

NHJES 2023 Conference Call for Speakers

This year's NHJES October conference adds a new dimension to the program; hands-on activity will be added to each talk. The new format opens additional opportunities for the NH Section to increase support for this event.

The New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers, NHSPE, established the New Hampshire Joint Engineering Societies as an umbrella organization 16 years ago. The primary mission is to organize a yearly conference that provides professional engineers an opportunity to earn Professional Development Hours toward their continuing education licensure requirements.

The IEEE NH Section has supported these annual October conferences from inception. Section members have continually served on the planning committee. Section members have also contributed to the overall success by speaking on a variety of topics at many of the conferences.

Past conferences have followed a typical format of sequential 60-minute PowerPoint presentations given to the full audience for both morning and afternoon sessions. Michael Bogue is the current conference committee chair. He is changing the format this year to achieve two goals:

- Enhanced the overall experience for guests attending the conference
- Increase the number of registrations

The new format for the morning sessions will consist of 4 sequential talks given to the full audience. The duration of the talks will be reduced from 60 minutes to 30 minutes. Breaks will be included between each talk to provide guests additional periods of time to visit vendors, view student projects and to check on work related issues.

There will also be 4 sequential afternoon sessions. Each session will be 30 minutes and consist of 4 simultaneous hands-on activities. The activities will be coordinated by the 4 morning speakers and take place in separate areas. The speakers will repeat their hands-on activity for all 4 afternoon sessions. Conference attendees will be assigned to 1 of 4 subgroups. During the 4 afternoon sessions, each subgroup will rotate to participate in a different hands-on activity, completing all 4 by the end of day.

Rather than have committee members seek outside speakers, Michael has asked the 7 sponsoring NH technical societies to submit a suggestion for a topic, speaker and hands-on activity that is related to their morning presentation.

The NH Section is fortunate to have 7 technical chapters and 3 affiliate groups to draw from. The new format gives the section a good opportunity to submit multiple suggestions for consideration and hopeful selection for 1 of the 4 talk / activity slots. I hope as many as possible chapter and affiliate group chairs will submit their preliminary suggestions for a topic, speaker and activity. Interested section members can also submit a suggestion for consideration.

Attendance at past conferences has consistently been in the 100+ range, making attendances for each of the hands-on activities in the 25+/- range. Developing a hands-on activity that can be successfully completed in a 30 minute time frame may be challenging, but I'm sure doable with creative thinking. Students from the Milford High School Applied Technology Center will be available to assist speakers with their activities.

Please submit preliminary suggestions for topic, speaker and activity to myself, donald.j.sherwood@gmail.com , and to Tom Perkins, toperk@aol.com . It does not need to be elaborate or detailed. Just

enough information to convey your ideas. Submittals in the next week of two will be appreciated.

Thank you for supporting this year's NHJES conference.

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