

## ASCE "Raise The Bar" Newsletter December 2007 Vol. 4, No. 4

The ASCE Committee on Academic Prerequisites for Professional Practice (CAP<sup>3</sup>) has continued its work to raise the educational requirements for the future practice of civil engineering at the professional level. For more than a decade, ASCE has been talking and listening to many stakeholders. As a result, we have been progressively refining our proposed program to “raise the bar” for professional practice. The National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), the National Council of Examiners for Engineering & Surveying (NCEES), and the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) have joined in this advocacy. A summary of some key activities includes the following --



### **Second Edition of the Body of Knowledge (BOK)**

The Body of Knowledge is the foundational document of the entire ASCE master plan to implement its Policy 465. The first Body of Knowledge Committee (1BOKC) was charged to define the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to enter the practice of civil engineering at the professional level. Outcomes are the heart of the BOK. 1BOKC published the *Civil Engineering Body of Knowledge for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* in February 2004 (see [www.asce.org/raisethebar](http://www.asce.org/raisethebar)). A new Body of Knowledge Committee (2BOKC) was appointed in September 2005 to prepare and publish a second edition of the BOK.

The 2BOKC began its work by reviewing the 15 outcomes comprising the core of BOK1. Also examined were the *Engineer of 2020* reports published by the National Academy of Engineering and ASCE's new *Vision for Civil Engineering in 2025*. After careful deliberation, the original set of 15 outcomes was expanded to 24 outcomes. These outcomes were organized into these three categories: foundational, technical, and professional. Generally, the larger number of outcomes add specificity and clarity. The second edition of the BOK will be released at a special event at the National Academy of Engineering on February 19<sup>th</sup> – and available at [www.asce.org/raisethebar](http://www.asce.org/raisethebar) after this date.

### **Educational Fulfillment of the BOK**

Another new committee, the BOK Educational Fulfillment Committee (BOKEdFC), has been formed to focus on the curricula to satisfy the new BOK. Ken Fridley (Chair) and Jeff Evans (Vice Chair) will be leading this new committee. The charge of the committee includes:

1. Foster the creation of a learning community of scholars interested in civil engineering education reform.

2. Review work products of the new Body of Knowledge Committee and provide timely input, feedback, and suggestions.
3. Document how programs are incorporating the BOK into their curriculum. Compile best practices on how to fulfill the formal education requirements of the BOK to include how the outcomes can be assessed.

Schools participating in the committee include --

Full Members	Corresponding Members	Corresponding Members
University of Alabama	California State U -- Sacramento	Mississippi State University
University of Arkansas	The Citadel	North Dakota State University
Bucknell University	University of Central Florida	University of Oklahoma
Iowa State University	Drexel University	Purdue University
University of Louisiana	University of Florida	Seattle University
Montana State University	George Mason University	The University of Texas - Tyler
North Carolina State University	University of Houston	United States Air Force Academy
Northern Arizona University	University of Kentucky	United States Military Academy
Rose-Hulman Inst. of Technology	Manhattan College	University of Virginia
Texas A&M University	The University of Melbourne	Virginia Military Institute
University of Southern California	Merrimack College	University of Wisconsin-Platteville
	Michigan State University	

### **Licensure Changes**

NCEES, given the challenge of defining the Model Rules to support the new Model Law, formed the Bachelor's +30 Task Force in late 2007. This committee was charged to --

1. Develop definitions for approved credits and approved course providers for inclusion in the Model Rules. Consider comments and recommendations provided during 2007 Zone Meetings and the 2007 Annual Meeting.
2. Evaluate the provisions of the Model Rules that allow credit towards the experience requirement for candidates with advanced degrees. Provide recommendations as appropriate.
3. Propose revisions as necessary to ensure that the Model Rules are consistent with revisions to the Model Law concerning the bachelor's plus 30 requirement.
4. Ensure that the significant issues of the task force are presented to the Council at each zone meeting by either a committee member in attendance or by the zone vice president.

Given the complexity of the assignment, it is anticipated that the Task Force will work on this issue for at least two years. Up-to-date information about this Task Force (and other NCEES committees) can be found at [www.ncees.org/licensure/licensure\\_exchange/](http://www.ncees.org/licensure/licensure_exchange/).

Questions, comments, or suggestions?

Please contact Jeff Russell ([russell@engr.wisc.edu](mailto:russell@engr.wisc.edu)) or Tom Lenox ([tlenox@asce.org](mailto:tlenox@asce.org)).