Engineer Subregoegeer Journal

NOVEMBER 2024 - VOL. 27 NO. 4

SCHOLARSHIP NAME ANNUAL AWARD AMOUNT SCHOLARSHIP TOTAL Meisa Young Doucet Memorial Scholarship \$5,859.00 \$117,180.00 James and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship 22 \$1,850.00 \$337,000.00 Faschan STEM Scholarship \$1,500.00 \$303,000.00 Neil & Sand Klock Engineering Scholarship \$1,500.00 \$303,000.00 Iands and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship \$1,250.00 \$265,500.00 Neil & Sand Klock Engineering Scholarship \$1,250.00 \$252,000.00 Jack P. MacEachern Memorial Scholarship \$1,250.00 \$252,000.00 Jack P. MacEachern Memorial Scholarship \$1,250.00 \$22,212.00.00 Albert Yal', Jerri H., David Scott Dunn Scholarship \$1,0150.00 \$22,120.00 Albert Yal', Jerri H., David Scott Dunn Scholarship \$1,0150.00 \$22,120.00 Albert Yal' Johnson Dunn PE, PLS Scholarship \$1,000.00 \$20,000.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship 1 \$669.25 \$1,738.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship 1 \$669.25 \$1,738.50 Hurricane Katrina Scholarship \$221.00.00 \$14,429.50 Dr. Bobby Price, PE Memorial Professiona			
James and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship 11	<u>Scholarship Name</u>	Annual Award Amount	Scholarship Total
James and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship #2 \$1,850.00 \$37,000.00 Faschan STEM Scholarship. \$1,500.00 \$30,000.00 Neil & Sarah Klock Engineering Scholarship \$1,500.00 \$30,000.00 Lind J. Daly Memorial Scholarship \$1,250.00 \$26,500.00 Waldemar Nelson Scholarship \$1,260.00 \$25,200.00 Jack P. MacEachern Memorial Scholarship \$1,260.00 \$22,120.00 Albert 'A'', J., Jerri H., David Scott Dunn Scholarship \$1,015.00 \$22,120.00 Albert 'A'', J., Jerri H., David Scott Dunn Scholarship \$1,013.00 \$22,120.00 Albert 'A'', Johnson Dunn PE, PLS Scholarship for Minority Student in Civil Engineering \$1,000.00 \$20,200.00 Koroze Chapter Scholarship #1 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship #2 \$669.25 \$17,385.00 Hurricane Katrina Scholarship #1 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Hurricane Katrina Scholarship \$721.00 \$14,429.50 Dr. Bobby Price, PE Memorial Professional Engineering Scholarship \$528.00 \$12,500.00 Lazenby & Associates, Inc. Scholarship \$528.00 \$12,500.00 \$12,500.00 Lazenby & Associates, Inc. Scholarship \$528.00	Melissa Young Doucet Memorial Scholarship	\$5,859.00	\$117,180.00
Faschan STEM Scholarship \$1,500.00 \$30,000.00 Neil & Sarah Klock Engineering Scholarship \$1,500.00 \$30,000.00 Linda J. Daly Memorial Scholarship \$1,250.00 \$26,500.00 Jack P. MacEachern Memorial Scholarship \$1,250.00 \$25,200.00 Jack P. MacEachern Memorial Scholarship \$1,106.00 \$22,120.00 Alexandria Chapter Scholarship \$1,106.00 \$22,120.00 Alexandria Chapter Scholarship \$1,0150.00 \$21,000.00 CSRS Scholarship for Minority Student in Civil Engineering \$1,013.00 \$20,250.00 Alexandria Chapter Scholarship f \$1,000.00 \$20,000.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship f1 \$1,000.00 \$20,000.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship f1 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Hurricane Katrina Scholarship f1 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Hurricane Katrina Scholarship \$721.00 \$14,429.50 Hurricane Katrina Scholarship \$12,500.00 \$12,500.00 Bayou Chapter Scholarship \$52,500 \$12,500.00 Dr. Bobby Price, PE Memorial Scholarship \$522.00 \$12,500.00 Status Scholarship \$522.00 \$12,500.00 Bayo	James and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship #1	<mark>\$1,850.00</mark>	\$37,000.00
Neil & Sarah Klock Engineering Scholarship \$1,500.00 \$30,000.00 Linda J. Daly Memorial Scholarship \$1,225.00 \$26,500.00 Waldemar Nelson Scholarship \$1,260.00 \$25,200.00 Jack P. MacEachern Memorial Scholarship \$1,260.00 \$22,200.00 Albert "A", J., Jerri H., David Scott Dunn Scholarship \$1,106.00 \$22,120.00 Albert "A", J., Jerri H., David Scott Dunn Scholarship \$1,005.00 \$20,000.00 CSS Scholarship for Minority Student in Civil Engineering \$1,005.00 \$20,000.00 Mart "A" Johnson Dunn PE, PLS Scholarship \$1,000.00 \$20,000.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship # 1 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship # 2 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Hurricane Katrina Scholarship \$721.00 \$14,429.50 Hurricane Katrina Scholarship \$625.00 \$13,250.00 Bayou Chapter Scholarship \$625.00 \$13,250.00 New Orleans Chapter \$520.00 \$14,429.50 Dr. Bobby Price, PE Memorial Professional Engineering Scholarship \$625.00 \$13,550.00 Bayou Chapter Scholarship \$625.00 \$13,250.00 <td>James and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship #2</td> <td></td> <td> \$37,000.00</td>	James and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship #2		\$37,000.00
Linda J. Daly Memorial Scholarship \$1,325.00 \$26,500.00 Waldemar Nelson Scholarship \$1,260.00 \$25,200.00 Jack P. MacEachern Memorial Scholarship \$1,260.00 \$25,200.00 Alexandria Chapter Scholarship \$1,260.00 \$25,000.00 Alexandria Chapter Scholarship \$1,106.00 \$22,120.00 Albert "Al" J., Jerri H., David Scott Dunn Scholarship \$1,050.00 \$21,000.00 CSRS Scholarship for Minority Student in Civil Engineering \$1,013.00 \$20,200.00 Morre Chapter Scholarship J 1 \$1,005.00 \$20,100.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship J 1 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Morroe Chapter Scholarship J 2 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Hurricane Ritria Scholarship J 2 \$869.25 \$17,385.00 Hurricane Ritria Scholarship \$721.00 \$14,429.50 Hurricane Ritria Scholarship \$625.00 \$12,500.00 Iz Polog Pice, PE Memorial Professional Engineering Scholarship \$625.00 \$12,500.00 Dr. Bobby Pice, PE Memorial Professional Engineering Scholarship \$625.00 \$12,500.00 Dr. Thomas S. Leary Engineering Scholarship \$528.00	Faschan STEM Scholarship	<mark>\$</mark> 1,500.00	\$30,000.00
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Louisiana Engineering Society

9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488 Phone: (225) 924-2021 E-mail: les@les-state.org | Website: http://www.les-state.org

ACEC

American Council of Engineering Companies

American Council of Engineering **Companies of Louisiana**

9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 112, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488 Phone: (225) 927-7704 | Fax: (225) 927-7779 E-mail: acecl@acecl.org



Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board

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LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL

NOVEMBER 2024 - Vol. 27 No. 4

The Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal (ISSN: 15275965, USPS 588-360) 9643 Brookline, Suite 116 Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488

This is the official publication of the Louisiana Engineering Society, the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board, and the American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana.

This magazine is published quarterly. "PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID at Baton Rouge, LA."

POSTMASTER-Please send address changes to: The Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal 9643 Brookline Ave., Suite 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488 Telephone: (225) 924-2021

ADVERTISING RATES

SIZE	COST PER ISSUE	COST PER YEAR
Full Page Inside	\$1,200	\$3,840
Full Page Back Cover	\$1,500	\$4,800
1/2 Page	\$700	\$2,240
1/4 Page	\$420	\$1,344

- 1) Prices quoted apply to camera-ready copy. A onetime charge will be added for composition of an ad, art work, or if changes are made during the contract period.
- 2) All ads must be prepaid. Advertisements with payment should be sent to LES by the 15th of the month preceding month of issue.
- 3) Published quarterly, February, May, August and November.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Mary Claire Ruckert, Managing Editor

The Louisiana Engineering Society, the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board, and the American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana do not guarantee the accuracy of statements made or necessarily concur with opinions expressed in the publication.

APFI

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN REGINALD L. JETER, P.E

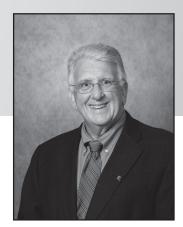
CHAIRMAN, LAPELS

Welcome Home, Y'all! House Bill 716 (ACT 568) and Senate Bill 60 (ACT 253) of the recent Louisiana legislative session by Representative Owen and Senator Presley are known as the Welcome Home Act. These bills became law on August 1, 2024. This recent law is related to Occupational licenses or certifications. It states: Notwithstanding any other law, a board shall issue an occupational license or certification to a person upon application, if all the following apply: (1) The applicant holds a current and valid occupational license or certification in another state in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the board in this state. (2) The applicant has held the occupational license or certification in the other state for at least one year. (3) The other state required the applicant to pass an examination, or to meet education, training, or experience standards. (4) The other state holds the applicant in good standing. (5) The applicant does not have a disqualifying criminal record as determined by the board in this state under state law. (6) The applicant does not have a disciplinary action or investigation pending in another state. If the applicant has a disciplinary action or investigation pending, the board in this state shall not issue or deny an occupational license or certification to the person until the disciplinary action or investigation is resolved or the person otherwise meets the criteria for an occupational license or certification in this state to the satisfaction of the board in this state. (7) The applicant pays all applicable fees in this state. (8) The applicant lives in this state and provides proof of residency as outlined in R.S. 37:53. If another state issued the applicant a certification, but this state requires an occupational license to work, the board in this state shall issue an occupational license to the applicant if the applicant otherwise satisfies Subsection A of this Section.



(I-r) Reggie Jeter, PE and Connie Betts, PE Thank you, Connie, for your leadership as the LAPELS Chairman.

Because the LAPELS board issues licenses, we are required to follow this law. Six applications have been received and processed from



Reginald L. Jeter, P.E Chairman, LAPELS

professional land surveyors seeking licensure under HB 716. All these candidates have many years of experience as licensees in other states but live in Louisiana. They still must successfully complete the Louisiana Professional Surveying examination. Three applications from professional engineers have been received and reviewed. The professional engineer candidates also have many years of experience and all live in Louisiana.

Here is my concern, as it relates to professional engineers. There is a push to license individuals with engineering technology degrees. In the future, a person currently living in Louisiana, could go to another state, get a technology degree, or meet the licensure requirements of another state that are a standard lower than that specified in the applicable licensure law in effect in Louisiana, become licensed in that state and then become a licensee in Louisiana. Remember, as professionals we are to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Welcome Home Y'all.

On another note, I wanted to welcome our newest board member, Byron Trust, P.E. Mr. Trust was recently appointed to the Board by Governor Landry and replaces Edgar Benoit, P.E. These board members are both representatives of Industry. Many thanks to Edgar for his years of service and leadership with LAPELS and welcome, Byron. On behalf of all current LAPELS board and staff members, we all look forward to getting to know you and serving with you during your term on the Board.



(I-r), Reggie Jeter, PE, Wilfred Fontenot, PLS, Edgar Benoit, PE and Connie Betts, PE Thank you, Mr. Wil and Mr. Edgar, for your service to the Board from 2018 - 2024

ENFORCEMENT REPORT

RHETT RAYBORN & MORGAN GEORGETOWN

BOARD INVESTIGATORS

EXPIRED PRACTICE:

Rayner Consulting Group, L.L.C., a licensed engineering firm (EF-5356), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for engineering while in expired status in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(9) and (16). The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of La R.S. 37:698(A)(9) and (16) and agreed to pay a fine of \$500; to pay administrative costs of \$566.60; past renewal fee of \$120; for supervising professionals to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and the Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz with a score of 90% or higher on each; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter identifying Respondent by name in the Board's official Journal, and the reporting of this matter to NCEES, identifying Respondent by name.

AIDING OR ASSISTING ANOTHER PERSON IN VIOLATING THE LAWS/RULES OF THE BOARD:

Benjamin A. Rayner, P.E., a professional engineer (PE-46862), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for aiding or assisting another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(12). Between October 2023 and February 2024 (a) Rayner Consulting Group, L.L.C. (an expired firm) admittedly offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services on approximately 97 projects in Louisiana and (b) Mr. Rayner aided and assisted his firm in the unlicensed practice of and/ or offer to practice engineering on 97 projects in the state of Louisiana. Mr. Rayner was an owner, employee, representative, and supervising professional of the firm. Mr. Rayner has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$500; to pay administrative costs of \$566.60; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz with a score of 90% or higher on each; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter identifying Respondent by name in the Board's official Journal, and the reporting of this matter to NCEES, identifying Respondent by name.

Krunal M. Patel, P.E., a professional engineer (PE-47157), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for aiding or assisting another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(12). On or about November 22, 2022 Total Engineers LLC (an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm) submitted to the Board an application for engineering firm licensure, in which the firm admitted that it had engaged in the unlicensed practice of and/or offering to practice engineering in Louisiana. Between August 10, 2022 and September 22, 2022 (a) the firm admittedly provided and offered to provide engineering services on one project in Louisiana and (b) Mr. Patel provided engineering services for the firm in Louisiana in connection with said project. Mr. Pael

was an officer, employee and representative of the firm and has been the supervising professional of the firm since December 28, 2022. Mr. Patel has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$500; to pay administrative costs of \$231.93; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to the immediate suspension of his license if he fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he so complies; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.

LICENSURE RENEWAL APPLICATION VIOLATIONS:

Gerald T. Wynne, P.E., a licensed professional engineer (PE-32184), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for making a false statement in applying for a license renewal with the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1). In February 2020 the Texas board took disciplinary action against Respondent for failure to notify the Texas Board within 30 days of sanctions being imposed in other jurisdictions. In September 2021 Gerald Wynne submitted to the Board an application for license renewal, confirming thereon that (a) all information provided in his renewal was true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief and (b) an omission or untrue response may constitute fraud, deceit, material misstatement, perjury or the giving of false or forged evidence under the Board's licensure law. Gerald Wynne has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of La R.S. 37:698(A)(1) and agreed to pay a fine of \$1000; to pay administrative costs of \$1,328.32; ; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.

UNLICENSED OFFER AND/OR PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING OR LAND SURVEYING:

Total Engineers LLC, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective December 28, 2022 (EF-7473), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice engineering without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1), (7) and (9), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B). On or about November 22, 2022 the firm submitted to the Board an application for engineering firm licensure, in which the firm admitted that it had engaged in the unlicensed practice of and/or offering to practice engineering in Louisiana. Between August 10, 2022 and September 22, 2022 the firm admittedly provided and offered to provide engineering services on one project in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules

and agreed to pay a fine of \$3,000; to pay administrative costs of \$231.93; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.

MULTIPLE LAWS/RULES VIOLATIONS:

Integrated Food Engineering LLC, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective January 26, 2024 (EF-7732), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for (a) practicing and/ or offering to practice engineering and using the words "engineer", "engineering" or any modification or derivative thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1), (7) and (9), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B), and (b) fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:700(A)(3). Prior to January 24, 2024 the firm admittedly offered to provide conceptual engineering services in Louisiana and provided strictly conceptual engineering services on at least one project in Louisiana for an out-ofstate company interested in developing a feasibility study for determining whether a project to build a new facility was a financially viable concept. On or about January 24, 2024 the firm submitted to the Board an application for engineering firm licensure which falsely stated that the firm had never practiced or offered to practice engineering in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted that it may have committed the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and it agreed to pay a fine of \$3,750; to pay administrative costs of \$1,014.57; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.

Andrew J. Mileson, P.E., a professional engineer (PE-48576), was subject to disciplinary and enforcement action by the Board for (a) practicing and/or offering to practice

engineering prior to licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1), (b) fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1) and (c) aiding or assisting another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board in violation of La. R.Š. 37:698(A)(12). Between at least June 2023 and January 16, 2024 Mr. Mileson admittedly offered to provide conceptual engineering services in Louisiana and provided strictly conceptual engineering services on at least one project in Louisiana. Prior to January 24, 2024 (a) Integrated Food Engineering LLC (an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm) admittedly offered to provide conceptual engineering services in Louisiana and provided strictly conceptual engineering services on at least one project in Louisiana for an out-of-state company interested in developing a feasibility study for determining whether a project to build a new facility was a financially viable concept and (b) Mr. Mileson provided strictly conceptual engineering services for and on behalf of the firm in Louisiana in connection with said project. On or about January 24, 2024 Mr. Mileson signed and submitted to the Board on behalf of the firm an application for engineering firm licensure which falsely stated that the firm had never practiced or offered to practice engineering in Louisiana. Mr. Mileson became licensed as a professional engineer on January 17, 2024. Mr. Mileson was an owner, officer, employee, and representative of the firm and has been the supervising professional of the firm since January 26, 2024. Mr. Mileson has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he acknowledged that he may have committed the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and he agreed to pay a fine of \$3,000; to pay administrative costs of \$1,014.57; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to the immediate suspension of his license if fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he so complies; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.

Board Members

Reginald L. Jeter, PE Chairman

Connie P. Betts, PE Vice Chairman

Linda H. Bergeron, PE Treasurer

Byron D. Racca, PE Secretary James H. Chustz, PLS Janice P. Williams, PE Vijaya Gopu, Ph.D., PE Gordon E. Nelson, PE Susan H. Richard, PE Byron E. Trust, PE Wilfred J. Fontenot, PLS

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Board Staff

Donna D. Sentell Executive Director

Cheron Seaman Deputy Executive Director

MEET GORDON E. NELSON, P.E.



Gordon E. Nelson, P.E.

Gordon E. Nelson, P.E., is currently employed by Volkert, Inc. in Louisiana doing Project Management for Design Build and Public Private Partnership projects. Mr. Nelson earned his first PE license from Louisiana in 1982 and has served on the LAPELS Board representing Construction since July 2023. Mr. Nelson was employed by LADOTD from 1982 to 2009 and held the positions of Resident Engineer; District Maintenance Engineer; District Construction Engineer; District Engineer Administrator; Assistant Secretary of Operations and Deputy Engineer Administrator. Mr. Nelson greatly enjoyed his career at LADOTD and was involved in many notable projects in the Baton Rouge area. Prior to working for LADOTD, Mr. Nelson worked for the FHWA from 1978 to 1982 as an Assistant Area Engineer.

Mr. Nelson earned his Associate of Science in Civil Engineering Technology at the University of Maine at Orono in 1974; his BSCE at the University of Maine at Orono in 1977

and obtained his MSCE at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge in 1986.

Mr. Nelson is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers; the Louisiana Engineering Society (Lifetime Member) and a member of the Louisiana Society of Professional Engineers in Civil Service.

Mr. Nelson has been a member of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Baton Rouge since 1982.

Gordon has been married to Patti Nelson for 45 years and they have two sons and three grandchildren and all live in the Baton Rouge area.

MEET SUSAN H. RICHARD, P.E.

Susan H. Richard, P.E., obtained her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (then USL) in 1987. Susan is a Project Engineer/ Manager at Domingue, Szabo & Associates, Inc. (DSA) in Lafayette. Susan has over 35 years of experience in environmental and utility projects, primarily in wastewater collection system rehabilitation, design of water and wastewater collection/distribution systems, and water treatment plant design.

Susan has been a member of the Louisiana Engineering Society for over 30 years and served on the LES Board of Direction at various times from 1992 to 2021, holding various positions on the Board including President, NSPE Representative, and Scholarship Committee Chair. Susan served on the Louisiana Engineering Foundation Board from 2016 to 2022, including serving as President of the Foundation from 2018-2020.



Susan H. Richard, P.E.

Susan also served on NSPE PEPP Committee. Susan has served on and chaired numerous LES State Committees over the years, most notably chairing the Scholarship Committee for 15 years. In addition to her

service to LES, she served on the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's Alumni Association Board. She has served on the Civil Engineering Advisory Board for the Civil Engineering department at the University of Louisiana since 1992. Her community service includes Our Lady of Fatima St. Vincent de Paul Society, OLF Project Charlie presenter, OLF and Holy Cross Bereaved Meals committee, ACTS Retreat team member, and a Brownie Troop leader. She has presented at New Iberia high schools on the civil engineering profession seeking to inspire teens to consider this field.

Through her years of service, Susan has been awarded the Louisiana ASCE Outstanding Young Civil Engineer Award, the LES F. Hugh Coughlin Young Engineer Award, The Waldemar Nelson Presidents Award in 2010 and 2017, Named an NSPE Fellow, awarded the Dudley Hixson – Bobby Price National Professional Achievement Award, and the LEF Lifetime Achievement Award in 2023. Susan is married to Chris Richard, also a civil engineer who formerly served on the LAPELS Board, and has three daughters – Sarah (civil engineer with DSA), Brooke and Andrea, and one grandson, Graham.

NEWLY CERTIFIED & LICENSED • JULY 1 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

LAND SURVEYOR INTERNS

Coco, Beau, LSI Jones, James, LSI Mckigney, Darron, LSI Rutland, Chris, LSI

PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

Baze, William, PLS Deshpande, Sagar, PLS Marque, Brennan, PLS Mitchell, Olivia, PLS Patro, Timothy, PLS Sadzauchi, Taurai, PLS Stuckey, Joseph, PLS

SURVEYING FIRMS

Third Coast Consultants, LLC, UELS, LLC

ENGINEER INTERNS

Aamodt, Ryan, El Able, John, El Adams, Michael, El Asghar, Muhammad Faizan, El Ater, Elliott, El Ball, Michael, El Baroni, Michael, El Bel, Samuel, El Bergeron, Brandon, El Bohn, Nathan, El Bordelon, Abigail, El Boudreaux, Blake, El Boudreaux, Justin, El Breaux, Lane, El Briggs, William, El Broussard, Connor, El Brown, Beau, El Byrd, Ethan, El Caicedo Prens, Carlos, El Callender, Andrew, El Churchman, Ryan, El Coco, Beau, El Crifasi, Patrick, El Cummings, Seth, El Cunningham, Andrew, El Davis, Michael, El Domingue, Morgan, El Dominique, Jason, El English, Matthew, El Freyou, Joshua, El Fussell, Luke, EI Futrell, Madison, El Gainey, John, El Ginocchio, Christina, El Granger, Griffin, El Graves, William, El Hamed, Suliman, El Hayes, James, El Hebert, Brenda, El

Hebert, Chance, El Hebert, Emile, El Hebert, Kedrick, El Hew, Scott, El Hoffpauir, Joshua, El Hoppmever, Christian, El Hunt, Francesca, El Hunter, la'Warren, El Irons, Austin, El James, Paul, El Joubert, Ja'Porcha, El K C, Dasharath, El Kenney, Greer, El L'Hoste, Marc, El Lara, Daniela, El LeBlanc, Allison, El Liang, Christian, El Loker, Miles, El Maddux, Travis, El Maharjan, Sanjay, El Mauer, Stephen, El Michell, Thomas, El Mitchell, Brandon, El Mzhickteno, Jessica, El Neale, Andrew, El Nguyen, Timothy, El Nielsen, Jens, El Pilgrim, Christian, El Reed, Bradley, El Rish, Jacob, El Rogers, Jacob, El Saleh, Lutfi, El Selmer, Nathan, El Simmons, Sean, El Suarez, Yoani, El Taylor, Joshua, El Theriot, John-Patrick, El Trinh, Duc, El Trouard, Sidney, El Vice, Jacob, El Watts, Grant, El Wingate, Cooper, El Woodard, Meagan, El

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Abdel Fatah, Mohamed, PE Adams, Paige, PE Aguilar, Luis, PE Aguillard, Chandler, PE Al-Salami, Ammar, PE Albright, Eric, PE Alzate, Gail, PE Andejeski, Jason, PE Anderson, Eric, PE Antonelli, John, PE Anzalchi, Arash, PE Archer, Thomas, PE Aschenbrenner, John, PE Ataghoma, Odion, PE Atienzar, Daniel, PE Aziz, Faisal, PE

Wright, Holden, El

Bakhit, Peter, PE Balon, Mark, PE Barbier, Matthew, PE Barkman, Nicholas, PE Barnes, Adam, PE Baron, Matthew, PE Barrios, Matthew, PE Bateman, Dakota, PE Belser, Stephen, PE Benavides, Gabriel, PE Benish, Neal, PE Benoit, Dillon, PE Bergquist, Warren, PE Bethea, Christian, PE Biebesheimer, Michael, PE Blackwell, Ronald, PE Blasdel, Joseph, PE Bohrer, Michael, PE Boudiab, Hussein, PE Boudreau, Blake, PE Brandt, Barry, PE Breaux, Troy, PE Britton, Anastasia, PE Brocato, Andrew, PE Brocato, Thomas, PE Buckler, Steven, PE Bulusu Periah, Seshu, PE Burke, Nathan, PE Burkett, Eric, PE Burkett, Nicholas, PE Busby, Timothy, PE Caballero Franco, Ilan, PE Calogero, Andrew, PE Campos, Raphael, PE Carey, John, PE Carpenter, Steven, PE Cespiva, Brian, PE Chahin, Enrique, PE Clark, Anne, PE Cline, William, PE Cochran, William, PE Coleman, Matthew, PE Cooper, Hunter, PE Cowell, Cody, PE Crawford, Ryan, PE Crenshaw, Brooke, PE Criscoe, Cecily, PE Dale, Robert, PE Daoust, Wesley, PE Davis, Kyle, PE Deamer, Joyner, PE Domagala, Slawomir, PE Domingue, Zachary, PE Dorsey, Aaron, PE Dowling, Casey, PE Duarte, Sean, PE Duke, Ryan, PE Elgin, Thomas, PE Elijah, Matthew, PE Endres, Connor, PE Falkner, William, PE Faruque, A S M, PE Fealy, Angie, PE

NEWLY CERTIFIED & LICENSED • JULY 1 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Ferguson, Nathan, PE Flouro, Aaron, PE Fontenot, Seth, PE Forcier, Thomas, PE Ford, Matthew, PE Forner, Jennifer, PE Fox, Jeremiah, PE Fox, Michael, PE Gagnard, Luke, PE Garcia, Jamie, PE Garcia, Joel, PE Garcia, Pablo, PE Garrett, Matthew, PE Gauss, John, PE Gauthier, Rudy, PE Gentry, Scott, PE Gerondale, John, PE Geurin, Scott, PE Gilbert, Garrett, PE Gilbertson, Trevor, PE Giles, Ryan, PE Gillie, Donald, PE Goans, William, PE Godbery, Jack, PE Goehring, Justin, PE Gould, William, PE Granato, David, PE Grau, Tyler, PE Graves, John, PE Greene, Marion, PE Griffin, Christopher, PE Grubbs, William, PE Gwarjanski, David, PE Hall, Lee, PE Hansen, Erin, PE Harbeson, Eric, PE Harrison, Brad, PE Hayden, Marshall, PE Haygood, Brian, PE Heagney, Paul, PE Hively, Douglas, PE Hoang, Brandon, PE Holbrook, Emily, PE Holiman, Blake, PE Holston, Chase, PE Homes, Seth, PE Homstad, Keith, PE Howell, Jacob, PE Hunt, Olivia, PE Huval, David, PE Hymel, Brandon, PE Iglesias, Eric, PE Isaacson, Adam, PE Jenkins, Charles, PE Johnson, Blaine, PE Johnson, Claiton, PE Jovanovska, Irena, PE Kates, Austin, PE Kaye, Debra, PE Kendrick, Brittany, PE Kerby, Jonathan, PE

Kim, Hyejin, PE King, Jarmon, PE Knauer, Mitchell, PE Knight, Brian, PE Koop, Hendri, PE Kukulka, Peter, PE Labunski, Cameron, PE Landry, Justin, PE Leach, Renata, PE Ledet, Seth, PE Leger, Jeremy, PE Le leune, Nicholas, PE Libertowski, Nathan, PE Lipasek, Timothy, PE Little, Timothy, PE Liu, Jun, PE Lomax, Jeremy, PE Long, Sean, PE Love, Ysela, PE Lowe, Christopher, PE Lundgreen, Jeffrey, PE Lundy, Christopher, PE Maciosek, Aaron, PE Maddox, William, PE Madura, Richard, PE Malone, Mathieu, PE Mangle, James, PE Maniktala, Ricki, PE Martin, Bradley, PE Martineau, Benjamin, PE Mathena, Michael, PE Mattison, Samuel, PE Mayeaux, Adele, PE McCarthy, David, PE Meadows, Mitchell, PE Medaginakere, Udayakumar, PE Menezes, Wildon, PE Metallo, David, PE Miller, Joseph, PE Milton, Matthew, PE Miranda, Josue, PE Mire, Matthew, PE Modesitt, Patrick, PE Moeller, Jennifer, PE Mondal, Goutam, PE Moradi, Alireza, PE Morgan, Jeffrey, PE Moseley, Christopher, PE Moskow, Brian, PE Mundt, Corbin, PE Munoz, Felix, PE Nabavi, Mehdi, PE Nalla, Anuradha, PE Naravana, Sree Sai Ram, PE Nelson, Eric, PE Nelson, Gregory, PE Nemec, Michael, PE Nevels, Peter, PE Nguyen, Johan, PE Nguyen, Khanh, PE Nguyen, Thang, PE Nguyen, Tung, PE Nipp, Justin, PE Nix, Ray, PE

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Khoury, Kal, PE

Khandoga, Vadim, PE

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Zamani, Natasha, PE

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AI: THE DAWN OF OPPORTUNITY OR THE EDGE OF A THREAT FOR ENGINEERING?

BY: BARKER DIRMANN AND CHATGPT

In the twilight between innovation and tradition, a new presence looms over the business of engineering—artificial intelligence. Like a double-edged sword, AI brings both promise and peril and how we wield it will shape the future of engineering.

For the optimists, AI is a golden opportunity. Picture an industry where tedious calculations and exhaustive data analysis are offloaded to machines, freeing engineers to focus on creativity and problem-solving. AI can optimize designs, simulate models faster than any human could, and predict outcomes with mind-boggling accuracy. It doesn't just make engineering faster; it makes it smarter. AI-driven systems like generative design can churn out iterations of complex



Barker Dirmann President and CEO ACEC of Louisiana

structures, suggesting configurations that even seasoned professionals might overlook. Time saved, resources reduced, and results optimized.

Yet, the shadow of the threat lingers. Automation—AI's most praised feature—holds within it the potential to disrupt labor markets. As machines grow more competent in handling tasks once exclusively performed by engineers, will human expertise become obsolete? Some argue that AI's rise could diminish the role of entry-level positions, making it harder for new talent to gain a foothold in the industry. The specter of job displacement looms large, and with it, the fear that AI could turn a vibrant profession into one of soulless automation.

So, what is the truth? AI is neither hero nor villain—it's a tool. Like decades ago, when engineers converted their drafting tables into desks to set their computers on, they will again find a way to adapt to the changes AI will present. Whether it becomes a threat or a benefit depends on how it's integrated into traditional design delivery models. Engineers who embrace it as an ally could unlock its full potential, augmenting human ingenuity rather than replacing it. Those who resist may find themselves standing in the shadow of an industry transformed. Although the future is unwritten, we know AI will shape it, but it's up to the engineers to decide how.



ACEC OF LOUISIANA AFFILIATE MEMBERS

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PRESIDENTIAL PRIVILEGE

MELANIE B. CAILLOUET, PE LES PRESIDENT

In Louisiana there are several organizations that cater to engineers. Each of these organizations have a different mission. To become an engineer in Louisiana, you had to interact with LAPELS (Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying) Board. This organization concentrates on the licensure of both professional engineers and land surveyors, including the laws and rules that effect licensure. They also have enforcement authority for those laws and rules. The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is a nationwide organization that concentrates on the business side of things for design companies. Design companies include engineers and land surveyors, but also architects and other design professionals. Then there is NSPE (National Society of Professional Engineers) and LES (Louisiana Engineering Society). Both generally concentrate on Professional Engineers and anything that may affect Professional Engineers and Engineer Interns. Then you have technical organizations that concentrate on specific disciplines of engineering. All these organizations work together for the betterment of our profession.



Melanie B. Caillouet, PE LES President

LES's Mission Statement is as follows -

The Louisiana Engineering Society serves to advance the engineering profession by:

Encouraging ethical and competent practice through licensure and legislative involvement.

Nurturing public awareness of engineers' contributions to society.

Growing the society through licensure & LES membership and public service.

Recognizing engineering achievements.



This mission statement is the basis for the activities of the organization and our Strategic Plan. (The Strategic Plan can be found on our website if you would like to explore our plans for LES's future.) LES accomplishes the goals of our mission statement through several state and chapter committees. Below is the list of state committees and which part of the mission statement it addresses.

- E Conference/Continuing Professional Development
- E Legislative
- G MATHCOUNTS
- G Membership
- G Scholarship
- G Young Engineers
- R Honors and Awards
- Document Review (every 5th year, starting in 2024/2025)
- Inter-Society Relations
- Nominating

As you can see there is no committee addressing "N" which nurtures public awareness. This item is the responsibility of the LES State Office and generally completed through our website and social media pages. Then the last three committees are necessary to keep the society functioning.

The majority of the committees are comprised of one member from each of the chapters and therefore includes 8 members. However, for others such as the Honors and Awards committee, the members are dictated by the Bylaws.

If you would like to help guide your profession, please become active in one or more of these organizations.

SOCIETY NEWS



ir





Mary Claire Ruckert LES Executive Director

LES Calendar of Events

November 2024

November 4: Deadline for Honors & Awards nominations November 15: Honors & Awards Committee Meeting November 15: LES Board Meeting - Baton Rouge, LA November 28 - 29: LES office Closed for Thanksgiving November 30: Deadline for LEF Facutly Professionalism Award

DECEMBER 2024

December 24 - 25: LES office closed for Christmas December 31: LES office closed for New Year's eve

JANUARY 2025 January 1: LES office closed for New Year's Day

February 2024

February 1 - 28: MATHCOUNTS Chaper Competitions February 4: LES Board Meeting - Lafayette, LA February 5-6: 29th Annual JESC - Lafayette, LA February 15: Honors & Awards Presentation - Baton Rouge, LA February 16-22: National Engineers Week

LES Vision Statement

The Louisiana Engineering Society is the recognized advocate of all licensed engineers in the state of Louisiana.

LES Mission Statement

The Louisiana Engineering Society serves to advance the engineering profession by:

Encouraging ethical and competent practice through licensure and legislative involvement.

Nurturing public awareness of engineers' contributions to society.

Growing the society through licensure & LES membership and public service.

Recognizing engineering achievements.



Protect your license with LES!

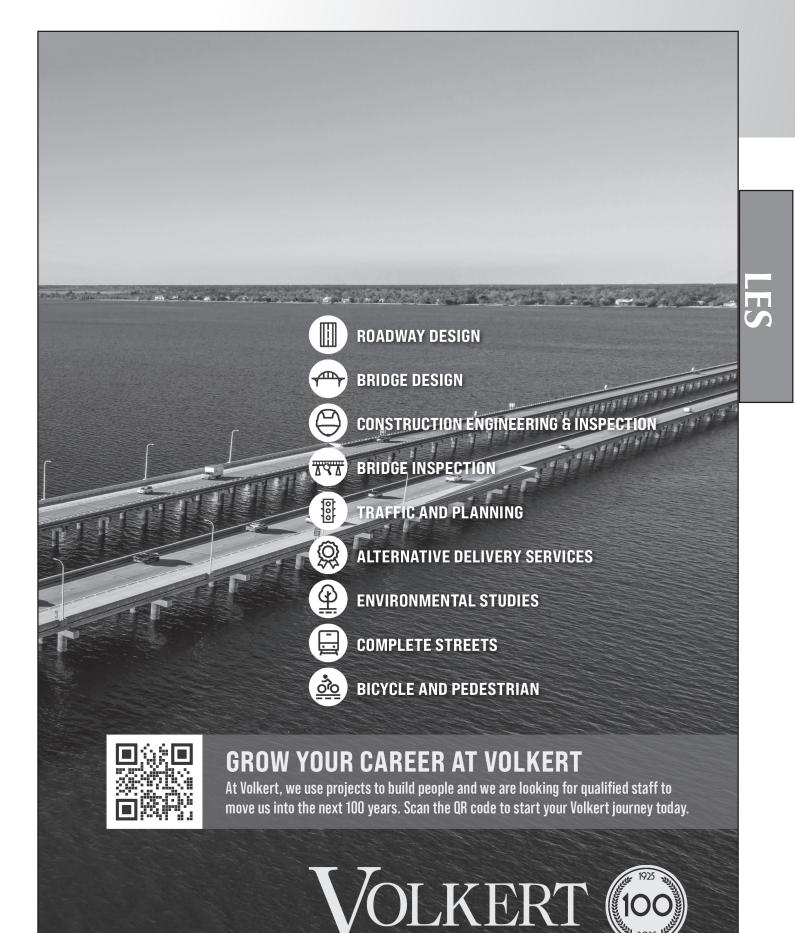
Since 1898 the Louisiana Engineering Society has been the flag-bearer for the licensure and professional practice of engineering in Louisiana. LES represents the individual engineer in all technical disciplines and all occupational areas of practice, including construction, education, government, industry, and private practice.

Join today at <u>www.les-state.org</u>!

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Design and engineering are at the heart of Volkert's practice.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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Baton Rouge Chapter

Jason Abendroth, PE Member

LES

Paige Bates Adams, PE Member Kenneth Arceneaux, PE Member Christian Hardy Bethea, PE Member Abigail Caitlin Bohlander, El Member* Abigail Lee Bordelon, El Member* Rachel Breaux, PE Member Cameron Brown, Student Member Logan Brown, Student Member Beau Anthony Brown, El Member* Andrew Stephen Callender, El Member*

Brady Carmichael Student Member Ryan Mcquaid Churchman, El Member*

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Member** Joseph Carleton Kaumo, PE Member Michael S Middleton, PE Member Jeffrey A. Miller, PE Member Andrew James Tauzin, PE Member Leah McFarlain Todd, PE Member

Shreveport Chapter

Brayden Veal, Student Member Jeremy Kahmye Beaner, Student Member Nathan Robert Bohn, El Member* Daniel Wayne Brown, PE Member Reid Alexander Cobbs, El Member* Luke Ryan Fussell, El Member* Nirmal Bhusal, El Member* Travis Joseph Maddux, El Member* Logan Fleming Noble, El Member* Nathan John Selmer, El Member*

> *Denotes El members under 30 ** Denotes El members over 30

LOUISIANA CAPITOL VIEW FROM HAYNIE AND ASSOCIATES

Budget and Taxes

Louisiana is facing a projected budget shortfall of up to \$700 million due to the automatic expiration of the temporary 0.45% sales tax and a 2% business utilities tax which are set to expire in mid-2025, and the possible triggering of the 2021 law that will automatically reduce the rate of the income tax and corporate franchise tax if state collections and the rainy day fund balance reaches a certain level.

Upcoming Special Legislative Session - November 2024

To address this, lawmakers are exploring several options, including expanding the sales tax base to cover new services, removing exemptions, ending tax credits, revising corporate tax structures, and proposing new taxes on digital goods. Additionally, Governor Jeff Landry has suggested constitutional amendments and other reforms aimed at overhauling budget funds, paying down retirement debt, and doubling the standard deduction for seniors, with some of these proposals likely to be voted on during the special session in November 2024 and placed on the March 2025 ballot.

2025 Regular Legislative Session

The 2025 Regular Legislative Session will begin on April 14, 2025, and adjourn by June 12, 2025.

In odd-numbered years, the Louisiana constitution mandates that the legislative session concentrates primarily on fiscal matters, such as taxation, budgeting, and revenue. Lawmakers take this time to assess the state's financial standing and make crucial decisions about resource allocation for the next fiscal year.

During regular sessions, each lawmaker in Louisiana is allowed to file up to five general bills but has no limit on the number of tax-related bills they can propose. Any reforms that are not passed during the November 2024 special session are likely to be refigured and proposed again in the Regular session ahead of the July 1st shortfall. If revenue is not raised to cover the anticipated shortfall the state budget will need to be cut to satisfy our states balanced budget amendment

2024 Election Dates- GEAUX VOTE

November 5th (early voting 10/18 – 10/29) – President Election / Primary for Congress/locals December 7th (early voting 11/22 – 11/30) – General Election for Congress / Locals

Find your Ballot/ Polling Location: https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/Home/VoterLogin

Get Involved: Connect with Your Local Lawmakers

As engineers, it's important to stay connected with your local legislators. They influence policies that directly impact infrastructure, engineering projects, and the broader economy. Consider reaching out to them to discuss the importance of engineering in Louisiana and, if possible, support their campaigns (their reelection is not until the fall of 2027). This engagement helps ensure that the concerns of engineers are heard in Baton Rouge.

About Our Firm

Since 1980, Haynie & Associates has been a leader in Louisiana lobbying and government relations. With proven skills, established credibility, and unfailing integrity, we consistently deliver success for our clients.

Randy Haynie President randy@haynie.com Ryan Haynie Vice-President ryan@haynie.com Haynie & Associates P.O. Box 44032 Baton Rouge, LA 70804

> Ryan Haynie and Randy Haynie Haynie and Associates



Baton Rouge Chapter Bliss Kelley Bernard, PE

The Baton Rouge chapter has had an exciting start to the 2024-2025 year, continuing our tradition of meaningful events and programs aimed at fostering professional development, promoting the engineering profession, and community engagement.

In August 2024, we partnered with ASCE for a joint luncheon, which saw an impressive 117 registrants. Our featured speakers, Greg Grandy from the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) and Neal McMillin from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), provided a comprehensive update on the SHORES coalition, covering its recent progress and the long-term plans aimed at preserving Louisiana's coastal communities. This event highlighted the significant collaboration between



Bliss Kelley Bernard, PE Baton Rouge Chapter President

state agencies and engineering professionals in addressing Louisiana's environmental challenges.

September 2024 was another standout month. We were privileged to host Garrett Wheat, PhD, from the Louisiana Transportation Research Center (LTRC), who delivered an engaging presentation on "Self-Awareness in Leadership Across Generations." Dr. Wheat's insights resonated deeply with our diverse membership, particularly in today's rapidly evolving workplace where leadership styles and expectations can differ across age groups.

On October 3rd, we enjoyed a joint social event with ASCE at Tin Roof Brewery. This event provided a great opportunity for both younger and seasoned engineers to exchange ideas and experiences in a more informal setting, further strengthening our community bonds.

Another notable October event was the EBR Mayor/Parish President Mayoral Forum, held jointly with ASCE and ACEC on October 8th at Drusilla Seafood. This forum gave our members a valuable opportunity to hear from the candidates directly, providing insight into their plans and visions for the future of East Baton Rouge Parish and how they intend to work with the engineering community on infrastructure and development projects.

Our annual Clay Shoot fundraiser took place on October 11th, drawing an enthusiastic crowd of shooters and supporters. This event, which raises funds for our Chapter's STEM and Scholarship Fund, has become one of our most anticipated traditions. The proceeds from this event will go directly to support STEM programs at local schools and scholarships for aspiring engineers, a cause we are proud to champion.

We are pleased to announce the opening of our 3rd Annual STEM Grants Program. This initiative supports educational efforts across the Baton Rouge area, funding projects and programs that inspire and engage the next generation of engineers and STEM professionals. We look forward to reviewing this year's applications and presenting the selected winners with their grant awards.

We have two exciting luncheons on the calendar to close out 2024. On October 17th, we hosted a luncheon at Mike Andersons with Rudynah Capone, MP, Director of LTAP, who presented on LTRC's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) and Local Road Safety Program (LRSP). On December 12th, we will welcome DOTD Secretary Joe Donahue at Juban's, who will share his plans for DOTD over the next few years and provide progress made to date.

We are excited for what the rest of the year holds and look forward to continuing our work supporting engineering excellence and education in our region.

SAVE THE DATE

29th Annual Joint Engineering Societies Conference February 5-6, 2025 | Cajundome | Lafayette, LA

Registration is open now! Visit www.les-state.org to learn more.

Lake Charles Chapter

Kalyn Partin, PE

The Lake Charles Chapter of the Louisiana Engineering Society has been very active over the past few months, hosting a series of informative and engaging meetings. We were fortunate to have key representatives from several important organizations join us. The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) discussed critical coastal restoration efforts and how they are addressing the challenges posed by land loss and storm surge in our region, highlighting the No Name Bayou Marsh Creation Project and providing updates on its forward movement. The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) provided valuable insights and updates on the Community Water System Accountability Rule and how entities can improve their grade. Furthermore, the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury (CPPJ) shared their latest projects related to infrastructure development, flood control, and

community resilience, keeping us informed on local efforts to improve our parish. Additionally, we had the pleasure of collaborating with the Acadiana Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) for a joint event at the September meeting. This partnership allowed our members to connect with peers from different regions, fostering collaboration and broadening professional networks.

Please note that there will be no chapter meetings in November or December, allowing everyone to enjoy the holiday season. Our regular meetings will resume on the second Wednesday of the month in January 2025.

Looking ahead, sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contributions will support our Mathcounts competition in February 2025, an event that fosters a love for mathematics among middle school students. We encourage members to get involved and help make this event a success!

For any questions, concerns, or sponsorship inquiries, please feel free to contact us at leslakecharles@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Monroe Chapter Morgan McCallister, PE

On September 12, 2024, the LES Monroe Chapter convened for its first meeting of the 2024-2025 year, bringing together engineering professionals and students to foster networking and professional development. The meeting featured an insightful presentation by Mr. Jeff Pike, PE, who addressed the vital topics of Ethics and Professionalism in Engineering. With (33) attendees in-person and an additional (5) registrants online, the event set a promising tone for the year ahead.

Mr. Pike's presentation emphasized the crucial role that ethical considerations play in engineering practices. His engaging discussion not only highlighted the responsibilities engineers have toward public safety and welfare but also explored the complexities of ethical dilemmas in the field.

Looking forward, the LES Monroe Chapter has confirmed a lineup of speakers for the remainder of the year that we all look forward to hearing. The upcoming presentations include:

1. Mr. Andy Brown on "The 5 Dysfunctions of a Team"

- 2. Mr. Andy Le and Mr. Chris Ferro on "Actuators and Valves"
- 3. Dr. Colin Womack on "LaTech College of Engineering Update"

In a testament to the Chapter's commitment to supporting future engineers, it was announced that two scholarships were awarded to deserving students from Louisiana Tech University. Lee Saucier and Sam Dinnat each received \$794 from the Chapter's endowed scholarship fund. Additionally, the Chapter voted to increase the endowed scholarship fund by \$6,000 this year in order to increase the scholarship amount for each recipient; thus, demonstrating a renewed commitment to supporting educational opportunities for students in (Continued)

Morgan McCallister, PE

Monroe Chapter President



Lake Charles Chapter President



(Continued) the engineering field.

The Chapter celebrated significant growth in sponsorship revenue, which rose from \$5,800 in the previous year to an impressive \$8,500 for 2024-2025. This increase underscores the engagement of local engineering. and construction firms in supporting the Chapter's initiatives. The sponsorship program not only enhances funding for scholarships but also provides company/individual advertising opportunities in the Chapter's monthly newsletter and at events like the upcoming sporting clay event-details of which will be announced soon.

The LES Monroe Chapter is excited about the year ahead!

New Orleans Chapter Kevin Hurtt, PE

The Louisiana Engineering Society New Orleans chapter is very excited about the upcoming term! After some scrambling due to hurricane Francine, we held our first meeting on September 25th. Katelyn Costanza of the United States Army Corps of Engineers gave a very interesting presentation in the Lower Mississippi Comprehensive Management Study. Its purpose is to ensure effective long-term management of the Mississippi River from Cape Girardeau, to the Gulf of Mexico. Our next meeting on October 29th will be a joint venture with the University of New Orleans. Dr. Norma Jean Mattei will give an ethics presentation on the role and pitfalls of artificial intelligence in engineering. In November William Thomassie, principal at Infinity Engineering Consultants LLC, will walk us through



Kevin Hurtt, PE New Orleans Chapter President

Constrution Manager at Risk (CMAR) contracts. Then, in December, we will have our annual "date night" meeting at the Southern Yacht Club. There, a representative from NASA will update us on new projects and endeavors. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings!

October 25th was our 16th annual golf tournament at Lakewood Golf Club. We used this event to raise money for scholarships and to support local organizations like MATHCOUNTS and First Robotics. We always have sponsorships and opportunities for participation available. It's always a good time and a great way to network with peers and potential clients.

You can find information on all our upcoming events by going to our website at: https://neworleanschapter.les-<u>state.org/</u> or by scanning the QR code below.

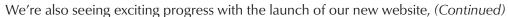


Living in southern Louisiana is not always easy during the scorching summer months but Fall is here, and we are looking forward to cooler weather and some great upcoming events! As always, we thank you for supporting your organization.

Shreveport Chapter

Jonathan Ratliff, PE

The Shreveport Chapter has had a strong start to the 2024-2025 season, kicking off with a well-attended luncheon focused on an intriguing topic-injectable polyurethanes for soil stabilization. The presentation was both informative and engaging for our attendees. While we had a good turnout, I'm hopeful that we can see even greater participation in the coming months. Let's continue to spread the word and encourage more members of our engineering community to join us at our events.





Jonathan Ratliff, PE Shreveport Chapter President

(*Continued*) shreveport.les-state.org. This is quickly becoming the go-to hub for all things Shreveport Chapter. From news and sponsorship opportunities to important links and upcoming events, the site is designed to keep our members informed and connected. I encourage everyone to explore it and stay updated on the latest chapter happenings.

We're thrilled to announce that our luncheon in October featured Haynie & Associates. This event provided insights into current lobbying efforts that aim to enhance and protect the engineering practice in Louisiana. It's a great opportunity to learn more about how legislative initiatives are impacting our profession and how we can stay engaged in these critical efforts.

If you have an engineer within your circle that doesn't know about Louisiana Engineering Society, bring them along to an event in your area. It's always a great way to connect with like-minded peers and learn about some interesting topics within our profession.

Thank you all for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing everyone at the next event as we work together to make this a successful year for the Shreveport Chapter!



2024-2025 LES BOARD OF DIRECTION

Back row (L to R): Oliver Neal, PE, Jennifer Gemar, PE, Morgan McCallister, PE, Tyler Comeaux, PE, Jeff Pike, PE, Stan Whitney PE, Jacob Waitz, PE

Middle row (L to R): William Vollman, PE, Kimberly McDaniel, PE, Kevin Hurtt, PE, Alan Krouse, PE, Jonathan Ratliff, PE, Bliss Bernard, PE, Kalyn Partin, PE, Joey Krefft, PE

Front row (L to R): Jim Ellingburg, PE, Rachel Kenney, PE, Melanie Caillouet, PE, Gavin Gautreau, PE, Clinton Patrick, PE, Mary Claire Ruckert



STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

LOUISIANA ENGINEER/LOUISIANA ENGINEER & SURVEYOR JOURNAL	2. Publication Number 588360	15275965	3. Filing Date 08/29/2024
4. Issue Frequency QUARTERLY	5. Number of Issues Pu 4	blished Annually	6. Annual Subscription Price
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Pul 9643 BROOKLINE AVE STE 116			Contact Person MARY CLAIRE RUCKERT
BATON ROUGE, EAST BATON ROUGE, LA 70809-	1488		Telephone (225) 924-2021
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or Ge 9643 BROOKLINE AVE STE 118 BATON ROUGE, LA 70809-1488	neral Business Office of Pu	blisher	
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of P	ublisher, Editor, and Manag	ing Editor	
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Mary Claire Ruckert 9643 BROOKLINE AVE STE 116 BATON ROUGE, LA 70809-1488			
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Mary Claire Ruckert 9645 BROOKLINE AVE STE 118 BATON ROUGE, LA 70809-1488			
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13. Publication Title LOUISIANA ENGINEER/LOUISIANA ENGINEER & SURVEYOR			14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below			
JOURNAL	EN	IGINEER/LOUISIANA ENGINEER & SURVEYOR	05/21/2024			
15. Extend and Nature of Circulation		lature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months Published Nearest to Filing D			
a. Total Numb	ers	of Copies (Net press run)	c			
	(1)	Mailed Outside County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	182	: 18		
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail	(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	40			
and Outside the Mail)		Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS	c			
	(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	c			
c. Total Paid I	Dist	ribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), (4))	228	2:		
	(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside County Copies included on PS Form 3541	c			
d. Free or Nominal Rate	(2)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	c			
Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	c	1		
	(4)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	c	6		
e. Total Free	or P	Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), (4))	c			
f. Total Distr	ibut	tion (Sum of 15c and 15e)	228	2:		
g. Copies no	t Di	stributed	30			
h. Total (Sum	of	15f and 15g)	258	2		
i. Percent Pa	nid (((15c / 15f) times 100)	100.00 %	100.00		
16. If total cir lines belo	ow.	ation includes electronic copies, report that circulation	n on	<u>n</u>		
a. Paid Elect	ron	ic Copies	6606	68		
b. Total Paid Print Copies(Line 15C) + Paid Electronic Copies		nt Copies(Line 15C) + Paid Electronic Copies	6834	703		
c. Total Print Distribution(Line 15F) + Paid Electronic Copies		stribution(Line 15F) + Paid Electronic Copies	6834	703		
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THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN MODERN ENGINEERING: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THE PROFESSION



The rapid pace of technological advancement is transforming every facet of modern life, and engineering is no exception. For modern engineers, the impact of technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and the Internet of Things (IoT) is reshaping how problems are solved, how projects are managed, and even how infrastructure is designed and built. The convergence of these technologies is creating new opportunities and challenges that will define the next generation of engineers. Understanding

Oliver Neal, PE Young Engineers, Chair

the role of these technologies is not only crucial for individual career success but

also for ensuring that the engineering profession stays ahead of societal needs.

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Revolutionizing Decision-Making and Design

Al is rapidly becoming a cornerstone of modern engineering. From predictive maintenance in manufacturing to intelligent design systems in construction, Al allows engineers to analyze vast amounts of data, make better decisions, and optimize processes with unprecedented precision. In fields like civil and mechanical engineering, Al-driven design tools can model multiple scenarios simultaneously, reducing the time and cost of project planning.

For modern engineers, the ability to work with AI-enhanced tools is becoming a core skill. It's no longer just about understanding the principles of design and construction, but also about knowing how to leverage AI to create smarter, more efficient systems. AI is also helping engineers push the boundaries of what's possible in fields like biomedical engineering, where machine learning algorithms can process complex datasets to accelerate innovation in medical devices and treatments.

Machine Learning: Unlocking Predictive Insights

Machine learning, a subset of AI, is especially valuable for its predictive capabilities. It's being used across industries to anticipate equipment failures, optimize energy consumption, and even predict traffic patterns for urban planners. Modern engineers who can harness machine learning models to make data-driven decisions will be better equipped to tackle some of the most pressing engineering challenges, such as sustainability and infrastructure resilience.

Take, for instance, the energy sector, where machine learning algorithms are used to monitor grid performance in real-time. This helps to ensure a steady supply of power while minimizing environmental impact. Engineers in fields like oil and gas, as well as renewable energy, are using machine learning to improve efficiency and reduce operational costs. As we move towards more sustainable energy solutions, these skills will become even more critical.

The Internet of Things (IoT): Connecting the World

The IoT is connecting everything from industrial machines to home appliances, creating a vast network of interconnected devices that share real-time data. For engineers, IoT offers the opportunity to monitor and control systems remotely, improving both efficiency and safety.

In civil and structural engineering, IoT sensors embedded in bridges, roads, and buildings can provide live updates on the condition of

infrastructure, allowing engineers to predict and prevent failures. In the manufacturing world, IoT devices monitor machinery performance, detect faults, and even automatically order replacement parts when needed.

For modern engineers, developing a strong foundation in IoT technologies is essential. The ability to design, implement, and maintain IoT systems will be key to ensuring that our infrastructure and industrial systems remain robust and efficient in the face of increasing demands.

Collaborative Engineering: Breaking Down Silos

Another area where technology is having a profound impact is in the way engineers collaborate. Cloud-based platforms and advanced modeling tools are enabling real-time collaboration between engineers located in different parts of the world. This is breaking down traditional silos and allowing for more integrated, multidisciplinary approaches to solving complex problems.

Tools like Building Information Modeling (BIM) in construction, or digital twins in manufacturing, create virtual replicas of physical systems, allowing engineers to work together on designs, testing scenarios, and adjusting parameters before anything is built. This reduces errors, cuts costs, and speeds up project timelines. The ability to work seamlessly with others across disciplines and locations will be a defining feature of the successful engineer in the future.

Challenges and Opportunities for Modern Engineers

While these technologies present immense opportunities, they also come with challenges. The rapid pace of change means that modern engineers must be committed to lifelong learning. Engineering curricula are starting to incorporate more technology-focused courses, but staying current requires initiative—whether through certifications, online courses, or active involvement in professional societies like the Louisiana Engineering Society.

There's also the issue of ethics and responsibility. As engineers design increasingly complex systems, the stakes become higher. Ensuring that AI systems are transparent and unbiased, that IoT devices are secure from cyberattacks, and that machine learning models are accurate and fair are just a few of the ethical considerations modern engineers will need to address.

The Future of Engineering: A Technological Revolution

For modern engineers, the integration of AI, machine learning, and IoT into everyday engineering practice is not just a trend; it's the future. These technologies are fundamentally changing the way we approach design, construction, and problem-solving, offering the potential to create smarter, more resilient systems that can better meet the needs of society.

By embracing these tools and continuously expanding their technological skillsets, modern engineers can position themselves at the forefront of this transformation, driving innovation and shaping the future of engineering for generations to come.

Conclusion

As we stand at the intersection of traditional engineering principles and cutting-edge technology, the role of the modern engineer is evolving. For modern engineers in Louisiana and beyond, mastering AI, machine learning, and IoT will be critical to success in a rapidly changing world. By staying ahead of the curve and embracing these advancements, the next generation of engineers can ensure that they are not only prepared for the future but are actively shaping it.

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- Scavenger Hunt on Day 2 of the conference

Exhibitor, Sponsor & Speaker opportunities are available.

For more information, please visit <u>les-state.org</u>.



A MESSAGE FROM THE LOUISIANA ENGINEERING FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

I am honored to introduce myself as the 2024/2025 LEF president and would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my colleagues and the board for entrusting me with this role for the next two years. The Louisiana Engineering Foundation has a very important role for the engineering community, as has been the case for many years. For the past 48 years, the Foundation has overseen the Louisiana Engineering and Surveying Center, located in Baton Rouge, LA. This center houses the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying (LAPELS) Licensing Board, the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES), the American Council for Engineering Companies – Louisiana (ACEC-L), the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors (LSPS), and the Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientists (LBOPG). You certainly may already be aware of an important development regarding the

Louisiana Engineering Foundation (LEF) building. After careful consideration and discussions with our board members, we have decided to list the building for sale



Chad A. Bacas, PE Louisiana Engineering Foundation President

discussions with our board members, we have decided to list the building for sale. This decision comes as LAPELS prepares to move out by November 30, 2024. We have been working closely with LAPELS to ensure a smooth transition, and they have assured us that they are committed to their move, having already secured a new space and begun necessary preparations.

The decision to sell the building was not made lightly. We have taken into account the best interests of our members and the future of our organization. The LEF board voted to proceed with the sale after receiving written notice from LAPELS confirming their move. In the meantime, we have listed the building and have already begun discussions with potential buyers.

We understand that this change may bring about questions and concerns. Please rest assured that the LEF board is committed to keeping you informed throughout this process. We believe that this decision will ultimately benefit our organization and allow us to better serve our members.

The Louisiana Engineering Foundation remains dedicated to its mission of promoting and supporting the engineering profession. One of the Foundation's primary goals has always been to advance educational opportunities, including the establishment of an endowed scholarship program. Thanks to generous contributions, the Foundation has fully endowed numerous scholarships, which provide significant financial assistance to engineering students annually.

In addition to individual donations, the Louisiana Engineering Foundation grows the scholarship endowment fund through proceeds received from the annual LA Transportation Partners Golf Tournament. Unfortunately, this year's tournament at Carter Plantation in Springfield, LA was postponed for a few weeks due to inclement weather, but we hope you were still able to participate. Because of the importance of this event, we humbly ask you to make a point to mark your calendar and make plans to attend this annual event. Whether through the golf tournament, or other times during the year, any individual, company, or organization can enjoy the benefits of a tax-deductible donation while supporting LEF and its objectives. Donations of any amount are accepted and can be made as an undesignated contribution, earmarked for a particular existing scholarship, or used to establish an entirely new scholarship. Anyone wishing to contribute may do so by visiting the LEF website at lef.les-state.org or by contacting the LES/LEF staff at (225) 924-2021.

The Louisiana Engineering Foundation thanks you for your continued support of the engineering profession in Louisiana. Your support creates a meaningful impact on the engineering community, as well as the public safety and welfare of communities throughout our state.

Sincerely,

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Chad Bacas, President Louisiana Engineering Foundation

FOOTSTEPS IN HISTORY

Reprinted from Louisiana Engineer magazine, October 1974

In 1727, as the *Gironde* set sail for the far-away shores of the struggling French colony, Nouveau Orleans, six nuns stood on deck watching their homeland fade in the distance. These women would bring help and comfort to thousands of sick soldiers and settlers of the new colony. As devoted nuns of the Ursuline Order, they would provide a home for orphans and educate the daughters of planters, laborers, slaves and Indians. To those who would love them and depend on their silent strength to survive the hardships of the colonial South, they were Les bonnes Meres – "the good mothers".

The Ursulines arrived in New Orleans after a five-month sea voyage of violent storms under the constant threat of pirate attack. Twice their ship ran aground. Completing the last part of their journey by pirogue, the Sisters finally gazed upon their new home.

New Orleans in 1727 was a small village of saloons, military buildings and houses on stilts.

Rains came in torrential downpours, suddenly and often, and everyone suffered from heat, dampness and disease. Quickly the Ursulines made plans for a permanent residence and then began their work of mercy, starting with the army hospital. They scrubbed and scoured rooms and drained stagnant ponds. The high rate of illness dropped. Before, people had come to the hospital only to die. Now they came to be cured. With this beginning, the Ursulines prepared themselves for their main purpose in the colony – to teach.

Daughters of rich planters and poor workers alike received instruction in religion, languages, mathematics and housework. Many of the village's Black and Indian women attended classes each day. And 30 young women, sent from France to provide wives for the colonists, boarded with the Ursulines until marriage. The files a la cassette, or "casket girls", owned nothing save a few possessions kept in a small wooden box. Yet, under the close direction of the good Sisters, they became the colony's respected, upstanding wives and mothers.

In 1734, after seven years of insufficient funds and delayed construction, the permanent nunnery was finally completed. But it was an occasion of sadness, too. Suffering the pain of another Moses, the Mother Superior who had courageously led them since their departure from France died a few months before seeing the completion of seven years of dreams, hopes and prayers.

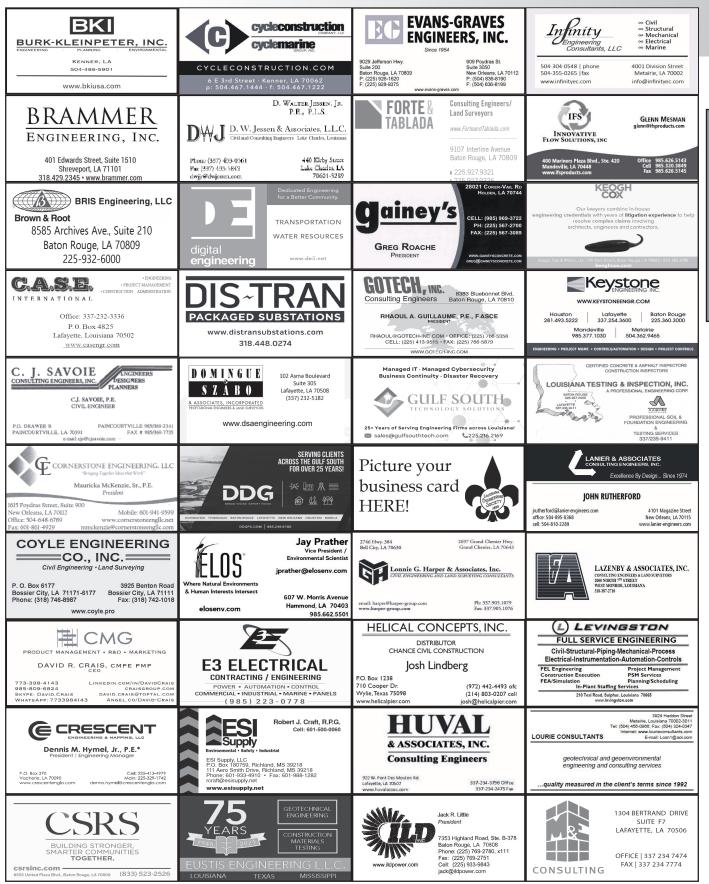
Still the devoted work of the Ursuline Order went on; through two tremendous fires that destroyed the surrounding buildings, but spared the nunnery; under changing governments – French, Spanish, French again, then finally the United States; and through the Battle of New Orleans in the War of 1812, which threatened destruction of the entire city.

But, by 1821, the Sisters had outgrown their downtown residence. The Order gave up its beloved convent on Chartres Street and moved down the river to a larger, more spacious site. The Sisters never saw the city again, for they remained within the walls of their new convent. But the Ursulines continued to serve its inhabitants, educating generations of Louisiana women and being "the good Mothers" to thousands of the sick and needy.

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THE LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY

<u>Who we are:</u>

Since 1898 LES has been the flag bearer for the licensure and professional practice of engineering in Louisiana. The Society represents the individual Engineer in all technical disciplines and all occupational areas of practice, including construction, education, government, industry, and private practice. Our organization is dedicated to the continuous advancement of the professional engineer by:

- Encouraging engineers to elevate their skills, competencies, and ethics
- Upholding that the health, safety, and welfare of the public are best served when engineering work is performed by or under the supervision of a professional engineer
- Supporting and promoting high standards for engineering education
- Recognizing engineering achievements and academic scholarships
- Contributing services to the public and the profession
- Advocating professional registration of all engineers

<u>What we do:</u>

Through our eight chapters in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Bayou, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, New Orleans, and Shreveport, LES exemplifies its long-term legacy and commitment to our state by providing:

- Recommends appointments for 9 of the 11 LAPELS Board members
- Best legislative lobbyist in Louisiana tracking legislative bills for the Society
- Two Annual Conferences for members to acquire multiple PDHs and further education Host multiple 8-hour seminars to help members gain Life Safety Code & ADA compliance Appointment of two LES members to the State's Facility Planning and Control Engineering Selection Board
- Recognize members' accomplishments by awarding up to 8 annual awards
- Offer On Demand Recorded Webinars for members to help meet PDH requirements Provides excellent networking opportunities Publishes The Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal quarterly
- LES Members get a discounted rate for all LES conferences and seminars both live and virtual Provide Leadership Opportunities by serving on State Board, Chapters' Boards, and State Committees
- Provide scholarships for college students studying engineering
- Sponsors state level & participates in national level MATHCOUNTS Competitions