



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



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Interview with Mrs. Ogochukwu Okechukwu

Mrs. Ogochukwu Okechukwu, is the Head of Continuous Education and Examinations of the Nigerian Society of Engineers. She is also in charge of the Nigerian Society of Engineers technical transactions and conference technical sessions.

E-Newsletter: *With the experience you have acquired, what are the challenges you face and what can be done to render better service to members?*

Ogochukwu Okechukwu: In terms of technical transaction, members can now send in their papers online and they can be reviewed online. Everything is now online which is far better than when we were using hard copy method. On the part of the examinations, we have also gone online, prospective members now apply online and if there problem we also communicate with



them online. Our online platform has really helped in solving a lot of issues which we were facing when we were using the hard copy/analogue system.

Using the online platform isn't exactly easy. We are having a few problems here and there but it is getting better. If the conference can also go online it will be a wonderful development.

E-Newsletter: *In terms of members, is there an increment?*

Ogochukwu Okechukwu: Yes. In terms of examinations, the online platform has really helped. Prospective members can apply from any part of the country compared to when we were using the hard copy method whereby they would have to go to Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt or any other centre but now in the comfort of their homes they can apply online, send enquiries and we would reply them instantly. It is far better than when we were using the analogue system.

E-Newsletter: *Thank you madam.*



Photo left: The Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch Executive Committee led by the Branch Chairman Engr. Kombo Theophilus-Johnson, FNSE (3rd from left), paid a courtesy visit to the Managing Director of Port Harcourt Refinery Company Engr. Dr. Bafred Enjugu (4th from right), on Tuesday 14 April, 2015 in his office at the refinery.

Photo down: Group photo of NSE facilitators and participants of the Continuous Professional Education for Executive Engineers (COPEEE) held at the NSE Port Harcourt Branch on Friday 17 April 2015 preceding the first NSE C1 exam held in Port Harcourt Branch of NSE on Saturday 18th April 2014.





WFEO Model Code of Practice for Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship

By David Lapp, FEC, P.Eng.

Secretary, WFEO Committee on Engineering and the Environment.

Introduction: Engineers are not only concerned with developing projects that are sustainable, but also with a wide variety of environmental management responsibilities impacting society and the environment. The long-term societal and economic health depends on a healthy environment. The WFEO Model Code of Practice for Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship defines and explains ten principles that guide engineering practice in the wider context of sustainable development (SD) and environmental stewardship (ES). It will support engineers in their professional practice, in dealings with other professionals and guide professional engineering organizations.

SD and ES Explained:

Many professional groups, including engineering organizations, have developed specific, though often discipline-centred, SD definitions. Often such definitions fail to distinguish between discretionary wants and essential needs. The 1987 Brundtland Commission provided perhaps the broadest and most widely accepted SD definition in stating: "Sustainable development is development that meets the social, economic, and environmental needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs." The commission focused on the essential needs of the world's poor, which deserve overriding priority. It also considered "limitations" the state of technology and social organization impose on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs. Stewardship means taking care of something not belonging to you. Environmental Stewardship is more difficult to define. Often stewardship has been addressed narrowly as protecting an endangered species or preserving a threatened ecosystem. The Model Code states: "Environmental Stewardship is the prudent use of the finite resources in nature to produce the greatest benefit while maintaining a healthy environment for the foreseeable future." The engineering profession plays a significant role in economic development and in protecting the environment. It is ideally situated to play a significant role in SD and ES. For engineers to be relevant to current and future generations and provide guidance and leadership to society, a more proactive approach to sustainability, as outlined in the table below, is required.

The Interpretive Guide

The Interpretive Guide serves as an accompanying document to the WFEO Model Code of Practice for Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship. It provides further amplification and explanation to engineers and national engineering organizations on interpretation and implementation of the ten principles.

Next Steps: The Model Code and Interpretive Guide will be published in the autumn of 2013 and posted on the WFEO website (www.wfeo.net). In 2014 and 2015, in partnership with other standing committees, and national and international members, WFEOCEE will undertake efforts to increase awareness and facilitate engagement of the principles by engineers.

"Think Global and Act Local"

The Model Code consists of ten principles that speak to individual engineers:

1. Maintain and continuously improve awareness and understanding of environmental stewardship, sustainability principles and issues related to your field of practice.
2. Use expertise of others in the areas where your own knowledge is not adequate to address environmental and sustainability issues.
3. Incorporate global, regional and local societal values applicable to your work, including local and community concerns, quality of life and other social concerns related to environmental impact along with traditional and cultural values.
4. Implement sustainability outcomes at the earliest possible stage employing applicable standards and criteria related to sustainability and the environment.
5. Assess the costs and benefits of environmental protection, ecosystem components, and sustainability in evaluating the economic viability of the work, with proper consideration of climate change and extreme events.
6. Integrate environmental stewardship and sustainability planning into the life-cycle planning and management of activities that impact the environment, and implement efficient, sustainable solutions.
7. Seek innovations that achieve a balance between environmental, social and economic factors while contributing to healthy surroundings in both the built and natural environment.
8. Develop locally appropriate engagement processes for stakeholders, both external and internal, to solicit their input in an open and transparent manner, and respond to all concerns – economic, social and environmental in a timely fashion in ways that are consistent with the scope of your assignment. Disclose information necessary to protect public safety to the appropriate authorities.
9. Ensure that projects comply with regulatory and legal requirements and endeavour to exceed or better them by the application of best available, economically viable technologies and procedures.
10. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage but a lack of scientific certainty, implement risk mitigation measures in time to minimize environmental degradation.



The Nigerian Society of Engineers
Presents

**NATIONAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE
AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Sunshine 2015

THEME:

"National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan 2014: Strategies For Implementation"

Venue: International Culture & Event Centre (Dome), Akure, Ondo State

Date: Monday 16th— Friday 20th November 2015

Conference Registration

- | | | |
|---|-----------|------------------------|
| 1. Early Bird (Not later than September 30, 2015) | = N30,000 | 4. Graduates = N10,000 |
| 2. From October 1, 2015 | = N40,000 | 5. Students = N5,000 |
| 3. Spouses | = N10,000 | |

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NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

All members of NSE Port Harcourt Branch should pay their Annual Branch Dues of N5000 for Corporate Members and N7,500 for Fellows to UBA Account No. 1000183629 (Port Harcourt Main Branch). Also pay National Annual Subscription of N9,000.00 for Corporate Members & N11,500 for Fellows directly to First Bank Account No. 2020502052 & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made into the bank accounts.