Legislative Update – Coba’s Capitol Comments

Twenty-three ACEC Oregon members lobbied state legislators on key issues this week in Salem. With more than forty-five appointments scheduled throughout the day, ACEC members discussed transportation, QBS defense and our opposition to SB 885 which would lower standards for out of state and country engineers to earn registration as an Oregon engineer. Sen. Lee Beyer, D-Springfield, the Senate chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization, spoke to attendees during lunch and gave his optimistic outlook for an infrastructure investment package this session. Karmen Fore, the Governor’s Transportation Policy Advisor, also gave an update from her key position.

The pace of decision-making will continue to accelerate as the four break out groups of the Joint Committee on Transportation will make their preliminary reports into next week. Following these reports the full committee will then begin to take the appropriate actions to craft policy into a bill for consideration by the legislature.

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)
ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Jan Spyridakis is Professor in the Department of Human Centered Design & Engineering at the University of Washington. She has a long history of providing high-level instruction both in industry and at the University of Washington. She is the recipient of six teaching and seven research awards.

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.

PRAISE FOR THE PROGRAM

• The feedback was phenomenal. I’m actually surprised because I never see our scientists and engineers get that enthusiastic about something.
• Examples and exercises were helpful. Good overall and applicable to my work.
• Covered items we debate about in the office.
• Common errors and mistakes in daily writing were clearly covered.
• Very thorough, and materials given to us were very helpful—especially since we can take handbooks with us.
• Interactive and open discussions.
• I am beginning to write reports and this was great information to get me started.
• Good review of passive (voice) vs. active.
• Very informative; good instructor.
• Corrected bad habits and reinforced good habits. Clarified technical questions.
• Topics were spot on to what I deal with at work. Examples that Jan used in discussion and for practice were useful/helpful.
• Definitely made me reconsider how I approach writing.
• Lots of great content; new ways to view old problems.

SAVE THE DATES!

May 25 – All Committee (Business) Dinner

June 21 – Networking Day golf tournament, Langdon Farms

UPCOMING

• April 23-26 – ACEC National Annual Convention & Legislative Summit, Washington, DC
• April 27 – Interviewing to Win with SMPS
• May 9 - Contracting/Risk Management program with SEAO
• 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!
• March 28 – Mentoring Matters: What it Can Do for You and Your Company
• April 5 – How to Determine Firm Value and Identify Key Insurance Issues During Ownership Transition
• April 19 – Advancing Women and Minorities in Leadership symposium
• May 18-20 – Spring Conference – Key Staff Recruitment and Retention: Finding and Keeping Your Rock Star Employees

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

• April 5 – SAME luncheon with Mike Harryman, Oregon’s first State Resilience Officer
  RSVP by March 22 at SAME.PDX.RSVP@gmail.com, or call (503) 643-8710 to confirm and prepay with credit card.

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

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Upcoming events: http://www.acecoregon.org/calendar_list.asp.

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