Technical Paper

Overview
Participation in the Technical Paper Competition is a prerequisite for invitation to the National Student Steel Bridge and Concrete Canoe Competition. Rules for the 2016 PNWSC Technical Paper Competition are aligned with the 2016 National Daniel W. Mead Student Contest. Additional details regarding this contest can be found on the ASCE website http://www.asce.org/mead-student

Topic:
When working in a foreign location, what defines the design standard which the engineer can rely on to have met his or her ethical obligation to provide a safe and sound engineering solution or design?

The following can be used to stimulate, but should in no way limit, the discussion:
Engineers today in the global setting are having to evaluate different design guides, codes, standards and practices that are available to them in the region and select the most pertinent to their specific application that will meet their obligations as a professional engineer.

- When evaluating the different codes, standards and quality requirements, how is one to determine the minimum requirements that provide a good balance between local practices versus global best practices?
- Do the local codes and standards, which may be less stringent than the standards that the engineer is typically accustomed to, meet his or her ethical obligation as the design engineer?
Rules
1. Papers are not to exceed 2,000 words in length, must be written by only one person, and should not have appeared in any publications other than in school or chapter publications. Reference citations for the papers should conform to official ASCE Journal Submission Guidelines, which can be found on the ASCE Publications website: http://ascelibrary.org/page/authors

2. Schools are allowed to submit only one paper.

3. Authors must be undergraduate students in good standing with both their ASCE student chapter and ASCE national at the time of the submission.

4. Entries should be submitted electronically as a PDF and include a cover letter from the Faculty Advisor. Cover letter must provide the name of the author, their ASCE member number, and author email address. Submit entries to ascepnw@gmail.com by 11:59 PM Pacific Standard Time on March 1, 2016.

Please note: Entry in the PNWSC technical paper competition does not constitute entry in the Daniel W. Mead competition; however, authors are highly encouraged to do so.

5. Technical paper presentations are required. Oral presentations shall be less than 10 minutes and followed by 5 minutes of questions from the panel of judges.

6. Presentations must be accompanied by visual aids. A projector and screen will be provided. Presenters may provide their own computer or other devices. Visual aids can also include a one-page handout to be left with the judges. Handout must be 8½” X 11” and may be printed on both sides in black and white.