



Columbus Engineer

Franklin County Chapter

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Outgoing President's Message

S. Rao Chitikela, PhD, PE, PEng, F.ASCE
– FCC President ('24-25)

CONGRATULATIONS, FOLKS!!

The Board of Officers of the Franklin County Chapter (FCC) – OSPE for the Year 2025-26 is now installed! THANK YOU to Rodney Wilson, P.E., OSPE President (2024-2025), for installing the *new* FCC-Board!! Congratulations to the President, Mr. Derek C. Kiss, PE!!



The 2025-26 Officers of the FCC-Board:

- **President – Derek C. Kiss, P.E. (CTL Engineering, Inc.)**
- Vice – President/President Elect – Zach Wedekind, P.E. (Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.)
- Vice – President – Nathan Abele, P.E. (S&ME, Inc.)
- Chapter Secretary – Anthony Wong, E.I. (Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.)
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- Retired Engineers Trustee – Robert H. Fuller, P.E., FNSPE
- Young Engineers Trustee – Zach Wedekind, P.E. (Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.)

Thank You, Mr. Kiss (Derek) for leading the FCC-Board of 2025-26!

Incoming President's Message

Derek Kiss, PE
– FCC President ('25-26)

Hello members! I am honored to be the incoming President for the Franklin County Chapter and am greatly looking forward to continuing all the successful activities and functions our organization performs. Former President Dr. S. Rao Chitikela, PhD, P.E., PEng, F.ASCE, along with all our other past board members, have done a fantastic job leading the organization and setting it up for continued success moving forward.



We had a great officer installation dinner earlier this month at the Hofbräuhaus Columbus where we celebrated the organization and installed the new officers for 2025-2026. Everyone enjoyed a variety of great German food including schnitzel, pretzels with bier cheese, sausages, black forest cake, and apple strudel, and were joined by several guests. We were thrilled to host Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Wilson, P.E., President of the Ohio Society of Engineers, board members from the newly-revived Ohio State Chapter of the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers, fellow FCC-OSPE members and their spouses, and the recipients of this year's FCC-OSPE awards.

FCC-OSPE 2025 Award Recipients

- FCC-OSPE Meritorious Service Award
 - Howard R. Jones, P.E., F.NSPE
- FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Student Award
 - Jia Radloff



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Incoming President's Message, continued -

- FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Educator Award
 - Dr. Ryan J. Winston, PhD, P.E.
- FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award
 - The Setterlin Company for the Blacklick Woods Metro Park Canopy Walk and Tower Project
- FCC-OSPE Professional Engineering Management Award
 - Gregory Nortz, P.E.

I look forward to another successful year working with all our dedicated members of this organization. Please keep an eye out for events and opportunities to be involved in our activities in the coming year – we always welcome participation and service from our members to ensure all our activities continue to thrive.



Thank you and have a good summer!



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Franklin County Chapter Awards

Tina L. Sutermeister, PE, F.NSPE

– FCC-OSPE Awards Chair

The Franklin County Chapter of the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers is honored to be able to recognize the following PEs with awards:

2025 FCC-OSPE Meritorious Service Award

Howard R. Jones, P.E., F.NSPE



The FCC-OSPE Meritorious Service Award is presented on the basis of continuous service to the Franklin County Chapter of NSPE-Ohio for outstanding contributions to the goals and objectives of the Franklin County Chapter.

This year's recipient is Howard, R. Jones, P.E., F.NSPE. Howard has been a member of NSPE since February of 1965 as he started his career in Illinois and was a member of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers and his local chapter from 1965 through 1973. In August of 1973, Howard relocated to Ohio and became a member of NSPE-OH and his local Franklin County Chapter. Howard is a Past President of the Franklin County Chapter of OSPE in 1984-1985 and again in 2010-2011. Howard has held most positions at the Chapter level (i.e. Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, PEI Trustee, Columbus Engineer Editor, etc.) and he continues to be the editor of the Chapter's monthly newsletter, titled "Columbus Engineer", a position that he has held for many years. Howard has also served on many committees and as chairs for committees for OSPE and EFO. Howard has been the OSPE Secretary for many years, a position that he resigned from effective June 30, 2024 after 18 years of service as OSPE Secretary. Howard was awarded the OSPE Uncommon Engineer Award in 2010. Howard has also served on committees for NSPE. He was the PEI Practice Division chair for the Central Region for several years, served on the NSPE Fellow committee and served on the NSPE Constitution & Bylaws Committee.

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Chapter Awards, continued –



Mr. Jones retired from American Electric Power (AEP) as a Principal Engineer in Transmission Line Asset Engineering. He has about 40 years of experience, skill, knowledge and training to develop transmission line and station standards, design criteria, provide training and support to engineering staff, provide testimony before utility commissions and for appropriation of right-of-way. He has knowledge of activity-based management for use in corporate environments and is versed in MS Project development for station and transmission line projects scheduling. He was responsible for development and setting AEP System Transmission Line Standards Philosophy and Criteria, developing annual budgets for capital rehabilitation projects, and for evaluating conflicts between overhead transmission facilities and other underground natural gas and product facilities.

He is a former member of the Association of Edison Illuminating Companies (AEIC) Cable Engineering Committee (CEC). Howard is also a former member of the Electric Power Research Institute Underground Transmission Task Force. This participation in the R&D program enables member companies to meet future needs by reducing the cost of new construction, decreasing the maintenance and increasing the reliability of high-voltage (HV) and extra-high-voltage (EHV) cable systems, and mitigating the environmental impact of operating paper-fluid dielectric cable systems. He also participated in the development of the Underground Transmission Systems Reference Book.

Howard has achieved the status of Fellow of NSPE as well as Life Member of NSPE. Howard is also a Life Member of IEEE and he has held ALL of the positions within IEEE, President, Vice-President, Chair of the PES group, and Secretary. Howard is also a life long member of the Messiah Lutheran Church in Reynoldsburg, Ohio where he has also held many positions and served on many committees.

Congratulations Howard Jones, P.E., F.NSPE 2025 FCC-OSPE Meritorious Service Award recipient!!

2025 FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Educator Award

Dr. Ryan Winston, PhD, P.E.



The FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Educator Award is presented to a member of the Engineering faculty of an ABET-accredited Engineering program at a University located in the Franklin County area. The award recipient

shall have at least 5 years of experience subsequent to graduation from an accredited Engineering school and must be teaching an Engineering course during the current term. This award is based on the education/degrees earned by the recipient, special scholastic honors that the recipient has achieved, membership in Honorary societies, teaching experience, other Engineering Faculty Assignments, Professional Registration, Professional experience, Research completed and in progress, Papers, Publications and Patents, Presentations, outside activities, involvement in community programs and accomplishments, and awards and recognitions.

This year's Award recipient is Dr. Ryan Winston, PhD, P.E. Dr. Winston is an Associate Professor at The Ohio State University, in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering (FABE) and in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geodetic Engineering (CEGE). He is also a core Faculty member at the Sustainability Institute. Dr. Winston holds a PhD and MS in Biological and Agricultural Engineering from North Carolina State University and a BS in Agricultural and Biological Engineering from the University of Florida. He is a registered Professional Engineer in both, Ohio and North Carolina.

Dr. Winston has consistently pursued collaboration opportunities with private sector engineering firms throughout his career. His research frequently addresses practical issues, resulting in numerous partnerships with engineers from industry. Since joining the Ohio State University, he has established an applied research program that significantly influences engineering design

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Chapter Awards, continued –

and decision making within the private sector. Each Autumn semester, he incorporates 15 industry professionals as guest lecturers in the Capstone Design course for Environmental Engineers, thereby enriching the student's learning experience with consulting expertise and exposure to the latest software tools.

Ryan's contributions to the engineering profession, academia, and the community are outstanding. He is one of the foremost global leaders in stormwater management and green infrastructure applications. His guidance and knowledge have impacted local levels, working with ODOT and other agencies to revise stormwater management standards, and global levels, collaborating with colleagues in Australia, South Africa, Sweden, and China. He has led numerous stormwater workshops, providing hands-on knowledge to Ohio engineers and technicians.

Academically, he has published over 80 scientific articles, with an h-index of 33, indicating the significant impact of his work. He has received over \$20 million in research funding, developing, testing, and applying new stormwater management technologies. His service to professional organizations, including his role as an Associate Editor of the Journal of Sustainable Water in the Built Environment, further demonstrates his impact.

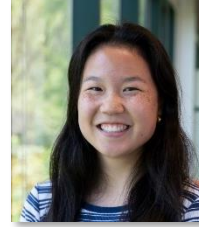
Dr. Winston's teaching and mentorship have positively influenced many students. He has developed and taught courses focused on urban stormwater control measures, environmental hydrology, and capstone design. His courses are rigorous and well-liked by students, preparing them for successful careers in engineering. He has also advised numerous Graduate Students, many of whom have gone on to make significant contributions in their field.

Congratulations Dr. Ryan Winston, PhD, P.E., 2025 FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Educator Award recipient!!



2025 FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Student Award

Jia Radloff



The FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Student Award is awarded to a full-time undergraduate or graduate student at an accredited school of engineering in the State of Ohio.

The student must have completed their junior year in undergraduate school. The Awards Committee makes the selection of the winning candidate, basing its judgment on the following criteria: scholastic achievement, participation in professional, technical and other college activities, contributions to fellow students, and community service.

This year's award recipient is Jia Radloff, a recent Spring 2025 graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. Jia was an outstanding student who had consistently demonstrated exceptional technical proficiency and a strong grasp of engineering fundamentals. Her academic performance was exemplary, with a perfect 4.00 grade average in her last term and an overall grade average of 3.65. Jia's dedication to academic excellence is further evidenced by her enrollment in advanced graduate coursework and top-ranking performance in undergraduate and graduate-level classes.

Beyond her academic achievements, Jia has made significant contributions to our engineering community through her leadership and involvement in various student organizations. She currently serves as President of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) Student Chapter and the Structural Engineers Association of Ohio (SEAoO) Student Chapter. In these roles, Jia has demonstrated

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exceptional leadership and organizational skills, successfully leading projects and events that have positively impacted her peers and the broader community.

Jia's commitment to engineering extends beyond the classroom. During her internship at Progressive Companies, she independently validated software outputs using hand calculations and led the development of a structured educational program to support the firm's sustainability commitment. Her proactive mindset and dedication to addressing broader community and environmental challenges are truly commendable.

In addition to her technical and leadership skills, Jia is known for her excellent communication and collaboration abilities. She has effectively managed coordination for multi-disciplinary projects, ensuring smooth teamwork and project success. Her ability to foster collaboration and communication sets her apart as a future leader in the engineering profession.

Congratulations Jia Radloff, 2025 FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Student Award recipient!!



2025 FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award

The FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award is presented in recognition for outstanding engineering accomplishments in manufacturing, construction or design, or combinations thereof. The project must have been completed during the calendar year preceding the award, i.e. for this 2025 Award, the project must have been completed in 2024. The project location may be outside of the Chapter area however, the majority of the project work (i.e. Project Management, Design, Engineering, etc.) must be completed by a company(ies) located within the Chapter area.



The 2025 FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Achievement award is being presented to The Setterlin Company for the Blacklick Woods Metro Parks Canopy Walk and Tower project. This project featured construction of an ADA-compliant, 40-foot elevator tower that allows safe visitor access to the Treetop Canopy permitting exploration of the Metro Park, unlike any other in Central Ohio. The stairs and elevator at the Entrance to the Blacklick Woods Metro Park's Nature Center takes visitors to a 660 foot long, 35 foot high walkway which includes several play features for children and also includes rope bridges.



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Chapter Awards, continued –

In addition to the Treetop Canopy, construction included a 55 foot high Observation Tower and Deck with a hammock-style cargo net.

The successful implementation of this project completed in March of 2024 and showcased a comprehensive and integrated engineering approach. Setterlin Company contracted with the Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks on this project. Setterlin performed the majority of the work on this Design Build project with the Lead Architect being Paros Architecture + Design for the Tower and Adventure Designs for the Canopy Walk. Included in the Nomination for this award, there were five major Project areas that contributed to the project merit, value and worth for this Design Build Project:

- Meeting the Challenge of a Difficult Project
- Innovations in Construction Techniques/Materials
- Client Service Excellence
- Performance as it relates to Schedule
- Craftsmanship



Congratulations to The Setterlin Company, 2025 FCC-OSPE Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award recipient!



2025 FCC-OSPE Professional Management Award



Gregory J. Nortz, P.E.



The FCC-OSPE Professional Engineering Management Award recognizes a Franklin County Chapter of NSPE-Ohio member for their leadership, organizational and management skills in an Engineering Environment while also contributing to the goals and objectives of the Franklin County Chapter.

This year's award recipient is Gregory J. Nortz, P.E. Greg has been active in NSPE-Ohio/FCC-OSPE since he joined on January 7, 2019. Greg is licensed in 7 states (Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and Virginia) and Greg received his Ohio Professional Engineer's license on February 23, 1996.

Greg has been on the Board of the Franklin Chapter of OSPE (FCC-OSPE) for several years and he has served as one of our PEPP (Professional Engineers in Private Practice) Trustees for many years, a position that he currently holds. Greg brings to the Board knowledge as a Business Leader with extensive experience in Engineering Design, R&D, HVAC systems and advanced instrumentation. Greg is a co-founder of Otisco Engineering Limited (founded in 2009) which specializes in mechanical, plumbing and hydraulic system designs.

Greg has an MBA from Clemson University, a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from Cleveland State University and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Akron. Greg has also been active in the patent area as he currently has a U.S. Patent US5095761A for Coriolis-Type Mass Flow Meter for Sanitary Use and he has a patent pending for Integrated Supply and Return Manifold for Tube in Tube Heat Transfer.

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Chapter Awards, continued –

All of Greg's colleagues have remarked on his remarkable leadership, organizational acumen, and unwavering dedication to advancing the engineering profession.

A common thread in the Letters of Recommendation received for Greg were that they all identified that Greg is an exceptional Leader and Manager, that he works diligently to complete all projects within budget and on schedule, and that he always acts in the best interests of preserving the public's health, safety and welfare.

Congratulations to Gregory Nortz, P.E., 2025 FCC-OSPE Outstanding Professional Engineering Management Award recipient!

The applications for these 5 FCC-OSPE awards have been forwarded to OSPE for consideration at the State level for the equivalent State award. The State award winners will be announced during the **All Ohio Engineers Conference Awards Luncheon on Saturday, June 14th at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Columbus Dublin, 5100 Upper Metro Place, Dublin, Ohio, 43017.** Support our Chapter Award recipients by attending this OSPE Awards Luncheon to see if these nominations are also winners at the State Level!

Congratulations to all of the 2025 Franklin County Chapter Award recipients!!



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