

From the Incoming President

Bruce Hasbrouck

As we consider the accomplishments of the last two years during Andy McCusker's tenure as NAEP president, it is comforting to see the progress we have made. These accomplishments have taken effort from many people, many of whom Andy wrote of in his outgoing message. The future will require a continuation of this effort, as well as involvement from more members. This is largely a volunteer organization and the members are what make it work.

The two primary objectives of my term will be increased member services and increased involvement with the chapters. New affiliated agreements with various companies will provide services to members at reduced costs and/or increased benefits to NAEP. Increased information through Working Groups will help members in your daily work. The newly formed Regulators' Working Group will provide opportunities for members working for the myriad of regulatory agencies represented by our membership. The Training and Higher Education Working Group is expanding its efforts and should help members as both educators and students. Recent efforts from the Transportation Working Group have greatly increased the exposure of NAEP in transportation related fields. Other long-standing working groups such as Utilities and NEPA provide numerous opportunities for members to expand your knowledge through others' experience and practice.

The chapters represent NAEP at a local level. While most chapters have members who belong only at the local level, the chapter is still part of NAEP. It is important to recognize the difference in member services and products compared to chapter services and products. The Chapters Committee will continue to look at these and increase the support provided to the chapters. I personally plan on attending board meetings and/or annual conferences for every chapter of NAEP. The NAEP display board is available for use at local meetings. This year's budget includes money for up-

grading the display and for shipping it to and from the chapters.

NAEP is made up of numerous individuals who are quite effective in accomplishing tasks. Members will be asked to participate. Participation may be limited to a phone call to a new member or to representing NAEP on national committees and boards. My goal is to let NAEP board members, committee members, and staff know what is expected of them, support them to accomplish their tasks, and promote accountability.

The very future of NAEP rests directly with our future members. NAEP has a bunch of student chapters, yet our involvement with them has been minimal. Increased coordination with the student chapters will occur. This effort will be combined with the Chapters Committee and the Training and Higher Education Working Group to provide a concerted approach and consistent end result.

A committee is exploring a membership category for technicians. Once again, this group of individuals is a part of our future. I personally know technicians who have gone to school to earn a degree while working at a technical level. Their experience, combined with the education, makes them highly qualified professionals.

Additional efforts will be centered on the National Involvement Initiative in Washington, DC and increased international involvement. With 2000 as an election year, exposure in the DC area is important for any national association. As our global communications are eased through the Internet, the rest of the world is looking to the US for leadership in all issues, including environmental. We are the leaders here; we should open our boundaries to include international issues.

A committee is exploring our external communication tools: this journal; our web page; and our brochures, flyers, and other printed material. If you have feedback on the way any of these look, please let us know. The only way NAEP can offer what members are looking for is to have information to that effect.

While ABCEP is now a separate entity, NAEP will support the certification as much as possible. There are benefits to having a quality certification program associated with our organization. Certified Environmental Professionals are recognized in the industry as the leaders in their respective areas of practice.

Finally, NAEP is an organization of professionals. The Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice are not just words. The information contained was developed as a guideline and is meant to be followed. We represent our profession on a daily basis and we have a responsibility to our peers to practice accordingly. I look forward to leading the organization into continued growth and increased recognition for the profession.

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