



March 2007 News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,
AACE International

- President
Bob Boyd, PSP
- Past President
- - -
- Vice President
Chris Swanson, CCC
- Secretary
Michele Jones
- Treasurer
Buck Filbey, CCC
- Certification Chair
Chris Swanson, CCC
- Website Editor
TBD
- Membership Chair
TBD
- Directors
Donald McDonald, CCE
Ken Willis
Steve Riggins
Sanjay Mahajan
TBD
- Newsletter Editor
Bob Boyd, PSP
- Scholarship and Student Outreach
Chair
TBD
- Awards and Elections Chair
TBD

President's Message

Spring is near as the pollen count increases and nature is reborn. This means that our national AACE elections are underway. Please take time to visit AACE's website and vote for next year's national regional officers.

And for those of you who want to continue to learn or hear of new ideas, I want to introduce you to "Lyle's Law of Certitude". This law states that "the more certain you are that you are correct, the more imperative it is to consider that you might be wrong". As you ponder upon this law, think of how this is used in your world today. We are usually a cautious lot and evaluate all analyses until we are sure they are correct. But during a review with others, should we be 100% confident that we are correct or should we think that there is chance we might be wrong. Being open minded and willing to listen will allow all of us to be perceived by others as a team player, even when we are sure we are 100% correct and in the end, we are proven to be correct. But what about that 0.0001% when you were wrong and you refused to budge, how do others perceive you then???

As a reminder, the current officers will continue for next year so there will be no voting for our local section in May. We were just approved in early March as a recognized section and as such will start getting some additional support from AACE International. There is close to 80 sections worldwide with over 5,700 members and I'm glad that we have been able to re-establish the section in the Greenville/Spartanburg area.

Sincerely, Bob Boyd, PSP

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Section Announcements

Volunteer!!

We are seeking volunteers to assist us in further establishing this Section. The level of commitment varies by position but there is always a constant level of support provided by the board and by the committee members. Recertification credits are provided for serving the Section.

Volunteering on your local Section board can exponentially increase your networking base through visibility, and will provide you with leadership skills and experience above and beyond that which you gain at your job.

Positions seeking you are:

- Website Editor
- Membership Chair
- Scholarship and Student Outreach Chair
- Awards and Elections Chair
- Events and Meetings Chair
- Director (1 year term)

Please contact any of the persons shown on the first page if interested. Take control of your career path, by taking your membership to the next level, Volunteer.

Certification!!

AAACEI offers 4 certifications currently with more being planned in the not to distant future. Currently they are:

1. Interim Cost Consultant Certification (ICC)
2. Certified Cost Consultant (CCC) / Certified Cost Engineer (CCE)
3. Planning and Scheduling Professional Certification (PSP)
4. Earned Value Professional Certification (EVP)

For descriptions and requirements regarding each of these certifications go to the AAACEI web page (<http://www.aacei.org/certification/certExplained.shtml>).

Contact Chris Swanson (chris.swanson@fluor.com) if you have any questions or need assistance regarding any of the certifications mentioned above.

A training workshop is being offered at Augusta State University in August, Georgia on May25, 2007 for the PSP Certification Examination. Cost is \$295.00 and includes a text book, Cost Engineering Skills & Knowledge – 5th Edition Course. If interested, contact Asoka K. Pillai (Ashok), CCE, EVP, and President of AAACEI CSRA Section at: asoka.pillai@srs.gov



New AAACEI National Elections

Please **Do Not Forget to Vote**. All AAACEI members should have received the official AAACEI election ballot for Officers and Directors for the 2007-2008 administrative year.

Members will be able to link to the voting site through the AAACE International website at <http://www.aacei.org>. Once at the voting site, members will use their member identification number and password to access the ballot and vote. All candidate bios, goals and photos will be easily accessible for review at the electronic site. All AAACE International members eligible to vote in the 2007 election are encouraged to read and review the biographies of each candidate, along with their goals and objectives for the office they seek, before they complete their ballot. The electronic voting system includes a security feature that allows Members and associate Members to vote only once, and the voter can print out a receipt that will include an individual verification number as proof of having voted. Electronic voting will end as of midnight on April 30, 2007. Any Member or Associate Member with questions or concerns is asked to contact Headquarters for assistance.

Your vote is important to the future of AAACE International. Thank you for your participation.

March 2007 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on March 12, 2007 at Buffalo's Southwest Cafe. Our guest speakers were Robert Boyd, PSP and President of the UpCountry South Carolina Section and Chris Swanson, CCC and Vice President of the UpCountry South Carolina Section. They presented an overview on Cost Contingency. Here is a recap:

Mr. Boyd started off given a general definition of contingency using Merriam – Webster Dictionary and Wikipedia as references. In the Merraim – Webster Dictionary, contingency is an event (as an emergency) that may but is not certain to occur. In Wikipedia, contingency is something that can happen, but generally is not anticipated. Mr. Boyd went on to talk about two basic types of contingency which are commonly used on projects, cost and risk contingency. Mr. Swanson gave examples of how contingency is often misused.

There were also some group discussion based on previous experience, on when to use contingency, who owns contingency and how to report contingency.

The Upcountry SC Section will like to thank Robert Boyd and Chris Swanson for giving a very enlightening presentation and discussion topic.

Michelle Jones
UCSC Secretary



March 2007 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Monday, April 9, 2007

Guest Speaker: Jaime Crate

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel on Congaree Road

Transportation Project Management

Guest Speaker: Jaime Crate

Evans Tech. Inc. - Primavera Local Rep

Jaime is the Senior Account Executive for Primavera and the South Carolina Area. He will shorten the 4-hour presentation that is currently being given by Primavera on emerging transportation industry trends and project management best practices for change management, collaboration and project management. Based upon "real-world" case studies, we will see how standardized project management best practices can significantly improve project performance.

After the presentation, Jaime will be available to discuss Primavera questions that you may have. Don't miss it!

Please RSVP no later than Friday, April 6th at 5 PM by e-mail or phone. The cost of the meeting is **20⁰⁰**.

Schedule:

6:00PM to 6:55PM Registration, Networking and Hors D'oeuvres

7:00PM to 8:00PM Presentation / Program

Reservations

For information, please contact:

Chris Swanson (864) 517-1571 (e-mail – chris.swanson@fluor.com)



2007 Meeting Schedule for AACE UpCountry SC Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Topic & Location
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	09 April 2007	Primavera Presentation by Jaime Crate Crowne Plaza, Greenville
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	14 May 2007	Construction Productivity by Hans Picard Crowne Plaza, Greenville
AACEI Annual Convention	Mon. to Wed.	16 to 18 July 2007	Nashville, Tn.