



# Oregon

State Board of Examiners for  
Engineering & Land Surveying  
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## EXAMINATIONS & QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

December 12, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. in the conference room of the OSBEELS office at 670 Hawthorne Avenue SE, Suite 220, Salem, OR 97301.

### Members present were:

Mari Kramer, Chair  
Ron Stuntzner  
Carl Tappert  
Ed Butts (Unexcused Absence)

### Staff present was:

Jenn Gilbert, Executive Assistant  
Shantelle Meyer  
Lauren Olson

### Others present were:

Joanna Tucker-Davis, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)  
Desiree Tullos (guest)  
Terry Frueh (guest)

### Guest Discussion

#### Desiree Tullos

The Committee reviewed a letter from Richard Cuenca, Professor and Associate Director for the Water Resources Graduate Program at Oregon State University. Mr. Cuenca's email expressed a concern for students that are in enrolled in the Water Resources Graduate program who wish to sit for the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) since those individuals do not fall under OAR 820-010-0225(3)(d). Ms. Tullos was sent by Mr. Cuenca to discuss a pathway for those students with the Committee. The Committee determined that applications by those individuals would be reviewed on a case by case basis.

### New Business

#### Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 820-010-0225(2) & (3)(d)

Staff requested clarification from the Committee regarding applicants who wish to sit for the FE examination while obtaining a Masters Degree. OAR 820-010-0225(2)&(3)(d) specifically states "*during the applicants senior year.*" Students enrolled in the Masters program have already

completed their senior year, in effect, making them ineligible to apply for the examination based upon a Dean's stamp. The Committee determined to follow the AAG opinion provided by Joanna Tucker Davis to revise OAR 820-010-0225(2) & (3)(d), to state "*prior to graduation*" and forward the rule to the Rules and Regulations Committee for further review.

#### Dean's List Transcript Documentation

A letter from Colleen Halbrook, Degree Clearance Specialist at Oregon State University was received in the OSBEELS office. Ms. Halbrook's letter stated that Mitchell Hemmer, an applicant for the April 2007 FE examination, admitted based upon a Dean's stamp, had completed all requirements for a Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering before the September 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Mr. Hemmer's official transcript shows his degree was awarded on September 7, 2007. The Committee determined that these letters, in addition to an official transcript, would be acceptable to release the applicant's results. Staff will respond accordingly to those individuals.

#### Expiration of Engineer Interns and Land Survey Interns

Recently, the Examination and Registration Department has received requests for verification for EIs and LSIs that have expired. Staff is requesting clarification on how to process that information since there is no longer an expiration date for interns. The Committee determined that the expiration of the EI or LSI should be indicated on the verification, along with an additional statement explaining the expiration date.

#### Grader's Key for Oregon Specific Exams

The Committee reviewed the grader's key for the Acoustical Examination. Staff expressed concern over the format of the grader's key. The Committee also reviewed an email from Dale Mix regarding the Forest Engineering examination. Mr. Mix stated that there is not a grader's key; either the individual who wrote the question, or an individual who has expertise in that area is asked to grade the question. Staff requested a Memorandum of Understanding between the Board and the individuals who are responsible for grading the state specific examinations. This will assist in developing a standard format for all grader's keys. The Committee requested that Marv Pyles, Dale Mix, Art Noxon, and Kerrie Standlee be invited to the February Committee meeting to discuss this issue.

#### Request for Retirement Status – Stephen Gardels

The Committee reviewed a request from Stephen Gardels to be placed in retirement status even though he does not meet the age requirement. Mr. Gardels' license has been delinquent since June 30, 2007. Official documentation stating that he has been legally disabled since January 2002 has been received by the office. The Committee determined that Mr. Gardels can go into inactive status since he qualifies, and once he reaches retirement age, he may retire his license.

#### Retirement and License Status Process

Staff was requesting clarification on the process when delinquent licensees request to go into retired status. The Committee determined that those individuals must first bring their license active, once their license is current, they may go into retired status at the next renewal period. If an individual has a license that has been lapsed for 5 years or more, and wishes to re-apply, the Committee determined that the original license number would be issued with a revised date of

issuance. Additionally a registrant may request to not receive courtesy renewal notices, and other correspondence from the Board, by sending a written request to the Board office.

#### Request to Forward Structural Exam Application and Fee – Sean Olmstead

The Committee reviewed a request from Sean Olmsted to forward his application and fees for the October 2007 Structural II and Washington III examinations due to family issues. The Committee determined that the appropriate documentation was submitted and his request was approved. Staff will respond accordingly.

#### NCEES Letter Regarding Exam Irregularity

The Committee reviewed a letter from NCEES regarding an exam irregularity for a foreign examinee proctored in Connecticut. The report stated the examinee continued to fill in answers on his answer sheet after time had been called and a proctor had to put his hand over the answer sheet in addition to telling the examinee to stop. Approximately 2-3 questions had been answered after time was called. The Committee determined the examinee violated OAR 820-020-0040(1)(I) examination subversion, and that his results are considered null and void. Staff will respond accordingly.

#### Oregon State University Electrical and Computer Engineering Degree

James Lundy, Executive Associate Dean for Oregon State University sent a letter to the Board regarding the Electrical and Computer Engineering degree currently undergoing ABET accreditation. This will replace the current Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Computer Engineering degrees that are being phased out. The Committee determined that the new degree would be acceptable.

### **Informational**

#### NCEES Named ANSI Accredited Standards Developer

For informational purposes, staff distributed a memorandum from NCEES informing Member Boards that NCEES has been granted status as an accredited standards developer with American National Standards Institute (ANSI). There was no further discussion.

#### Notice of Future Changes to NCEES Examinations and Supporting Materials

For informational purposes, staff distributed a memorandum from NCEES informing Member Boards that effective October 2008 administration, there will be changes to the Mechanical and Metallurgical examinations. There was no further discussion.

#### NCEES Announces Changes to Metallurgical and Materials Examination

For informational purposes, staff distributed a memorandum from NCEES informing Member Boards that effective October 2008 administration, the Metallurgical examination will be renamed Metallurgical and Materials examination. The exam itself will also be slightly different. There was no further discussion.

#### NCEES Announces Changes to Civil Engineering Examination

For informational purposes, staff distributed a memorandum from NCEES informing Member Boards that the Civil examination has new specifications. This change is effective April 2008 administration. There was no further discussion.

#### NCEES and ELSEES Staff Changes

For informational purposes, staff distributed an email from Susan Whitfield informing Member Boards that she has accepted the Associate Executive Director position with ELSEES. Ms. Whitfield also announced that Pam Powell has accepted the position of ELSEES Director of Operations, and Tracy Snyder will assume the position of ELSEES Logistics Manager. There was no further discussion.

#### Examinee Comment Form from the October 2007 WA III Examination

The Committee reviewed an examinee comment form regarding the WA Structural III examination. It was determined that since many of the comments were related to the examination itself, which is the property of the Washington Board but utilized by the Oregon Board through an MOU, the Oregon Board is unable to act upon any of the comments. Staff informed the Committee that the form has been sent to the Washington Board. There was no further discussion.

#### NCEES Announces Revisions to Approved Calculator List

For informational purposes, staff distributed the revised calculator policy from NCEES. The Committee determined that the Board will adhere to the revised policy for state specific examinations; a copy of the policy be sent to all applicants. Staff will respond accordingly.

#### Washington Structural III October 2007 Grading

Chair Kramer stated that the December 8th grading session may have been cancelled due to bad weather which may further delay results. There was no further discussion.

#### October 2007 Exam Summary

The Committee briefly reviewed the examination summary of the October 2007 ELSEES administration. There was no further discussion.

#### NCEES Publishes New Addition of FE Supplied Reference Handbook

The Committee acknowledged the new addition of the FE Supplied Reference Handbook. The 8<sup>th</sup> edition will be in effect for the April 2008 administration. There was no further discussion.

#### Masters Degree Requirements to Take PE Exam

Staff distributed an email from John Hardey, President of Hardey Engineering and Associates. Mr. Hardey's email expressed a concern regarding ASCE suggesting a requirement for a Masters degree for individuals before admittance to a professional engineering examination. The Committee determined that ORS 672.105 does not allow this requirement to be established. Staff will respond to Mr. Hardey accordingly.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### Certified Water Right Examiner (CWRE) Test

Mr. Stuntzner reported to the Committee that he had spoken with Dwight French at the Water Resources Department, regarding the Water Rights Exam. Mr. French informed Mr. Stuntzner that he is not interested in attending a Board or Committee meeting; he would prefer a meeting

with Board staff regarding the Memorandum of Understanding for the CWRE test. Staff will respond accordingly.

#### The Exam Solution Team (TEST)

Staff informed the Committee that they are still in the process of inviting TEST to the January 8, 2008 Board meeting. There was no further discussion.

#### Reference Procedure

Staff provided a copy of the current reference procedure to the Committee for clarification on the appropriate process when a less than positive reference is received for an applicant. The Committee determined that the current process of requesting references will be revised. Staff will contact individuals who complete forms that are less than positive, to obtain more information. The Committee will further review all applications with this circumstance.

#### Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering

An email from AAG Joanna Tucker Davis regarding the use of the word “architecture” in the title Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, was distributed by staff. It was determined that according to Oregon Statute, the Board is able to use the term “architecture” in the discipline title. However, when “architecture” is being used, the registrant using it must include full Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering title.

### **Review of Applications**

#### Comity Applications

Kevin Baur— The Committee reviewed an application from Kevin Baur for registration as a professional engineer by comity. After review of the information provided, it was determined that Mr. Baur would qualify for licensure as a professional civil engineer. Staff will respond to Mr. Baur accordingly.

John Brodeur— The Committee reviewed an application from John Brodeur for registration as a professional engineer by comity. After review of the information provided, it was determined that Mr. Brodeur would qualify for licensure as a professional geotechnical engineer. Staff will respond to Mr. Brodeur accordingly.

John Cady— The Committee reviewed an application from John Cady for registration as a professional engineer by comity. After review of the information provided, it was determined that Mr. Cady would qualify for licensure as a professional geotechnical engineer. Staff will respond to Mr. Cady accordingly.

James Clancy—The Committee reviewed information regarding law enforcement cases against Mr. Clancy from all jurisdictions in which he is licensed. After review of the information provided, it was determined that Mr. Clancy would qualify for licensure as a professional civil engineer. Staff was instructed to send additional correspondence regarding the laws and rules in the response to Mr. Clancy.

Gary Lacy— The Committee reviewed an application from Gary Lacy for registration as a professional engineer by comity. After review of the information provided, it was determined

that Mr. Lacy would qualify for licensure as a professional civil engineer. Staff will respond to Mr. Lacy accordingly.

David Olson—The Committee reviewed an application from David Olson for registration as a professional engineer by comity. After review of the information provided, it was determined that Mr. Olson would qualify for licensure as a professional civil engineer. Staff will respond to Mr. Olson accordingly.

Gary Steigman— The Committee reviewed an application from Gary Steigman for registration as a professional engineer by comity. After review of the information provided, it was determined that Mr. Steigman would qualify for licensure as a professional civil engineer. Staff will respond to Mr. Steigman accordingly.

Adrianus Vermeulen— The Committee reviewed an application from Adrianus Vermeulen for registration as a professional engineer by comity. After review of the information provided, it was determined that Mr. Vermeulen would qualify for licensure as a professional civil engineer. Staff will respond to Mr. Vermeulen accordingly.

#### Exam Applications

Michael Gipson—The Committee reviewed an application from Michael Gipson for entrance to the Mechanical of Engineering examination. After review of his application, it was determined that Mr. Gipson satisfies the Board's requirements. Staff will respond to Mr. Gipson accordingly.

Jeong Ho Ko—The Committee reviewed an application from Jeong Ho Ko for entrance to the Fundamentals of Engineering examination. After review of his application, it was determined that Mr. Ko satisfies the Board's requirements. Staff will respond to Mr. Ko accordingly.

Nicholas Wusz—The Committee reviewed an application from Nicholas Wusz for entrance to the Mechanical of Engineering examination. After review of his application, it was determined that Mr. Wusz satisfies the Board's requirements. Staff will respond to Mr. Wusz accordingly.

#### Re-Applications

The Committee reviewed re-applications from those who did not achieve a passing grade in their first and second written examinations. As stated in OAR 820-010-0465, these applicants were required to submit valid evidence of further preparation. Evidence reviewed consisted of additional experience gained, special training, courses taken and study materials reviewed. Of the 5 reapplications reviewed, all were admitted to the April 2008 examination. Staff will respond to those individuals accordingly.

#### Appeals in Process

##### April 2007 Forest Exam—Eric Farm

The Committee determined that Eric Farm's appeal for the April 2007 Forest examination was to be mailed to Mary Pyles and Dale Mix for Review. No further action was taken.

**Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Audit**

The Committee briefly discussed the upcoming CPD audit. The Committee approved the list of 364 professional registrants for the audit. Staff will send out letters accordingly.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.