

**ASCE "Raise The Bar" Newsletter
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The ASCE Committee on Academic Prerequisites for Professional Practice (CAP³) has continued its efforts to raise the educational requirements for the future practice of civil engineering at the professional level (licensure). For more than a decade, ASCE has been presenting, talking, and listening to many stakeholders. As a result, we have been progressively refining our proposed program to "raise the bar" in engineering education. 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.



Below is a summary for some key activities:

Policy Statement 465: Academic Prerequisites for Licensure and Professional Practice

ASCE reviews all policies every three years. On April 24th, the ASCE Board of Direction approved an updated Policy Statement 465. The policy incorporated some refinements to reflect the progress and changes within the profession. All of ASCE's policies are posted at www.asce.org/pressroom/news/policy.cfm.

Second Edition of the Body of Knowledge (BOK2) Committee

For the last 18 months, the Second Edition of BOK Committee (BOK2) has been working on creating another version of the BOK. They have had over 50 conference calls, three face-to-face meetings, and are working on Draft 9 of the BOK. The BOK draft will be released for public review and comments by July 15, 2007 and will be posted on www.asce.org/raisethebar. The Second Edition of the BOK will be released to the public during Engineers' Week in February 2008 at the National Academy of Engineering.

Pre-licensure Experience to Fulfill the CE BOK

A new committee, focused upon pre-licensure experience, was formed in early 2007. Monte Phillips, Chair, and Forrest Holly, Vice Chair, have been leading the committee through their committee charge. The committee is expected to complete its initial charge in July and summarize their findings in a final report. It is expected that the BOK Experiential Fulfillment Committee will be started in the spring of 2008 to more fully explore appropriate attainment of the BOK via experience.

BOK Educational Fulfillment Committee

Plans are being made to initiate the BOK Educational Fulfillment Committee. Ken Fridley, Chair and Jeff Evans, Vice Chair will be leading the committee. The charge for the committee includes the following:

1. Foster the creation of a learning community of scholars interested in civil engineering education reform. A diverse mix of CE programs should be included in the committee.
2. Review the new basic level civil engineering program criteria resulting from the first edition of BOK and the Draft Commentary. Identify issues related to implementing the new criteria that need to be addressed. Review “going beyond the criteria” sections in the Draft Commentary. The criteria go into effect in the 2008 accreditation cycle.
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, how to improve the effectiveness of general education requirements in BOK attainment, and how co- and extra-curricula activities can support the fulfilling the BOK.
4. Document examples on how students entering with a non-accredited BS in engineering fulfill the BOK.
5. Review work products of the BOK2 committee and provide timely input, feedback, and suggestions.
6. Review proposed changes to accreditation criteria resulting from BOK2 including the basic level general criteria, basic level civil engineering program criteria, advanced general criteria, and the ASCE Draft commentary.
7. Prepare written annual status reports suitable for briefing the ASCE Board of Direction.
8. Provide a final report documenting the Committee’s work and results.

There is funding to support 10 participating schools. A call for nominations will be made on September 4th with final selection by November 1st. The committee anticipates a conference call during the first week of December and a face-to-face meeting in late January 2008.

Questions, Comments, or Suggestions

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