10/14/14 General Board Meeting

Our guest speakers today are the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE)

* **Professional Engineers License**
  + The state of Florida requires two tests to get your PE
    - The Fundamentals Exam and Professional Exam
  + You must gain four years of experience under a professional engineer
    - You can earn up to a year of experience while you are in school, the FBPE will determine if the hours are sufficient
    - For example, internships
    - Earning a Master’s degree will credit you one year towards your PE license
    - Earning a PHD will credit you two years towards your PE license
  + Once you earn your licenses
    - You will never need to take another test to keep the PE license
    - You will be required to continue your education
      * On March 1, 2014, FBPE will require 18hrs of continuing education
        + 1hr of Florida Laws and Rules
        + 1hr of Ethics
        + 4hrs of technical based classes related to your field
        + 12hrs of extra classes
      * If you have multiple licenses from different states, the hours earned in those states will be carried to Florida.
        + Meaning you don’t have to do 18hrs in California and 18hrs in Florida.
        + Except they will require you to do Florida Laws and Rules
    - You will need to pay a renewal fee
  + Specific state rules
    - Some states like California will require you take a state specific exam to test you on certain things.
    - Like in California the building code for Earthquakes.
* **Florida Board of Professional Engineers**
  + The Board
    - They are elected by the Governor but they are confirmed by the senate
    - They serve for four years
    - They consist of nine engineers
    - Some of their responsibilities:
      * Handling disciplinary actions
      * PE applications
      * Approval of license and issuing them
  + **If you would like to participate in the FBPE disciplinary case, just call them and ask to be a part of it.**
* **Advice** 
  + Take your FE and PE as soon as possible but not too early when you haven’t take enough classes yet to cover what’s on the exam
  + Allowed Materials on the exams:
    - Reference Handbook
      * Check for the most updated version, they’re updated often
      * There is a PDF version
    - Approved calculator, any others will be confiscated
    - Dry Erase board, to do your work on
  + Better to take your FE exam in your Junior or Senior year while the information is fresh
  + The passing rate is 75% - 80% when students are recent graduates or still in school
* **Major Changes to the FE and PE Exam**
  + October 2013 was the last pen and Pencil based exam
    - They are now on computers
  + The entire exam is disciplined based
  + Tests are available in 8 month periods, 2 month windows to take the tests
  + Benefits of Computer based tests
    - Allows you to take the tests whenever you want
    - You get results in a week
    - More locations
  + You are only allowed to take one test per 2 month period
  + Practice questions are provided in the FBPE packets
* **Test time:**
  + You can apply to take the test at the NCEES website
  + To receive your engineering intern (EI) certificate you must apply to the FBPE
  + You must have an abet accredited degree to take the test
  + It is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** to read the NCEES handbook
  + The test:
    - There are two halves
    - 55 questions each
    - You are not allowed to come back to the first half after moving onto the second half
    - Multiple choice questions
    - The test might require you to answer in a specific metric system
* **Benefits of a PE licenses**
  + Own an engineering firm
  + Become a forensic engineer
  + Become a consultant
  + Testify in engineering trials
* **FBPE Laws**
  + You are allowed to be licensed in Florida with a foreign degree
  + You must apply to FBPE to get your license
* **FE Exams**
  + You have unlimited amount of tries to take the test
  + After three failed attempts however:
    - You could either take board approved courses or
    - You have to take 12 credit hours of past courses to refresh your memory (math, science, engineer, etc.)
* **Videos and Information**
* Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) General website
  + http://www.fbpe.org/
* FE Exam information link
  + <http://www.fbpe.org/licensure-4/fundamentals-examination-fe>
* PE Exam
  + <http://www.fbpe.org/licensure-4/principles-practice-examination>
* The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)
  + <http://ncees.org/>