



# The South Dakota Engineer

November  
2017

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## SDES

2017-2018

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## President's Message

Time to put on our winter gear and break out the snow boots. I hope you all enjoyed your South Dakota summer and were able to partake in some of what our great state has to offer.

October 24, the Central Chapter hosted the fall PDH conference in Pierre. They had a record attendance of over 140 participants! I was able to attend and was impressed with the great assortment of topics. Thank you to the conference planning committee for all their time and hard work spent planning the conference and thank you to the presenters. Mark your calendars, the Eastern Chapter is beginning to plan for the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference to be held in Sioux Falls April 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2018. If you would like to help out on the conference planning committee or have an idea on future topics for the conference please contact Gail Boddicker or myself.

The SDES Board met on October 13<sup>th</sup> and voted to integrate into the new membership model. The new model creates a new annual dues amount of \$299 for all NSPE three-tier members. Existing state-only (SDES only) members are grandfathered in and may remain state-only members. However, beginning July 1, 2018, all new members within the state must join as full NSPE three-tier members. It is important to note that although SDES will see an increase in dues, all of this increase stays with SDES to use towards increasing member value and recruiting new members. The new membership model and increase in dues takes effect on July 1, 2018. Please read the report from NSPE Executive Director Mark Golden for additional information on the new NSPE membership model. And as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Executive Director Gail Boddicker, myself, or any of our board members.

I'm also happy to report the board voted to adopt the new NSPE state chapter affiliation logo. NSPE is creating our new SDES logo and you will begin to see it on SDES correspondence. The logo aligns our state society with NSPE creating a unified brand more recognizable to those unfamiliar with the organization.

I challenge all current members to get involved in a chapter activity and to recruit one new member. Simply invite a fellow engineer to a chapter meeting, activity, or outing. I'm sure you will find your efforts rewarding and your time well spent. A personal invite is our #1 marketing tool and membership in NSPE with all its benefits may lead to a huge impact in someone's career!

Since the stores are already selling Christmas items, I'll end with: Happy Holidays!

Phil Gundvaldson, PE

## SDES Fall PDH Conference

The Central Chapter hosted the Fall PDH Conference in October and thanks to those of you who attended, the Ramkota lecture hall was at full capacity. What a great problem to have! From the excellent speakers, to the variety in topics, to the support of the sponsors and the attendees, it could not have been better. I hope that those of you who attended feel the same.

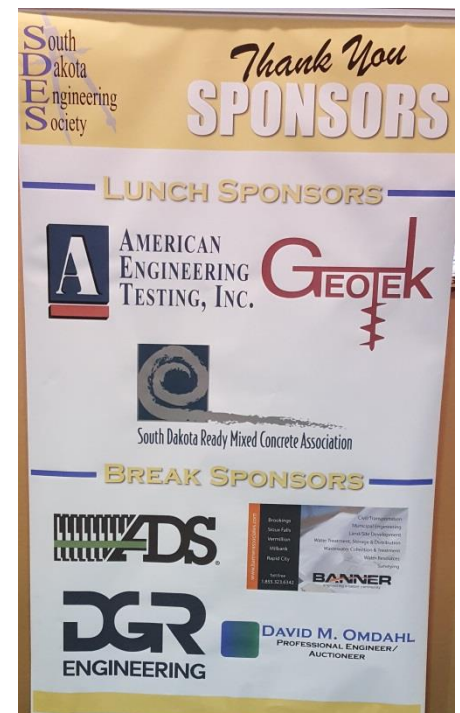
On behalf of the CE Chapter conference committee, thank you to the firms that sponsored a meal or refreshments, thank you to the speakers, and thank you to the attendees. Obviously, we would not have such success without your support.



Pictured on the right is Aaron Hartwell, PE, Albertson Engineering, Rapid City, presenting information on the Dignity Sculpture. The Dignity project was selected as the 2016 BH Chapter Project of the Year.

Above left – Dr. Dan Dolan, Director, Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Production (CAMP) with students Walter Coombe and Grant Nelson presenting on the Baja and Formula car.

*“The South Dakota School of Mines & Technology offers students a unique opportunity to participate in a student-centered, hands-on, engineering program called CAMP, the Center of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing and Production. CAMP is a competitive, nationally-recognized program that brings together students, faculty, and industry leaders to partner on real-world projects. Students participating in CAMP can be part of a team preparing for national competition by building alternative fuel vehicles, a concrete canoe, an unmanned aerial vehicle, or a mini Indy or Baja car, or working on projects involving robotics or hydrogen fuel cells.”*



# Save the date!

2018 SDES Annual Conference

April 4-6, 2018

Holiday Inn City Centre, Sioux Falls

## 2018 SDES Annual Conference - Call for Presentations

The Eastern Chapter of the South Dakota Engineering Society is now accepting presentation topics for consideration for the 2018 SDES Annual Conference, being held April 4-6 in Sioux Falls, SD.

The Annual Conference often attracts over 200 professional engineers from across South Dakota. The agenda often provides multiple tracks of presentations and technical tours with topics ranging across many different engineering disciplines.

If you are interested in presenting on topics of interest to professional engineers, please contact the planning committee chairs by November 30, 2017.

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Kurt Peppel [kpeppel@siouxfalls.org](mailto:kpeppel@siouxfalls.org)  
Kari Drake [Kari.Drake@ads-pipe.com](mailto:Kari.Drake@ads-pipe.com)

Thank you for your consideration,  
2018 SDES Annual Conference Planning Committee

Welcome to SDES! As Phil says in his Pres. Message, membership in NSPE/SDES may lead to a huge impact in your career and you are encouraged to take advantage of all the benefits that are offered. There are community service opportunities, education, networking, and fun social activities going on in SDES and we hope you will get involved!

Be sure to check out the NSPE website for the national benefits that are available as well. As a matter of fact, **ALL** NSPE/SDES members should log on to the NSPE website if you haven't lately. NSPE has revamped their website and there are many new activities going on – check them out! [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org)

## Welcome New SDES Members

### Black Hills Chapter

Amy DiRienzo  
Beau Fraser  
Dustin Hamilton  
Donald Iversen  
Ivy McGillivray  
Christopher Shearer  
Anne Winckel

### Central Chapter

Chad Downs  
James Gilkerson  
Teri Morford  
Kristine Schlomer  
Kailey Selby  
Tyler Ulrich

### Eastern Chapter

Nicholas Bierle  
Jake Braunagel  
Tallon Caser  
Tanner Odegaard  
Melanie Raap-Eitreim  
Adam Schoenherr

# SOUTH DAKOTA ENGINEERING SOCIETY

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

### NCEES recognizes distinguished service

AT ITS 96TH ANNUAL MEETING, NCEES HONORED several individuals for their dedicated service to the organization and the engineering and surveying professions. The 2017 NCEES service award winners are

- **Dale A. Jans, P.E.**, emeritus member of the South Dakota Board of Technical Professions and NCEES past president, who received the Distinguished Service Award with Special Commendation
- **Lisa Hanni, L.S.**, emeritus member of the Minnesota State Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design, and **Richard Hayter, Ph.D., P.E.**, member of the Kansas Board of Technical Professions, who received the Distinguished Service Award



*Past President Jans addresses the crowd after accepting the NCEES Distinguished Service Award with Special Commendation. The award is the organization's highest honor.*

Congratulations to Dale on his selection for the NCEES Distinguished Service Award with Special Commendation – the organization's highest honor.

In the August newsletter, Clyde Jundt, Pierre, was recognized for recently being selected into the SD Transportation Hall of Honor. Both of these gentlemen were highlighted in the NSPE PE Magazine in the PEople section. It is great to have the South Dakota engineers and the profession recognized nationally.

Congratulations and thank you to both Dale and Clyde for your service and leadership to the greater good of South Dakota and to our country!

### SDS board adopted the new NSPE logo:

At the October 2017, board meeting, the SDS board voted to adopt the new NSPE logo and although the transition is not completed yet, I wanted to provide you with the graphics. Details on getting access and using the new logo(s) will be coming soon!



# Alumnus James Rankin Selected as New SD Mines' President

RAPID CITY, S.D. (Nov. 7, 2017) – James (Jim) Rankin, the chief research officer and professor of electrical engineering at the University of Arkansas, will return to his alma mater as the 19<sup>th</sup> president of South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, the South Dakota Board of Regents announced Tuesday.

Rankin, a South Dakota native from Draper and Fort Pierre, graduated from SD Mines in 1978 with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He becomes president at the Rapid City campus Jan. 8, 2018. He succeeds Jan A. Puszynski (YAWN push-IN'-skee), who served in an interim capacity this year as president after Heather Wilson left the university to become United States Air Force Secretary. Puszynski will continue in his position as Mines' vice president of research.

Regents' officials said Rankin delivered compelling credentials as a candidate for the Mines' presidency. "His experience as a senior academic leader and his involvement in research and economic development at both the University of Arkansas and Ohio University, combined with his personal knowledge of the School of Mines, made Dr. Rankin a strong choice to foster new growth on the Mines' campus and further enhance this engineering and science university going forward as its next president," said Regent John Bastian, who chaired the presidential search committee. "The Board of Regents is delighted to welcome Jim Rankin back to South Dakota and to a Mines' campus that he knows quite well."

Under Rankin's leadership as vice-provost for research and economic development, the University of Arkansas has generated more than 50 start-up companies and significantly increased annual external funding to \$103 million. He led efforts to develop the institution's first strategic plan in research and economic development, instituted several faculty recognition programs, and developed an expedited industry contracting process.

Previously at Ohio University, Rankin was interim vice president for research, associate dean, professor of electrical engineering, and director of the Avionics Engineering Center. He has also been a professor at St. Cloud State University and an engineer at Rockwell-Collins. Rankin's personal research has been funded by numerous NASA and FAA grants. His Ph.D. and master's degrees in electrical engineering were earned at Iowa State University.

"I am very honored to be returning to SD Mines as its 19<sup>th</sup> president. I know firsthand the excellent academic preparation that students receive here," Rankin said. "A 98 percent placement rate for 10 straight years is a testament to the quality education provided by the outstanding Mines' faculty. There will be a continued emphasis on the success of our students.

"The school is poised to grow in many areas, including student enrollment and sponsored research," he said. "Faculty-led innovation will have an increasing role in the area's economic development. I look forward to working with our loyal alumni and friends to develop the resources needed by faculty and students for these initiatives. I am also excited to team with our faculty, staff, and students to continue to enhance the school's reputation throughout South Dakota, the region, and the nation."

Rankin's spouse, Wendy, holds a Ph.D. in counselor education from Ohio University and is active in student engagement and philanthropy. They have three adult children, Kara, Anna, and Daniel. Kara, a doctor of physical therapy, and her husband, Caleb, live in North Carolina. Anna, an assistant professor at Ohio University, and her husband, A.J., live in Ohio. Daniel is an aeronautical engineer working in industry in Los Angeles. The Rankins have two grandchildren.

In addition to family and travel, Rankin has numerous interests including aviation. He holds multiple pilot licenses and ratings, and is a member of the Board of Trustees for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). His current research area is on avionics requirements for on-demand mobility (flying cars).

*(From SDSMT website)*

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