Learn the Critical Elements of Successful Technical Writing – May 3

Legislative Update - Coba’s Capitol Comments

Eligible H.S. Seniors – Apply for ACEC Oregon Scholarship

SAVE $$! Register by April 3

Learn the Critical Elements of Successful Technical Writing
Correct bad habits and reinforce good habits

All messages fit within a broad communication environment. The large amount of technical information that professionals must consolidate and explain in technical documents requires skills to ensure that the information is understood by the intended audience.

This course explores methods for understanding the communication context, guiding the selection and organization of information, revealing the structural plan for the information, integrating visuals, and communicating with effective sentences and paragraphs.

You will learn the critical elements of technical writing:
- Audience and purpose
- Organizational strategies
- Document design principles (including effective use of graphics)
- Writing and revision methods

WHO SHOULD ATTEND
Engineers, scientists, and technical writers and editors who spend much of their time writing, revising, and editing documents will find this workshop useful in honing their technical communication skills.
Legislative Update - Coba’s Capitol Comments

The co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization named the four work groups last night. The maintenance, preservation and seismic work group will be led by Rep. Cliff Bentz; the congestion group led by Sen. Brian Boquist; the transit and safe routes to schools by Sen. Lee Beyer; and Rep. Caddie McKeown will lead the workgroup on all other modes. Each work group then met individually to plan the next month of activities. Each group will meet during the regularly scheduled time for the full committee on Monday and Wednesday from 5:30 PM for as long as needed each evening. Work group reports are due by March 15. These are public meetings but will not be on the internet. Testimony will be invited as deemed necessary by the each work group. Each Monday from 5:30 to 5:45 PM will be an update to the full committee from each work group then they will break out into work groups until the March 15 deadline.

Department of Administrative Services COO Katy Coba updated the full committee on the ODOT management review next steps. The review was presented to the OTC last week and now DAS will develop implementation steps with input from ODOT and five legislators from the full committee. These recommendations are expected to be completed by late February.

HB 2153 received a hearing this morning, Wednesday, February 8 at 8:00 AM in the House Committee on Economic Development and Trade chaired by Rep. Ann Lininger, D-Lake Oswego. The bill will create a registry for interior designers but also is an attempt to expand the scope of interior designer work by expanding beyond the current 4,000 square foot limitations. Most problematic is that HB 2135 says that for any building, interior designers in the registry can create and supervise the carrying out of plans, drawings and specifications for all but the structural systems (defined as load bearing and structural support elements) and building envelope (defined as outer shell except windows). That would mean interior designers can design and provide supervisory services during construction for a building’s mechanical, electrical, plumbing, ventilation, emergency ingress and egress, energy saving, fire and life safety, and other systems AND make sure those all meet Oregon building codes.

Furthermore, Section 1 (3) says to ignore the Oregon statutory restrictions on the unlicensed practice of architecture and engineering and to ignore the regulation of construction contractors—the bill says those statutes do not apply to interior designers who are on the voluntary registry. The bill allows interior designers to take on many of the duties of architects, engineers and construction contractors without the same training, experience, testing or regulations.

And because the bill says interior designers on the registry can ignore ORS 671, 672 and 701, the bonding, insurance, continuing education, notice of defect, warranty requirements, complaint and appeal processes and penalties of architects, engineers and construction
contractors would not apply to interior designers. There is no liability for the work they do or supervise.

ACEC is opposed to the bill along with AIA and others and will present testimony. View the bill here:  
https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB2153/Introduced.

Contact the committee members at this website via email and phone to voice your opposition:  
https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Committees/HECDT/Overview.

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**Eligible H.S. Seniors – Apply for the ACEC Oregon Scholarship**

**ELIGIBILITY/REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must be either a graduating high school senior (including GED students and home-schooled seniors) or have had no previous college education.
- GPA: 3.30+
- SAT score: 1800+ combined SAT scores or ACT composite of 28+  
  *(NOTE: SAT scoring has changed; program administrator at Oregon Office of Student Access and Completion has confirmed that the change from 1800 to 1600 effective March 2016 will be accounted for in applicant pool selection query process; i.e., query practice will convert/determine scores based on the date the applicant took the SAT test to determine which score is required to meet our program specifications.)*
- Major: Civil, electrical, environmental or mechanical engineering
- Career field (preference): Applicants interested in the consulting engineering profession
- Colleges: Any Oregon four-year college that offers Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology accredited programs in the major fields of study (currently OIT, OSU, PSU, George Fox, University of Portland; check with your college if unsure of its accreditation)
- FAFSA: Not required - not based on financial need
- Automatically renewable if criteria met

**IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

- **February 15, 2017 - 5:00 P.M. PST each year:** Early Bird deadline. Complete applications (including transcripts) submitted by this date and time receive an early review, and error-free apps will be entered into a drawing for one of several $1,000 Early Bird scholarship awards.
- **March 1 - 5:00 P.M. PST each year:** Final deadline for all materials to be submitted to OSAC.

**MORE DETAILS**


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**UPCOMING**

- April 23-26 – ACEC National Annual Convention & Legislative Summit, Washington, DC
- May 25 – All Committee (Business) Dinner, Portland
- June 21 – Networking Day golf tournament, Langdon Farms

**ACEC Washington Upcoming Events – ACEC Oregon members receive the member rate!**
Feb 23 – Effective Price Negotiations with Public Entities
March 8 – Lessons for Reducing Risk from Recent Construction Legal Battles

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Feb 16 – Preparing for the Trump Administration—What Employers Can Expect A Woodruff-Sawyer and Davis Wright Tremaine webinar
Questions? Contact TaraAlvergue@dwt.com

Feb 23 – 53rd Annual Engineers Week High School Program, Portland

Feb 28 – 10th Annual Mid-Willamette Valley Future Engineers Day Event, Keizer

Comments? Questions? Please e-mail mwebber@acecOregon.org or adavis@acecOregon.org.

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