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ATTENTION STUDENT MEMBERS!!!
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John Handke
Tyler Ummel
Concrete Canoe Chairs: Jessica Hennes
Brianna Krysztof
2011 Regionals Chairs: Rob Murphy
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Agenda:
Announcements: Jordan Dettmer
Introduction of Speaker: Rachel Spicer
Speakers:
Brad Waller
Greg Broussard

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HWS Consulting Group was founded in 1944 and continued as HWS until recently merging with Alfred Benesch & Company.

Benesch has successfully completed projects in almost every sector of engineering throughout the United States. They employ more than 360 professional and support personnel at 15 locations in 8 states: Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Nebraska and Wisconsin.

Benesch designs complex highway interchanges, major river bridges, parking structures and structural systems for high- and low-rise buildings. They inspect transit bus garages and thousands of railroad and highway bridges; prepare life cycle cost analyses; and supervise the construction of miles of interstate highway and acres of railroad freight yards. They assist municipal clients in understanding complex and ever-changing environmental regulations and policies. In addition, they work with owners, architects, developers and contractors to address their project scheduling needs.

Tower Bridge is a combined bascule and suspension bridge in London, England, over the River Thames. It is close to the Tower of London, which gives it its name. It has become an iconic symbol of London.

The bridge consists of two towers which are tied together at the upper level by means of two horizontal walkways which are designed to withstand the horizontal forces exerted by the suspended sections of the bridge on the landward sides of the towers. The vertical component of the forces in the suspended sections and the vertical reactions of the two walkways are carried by the two robust towers. The bascule pivots and operating machinery are housed in the base of each tower. The bridge's present colour dates from 1977 when it was painted red, white and blue for the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Originally it was painted a chocolate brown colour.

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K-State engineering alumni Matt Scherer—civil engineering, B.S., ’79; civil engineering, water structures, M.S. ’83 — is wrapping up his engineering career with the state Department of Agriculture’s Division of Water Resources Dec. 10.

Scherer, who has managed the Water Structures program responsible for dam safety, stream obstruction and floodplain fill project approval, and coordination of the National Flood Insurance Program in Kansas since 2001, said of all the state’s water structures, which also include bridges, culverts, weirs, low-water crossings, pipeline/cable crossings, levees, and others, dams have presented the most challenges.

“Ensuring proper construction, the declining number of engineers skilled in dam design, loss of funding for safety inspections of high and significant hazard dams, and hazard classification changes — all add to the challenge.

Yet overseeing the state’s more than 6,000 jurisdictional dams, he said, also was the most rewarding. “With dams, you are dealing with the entire construction project. With other structures, our regulatory program examines primarily hydraulic impact. Besides, I’ve never designed a bridge. I’ve designed dams.”

When asked about job opportunities in Kansas, Scherer, who also has an undergraduate degree from KSU in physical sciences, said Kansas is a “great state” in which to work as an engineer because of its variation—climate, size of firms, and needs.

As for engineering, Scherer said if he went back to school today knowing what he does; he’d still study civil engineering.

In addition to his career at DWR where he also worked in other water-related departments, Scherer designed dams and irrigations systems for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, was a water resource planner for the Kansas Water Office, and was president and owner of Konza Natural Resources Consultants, Inc.

Schedule

October 28: Officer Meeting
November 4: KU/KSU Joint Dinner (Tentative)
November 11: Officer Meeting
November 18: Schwab-Eaton (Scott Sutherland)
November 25: Thanksgiving
December 2: Awards Banquet
December 9: Officer Elections/Senior Projects