



May 2008 News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,
AACE International

- President
Bob Boyd, PSP, CEP
(robert.boyd@fluor.com)
- Past President
- - -
- Vice President
Chris Swanson, CCC
(chris.swanson@fluor.com)
- Secretary
TBD
- Treasurer
Sanjay Mahajan
- Certification Chair
Chris Swanson, CCC
- Website Editor
TBD
- Membership Chair
Becky Spencer
- Directors
Donald McDonald, CCE, PSP
Ken Willis
Steve Riggins
Steve Schnee
- Newsletter Editor
Bob Boyd, PSP, CEP
- Scholarship & Student Outreach
Chair
Bob Boyd, PSP, CEP
- Awards and Elections Chair
TBD

President's Message

Collection of historical data has been and will probably always be an issue with Estimators. Being able to accurately forecast or predict future costs for a given scope of work is always a concern for the Estimator, and for the company. Estimators typically base their estimates upon a well established and recognized database (In-House reference books, MEANS, Richardsons, etc.). The estimator will then apply factors to adjust it to Project conditions; geographical location, execution plan, schedule and economic/market environment.

Estimators would like to review historical data in order to validate their methods, update their reference materials and for use in future estimates. Senior management would like historical data collected and shown during estimate reviews so that they can have some assurance that the estimate is realistic and achievable. But collection of actual data by Project Controls can lead to inaccurate estimates if the estimator is unaware of the Project conditions that resulted in the actual data. Therefore it becomes the responsibility of Project Controls to not only provide historical data, but also to provide information on Project conditions that resulted in the historical data. This will then allow the estimator to properly correlate the actual data to their reference materials and for relevance to the new estimate.

I believe the first step to collecting actual historical data is for estimators to identify those activities which require feedback. The Estimating Group then needs to meet with Project Controls to ensure that everyone is aligned with the data needed and the additional information that must accompany the data. It then becomes Project Controls responsibility to develop a WBS and reporting system that will allow for this information to be collected and reported in a format that will benefit everyone.

Sincerely, Bob Boyd, PSP, CEP

Inside This Issue

- President's Message - 1
- Section Announcements - 2
- April Dinner Meeting Recap - 4
- May Dinner Meeting - 5
- 2007/8 Meeting Schedules - 6



Section Announcements

Certification!!

AACEI now offers 6 certifications. A 7th certification, Certified Estimating Professional (CEP) will be out later this year.

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 AACEI 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.

Certification Exams:

Our Section will be hosting the second quarter AACEI Certification exams on June 14 and June 15. Please contact Chris Swanson or AACEI if you are planning on taking a Certification exam this spring. The deadline to sign up for an exam is May 5th.

[Congratulations to Jeff Bannister and Bob Boyd for passing the Certified Estimating Professional \(CEP\) exam that was held in March.](#)

Continuing Education!!

Visit the AACE Online Bookstore (<http://www.aacei.org/technical/ppg.shtml>) where you can order Professional Practice Guides, Recommended Practices and other AACEI merchandise.



Voting for AAACEI's South Carolina Section Officers and Directors for 2008/2009 is now closed:

A board meeting will be held in early May to tally the votes for the election held in April. We will announce next year's Officers and Directors at the May 12th Section meeting. Positions available are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Director (2 year term)
- Director (2 year term)

The terms for these positions are from June 1 to May 31.

AAACEI Annual Meeting:

AAACE International's 52nd Annual Meeting & ICEC's 6th World Congress on Cost Engineering, Project Management and Quantity Surveying plus TCM – Cost Engineering for the Global Community will be held in Ontario, Canada from Sunday, June 29, 2008 through Wednesday, July 2, 2008. Over 150 technical presentations will be given during the 3-day conference.

On June 29th, a Research Project Workshop will be held. The topic of this Workshop is "Estimating as a Competency in Capital Projects". CII is sponsoring Oklahoma State University and the University of Kansas to conduct a research to address the issue of capturing the knowledge and skills of highly experienced estimators and the transfer of these skills to the next generation.

Don't miss out on this excellent opportunity to network with your peers, earn CEUs/PDHs and attend seminars on the latest papers regarding cost, schedule and management.



April 2008 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on April 14, 2008 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. After resolving some technical difficulties, a 30 minute video film, Preparing for a Deposition in a Business Case, was shown. This video is considered to be the best selling legal video ever made. This training film was produced in 1983 with the assistance of a New York City legal attorney, Mr. Jeffrey A. Jannuzzo.

This video blended lecture and dramatic presentation to teach potential deponents the following:

1. Listen to the question
2. Pause before answering, allow your lawyer time to object
3. Answer only the question and keep your responses short
4. Never volunteer information
5. Never guess at the answer. Be wary of your memory. Don't be afraid to say "I don't remember".
6. When in doubt, ask opposing counsel for a clearer, fairer question
7. Ask your lawyer for advice and guidance for anything you don't understand
8. Always be honest.



May 2008 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Monday, May 12, 2008

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel on Congaree Road

Productivity and PF **Guest Speaker: Robert Boyd** **Fluor Corporation**

Mr. Robert Boyd has a BS in Electrical Engineering and has over 33 years of project controls, estimating and claims experience in the Oil, Gas, Chemical and Power Industries. He has 16 years of field experience, both domestically and internationally.

This general presentation will focus on the work day (8hr) of a craft worker in different locations, major influences to productivity and calculating a Productivity Factor for estimating purposes. This presentation is an extract of the technical paper that is being prepared in support of the CCE certification process.

This is our last meeting of the season and 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, May 9th at 5 PM by e-mail or phone. The cost of the meeting is **20⁰⁰**.

Schedule:

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

Reservations

For information, please contact:

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



2008/9 Meeting Schedule for AACE UpCountry SC Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	12 May 2008	Bob Boyd, Fluor, Certification Paper Presentation – Productivity and PF
AACEI Annual Convention	Sun. to Wed.	29 June to 02 July 2008	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	08 Sep 2008	Michael Ray, Legis Consultancy, Inc., Hurricane Katrina Rebuild Work
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	13 Oct 2008	Ken Willis, Fluor, Topic TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	10 Nov 2008	Clemson University’s Construction Guild, Topic TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	08 Dec 2008	TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	12 Jan 2009	TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	09 Feb 2009	TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Monday	09 Mar 2009	TBD

2007/8 Meeting Schedule for AACE 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