

INSITE

Published Quarterly by the Engineers & Surveyors Institute

Jan/Feb/Mar 2021



A POWERFUL FINAL EXAM ANSWER

First and foremost, thank you to everyone involved in our full transition to online classes due to COVID. Our dedicated team of instructors, including many of you, stepped up and rose to the challenge. We are grateful for everyone's contributions and flexibility that helped ensure successful execution of the ESI mission.

Like many of you, we could write volumes about how COVID affected us at ESI! Instead, we want to share an outstanding final exam answer, from last semester, provided by one of our fellow colleagues.

The LDE semester 2 final exam posed the following question:

What are the five most important ideas you learned from your classes this semester? In your response, explain what made each item noted particularly relevant for you and how each is, or will be, used in your current or future position.

The student's response:

"An Engineer's will to learn, or teach, trumps any pandemic. While the hand delt during this semester was no royal flush, the players — ESI, the instructors and the students — played their cards right. With the odds in favor of the house, or virus, the players worked together, used the hands they were dealt to turn the odds against the virus and came out on top. If there is one thing I've learned while taking this semester during a pandemic, is an Engineer's will to

learn and/or teach will always come out on top. I salute ESI and the class instructors for not surrendering, betting large and allow the hands to play out. It has made the winnings that much sweeter. Something I will carry with me throughout my career – never let a world-wide pandemic get in your way of learning."

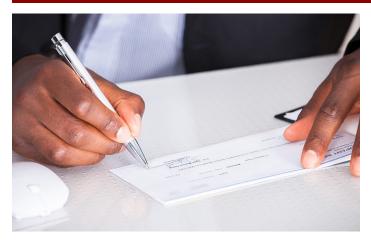
...PRICELESS, and thank you! That is what dedicated teamwork looks like - we are in this together and will remain so as we move into the new academic year.



PROJECTDOX REMINDER

For those who submit plans to Fairfax County: To minimize delays in the review and subsequent approval, please ensure all sheets with changemarks (red exclamation mark in the drawing list) have been updated with a new version. Even though there may not have been a change to the sheet with the changemark, a new version will need to be created with a new save date in order to replace the sheet with the changemark. Plans cannot be approved if any of the sheets contain changemarks.





ESI PROJECT APPLICATIONS AND FEE CHECKS

Recently, we have been receiving older copies of ESI project applications. We encourage all submitting engineers to download a fresh copy of the ESI application for the jurisdiction being submitted to for each plan, as minor changes or updates to the applications may be made without announcement. There have also been instances where we've received a check with incorrect payee information, which resulted in ESI returning the check, and subsequently, delays in plan review. We would like to remind engineers that fee checks for new projects submitted to ESI should be made out to ESI Peer Review. We appreciate your understanding.



PEER REVIEWERS NEEDED

It's the start of a new year, which means that there are plenty of openings for peer review. This is a great time to sign up to fulfill your DPE peer requirements for 2021 — and to make it even easier, all sessions are currently being held virtually, so there is no need to travel! Please consider signing up for the near-term, as that will both help ESI out and fulfill your 2021 peer review obligations. Information on signing up for peer review can be found on our website at https://esinova.org/peer-review-instructions/.



ESI JURISDICTIONAL COMMITTEES

Are you looking to get the inside scoop on upcoming news in the jurisdictions you submit plans to? ESI holds committee meetings in each of our jurisdictions that allows engineers and jurisdictional staff to share information that can shape development in the Northern Virginia area. It also serves as a platform for communication between public and private industry, giving both sides the opportunity to bring up, discuss and find resolutions to any issues that are encountered in plan submission or review. If you would like more information, or if you would like to be added to the mailing list for your jurisdiction, please call our main office or e-mail Brittany Kitchens at bkitchens@esinova.org.



In Memoriam

ESI regrets to inform the membership of the passing of Mike Mullen. Francis Michael "Mike" Mullen passed peacefully on Dec. 17, 2020, after a long battle with heart disease.

Mike was born in Youngstown, Ohio, on April 11, 1950. He grew up in Springfield, VA, graduating from the Virginia Military Institute in 1972. He then served as a lieutenant in the US Army.

Mike had worked for large and small engineering firms before starting his own business, Mullen Engineering. He enjoyed having a local business and built a loyal following among area developers. Many of our staff have fond memories of working with Mike over the years, and he will certainly be missed.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PLAN REVIEW STATISTICS FOR DEC 2019 TO NOV 2020 2019 2020 2020 2020 2020 2020 2020 2020 2020 2020 2020 2020 12 Mo. Dec Jan April Oct Feb March May June July Aug Sept Nov Avg. Total # of Major Plans Reviewed 15 10 14 20 9 16 8 16 12 10 11 10 12.6 88% % of Total Submitted Plans Acceptable 86% 100% 95% 94% 50% 88% 63% 75% 100% 72% 70% 97% Total # of DPE Plans Submitted 12 12 15 13 8 16 10 9 10 10.8 % of First Submission Plans Acceptable 80% 87% 100% 100% 100% 100% 75% 55% 63% 100% 75% 57% 86% % of Second Submission Plans Acceptable 84% 100% 100% 89% 75% 100% 100% 86% 100% 100% 50% 100% 86% Total # of non-DPE Plans Submitted 3 2 4 4 1 1 N/A* N/A* 2 N/A* 1 1.6 % of First Submission Plans Acceptable N/A* 0% 100% N/A* N/A* N/A* N/A* N/A* N/A* N/A* N/A* N/A* 50% 100% 100% 0% 100% 100% 100% N/A* 100% 100% 100% % of Second Submission Plans Acceptable N/A*N/A* 88%Total # of DPE Plans to Bond 7 3 3 5 2 2 N/A* 5 7 1 3.9 Total # of non-DPE Plans to Bond 2 3 N/A* N/A* 3 N/A* 2 3 1.9 1 4 3 2 Avg # Days for DPE Plans to Reach Bond 254 296 296 356 190 289 257 265 349 210 182 245 N/A*Avg # Days for non-DPE Plans to Reach Bond 281 304 91 425 N/A* 563 N/A* 493 242 N/A* 249 332 248 Avg # of Submissions for DPE Plans to Reach Bond ** 2.7 2.7 3.0 3.3 2.6 3.0 3.0 2.7 3.0 N/A* 2.8 3.0 2.7 Avg # of Submissions for non-DPE Plans to Reach Bond ** N/A* N/A* 2.5 N/A* 2.0 3.8 4.0 3.5 4.0 2.4 N/A* = No Plans

^{**} Avg # of Submissions to Bond includes Signature Set submissions.



EVENTS

March

3/2 Alexandria Committee Meeting 1:00 pm
3/17 Board of Directors Meeting 11:30 am
3/24 Fairfax Committee Meeting 8:30 am

Please note: All meetings during the pandemic will be held virtually until further notice, unless otherwise advised.