

## Message from the President By: Chett Siefring

I hope everyone has enjoyed the great slate of speakers (details follow below) that TSPE Program Director Richard Martinko has put together. I am looking forward to see who Richard has lined up for the remainder of the year. As the second quarter comes to an end, I would like to highlight some of the upcoming events going on in conjunction with Engineers Week, February 18-24. The University of Toledo will be hosting a number of activities including tours of the engineering campus, Engineer for a Day activities, Introduce a Girl to Engineering, and engineering student organizations activities. The engineering community will recognize and honor the Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year during a Monday luncheon and a banquet Thursday evening. I hope to meet you there!

## Exciting Speakers Visit TSPE

We have been lucky to have some great speakers visit with TSPE members over the last few months. In late October, we met new University of Toledo (UT) Dean of Engineering Dr. Michael Toole, P.E. We invited UT students to join us for the presentation by Dr. Toole. Both TSPE members and UT students participated in a Q&A session with Dr. Toole following the presentation. In November, Michael Gramza, P.E., ODOT District 2 capital programs administrator, provided a program regarding rehabilitation, lighting and cable dehumidification for the



Jason Toth Addresses TSPE

Anthony Wayne Bridge (over Maumee River in Toledo). In December, Jason Toth, UT associate vice president of facilities and construction, gave a presentation regarding the UT Master Plan. He outlined planned improvements to be implemented over the next 10 years, with goals for the first five years and the following five years.

## Legislative Update

OSPE is still monitoring the same 18 bills they were monitoring last quarter. OSPE continues to oppose House Bill 121/Senate Bill 95 (piping materials). This legislation has been around in varying forms for a few years. These bills include language to require public authorities to consider all piping materials that meet the engineering specifications for a state-funded water or waste water project. These bills would take away the PE's autonomy in specifying the type of pipe material. Hearings for these bills occurred in the Ohio House of Representatives in November and the Ohio Senate in October. Another bill with a recent hearing includes House Bill 127 (steel welding). This bill is to establish in the Ohio Building Code requirements pertaining to structural steel welding and bridge welding. OSPE has not yet taken a position regarding this bill.

## Upcoming TSPE Events

Preparations are being made for the annual financial outlook luncheon presentation in late January. More information will be provided soon via email.

Engineers Week Events (More information at [www.tspeohio.com](http://www.tspeohio.com)):

MATHCOUNTS: January 27, 2018, at the University of Toledo

Engineer of the Year Luncheon: February 19, 2018, at Parkway Place

Engineer for a Day: February 20, 2018, at the University of Toledo and participating engineering companies

Young Engineer of the Year Banquet with Dr. Bill Stone: February 22, 2018, at Parkway Place

Events for JHS and HS students throughout the Week of February 18 – 24, 2018, at the University of Toledo

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