ASPE—Moving Forward

September is here, and the 2019 ASPE Tech Symposium is just around the corner! This first year of my presidency has been exciting, and it will be great to see everyone at the Symposium. Come with ideas and excitement for ASPE because we are here working for us all.

First, let’s talk about the Tech Symposium. If you haven’t already, it is time to register, reserve your hotel room, and book your flight. To secure your discounted room rate at the Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown, be sure to make your hotel reservation by September 28. ASPE also is offering a discount on flights with United to help you get there. ASPE’s Staff and Education Committee have put in many hours of hard work to put together what I think will be one of the best-attended Symposiums in our history, so please join us.

The city of Pittsburgh will be a great host, and this will be a good event to easily get to classes and afternoon fun! Everyone, go to the ASPE website (aspe.org/2019tech) to see a schedule of the technical education sessions and our activities. This year’s sessions are some of the most impressive we have ever had, with many industry leaders speaking including Janet Stout, PhD, on the topic of Legionella and Mark Allen on the topic of medical gases. There are five education tracks: Codes & Standards, System Design & Equipment Exploration, Sustainability/Construction Discussion, Legionella/Water Quality, and Fire Protection, Life Safety, & More.

If you are a designer or a manufacturer representative who wants to be at the top of your field, the 2019 ASPE Tech Symposium is where you need to be. You will have the opportunity to earn a GPD (Green Plumbing Design) certificate at our two-day workshop. We also have a sold-out Product Show, and many local attractions are close to the venue. The city of Pittsburgh will be a fun and friendly location for after-hours entertainment. The Wyndham Grand hotel is scenic and will be accommodating for easy travel. All of my statements do not do this area justice. Pittsburgh is a great city with lots of history. For more information or for specifics on downtown Pittsburgh, check out this link: downtownpittsburgh.com.

ASPE is moving forward as we go into the next year. We are an excited group. The process of expanding our ASPE committees and creating organized task groups within those committees has been providing our members with more opportunities and more information. The next steps forward will include more development regarding technical material and code interaction. We are working on creating more working groups and developing more materials for our members.

Currently, we are pursuing the following working groups:

» Legionella Working Group: We are creating a path to combine good design practices with codes and standards for public safety.

» Professional Engineer Working Group (PEWG): The PEWG is steadily working toward the inclusion of a plumbing discipline option within the Mechanical Engineering Principles and Practice examination.

» Education Outreach Working Group: This group will be responsible for developing programs at colleges and universities.

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ASPE Member Develops a Plumbing Design Calculation App

The Plumbing Engineer’s Toolkit, created by Ilya Aptekarev, EIT, of the Philadelphia Chapter, contains eight calculators, including a DFU calculator, storm drain sizer, and gas pipe sizer. All of the calculators reference the IPC or NSPC. The app is available for iOS devices for just $0.99 in the Apple App Store. Questions? Contact Ilya at iaptekarev33@gmail.com.

AYP Invites Young Professionals to Special Leadership and Networking Events

During the 2019 ASPE Tech Symposium, ASPE Young Professionals is once again holding the AYP Leadership Academy, this year titled “Next Level Leadership” and sponsored by Zurn Industries. This popular one-day workshop on October 24 will sell out quickly, so reserve your spot soon. If you also register for the 2019 Tech Symposium, you will save 15% off the cost of the AYP Leadership Academy. AYP also is holding its annual networking event at the Penn Society on October 26, and you must be a 2019 Tech Symposium attendee to participate. You can learn more about these special events and register at aspe.org/2019tech.

ASPE Members Are Recognized as Millennials on the Move

We are pleased to announce that PHCP Pros chose four ASPE members to spotlight in their recent “Millennials on the Move” series in Plumbing Engineer magazine: Michael Carfagno (Philadelphia Chapter), Jeremy Charmchizadeh, EIT (Houston Chapter), Christoph Lohr, PE, CPD, LEED AP BD+C, ASSE 6020 (Phoenix Chapter), and Blair Minyard, PE, CPD, CDT (Alabama Chapter). You can read all about them at phcppros.com/articles/9730-phcp-millennials-on-the-move.

Zurn Announces the Specifier of the Year Contest

Do your coworkers turn to you for advice on a faster specification process? Zurn is recognizing one individual who uses technology to improve the specification process in his/her plumbing projects in this new contest for ASPE members. The winner will receive two tickets to a Dallas Cowboys game at AT&T Stadium, including lodging and transportation. To learn more about eligibility, go to marcom.zurn.com/specifieroftheyear. The deadline to submit an entry is September 30, 2019.

Former Boston Chapter President Passes Away

James Craig joined ASPE in 1974 and was the third president of ASPE’s Boston Chapter as well as being involved in many Chapter activities over the years. His obituary can be found at currentobituary.com/obit/234256.
From the Executive’s Desk
William “Billy” Smith, FASPE
ASPE Executive Director/CEO
bsmith@aspe.org

When is the last time you celebrated something of importance or a long-term accomplishment? I hope you've had such an opportunity to do so and enjoyed it tremendously and are now moving on to planning the next milestone to be likewise celebrated with others in mind who helped you along the way. I offer this as a brief reminder that when we have these special opportunities to celebrate, we should place our focus more on those who were vital to the success rather than on our small role, as we are better together than separate. With that in mind, look at where you are today with the understanding that others (and, in most cases, many others) provided that right-on-time assistance when you least expected it. Be mindful of how important your resources are to the overall success of your career.

You might ask why I feel this is so important at this time. Recently, I was asked to take part in helping ASPE’s Chicago Chapter with the festivities of the Chapter’s 50th Anniversary event. I felt it was an honor to be invited to speak to those in attendance, especially considering how many of them played vital roles in the beginning and throughout the sustained success of the Chicago Chapter. Therefore, my opening statement in this column was also my focus in speaking at this special event. This type of success can’t be achieved alone, without building and maintaining special relationships to draw from when we most need an assist. When we consider the overall makeup of our Society—and when looking to not just grow our Society, but also to sustain us, one Chapter at a time, one member at a time—no one member category is more important than the others. Growth can’t be achieved without each member realizing the importance he or she brings to the long-term health of our Society, our Chapters, our careers. Remember, ASPE is a resource, your resource.

Also, as we move through the latter part of summer (and a hot one it has been), I wanted to take this opportunity to browse through some of the industry happenings that have either taken place already or are upcoming as we move into the early fall. Within our industry, many events have taken place, much is being accomplished, and more is to be done through the efforts of many. If your sense of time reflects the same as my sense tells me, you know that time has flown by and you understand how busy we all are and that our industry continues an up-tick in activity. The end of 2019 will be here before we realize it, and we all need to finish strong to move into 2020 and beyond.

Recently, I joined a few ASPE members at an event of importance to ASPE and our members, and that was the opportunity to speak on behalf of ASPE at the State of Florida’s Board of Professional Engineers meeting. This is important to the ASPE initiative in seeking and gaining the placement of a plumbing option within the framework of the Mechanical Engineering Principles and Practice examination (MEPP) as developed by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) and administered by the various state boards. I would like to thank those ASPE members who have and maintain their respective PE licenses within the state of Florida who participated in person and those who couldn’t attend yet participated by sending letters of recommendation under their name. Your sustained efforts will garner our expected results.

As your Society Staff, we are working as a team to ensure that our upcoming 2019 Tech Symposium being held in Pittsburgh on October 24–27 will be successful and that all who attend will plan to return for future ASPE events, especially the 2020 ASPE Convention & Expo to be held in New Orleans on September 11–16. We believe that the most recent Society Board meeting held on July 13 and 14 at our Chicago headquarters was successful and many quality improvements will be generated from the continued discussions and efforts of the Society Board of Directors and Staff. However, as I’m sure you’ve heard before, a team effort will be needed to accomplish each of our Society goals. That team consists of the Society Board of Directors, Society Staff, Chapter Officers, and all standing committee members. As an association dependent on our “stewards,” we are thankful that each of you has volunteered your time and talents to participate in stewarding the completion of our work.

The future will continue to provide ASPE with many opportunities for each of us to offer support for the betterment of the health and safety for the public, wherever that may be. Each of you has an ability or skill set that is unique to the plumbing industry. Let’s take the chance that our abilities and skills will improve the lives of those less fortunate and close the gap in inadequacies in basic plumbing design of facilities in impoverished areas, both in the United States and around the world. Plumbing engineering/design is who we are as ASPE. Let’s spread the news from all of the mountain tops.

As we move forward, I will continue our work to make sure that ASPE is doing all we can to increase our collaborative efforts with all other industry associations for the betterment of public health and safety, no matter where that may be. That is our cause, your cause, my cause—together!
New ASPE Members

Baltimore Chapter
Jay A. Otto Jr.

Boston Chapter
Michaelson Picard Joseph

Capital Region NY Chapter
Timothy Wood

Central Florida Chapter
Nichole Marie Valdez

Central Indiana Chapter
Gene Bodle
Stephen Peake

Central Texas Chapter
Jesus Alexis Ibarra
Marelle Paas-O’Brock
Alexis Perez
Caren G Woodard

Charlotte Chapter
Dianna J. Swinson

Chicago Chapter
David Dertz

Dallas/Ft. Worth Chapter
Davida Quris Campbell
Van Cashen, PE
Dennis Noel Jones
Samuel Joseph Martine II

Evansville Chapter
Matt Skinner

Intermountain Chapter
Robb Davis
Charles Leigh Despain
Daniel Brett George

Los Angeles Chapter
Changon Kim
Robert Morgan
Miguel Pelayo
Jonathan Andrew Rubin

Montreal Chapter
Pierre Bernier
Marc-Andre Sauriol

New York City Chapter
Mitchell Castell
David Ng

North Florida Chapter
Jeffery Dale Smith

Omaha Chapter
Cameron Paul Bretsen

Orange County Chapter
Robert Caballes
Sean Salib
Zachary Chance Stower

Phoenix Chapter
Linda Hix
Daria Parker
Steve Sunshine

Portland Chapter
Doug Girdner
Richard Lloyd Nash

San Diego Chapter
Jeanna Joelle Kay
Nefali Salgado
Andrew Bebo Tadrous, PE

San Francisco Chapter
Keith Mueller
Nicole Olaes, PE

Seattle Chapter
Reginald Maurice Christor

Southern Nevada Chapter
Beto Avila

St. Louis Chapter
Adam Robert Warnemunde

Washington, D.C. Chapter
Matthew Aaron Morris

West Coast Florida Chapter
Thomas Harry Fisher, PE

Special Events Deadline Looms
In addition to the technical education sessions and Product Show, ASPE’s Tech Symposium offers numerous ways for you to network and grow in your career. These events include the Green Plumbing Design (GPD) workshop, AYP Leadership Academy, AYP Trivia Night, and the welcome party. You will have plenty of opportunities to make new connections, but the deadline to register for these events is October 4. Visit aspe.org/2019tech to sign up soon.

Tickets Are Available for the Product Show
Join us on October 24 at the Wyndham Grand in Downtown Pittsburgh from 4 to 8 p.m. for the 2019 ASPE Tech Symposium Product Show. More than 40 of the industry’s top manufacturers will be participating, along with the hundreds of Tech Symposium attendees. You can find out who will be exhibiting at aspe.org/2019Tech/exhibitors.html and then click on the Register Now! button to get your ticket. (Entrance to the Product Show is included in a full registration.)