Synopsis: Petition of The College of New Jersey to Install a Chapter

The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), Ewing, NJ, has petitioned the National Council to install a chapter of Chi Epsilon.

The TCNJ Civil Engineering Honor Society (CEHS) was founded on January 23, 2017, by Faculty Advisor Dr. Vedrana Krstic alongside three civil engineering students: Anthony Belfert, Mickey Avenoso, and Charlotte Schum, and with the help of two other students, Megan Nugent and Raquel Mogavero. The top third of TCNJ’s civil engineering students in the class of 2018 was invited to join the CEHS. The group immediately focused their attention on creating the Constitution and Bylaws needed to receive official club recognition at TCNJ. After preparing and submitting the petition to TCNJ, the group held elections for the Executive Board officer positions. The election was held on April 5, 2017, and the following Executive Board was formed: President- Anthony V. Belfert, Vice President- Mickey Avenoso, Secretary- Charlotte Schum, Treasurer- Stephen Fung, Communications Chair- CJ D’Achille, Marshall- Nick Sabatini, and Webmaster- Danielle Galloway.

The CEHS was recognized as an official student club by TCNJ on April 19, 2017. The first induction ceremony was held on April 26, 2017. Dr. Krstic, CEHS Faculty Advisor, and Chi Epsilon member, officially inducted the founding members into the Society. The ceremony continued with the Executive Board completing the induction of graduating seniors: Lauren Santullo, Alberto Torres, Leon Collins, Kimberly Dana, Peter Johnson, and Daniel Quiroga. CEHS has initiated 21 members. Ms. Ashley Hyde and Mr. Anthony LaRegina attended the 2018 National Convention held at the University of Texas at Arlington this spring to meet XE members and observe how the society operates. Professor Hank Dobbelaar has been in regular communication with the chapter and has met personally with the officers and faculty advisor. According to Professor Dobbelaar, the CNJ CEHS has demonstrated their professionalism and commitment throughout the petitioning process; they are ready to become the 142nd Chapter of Chi Epsilon.

TCNJ was founded in 1855 as the New Jersey State Normal School. The Civil Engineering Program was first established as a specialization offered under the ABET accredited Engineering Science program. The Board of Trustees of TCNJ voted to re-designate the degree awarded to students completing the civil engineering curriculum from a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science (BS) to a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE), effective with the graduating class of 2007. Final approval for the degree re-designation was obtained from the State of New Jersey in April 2007. The program is
currently accredited to September 30, 2019. During the past five years, between 20 to 35 BSCE degrees have been awarded annually.

The prospective chapter has the enthusiastic support of the Dean of Engineering, the Chair of Civil Engineering, and all of the Department’s tenured and tenure-track faculty members, including Dr. Vedrana Kristic, who has advised the CEHS and will advise the 142\textsuperscript{nd} XE Chapter.

Based on the petition submitted by TCNJ CEHS and in consultation with Professor Hank Dobbelaar, I enthusiastically recommend approval of this petition.

Sincerely,

\begin{flushleft}
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{signature}
\end{flushleft}

Glenn C. Goss, Ph.D., PE
Executive Director

Prof. Henry Dobbelaar
Metropolitan District Councillor