



January 2008 News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,
AACCE International

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President's Message

I hope all of you enjoyed the holiday festivities with your family. And now, back to business and another fun packed year.

This month's topic is mentoring. As we gain experience and expertise in our career, we must promote the transfer of that knowledge to younger, less experienced people in our organizations. Only by transferring this knowledge will we be able to maintain the high standards that our profession requires and to achieve the success that we and our employers desire.

Mentoring can take many forms. Some examples are promoting training within our organizations, assigning people to positions/responsibilities that will stretch their abilities or we can watch over an individual and teach/transfer our knowledge to that person.

We should make it our responsibility to actively promote training, to identify better ways of doing our work and also to seek additional knowledge in order to keep ourselves ahead of the curve. We are unfortunately a species that can not pass on knowledge to the next generation and so education/knowledge by training, mentoring and experience is the only way we can continue to maintain a high level of professionalism.

I believe that being a member of AACCEI is another method of mentoring. So please support AACCEI and our Section so that we can succeed in training ourselves and our successors to be the best that they can be.

Sincerely, Bob Boyd, PSP



Section Announcements

Certification!!

AAACEI now offers 6 certifications. A 7th certification (CEP – Certified Estimating Professional) is currently undergoing Beta Testing

1. Certified Cost Technician (CCT) formerly 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)
5. Certified Portfolio, Program & Project Management (C3PM)
6. Certified Forensic Claims Consultant (CFCC)

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.

Certification Workshops:

None scheduled locally.

AAACEI Announces 2nd Beta Exam for Certified Estimating Professional

A distinguished task force of industry experts from both private and public sectors is currently developing AAACE International's Certified Estimating Professional (CEP) certification program. This program is designed to establish credentials, and validate the skills and knowledge for those individuals working in the cost estimating profession. The CEP program is intended to address the qualifications required of a senior or lead estimator, and as such will address both the breadth and depth of cost estimating skills.

The Certified Estimating Professional will require knowledge of both conceptual and detailed estimating concepts, risk evaluation and contingency determination, estimate reconciliation, estimate review and validation; as well as broad understanding of other Total Cost Management knowledge areas. The CEP program is intended to be applicable across different types of industries, and to both owner and contractor cost estimators.

The CEP Task Force announces that the 2nd CEP Beta Examination will be held on March 1 and/or March 8, 2008, at various locations in the United States and Canada. If you are interested in participating in the 2nd CEP Beta Examination, please contact Sandy Willard at AAACE Headquarters (swillard@aacei.org, 1-800-858-COST). The deadline for applications is February 8, 2008 and is being offered at a reduced fee of \$200.



Continuing Education!!

AAACEI Announces Availability of 1 New Professional Practice Guides. You can visit the AAACE Online Bookstore (<http://www.aaacei.org/technical/ppg.shtml>) where you can order these new PPG's and other CD's, books and AAACEI merchandise. Cost for this CD is \$60 for members and \$80 for non-members.

PPG #18 Green Building (CD)

By Joseph L. Macaluso, CCC

Covers:

- Recognition of Affects and Economic Costs on the Environment
- Formulating Ways of Addressing Green Building Strategies and Associated Economic Costs
- Specific Green Building Strategies and Project Costs
- Budgeting and Justifying the Cost of Sustainable Practices
- Evaluating Competing Sustainable Strategies: Using Value Engineering
- Evaluating Competing Sustainable Strategies: Other Techniques

Secretary Position Open:

You may be aware that Michelle Jones has taken a field assignment and is no longer able to perform the role of Secretary for our Section. If you have an interest in being Secretary for the remainder of this year (May 2008), please let me or Chris Swanson know. If we get two or more, we will have a quick election at our next meeting. Thanks in advance for your support.

AAACEI Dues:

AAACEI dues are now due. When paying your member dues, please remember to join the South Carolina UpCountry Section.



December 2007 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on December 6, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Our guest was Jim Zack, Director for Fluor's Corporate Claims Management Group. As a recent past President of AACEI, Jim communicated a lot of information about AACEI. I have included below only a portion.

There are over 5,800 AACEI members world-wide and the goal is to reach 10,000 in a couple of years. In order to achieve this, the organization is offering an incentive to existing members. **Recruit 3 new members and your membership is free for the next year.**

Because AACEI is now focusing on international membership, translation of current practices and guides is underway. AACEI has 79 sections around the world and on every continent except Antarctica. In order to be recognized as an international organization, AACEI has become a member of the Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS) which has over 23,000 members. The mission of PAQS includes promotion of the practice and establishment of best practices for quantity surveying and providing assistance to members of member associations when working in each other's countries. Additionally, AACEI has become a member of the Global Alliance for Project Performance Standards (GAPPS). GAPPS' goal is development of standards for project management qualifications that are mutually recognized and transferable, be it across national borders or organizations.

AACEI is now focused on generating more Professional Practice Guides and Certification Programs. In just the last three months, 3 new PPG's have been issued and others are underway. Certifications have increased from 2 to 7 in the last 18 months. AACEI's goal is to promote the professionalism of its members and to give those members who are certified the Industry recognition they deserve.

The Upcountry SC Section would like to thank Jim Zack for giving a very enlightening presentation.



January 2008 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Thursday, January 14, 2008

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel on Congaree Road

Cost & Schedule Professionals Role in Dispute Resolution

Guest Speaker: Donald McDonald

Fluor Corporation

Since 1984, Mr. McDonald has focused his professional career on quantification of cost and schedule damages, the result of complex engineering and construction disputes. He has provided expert cost and schedule testimony in arbitrations and litigations. In 2001, he joined Fluor's Corporate Claims Management Group. He has a BS in Mechanical Engineering and ME in Civil Engineering – Construction Management from Texas A&M University. He is a life member of AACE International, having served on the Board of Directors, Technical Board and currently on the Education Board.

Donald will talk about why Project Controls professionals are at the forefront of any dispute. Project Controls professionals will usually have a front row seat to the "slow motion train wreck" that occurs on every Project where change(s) have not been resolved successfully. Project Controls professionals will typically have the documentation to support the facts which will be admitted as evidence in any hearing or court room. This presentation will focus on actions cost and schedule professionals should proactively take to mitigate the impact that disputes and litigation have on their ongoing project duties.

We look forward to seeing you! Our meeting will be in the Main Boardroom at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Please RSVP no later than Friday, January 11th at 5 PM by e-mail or phone. The cost of the meeting is **20⁰⁰**. Other refreshments are available in the hotel.

Schedule:

6:00PM to 6:30PM Registration, Networking and Hors D'oeuvres
6:30PM to 7:15PM Presentation / Program

Reservations

For information, please contact:

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



2007/8 Meeting Schedule for AAACE UpCountry SC Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	14 Jan 2008	Donald McDonald, Fluor, Cost & Schedule Professionals Role in Dispute Resolution
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	11 Feb 2008	Mike Twitchell, Fluor, Project Challenges in a Remote 3 rd World Country (Algeria)
UCSC Dinner Meeting	3 rd Thursday	20 Mar 2008	Dr. Kenneth Humphreys, Ethics
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	14 Apr 2008	Speaker TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	12 May 2008	Bob Boyd, Fluor, Certification Paper Presentation – Productivity, An Elusive Measurement
AAACEI Annual Convention	Sun. to Wed.	29 June to 02 July 2008	Toronto, Ontario, Canada

2007/8 Meeting Schedule for AAACE Catawba (Charlotte) Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	13 Nov 2007	Joe Rubin - Project - Red Bridge Golf & CC
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	11 Dec 2007	Ken Humphreys - Risk & Contingency
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	08 Jan 2008	John Heitkamp - Cost Data on Line, Inc. – Richardson
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	12 Feb 2008	Ken Humphreys – Ethics
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	11 Mar 2008	Mark Hoecker – Duke - Cliffside Power Project
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	08 Apr 2008	Doug Creech – Paper Presentation
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 May 2008	Social Dinner @ Sullivans

Please contact Shirley Harris at Shirley.Harris@ch2m.com if you are interested in attending a Catawba Section Meeting. These meetings are typically held at: 11301 Carmel Commons Blvd. Suite 304 in Charlotte



2007/8 Meeting Schedule for AACE Atlanta Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	20 Nov 2007	William Kraus – Future Directions of AACE
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	18 Dec 2007	Christmas Party @ US Cost
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	15 Jan 2008	Kurt Nolte – Web Based Estimating
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	19 Feb 2008	TBA
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	18 Mar 2008	Mike Ray & Patrick Ray – Topic TBA
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	15 Apr 2008	Tom Doig, CCC – Risk Management
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	20 May 2008	TBA

Please contact Mark Cundiff at markcundiff@hotmail.com if you are interested in attending an Atlanta Section Meeting. These meetings are typically held at: Cross Creek Café, 1221 Cross Creek Parkway in Atlanta