the Future**

The Board is proud of the performance of Oregon math students and are happy that the participation level has remained steady. The Board will continue to endeavor to increase the number of schools and students participating in MATHCOUNTS Programs.

Due to COVID-19, this year's MATHCOUNTS Competition Series has been modified. Go to [WWW.MATHCOUNTS.ORG](http://WWW.MATHCOUNTS.ORG) for more information.



**2020 State Mathletes at Mentor Graphics**



**2020 Oregon Team**

### **Financial Overview**

The Oregon MATHCOUNTS Foundation financial condition remains strong. The Board approved a budget of \$19,100 at its annual meeting last June, which was appropriate for this years' anticipated expenses. We didn't meet our fundraising goal but will end the year with a net income because we did not see the usual expenses associated with the National Competition.

The Oregon MATHCOUNTS program was initially organized and implemented by the Professional Engineers of Oregon, who continue to support MATHCOUNTS in numerous ways. Oregon MATHCOUNTS would not be possible without the volunteer help and financial support of PEO and many other organizations, companies, and individuals across Oregon.

We are particularly thankful to and recognize our many loyal supporters:

### **Leadership Team**

Oregon MATHCOUNTS is overseen by its Foundation Board of Directors.

The Board includes the following team members:

Wendy H. Coffin, P.E., President  
Ralph M. Cohen, P.E., Treasurer/Secretary  
Michael Hardy, P.E., State Coordinator/  
Director

Stephen Anderson, P.E., Director  
Ann Marie Hardin, Director  
Kris Warloe, Director  
Matthew Phillips, P.E., Director  
Devu Pandit, Director

This year we welcomed Devu Pandit to the Board. He is a former Mathlete and the father of a Mathlete. He brings the perspective of a parent and has a good understanding of the students and coaches. I, Wendy Coffin, will be stepping down from the position of President, and as past president, intend to focus on regional activities. We have a wonderful candidate for the incoming President in Ann Marie Harding, who brings the perspective of eastern Oregon to the position.

We are extremely thankful for the support provided by our Administrator, Belinda Rasmussen, CMM. We deeply appreciate her management and coordination skills.

**Congratulations to all of our Mathletes!** Best wishes to every one of them as they continue to learn more about team work, mathematics, and problem solving. Skills that will carry them through to successful careers, whatever they may be.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy H. Coffin, P.E.

## ***Thank you to our Sponsors...***

### **State Sponsors, \$1,000+**

### **Student Sponsors, \$1-\$199**

Braemar Charitable Trust (via Trust Mgmt. Svcs, LLC)	Thomas Ginsbach, P.E.
Mentor, a Siemens Business (in-kind - competition venue)	Joe Graybill, P.E.
National MATHCOUNTS Foundation (share of reg. fee)	Paul Gribbon, P.E.
Professional Engineers of Oregon	William Guy, P.E.
<b>Regional Sponsors, \$500-\$999</b>	Leland Hardy, P.E.
Century West Engineering	Michael Hardy, P.E.
Intel (in-kind - competition venue)	Christopher Henningsen, P.E.
Kris and Carol Warloe	Dennis Hickman, P.E.
Lestelle Anderson Foundation	Scott Huff, P.E.
OBEC, a DOWL LLC Company	Keith Kearsley, P.E.
OR Chapter American Public Works Assoc	Byung Hun Kim, P.E.
Salem Electric	Darren Kipper, P.E.
Warloe-Johnson inFaith Community Foundation	Jim Kooiman, P.E.
<b>School Sponsors, \$200-\$499</b>	Russell Krueger, P.E.
Bend Research	Jinx (Elaine) Kuehn, P.E.
Loomis Engineering	Roger Kuhlman, P.E.
MSC Engineers, Inc.	Don Leonard, P.E.
NW Natural Gas	Benjamin Linzy, EIT
Ralph M. Cohen Consultancy (Ralph M. Cohen, P.E.)	Michael McAllister, P.E.
Ron Polvi, P.E.	Susan Mead, P.E.
UA Local 209 Industry Advancement Fund	Abraham Mooney
Mark Van Duser, P.E.	John Myers, P.E.
<b>Student Sponsors, \$1-\$199</b>	Brett Parker, CWRE
Kelsey Ausland, EIT	Kevin Parrish, P.E.
Phil Beatty, P.E.	William Pokorny, P.E.
Dale Bowder, P.E.	Ron Polvi, P.E.
COSTCO	Susan Ronning, P.E.
Matt Cash, P.E.	Michael Saling, P.E.
Craig Cherry, P.E.	Shantu Shah, P.E.
Jerry Christensen, P.E.	Ryan Sisson, P.E.
Wendy H. Coffin, P.E.	Jan Six, P.E.
Walter Cook, P.E.	Pieter Smeenk, P.E.
Douglas Corcoran, P.E.	Greg Smith, P.E.
Sandra Crenshaw, P.E.	Shannon Souza, P.E.
Maria DaSilva, P.E.	Herbert Stevens
Michael Dean, P.E.	Peter Sukraw
Mike DiPasquale, P.E.	Rick Swanson, P.E.
Jeffrey Drummond	Harry Joe Tabor, P.E.
Dirk Duryee, P.E.	Abraham Tayar, P.E.
	TV Design (Troy Vanderhoof, P.E.)
Teresa Elliot, P.E.	Alex Uber, P.E.
David Y. Etchart, P.E.	Gary Underhill, P.E.
Eric Farm, P.E.	Howard Wells, P.E.
William (Bill) Ferber, P.E.	Matt Whitty, P.E.
Eric Finney, P.E.	Bruce Wilson, P.E.
William Galli, P.E.	Frederic Wittkop, P.E.
Mel Galli, III, P.E.	
Gerlitz Engineering Consultants (Justin Gerlitz, P.E.)	Ralph Yenne, P.E.
Allan Gibbs, P.E.	Gordon Yutzy, P.E.





## Professional Engineers Pivot State Conference to Live Webinar in Early Days of Pandemic

Since 2017's record-setting conference attendance in Sunriver, the Professional Engineers of Oregon (PEO) had been looking forward to the 2020 annual event's return to the picturesque community nestled among Central Oregon's Ponderosa pines. As with all conferences, the planning of the April 30-May 1, 2020, event began immediately on the heels of 2019 annual meeting. Thoughts of brewery tours, golf, and star-gazing had engineers across the state excitedly planning throughout a year of board meetings. By now we're all familiar with the narrative, so suffice it to say that two months prior to the conference, the global coronavirus pandemic shuttered the much-anticipated gathering.

In the days following the cancellation of 2020's event, the statewide PEO leadership considered options. The most straightforward decision was to simply cancel the conference for the year, returning on the scheduled rotation in 2022. Fortunately, once a group of engineers gets together in a video-conferenced "room," solutions begin to outweigh problems. The statewide organization, founded on the premise that licensed Professional Engineers are ethically bound to the protection of the public's health, safety, and welfare, decided to shift its conference to a live webinar format.

PEO's Executive Director, Belinda Rasmussen of Association Business Management, and Ralph Cohen, PE, PEO Vice President from the

Recording Information - Zoom X Professional Engineers of Ore... X

Exchange Admin Center | My Messages: MyHeal... | How to Buy a House | Constant Contact

zoom Professional Engineers of Oregon Annual Confer... - Shared screen with speaker view

Tom Headley, P.E., / Lisa Splitter - Conference Co-Chairs	
10:10	Planning for Continuity of Operations
11:10	Economic implications of disasters and disruptions, and resiliency planning for continuity of operations.
11:15	Mark Buckley, PhD, ECONorthwest
11:15	I-5 / Columbia River Replacement Bridge
12:15	Travis Brouwer, Assistant Director, ODOT
12:15	LUNCH BREAK
1:05	PEO ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING, NSPE UPDATE & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
1:05-2:05	Recon in the Wreckage: Post-Earthquake Reconnaissance in 2020
2:10-3:10	Jennifer Donahue, PhD, P.E.
3:10	Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
3:30	Rick Wallace, Senior Policy Analyst, ODOE
3:30	WELLNESS BREAK
4:30	Conference capstone remarks: Engineering a Bright Future
4:30	Andrew Ketsdever, OSU-Cascades Associate Dean of Academics
4:30	CONCLUSION & CLOSING REMARKS
4:30	Tom Headley, P.E.

Program and speakers subject to change without notification.  
Presentation content is solely those of the author or authors.

Columbia Chapter in Portland, shared their collective knowledge of the Zoom Videoconferencing platform to lead the technical aspects of hosting the webinar. The conference committee quickly contacted a select group of presenters who had previously agreed to participate in the in-person conference; the group enthusiastically accepted the webinar invitation. Promotion pivoted to encourage engineers across the state to strengthen their connection to their peers during challenging times, all while earning the Professional Development Hours (PDHs) required to maintain Professional Engineering licensure in the State of Oregon. Registration numbers began to climb.

The annual conference has long been the largest fundraiser for the state MATHCOUNTS® Foundation, PEO's Education Foundation, and Central Oregon's Engineering Scholarship Fund, all of which encourage students toward STEM education and engineering careers. Conference Co-Chair, Lisa Splitter, PE, of The Wallace Group suggested that \$10 of every registration fee go to the attendee's choice of the foundations

associated with PEO. Immediately, this was promoted as a means help the organization further its educational aims during uncertain financial times. The modest goal of 40 attendees was quickly surpassed, as the group proved to itself once again that creativity is the key to adapting.

Under the banner of the original conference theme "Engineering 2020: People, Progress, Planet," the morning of the May 1<sup>st</sup> saw the participant count including presenters approach 90. As attendees settled in from their devices across the state, PEO State President, David Etchart, PE, made his welcoming remarks. Much like PEO's in-person conferences, the presentations offered broad appeal to engineers from multiple disciplines. As a timely opener, the first presentation by Mark Buckley, PhD with ECONorthwest was "Planning for Continuity of Operations – Economic implications of disasters and disruptions, and resiliency planning for continuity of operations." Presentations followed by Assistant Director of ODOT, Travis Brouwer, who provided an update on the I-5/Columbia River Replacement Bridge project, as well as talks focusing on post-earthquake reconnaissance and Oregon's growing electric vehicle infrastructure. The conference capstone remarks, "Engineering a Bright Future," were provided by OSU-Cascades' Associate Dean of Academics, Dr. Andrew Ketsdever as encouragement for all attendees.

Midway through webinar, David Martini, the President of the National Society of Professional Engineers, conducted the ceremony for the installation of new state officers. Conference Co-Chair, Tom Headley, PE, Bend Office Supervisor with Century West Engineering, was handed the virtual gavel of State President by David Etchart. Tom gave a brief talk connecting the conference theme with each of the presentations, and highlighting the fact that the group's adaptability through challenging times proved the strength of the engineering community.

Attendees and organizers alike realized that, by successfully conducting the webinar conference event, PEO directly improved its ability to provide value to its membership. The organization strives to support all licensed Professional Engineers across the state through opportunities for learning, licensure, and leadership, yet travel requirements have long discouraged members to attend events.

In the face of the COVID-19 challenges, the Professional Engineers of Oregon made a collective decision to not only maintain the conference planning momentum already in place, but also to strengthen the connection with members from across the state through a live videoconference platform. Engineers are duty-bound to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. Strong community connection, through good times and bad, is a foundation of that effort.

2020 PEO's Webinar Conference – Part 2   Friday, June 19, 2020	
10:50	WELCOME AND ORIENTATION
11:00	Innovation in the Basin: An Overview of OIT's Oregon Renewable Energy Center – Dr. Oleksandr Dobzhanskyi; Assistant Professor
12:00	OIT, The Oregon Renewable Energy Center launches various applied R&D projects to support sustainable energy systems around the State, where the students and faculty work together on the state-of-the-art projects. The efforts are directed on electric propulsion systems; wind, wave and solar energy; off-grid solar irrigation systems and others.
12:00	LUNCH BREAK
2:00	Vancouver Waterfront Park: The Grant Street Pier – Hod Wells, PE; PBS; Matt Shanahan, PE; GRI; and Dr. Stephen Schneider, PhD; WSP.
2:00	The Vancouver Waterfront Park is a \$24 million public amenity for the 35-acre redevelopment of a former mill site on the Columbia River south of downtown Vancouver, Washington. These three project leaders will explain the challenges and opportunities presented by this landmark accomplishment.
2:00	BREAK
2:15	You Can – So Why Not Make a Difference and Spark the Next Generation of Engineers – Benny Benson, PE; Engineering, Co-creator of Sisters High School's Flight Science and Outlaw Aviation Program, Benny will share with us his insights for leveraging your engineering experience into actively inspiring tomorrow's STEM professionals through real world applications. As engineers we owe a great deal of our success to those who inspired us. Now, more than ever, we must empower today's students to lead society to a bright future.
3:15	
Program and speakers subject to change without notification.	

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## SUMMER 2020 NEWSLETTER

# 10 SYMPOSIUM

The Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering & Land Surveying  
2020 Symposium

September 24 & 25

### WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS:

- Dennis Boeger, PE, CWRE Boeger & Associates, LLC  
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- Jeff Hurd, PE Public Works Director at City of Madras  
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- Thomas Lyon, PE Mechanical Engineer
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# SPEAK UP!

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