

## Working together

### UNL students and licensees bring home 2019 NCEES Engineering Education Grand Prize



L to R: Todd Feldman, P.E., Brooke Scherer, Douglas Nelsen, P.E., Clarence Waters, Ph.D., P.E., and Sarah Drummey pose with the \$25,000 grand prize for winning the 2019 NCEES Engineering Education Award for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction.

For two semesters, ten engineering students set out to redesign the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts in Holland, Michigan. At the end of the course, the final design was entered in the NCEES Educational Engineering Competition.

Students at the Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln were tasked with a variety of design challenges such as adding a rooftop amenity space, and retooling the electrical, mechanical and structural systems.

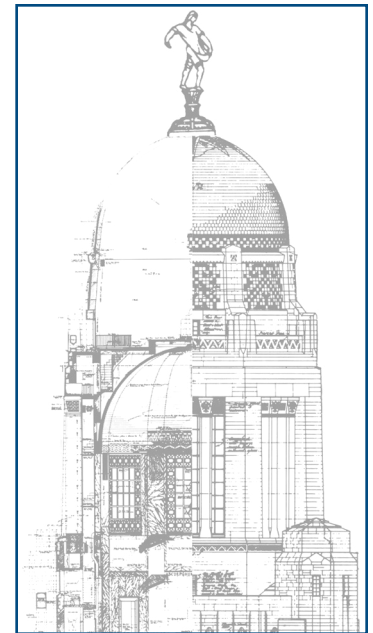
Part of the challenge is working with licensed professionals to ensure everything meets industry standards. In total, 36 professional engineers, 10 engineers-in-training, and 4 architects aided the students on the project. Faculty advisors at the

Durham school also participated, along with an acoustics consultant.

According to the projects description “the overarching goal of this two-semester immersive activity was to develop excellence in architectural engineering students to prepare them for realistic career experiences by carrying out fully-integrated, multi-disciplinary approach to the planning and design of cutting edge, operational, high-quality building systems under the guidance of a total of 51 industry volunteers.”

To help guide the students and evaluate their work, licensees who assisted were separated into two groups – mentors and evaluators.

**NCEES AWARD, continued on page 2**



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**NCEES AWARD, continued from page 1**

“As an industry mentor for the team I mainly assisted the students by providing them guidance, references, and resources but not the direct answer,” Douglas Nelsen, P.E. and one of the mentors on the project, said. “I made myself available for any questions that the students had as well as performed quality checks of the required submittals.”

Students worked extensively with their mentors through in-person meetings, phone calls, emails, cloud-storage document sharing, and teleconferencing. It was estimated that, in total, the industry volunteers donated over \$500,000 worth of time to help the students with the project.

“Students gain a greater awareness of the responsibility of a being a professional engineer as well as the need to be mindful of all aspects of the building design,” Nelsen said. “It is critical to communicate and coordinate with other members of the team because the most well-designed buildings are ones that clearly show the seamless integration of all disciplines.”

Todd Feldman, P.E. who served as an industry fellow and Instructor of Record, explained that students not only gained insight into technical engineering skills but other aspects vital to the profession.

“The course is structured to benefit the students in skills that will benefit them as they begin their professional careers, such as time management, interpersonal skills, organization, technical writing, and public speaking,” Feldman said.

“**I learned a lot of new things about mechanical design, but the most valuable thing I learned from the project was the importance of communication and collaboration.**”

Sarah Drummey, student team leader for the project, helped facilitate coordination and communication between the disciplines while also focusing on the mechanical and plumbing systems design.

“I learned a lot of new things about mechanical design, but the most valuable thing I learned from the project was the importance of communication and collaboration,” Drummey said.

“The licensees mentored and guided us through the project, taught us new design strategies for our various disciplines, and helped identify conflicts in the design and aspects we hadn’t thought about.”

This is the fourth NCEES award in five years for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and its second grand prize win. UNL is the only repeat grand prize winner since the competitions inception in 2009.

The Board and staff would like to congratulate all the students and licensees involved on the project on their momentous award. ■

## 2019 CAPITOL LICENSING CEREMONY

### 12 architects and 47 professional engineers receive certificates



Licensees pose with their certificates in the Rotunda of the Nebraska State Capitol on November 15, 2019. In total, 18 architects and 119 professional engineers were licensed since November 2018. This is the 15th year the Board has held a Ceremony honoring individuals licensed by exam.

# Board awards first honorary license

The Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects has awarded the first ever honorary license to esteemed architect Thomas Rogers Kimball.

Kimball, who died in 1934, three years before the Board was created, never had the opportunity to become officially licensed in Nebraska.

On June 25, History Nebraska, formerly the Nebraska State Historical Society, along with the Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission, formally inducted Kimball into the Nebraska Hall of Fame and revealed a bronze bust of the famous architect.

At a reception following the induction ceremony, Lenora Isom, Chair for the Board, presented John Kimball, Kimball's great-great-nephew, with the honorary license certificate. ■



Photo Courtesy of Josh Beeman / History Nebraska

## Public works exemption level adjusted in June

At its June 14 meeting, the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects voted to adjust the public works projects exemption level from \$109,000 to \$118,000 effective July 1, 2019.

This means that, on public works projects where the total expenditures do not exceed \$118,000, licensed architects and professional engineers are not required to be involved in the project's design or construction.

In accordance with N.R.S. §§ 81-3445, 81-3449(4), and 81-3453(4) in the Nebraska Engineers and Architects Regulation Act, the exemption level for public works projects must be adjusted every fifth year, equal to the then current amount adjusted by the cumulative percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, rounded up to the next highest thousand.

Should you have questions, please contact Jon Wilbeck at [jon.wilbeck@nebraska.gov](mailto:jon.wilbeck@nebraska.gov) or (402) 471-2021. ■

## State Fire Marshal now accepting electronic plans

As of the first of the year, the Nebraska State Fire Marshal is accepting electronically submitted plans at [nebraskastategov.sharefile.com](http://nebraskastategov.sharefile.com). The address is listed in the upper right hand corner of all Plan Submittal Applications. Hard-copy submissions can still be sent to the State Fire Marshall's Office in Lincoln.

For further questions on how to submit plans, please contact the Nebraska State Fire Marshal at (402) 471-2027. ■

**Renewal Deadline: Licensed architects and professional engineers with last names beginning with A - K have until 11:59 PM CST on December 31, 2019 to renew their license with Nebraska.**

## Recently Resolved Compliance Cases

The following complaints were reviewed for compliance by the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects, and resolved via the action noted. These summaries are provided for licensee education and information, and should not be interpreted as a full description of the complaints described. In complaints where disciplinary action was taken by the Board per Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-3444, the names of the individuals and/or organizations involved are included.

### Complaint 17.13 Unlicensed Practice

The Board was notified of the submission of unsealed plans to another state agency for the renovation of a one-story commercial building [Assembly (A) Occupancy] comprising 23,350 square feet. The plans did not appear to be prepared by a Nebraska-licensed architect or professional engineer.

**Action:** The project was subject to the Act because the total impacted area of the renovation was 1,000 or more square feet of Assembly space.

The Board authorized remediation to bring this project into compliance with the Act. Per Board Rule 8.4, licensed design professionals reviewed the project, identified deficiencies, and recommended corrections. The complaint was dismissed upon correction of all deficiencies.

### Complaint 18.14 Unlicensed Practice

The Board was notified of the submission of unsealed plans to another state agency for the renovation of a two-story commercial building [Assembly (A) and Factory (F) Occupancies] comprising 5,250 square feet. The plans did not appear to be prepared by a Nebraska-licensed architect or professional engineer.

**Action:** The project was subject to the Act because the building was more than one story. The Board authorized remediation to bring this project into compliance with the Act. Per Board Rule 8.4, licensed design professionals reviewed the project, identified deficiencies, and recommended corrections. The complaint was dismissed when the project was abandoned, but the Board reserved the right to revisit if additional concerns arise.

### Complaint 19.02 Unlicensed Practice

The Board was notified of the submission of unsealed plans to another state agency for a 2,610 square foot, one-story addition to an existing 9,000 square foot, one-story commercial building [Factory (F) Occupancy]. The plans did not appear to be prepared by a Nebraska-licensed architect or professional engineer.

**Action:** This project was subject to the Act because the total impacted area comprised 5,000 or more square feet of Factory space. The Board authorized engineering remediation to bring this project into compliance with the Act. Per Board Rule 8.4, a professional engineer reviewed the project, identified deficiencies, and recommended corrections. The complaint was dismissed upon correction of all deficiencies.

### Complaint 18.16 Unlicensed Practice

The Board was notified of the submission of unsealed plans to another state agency for the renovation of a one-story commercial building [Assembly (A) Occupancy] comprising 2,080 square feet that was previously used as a barn. The plans did not appear to be prepared by a Nebraska-licensed architect or professional engineer.

**Action:** The project was subject to the Act because the total impacted area of the renovation was 1,000 or more square feet of Assembly space.

The Board authorized remediation to bring this project into compliance with the Act. Per Board Rule 8.4, licensed design professionals reviewed the project, identified deficiencies, and recommended corrections. The complaint was dismissed upon correction of all deficiencies.

### Complaint 19.04 Unlicensed Practice

The Board was notified of the submission of unsealed plans to another state agency for the construction of a one-story commercial building [Educational (E) Occupancy] comprising 2,190 square feet. The plans did not appear to be prepared by a Nebraska-licensed architect or professional engineer.

**Action:** This project was subject to the Act because the total building area comprised 1,000 or more square feet of Educational space. The Board authorized remediation to bring this project into compliance with the Act. The complaint was dismissed upon the submission of sealed plans.

### Complaint 18.17 Unlicensed Practice

The Board was notified of the submission of unsealed plans to another state agency for the renovation of a one-story commercial building [Business (B) Occupancy] comprising 3,750 square feet. The plans did not appear to be prepared by a Nebraska-licensed architect or professional engineer.

**Action:** The project was subject to the Act because the total impacted area of the renovation was 3,000 or more square feet of Business space.

The Board authorized remediation to bring this project into compliance with

the Act. Per Board Rule 8.4, licensed design professional reviewed the project, identified deficiencies, and recommended corrections. The complaint was dismissed upon correction of all deficiencies.

### Complaint 19.06 Violations of the E&A Act

The Board received a complaint alleging multiple violations of the Act, including improper sealing of an engineering report, failure to designate a coordinating professional, and improper attribution of previously sealed engineering documents.

**Action:** The complaint was dismissed with a reminder of the applicable provisions of the Act and Board Rules. Engineering specifications, reports, and studies must be sealed on the first and last page of the document (N.R.S. § 81-3437.01(4) and 110 N.A.C., Board Rule 6.1.5). Projects involving more than one licensee shall have a coordinating professional designated and identified (N.R.S. § 81-3437.02 and 110 N.A.C., Board Rule 6.3). Previously sealed project documents may be used if properly attributed to the original licensee (110 N.A.C., Board Rule 6.2).

### Complaint 19.07 Unlicensed Practice

The Board received a complaint alleging modification of a cement mixer and subsequent injury and permanent disability of an individual cleaning the inside of the modified mixer.

**Action:** The allegations were determined to be outside of the Board's jurisdiction and the complaint was dismissed.

### Complaint 19.08 Code of Practice Violations

The Board received a complaint alleging unfair practices in connection with a property survey.

**Action:** The allegations were outside of the Board's jurisdiction and the complaint was dismissed.

### Complaint 19.09 Unlicensed Practice & Posthumous Use of a License

The Board received a complaint alleging unlicensed practice of architecture and posthumous use of an architect's seal.

**Action:** Information gathered during the investigation suggested that the architect prepared and sealed documents for permitting, unexpectedly passed away, and the architect's seal and signature were subsequently applied to plan revisions submitted for permitting. The complaint was dismissed with a caution to the alleged violator.

### Complaint 19.10 Unlicensed Practice

The Board received a complaint alleging unlicensed practice of engineering in the construction of a one-story storage building [Storage (S) Occupancy] comprising 11,940 square feet. The complaint also alleged unlicensed practice of engineering in the site development resulting in water intrusion into the adjacent property.

**Action:** The complaint was dismissed upon receipt of a set of sealed plans for the storage building and review of the site development scope of work.

### Complaint 19.13 Unlicensed Practice

The Board received a complaint alleging unlicensed practice of engineering in the repair of a privately-owned bridge and road following flooding damage in spring 2019.

**Action:** The Board found no violations of the E&A Act and dismissed the complaint.

# Remediation Registry

As the Board continues to utilize the remediation process in its enforcement efforts, we are preparing a registry of licensed architects and professional engineers that would be interested in providing remediation services.

The registry would not be considered a recommendation from the Board. It would be a potential resource project owners could use if they need to engage licensed architects and/or professional engineers to remediate projects in accordance with Board Rule 8.4.

The information provided would be the same contact information available through Licensee Lookup (name, address, county, and license information.)

The registry would not be available online.

The Board has been utilizing the remediation process detailed in Board Rule 8.4 more frequently in recent months for projects that constitute the unlicensed practice of architecture and engineering.

The goal of remediation is to work with project owners to bring their project back into compliance with the E&A Regulation Act. While remediation may cause delays and added expense, it ensures that the health, safety, and welfare of the public is protected through the involvement of licensed professionals.

Please contact Executive Director, Jon Wilbeck at [jon.wilbeck@nebraska.gov](mailto:jon.wilbeck@nebraska.gov) or (402) 471-2021 if you would be interested in being included on the remediation registry or if you have further questions. ■

# Conzett receives NCEES award

At this year's NCEES Annual Meeting, former Board member and past president, Michael Conzett, was awarded the NCEES Distinguished Service Award for exceptional contributions and outstanding service to the organization.

Conzett served three appointed terms with the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects from 2003 to 2018. In that time he served twice as the Board secretary and once as Board Vice-Chair and Board Chair. He served on nine Board committees during his tenure including chairing the Engineering Education and Education & Communication committees.

In a decade's time, Conzett served on thirteen NCEES committees – two as a consultant, six as a board liaison, three as a member, and two as Chair. This continued dedication eventually led to him becoming Vice President of the NCEES Central Zone (2008-10), NCEES President-Elect (2014-15) and NCEES President (2015-16).

"Mike has shown an endless dedication to improving the field of engineering and surveying through his work at NCEES," the Board wrote of Conzett in his nomination letter.



Michael Conzett, P.E.

"Balancing state and national commitments, he managed to hold a remarkably high attendance at State Board and NCEES committee meetings for the better part of a decade. His expertise in civil engineering has been an invaluable resource. The State of Nebraska, NCEES, professional communities, students, and members of the public have benefited greatly from Mike's dedication, diplomacy, and unwavering principles."

"I am most grateful...I am humbled," Conzett said on receiving the honor.

The Distinguished Service Award has been bestowed to over 300 deserving individuals since 1938. Conzett is only the third Nebraskan to receive the Distinguished Service Award after former Board members Robert Rohde (2002) and Dale Sall (1990).

Conzett has a Bachelor's of Civil Engineering and a Masters of Sanitary Engineering from Iowa State University. He is a former vice president and senior

project manager of HDR in Omaha and is currently enjoying retirement.

On behalf of the Board and staff, we would like to extend a hearty congratulations to Mike on earning this auspicious award. ■

## NCEES NEWS

### Phishing Emails

NCEES was made aware that three U.S. utility companies received phishing emails claiming to be from NCEES, announcing exam results. The emails included a Word attachment that contained malware.

NCEES takes matters of cybersecurity very seriously, and found no evidence that their system was breached or that examinee information was hacked.

The email addresses were not obtained from NCEES, and there is no evidence that any of the recipients had actually taken an NCEES exam.

To be clear, NCEES does not send exam results via email. Please let NCEES know if you receive a suspicious email claiming to be from this organization. You can click on the Contact section of the NCEES website for contact details.

### Computer-Based PE Exams

NCEES began the process of transitioning exams to computer-based testing (CBT) in 2011. CBT offers many benefits, such as enhanced security for exam content, more uniformity in

testing conditions, and in many cases greater scheduling flexibility.

All CBT exams are offered at approved Pearson VUE test centers.

Upcoming PE Exams tentatively scheduled to be given via CBT are:

- **2020:** Fire Protection, Mechanical
- **2021:** Agricultural & Biological, Electrical & Computer, and Mining & Mineral Processing
- **2022:** Architectural, Control Systems, Metallurgical & Materials, and Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering
- **2023:** Civil
- **2024:** Structural ■

# Licensure Updates

April 26, 2019 - November 13, 2019

## Architects by Exam

Travis J. Barrett	Lincoln	NE
Jeremy L. Carlson	Bellevue	NE
Hollie I. Engdahl	Omaha	NE
Monica R. Erickson	Omaha	NE
Justin R. Langenfeld	Papillion	NE
Andrew W. Meyer	Omaha	NE
Steven D. Severson	Lincoln	NE
Adam J. Sitzmann	Omaha	NE
Kristopher M. Tourek	Omaha	NE

## Professional Engineers by Exam

### Architectural

Douglas C. Holt Jr.	Omaha	NE
Todd P. Kielty Jr	Denver	CO
Elizabeth A. Schuler	Omaha	NE
Andrew P. Wiese	Bennington	NE

### Civil

Alejandro A. Barahona Alberto	Omaha	NE
Christopher R.V. Boden	Julian	NE
Noma V. Borde	Bellevue	NE
Scott M. Braun	Omaha	NE
Shane P. Campagna	La Vista	NE
Casey D. Campbell	Grand Island	NE
Alfred E. Campbell	Albion	NE
Mary E. Chavez	Bellevue	NE
Joshua F. Dack	Paxton	NE
Jason R. Dayton	Beatrice	NE

Taylor C. Eman	Papillion	NE
Daniel R. Erdman	Omaha	NE
Brian J. Friedrichsen	Palmer	NE
Jackline W. Gatotho	Lincoln	NE
Carlie L. Hively	Honey Creek	IA
Steven V. Jensen	Lincoln	NE
Nicholas A.C. Johnson	Papillion	NE
Kara A. Kosiski	Omaha	NE
Jared A. Kreher	Kearney	NE
Anthony K. Krejci	Omaha	NE
Charles H. Krolikowski	Omaha	NE
Carlos J. Lejja	Lincoln	NE
Robert C. McClung	Lincoln	NE
William A. McCormick	Eagle	NE
Aric S. Mousel	Omaha	NE
Philip A. Niewohner	Omaha	NE
Ann E. Nissen	Omaha	NE
William J. Sargent	Bellevue	NE
Brett D. Shald	Omaha	NE
Joseph M. Svoboda	Omaha	NE
Nicole D. Taylor	Lincoln	NE
Damian G. Wallner	Omaha	NE
Jingtao Zhang	Omaha	NE

### Environmental

Rebecca E. Nelson	Omaha	NE
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### Industrial & Systems

Courtney M. Kennedy	Omaha	NE
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## Mechanical

David P. Bailey	Omaha	NE
Johnathan M. Frankl	La Vista	NE
Bradley J. Kennedy	Lincoln	NE
Colton M. Kennedy	Omaha	NE
Marcus J. Leichner	Omaha	NE
Kyle J. Purcell	Bellevue	NE
Zev A. Rohloff	Omaha	NE
Shrenik P. Savani	Lenexa	KS

## Structural

Kathleen S. Wendling	Blue Springs	MO
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## In Memoriam

### Architects

Jeffery A. Hazard	Sioux Falls	SD
Andre J. Perrin	Richardson	TX

### Professional Engineers

John C. Adams	Omaha	NE
Roy W. Berner	York	NE
David F. Burbach	Platteville	WI
Roger K. Ghormley	Lincoln	NE
Lloyd E. Keller	Omaha	NE
Chi S. Lee	Sioux City	IA
Tracy S. Lemar	Urbandale	IA
Harlan J. Quenzer	Mitchell	SD
Donald E. Schaufelberger	Columbus	NE
Ward R. Svoboda	Chambersburg	PA



## Monograph Updates

Long-format NCARB monographs will no longer be available for continuing education credit after September 1, 2019. NCARB will not accept quizzes for long-format monographs taken after this date. This change will help ensure CE courses are up-to-date as NCARB works to deliver quality CE materials for customers.

## Architects on the Rise

The number of architects licensed in the United States rose to 115,316 in 2018, according to the annual Survey of Architectural Registration Boards. This is a 2 percent increase from 2017 and represents a 13 percent increase compared to the number of U.S. architects seen a decade ago.

Conducted annually by NCARB, the survey provides exclusive insight into data from the architectural licensing boards of the 50 U.S. states, District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, along with the Northern Mariana Islands.

## New CE Guidelines

NCARB has released its updated Continuing Education Guidelines. The document outlines the subjects or topics that learning programs must address to be considered HSW CE.

NCARB's new CE Guidelines explains what continuing education is, details why lifelong learning is important, and explores types of learning programs. In addition, the document outlines sample topics under each of the six areas of practice identified by the 2012 Practice Analysis of Architecture, which also helped inform the AXP and ARE 5.0. ■



# STATE OF NEBRASKA BOARD OF ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS

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NOV	28-29	Office Closed - Holiday
DEC	13	Board Meeting
	25	Office Closed - Holiday
	27	PE Exam First Time App Deadline
	31	Renewal Deadline, A - K
JAN	1	Office Closed - Holiday
	10	Board Meeting
	20	Office Closed - Holiday
FEB	14	Board Meeting
	17	Office Closed - Holiday
	20	NCEES PE Exam Deadline
MAR	13	Board Meeting
APR	17	Board Meeting
	17-18	PE Exams
	24	Office Closed - Holiday
MAY	21	Board Meeting
	25	Office Closed - Holiday



## CONTINUING EDUCATION CERTIFICATE NEBRASKA BOARD OF ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS

This is to certify that the person named below has earned 0.25 continuing education units for Architects and Professional Engineers by thoroughly reading the November 2019 edition of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects newsletter, *The Nebraska Professional*.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**NAME OF PARTICIPANT**

I attest, by the responses recorded below, my signature, and on my professional honor, that I have personally read and am familiar with the November 2019 edition of the The Nebraska Professional.

1. What is the new public works project exemption dollar amount?
2. The Board is creating a registry for what type of services?
3. What state agency is now accepting electronic plan submissions?

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**License No.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

*If you claim credit for reading the newsletter and are audited, you will be required to produce this completed certificate as documentation.*