



# Columbus Engineer

## Franklin County Chapter

A chapter chartered by the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers.

P.O. Box 69  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0069

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### President's Message

By Benjamin Brown, P.E. – FCC President

I am looking forward to serving another year as the Franklin County Chapter's President for 2018 – 2019 calendar year! I along with our board members will continue to focus on membership and work to provide additional benefits to the new professionals beginning their careers in engineering. In addition to protecting YOUR license, OSPE provides continuing education, project management training and outreach programs such as *Imagine Engineering* contest for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, *MathCounts* competition, and *Engineer for a Day* for high school students held during *Engineer's Week* in February.



As the FCC OSPE Chapter ends the 2017-2018 fiscal year, I would like to thank the countless members who have helped volunteer at our events and luncheons, members who prepare the monthly *Columbus Engineer* articles, members who give us ideas for topics for our monthly luncheons, and also thank the central Ohio companies who purchase advertising.

As the 2018-2019 year begins in July, I would like to congratulate and welcome the new board members. As we plan for the upcoming year, our committee chairs are will soon be planning for our upcoming activities which include our luncheon *Professional Development Hour* presentations, and if you have any suggestions please feel free to contact me at [benjamin\\_brown68@yahoo.com](mailto:benjamin_brown68@yahoo.com). During the summer break we will be updating the committee members, establishing budgets, and continuing to work with the student chapter at The Ohio State University. I sincerely would like to thank you for

allowing me to serve and I look forward to another great year! Hope you have a safe summer and see you again in September.

### FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Student Award

The FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Student award is presented to an engineering student from an ABET-accredited Ohio Engineering school in the Franklin County Chapter area based on the student's scholastic achievements, participation in professional, technical, and other college activities, contributions to their fellow students, and participation in community service.



This year's award recipient, Cole Mertz, is a May 2018 graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science from the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geodetic Engineering. He has a consistently impressive academic record and is one of the top students in this class. While an undergraduate, he has enrolled and excelled in taking graduate level classes. In one of the recommendations that he received for him, his Professor stated "I use his quizzes and homework as Solution Keys because they are organized and presented better than my own solutions." During this summer, he is planning on continuing research work at The Ohio State University.

Cole is from Celina, Ohio and while attending The Ohio State University, he has held membership in the following technical societies: Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Student Award - Continued on page 2

**Student Award - Continued from page 1**

Concrete Institute, the American Institute of Steel Construction and the Precast/Pre-stressed Concrete Institute. He also held the position of Treasurer for the OSU Chapter of the Professional and Surveyors of Ohio. While a student at OSU, he was also on The Executive Board and was a Retreat Chair for the First Year Leadership Initiative (FYLI), was a member of the OSU Running Club, Block O and the Engineering Council.

More evidence of Cole’s academic achievements and overall character come from his placement on the Dean’s List each of his seven semesters as an undergraduate student and the numerous scholarships he has been awarded by Ohio State and the College of Engineering including, the Maximus Scholarship, the Cyrus A. Melick Fund Scholarship, the Scarlet and Gray Grant, the Nickel Engineering Scholarship, the Ramos Scholarship, the Brady Scholarship, the Merry Scholarship, and the Presidents Affordability Grant. Cole also received an award for Excellence in Capstone Design as a part of a collaboration that he did with senior capstone students as a first year honors student.

Cole has been working on a proposal for research to be done during his future work as a graduate student titled “Life Cycle Assessment of Precast Parking Structures to Enhance Durability and Structural Performance.” He is currently working with Dr. Halil Sezen of the Ohio State University on this research, as well as partnering with CampusParc, the operators of Ohio State’s parking garages, and several producers of precast concrete in the area including Pre-stress Services Industries and Sidley Precast Group, to perform the research. With this research, he will be doing detailed analysis of existing parking garages and the maintenance they have received over their lifetimes to aid in formulation of full life cycle analyses of the garages. These results will then be used to develop recommendations for the design of future parking garages and for the maintenance and repair of garages in order to lower life cycle costs and increase durability and sustainability of structures. Cole is currently applying for a fellowship awarded by PCI and should he receive this fellowship, he will be granted a tuition waver from The Ohio State University for graduate school.

Cole Mertz was a worthy recipient of the FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Student Award that he received at La Scala Ristorante on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and he also received the 2018 OSPE Outstanding Engineering Award at the All Ohio Engineering Conference on Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.

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**FCC-OSPE Uncommon Engineer Award**

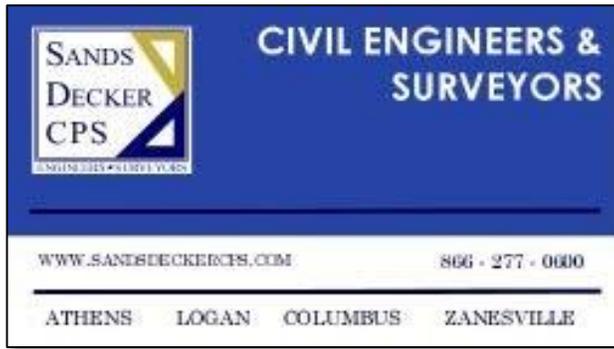
The FCC-OSPE Uncommon Engineer award recognizes distinguished service to the engineering profession; devotion and commitment to the State Society and Local Chapter; high standards or professionalism; and guidance in the role of a team player. This award is one of the highest awards given at both the Chapter and the State Level and it is not given out every year which makes this award even more special to our active members.



This year’s award recipient, Devon E. Seal, P.E., received both the 2018 FCC-OSPE Uncommon Engineer award and the 2018 OSPE Uncommon Engineer award. She has been active at both, the Chapter and State level for several years.

She is Past President of the Engineer’s Foundation of Ohio and has served in various leadership roles within OSPE. She has served as OSPE’s Vice President of Education, Treasurer, Young Engineer’s Representative, PEPP Chair and a member of the Committee for OSPE’s Continuing Professional Development Conference and Annual Meeting. At the Chapter level, she has served as President, Treasurer, and Editor of the Columbus Engineer newsletter. She is currently Chair of the

**Engineer Award - Continued on page 3**



## FCC-OSPE Young Engineer of the Year Award

The FCC-OSPE Young Engineer of the Year award is presented in recognition of outstanding professional accomplishment of Ohio’s Young Engineers and is based on the recipient’s scholastic achievement, accomplishments in Professional and Technical societies, civic and humanitarian activities, Engineering work, accomplishments and continuing competency, and technical papers and patents.

### Engineer Award – Continued from page 2

Constitution and Bylaws Committee and Chairperson of the Imagine Engineering 2nd Grade Coloring Contest. She also volunteers at the Regional and State levels of Science Day and MATHCOUNTS.

Devon is a Professional Engineer who joined Gresham, Smith and Partners in 2003. She is a chemical engineer and environmental consultant with extensive experience in regulatory compliance consulting; auditing; stormwater pollution prevention; spill prevention planning; aircraft deicer management planning and design; environmental site assessments; and environmental management system implementation. She has worked with clients across the Midwest, the U.S. and Europe. Devon was promoted to Associate in 2009 and to Senior Associate in 2016.

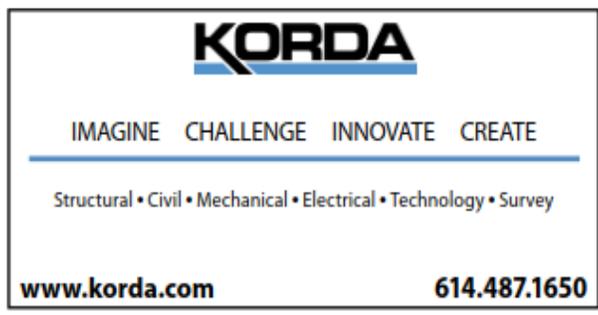
Devon earned her Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering at The Ohio State University and also, earned a Master’s in Business Administration (MBA) also from The Ohio State University. While at The Ohio State University, Devon served as a Peer Mentor to female Engineering students as part of the Women in Engineering program. Devon is also active throughout her community as she participates as a volunteer in a local British Brass Band, sings in her Church choir, and volunteers at a local Food Pantry/Free Store.

This year’s award recipient, Kevin R. Monroe, P.E., was instrumental in working with The Ohio State University to resurrect the Student Chapter in the College of Engineering. With the assistance of materials that he obtained from NSPE and OSPE on How to Start a Student Chapter, he was able to establish a Student Chapter at OSU. He held several meeting on campus to gauge the interest of the students and he was also able to find a Professor, Dr. Halil Sezen, to be the OSU Student Chapter Advisor. The students continue to meet on a regular basis and are reaching out to get their fellow class mates interested.



Kevin has recently received his P.E. license as he took the PE license in October, 2017 and passed. Kevin has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Cincinnati. Kevin is a member of NSPE, OSPE and FCC-OSPE. For FCC-OSPE, he has served as Vice-President, Liaison to the Student Chapter of OSU, and a MATHCOUNTS Scoring Room volunteer. Prior to moving to Central Ohio, Kevin was a member of the Southwest Chapter of OSPE. While a member of the Southwest Chapter, he served as Vice-President and Secretary. Kevin is also a member of ASCE, ASHE and AISC where he frequently attends seminars, conferences and social activities.

Kevin is a Transportation Engineer with four years of experience working for HNTB Corporation. **Young Engineer - Continued on page 4.**





**Young Engineer – Continued from page 3**

At HNTB Corporation, Kevin has performed rehabilitation and preventative maintenance on rural bridges in Indiana with their client, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) using Microstation, InRoads and CSI Bridge on the Indiana Department of Transportation “on-call” projects. Bridge rehabilitations will typically be deck overlay with coping replacements packaged with many other incidental construction pay items.

He has determined haunch depths and screed elevations with a 1/4” tolerance for two-bridge deck replacements on I-75 through Detroit, Michigan. This project has been built with successful screed elevations.

Using InRoads with Microstation, he completed record drawings, quantities and developed electronic submittals for the I-71/I-90 Cleveland Innerbelt CCG1 Design-Build Project (contained 23 plan packages, 2,500+ sheets, and 2,100 hours of effort). This project included experience with roadway, MOT design, and roadway design. Kevin has also performed various other tasks such as, assisting in drainage design, ITS design, MOT design, and Roadway design.

Kevin’s Co-Op experience, while a student at the University of Cincinnati, was as a Geotechnical Technician and on-site Project Inspector Assistant at S&ME, CTL Engineering, and Crossroads Engineering. Earlier this year, Kevin relocated to the West Coast for a new Professional Engineering opportunity. Kevin also received the state-wide Young Engineer of the Year award at the June All Ohio Engineering Conference at North Canton, Ohio.

**Chapter Area Increased in Size!**

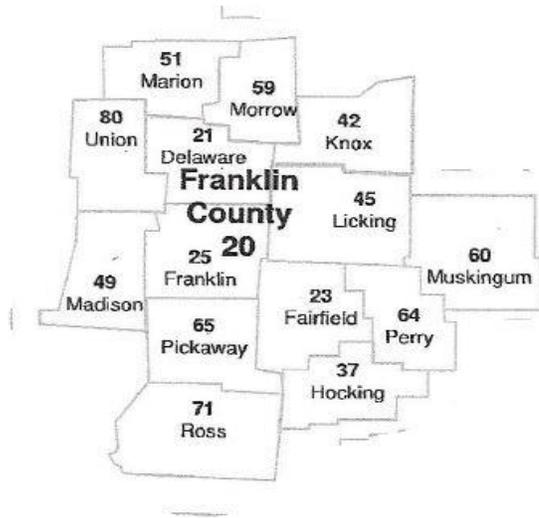
The OSPE Board of Directors recently moved two more Counties into the Franklin County Chapter area, making the Franklin County Chapter now having fourteen Counties in its Chapter Area.

Counties in the chapter Area:

- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| Delaware  | Marion    |
| Fairfield | Morrow    |
| Franklin  | Muskingum |
| Hocking   | Perry     |
| Knox      | Pickaway  |
| Licking   | Ross      |
| Madison   | Union     |

Franklin County Chapter is one of the most active and largest Chapters in OSPE.

Chapter Area Map



**Advertising Space Available!**

If you would like to have your company information or company logo displayed in every monthly issue of the *Columbus Engineer* for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, please contact Ben Brown OSPE-FCC Chapter President, at [ben.brown@ibigroup.com](mailto:ben.brown@ibigroup.com) or 614-519-8978 for pricing details!

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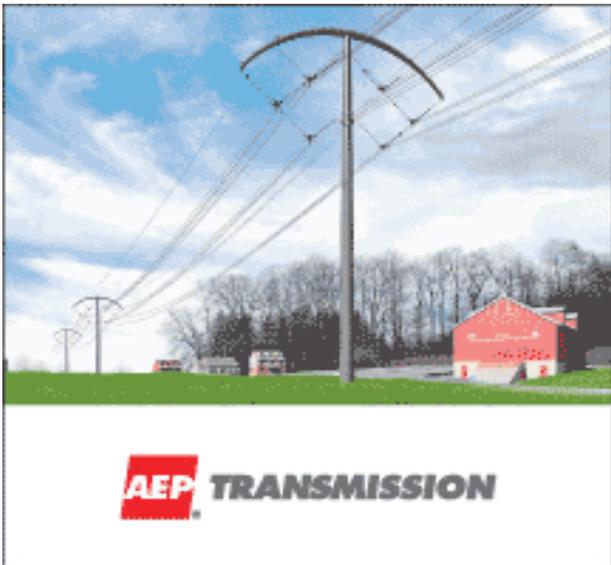
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Frame your license plate with a black frame and raised white letters. The frames are ideal gift for newly licensed Professional Engineers, or for a spouse, an associate, friend, son or daughter who is a Professional Engineer. This is also a great way to recognize the new Professional Engineer in your organization by presenting them with a Professional Engineer License Plate Frame.



These frames are available through the Franklin County Chapter of the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers, web site: [www.fccospe.org/store/](http://www.fccospe.org/store/). Each frame requires a \$5.00 donation plus Shipping and Handling.

OHIO SOCIETY OF  
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Franklin County Chapter  
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FIRST CLASS

Have a Wonderful and Safe  
Summer!