



January 2011

NEDEA NEWSLETTER

2011 NEDEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Rashid Ahmed, Chairman

847-710-4389, rashid_ahmed1983@yahoo.com

Rashid graduated from NED University in 1983 in Civil Engineering. He obtained his MS in Civil (Structural) Engineering from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1987. He is a Vice President at Walker Parking Consultants and is instrumental in the design of many award winning parking structure projects in the North America and Europe. Prior to joining Walker, he worked for two major firms in Chicago: Skidmore Owings and Merrill and Perkins and Will. Married to Rooshi and have two daughters, Abir and Mahhum.



Syed Naeemuddin, Director of Social Affairs

847-414-1417, syednaem@hotmail.com

Naeem graduated from NED University in 1987 in Mechanical Engineering, finished M.Sc. in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology in 1992 and MBA from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management in 2006 in Finance and International Business Management (Latin America). Working in Motorola, Inc. for past 11 years in Engineering, Supply Chain Operation and currently in program management office as Senior Manager. Married to Uzma and have two kids Bilal and Ifrah.



Anees Ahmad, Director of Information and Communication

630-841-2759, anees_ahmad@hotmail.com

Anees is an NED graduate of 1989 in Electrical Engineering. He later completed his MS in Electrical Engineering at NJIT in 1991. He has been an IT professional since 1991 and is currently working as an E-Commerce Consultant at United Airlines. Anees also enjoys playing sports including cricket, tennis and volley ball. Anees lives in Naperville with his wife, Abeda and three children, Yaseen, Ameen, and Meryum.



Bilal Ahmad, Director of Membership and Finance

630-220-0402, bilal@wowway.com

Bilal graduated with a Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering from NED University in 1987. He obtained his Masters degree in Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering from IIT in 1996. He holds the position of Engineering Manager at Polytech Industries Inc., and currently pursuing PMP certification. Bilal has worked for NESPAK Karachi in the HVAC division and has worked for Saud Consult in Dhahran. Married to an NEDIAN, Bushra, and have two kids Saad and Aminah.



Syed Shahid Ali, Director of Professional Development

630-753-0483, skainc_2k1@msn.com

Shahid graduated from NED University in 1978 in Electrical Engineering, and followed this by a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology in 1980. He then joined Fluor as an Electrical Engineer and while with Fluor pursued a Masters of Engineering Management at Northwestern which he completed in 1983. Subsequent to Fluor Shahid worked for Raymond and GE as Senior Project Manager and Manager of Projects respectively, and currently is working as Director of Project and Construction Management with Benetech. Married to Kishwar and have three children, Adil, Amad,

and Amna

SHARE WITH US

Please send us the information that you would like to share with us. Examples are your vacation, wedding in your family, graduation of your children, job promotion, achievements, etc.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

On behalf of NEDEA Board, I would like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to lead our great University Alumni Association of Chicago. I am grateful for all of the support that I am receiving as I begin a new phase in my own NEDEA involvement.

Although I have experience in managing technical committees, this is the first time I am chairing an Alumni Association, where everyone may not be very satisfied. On behalf of NEDEA Board, we are extending our hands to those to rejoin and strengthen our group and help us to take NEDEA to the next level.

One thing that I have learned over the time is for any achievement we have to set the goals and expectations. My personal observation is that people detest for evaluating or measuring or rating; however, they love to have goals, and to know how well they're succeeding at them. We, the NEDEA Board of Directors, are setting the following goals but we will not succeed until we have your cooperation.

Goals:

1. Improve communication
2. Increase the membership
3. Maintain a strong balance sheet

Communication among the members is the key for success of any organization. Improving and maintaining our website is one of our top priorities. Today's world, website is the most important tool for communication. Also, we will be communicating with you via monthly newsletter. Increasing membership is vital for the survival of any organization. We are looking into life membership and ways to increase the membership. And, last but not the least, maintaining a strong balance sheet. This will enable us to help our Alma Mater and offer programs to our members at a reasonable cost that will help them both professionally and personally.

I look forward to a year of growth, a year of change, and a year of strengthening of our organization. Please send us your ideas and suggestions. Your cooperation is very important. We may or may not implement all the ideas, but collectively we will achieve our goals. I promise one thing to you: your organization will not become a dysfunctional organization.

Best wishes,

Rashid Ahmed, PE, SE

NED UNIVERSITY NEWS



The NED University of Engineering and technology is the oldest institution now in Pakistan for teaching and turning out Graduate Engineers; it is in the Public Sector – i.e. Government owned – having begun initially as an Engineering College in 1922 established by subscriptions from private donors. The University retains the initials in honor of the principal donor for that College – Nadirshaw Edulji Dinshaw in its name! Like other such Government owned institutions in developing



countries, it has had over the years to overcome various handicaps ranging from shortage of funds to "brain drain" of Faculty Members as well as students. Nevertheless, because of its transparent admission policy which has established its reputation over the years, it attracts the best students – including even some foreigners lacking resources for seeking admission in Universities of developed countries!

This University presently offers undergraduate programmes in nineteen (19) Engineering disciplines along with one each in Architecture and in Information Technology. It is also presently offering twenty-seven (27) Master's level postgraduate programmes; this number is also increasing each year. At present, the programmes for Doctoral studies are restricted to Faculty Members; this university is implementing its wide-ranging Development Programme in which its demands for Faculty Development are of such intensity that they leave no room for offering Doctorate programmes for external candidates.



5 MINUTES WITH KHAWAJA NIZAMUDDIN



Q. Tell us about yourself and your family.

A. Eldest of 3 siblings. We were settled amicably in former East Pakistan until the turmoil of 1971 war which brought us to West Pakistan. Married to Shahnaz with 3 children; Rehan (19), Imran (16), Huma (14). Live in Glenview, IL

Q. Why Engineering?

A. Math was my favorite subject; I always did well in Math. Once I got 99 marks in an exam and I was upset for weeks

Q. Which year did you graduate and what was your major?

A. 1983 – B.S in Civil Engineering; 1985 – M.S in Structural Engineering (Berkeley)
1996 – MBA Finance (DePaul); 2000 – M.S in Transportation Engg. (UIC)

Q. Tell us about your professional life?

A. Structural Engineer – Building design.

Experienced in design of high-rise and large scale commercial projects

Actively involved in Professional Societies – Currently General Secretary of SEAIO (Structural Engineers Association of Illinois); Chairman, NEDEA Advisory Council; Secretary, DIC Toastmasters

Q. If you had to choose another occupation, what would it be?

A. Teaching position at College or University

Q. Who was your favorite teacher at NED?

A. Prof. Afaq Shaikh

Q. Please recount some of your unforgettable memories while at NED?

- A. - Having good teachers like Prof. Faheem, Dr. Alvi, Prof. Kidwai and others
- Teaching my own classmates after a prolonged "hartaal".
- My class notes in circulation long after I left NED
- Walkout in Mr. Ishtiaq's geology exam where he gave an exam with material not covered in class.
- Industrial Tour

Q. What are some of your proudest achievements in life?

- A. - Getting 5 gold medals in academic career.
- Being awarded two fully paid scholarships for graduate studies in USA (Qaid-e-Azam Scholarship from Govt. of Pakistan and Aga Khan Scholarship.
- Designing the MEC mosque in Morton Grove; pro-bono

Q. What do you like best about NEDEA?

A. The friendships I made and the respect I garnered from its membership

Q. What do you like to do in your spare time?

A. Play scrabble and watch basketball and football games

Q. Describe your perfect day?

A. When I get accomplished a lot. That invariably means less of meetings

Q. What is something about you that might surprise most people?

A. Was held Prisoner-of-war in India for two years along with my family. The ordeal was a real character builder

Q. Favorite food

A. Afghani food available at Kabul Restaurant on W. Dempster Street in Skokie

Q. What is your favorite word?

A. Challenge

Q. What is your least favorite word?

A. Procrastinate

Q. What advice can you give to our readers?

A. Network with your peers; Give 110% effort in what you are doing and involve yourself in lot of things at your work which will make you indispensable. Also, it is very important to improve your public speaking prowess (join Toastmasters). This will take you places.

NEDEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES #1

DATE OF MEETING: December 1, 2010
DATE OF ISSUANCE: December 4, 2010
LOCATION OF MEETING: Tele-conference
MINUTES BY: Rashid Ahmed

PARTICIPANTS:

NAME	TITLE	PHONE	E-MAIL
Rashid Ahmed	Chairman	847-710-4389	rashid_ahmed1983@yahoo.com
Syed Naeemuddin	Director of Social Affairs	847-414-1417	syednaeem@hotmail.com
Anees Ahmad	Director of Information & Communication	630-841-2759	anees_ahmad@hotmail.com
Bilal Ahmad	Director of Membership & Finance	630-220-0402	bilal@wowway.com
Syed Shahid Ali	Director of Professional Development	630-753-0483	Skainc_2k1@msn.com

1. Call to order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 8:05 pm by Rashid Ahmed, who started the proceedings with the recitation of the Surah Fatiha.

2. Introduction

- a. Each member introduced themselves by providing the year of graduation from NED and brief information about their professional and personal life.

3. Directors' Position

- a. The group discussed the directors' position/assignments and the NEDEA Board of Directors for 2011-2012 are as follows:
 - Rashid Ahmed: Chairman of the Board (CBD)
 - Syed Shahid Ali: Director of Professional Development (DPD)
 - Bilal Ahmad: Director of Membership and Finance (DM&F)
 - Anees Ahmad: Director of Information and Communication (DIC)
 - Syed Naeemuddin: Director of Social Affairs (DSA)

4. Follow-up from the last General Body Meeting

- a. Board discussed membership fee as a follow-up from the last General Body meeting. After a lengthy discussion, the consensus was to have both options available to our members, i.e., annual membership and lifetime membership. The Board agreed to keep the annual membership fee at \$35; however, the Board did not reach a consensus for the lifetime membership fee. This issue is open until the next meeting.

5. Rekindle Members Interest in NEDEA

- a. Board agreed that due to the same format and repetitive location of our programs, members are losing interest. Each Board member will look into what changes or modifications are required to revive the membership interest. Rashid will forward the last members' survey report done by the NEDEA-Advisory Council to the NEDEA Board. This issue will be discussed in the next meeting.
- b. Board also agreed that more family oriented programs are needed. One suggestion is to conduct a seminar geared towards our children attending high school. In the seminar, we can invite people from different professions to introduce their profession to the kids.
- c. Board members will call NEDEA members to find out the ages of their children. This way we will know better what kind of programs may generate interest among our members.
- d. Shahid mentioned that one of his kids pointed out that there are a few students at IIT who recently came from NED. Board agreed to invite those and other NED students, who are pursuing higher education in the Chicago area, to our programs free of charge.

6. Revenue Generation

- a. Board agreed that lifetime membership fee option will increase the memberships.
- b. BOD will call the members and encourage them to pay their dues.

- c. Look for companies/vendors sponsorship. Naeem mentioned that in the past Motorola has helped non-profit organizations and he will find out whether Motorola can help us.
- d. Provide the opportunity to Financial/Insurance companies' representative to present their products/presentation to our members; however, they have to sponsor our programs.
- e. Publish 2011 Calendar with help from sponsors.
- f. Advertise individual or company ads on our website and/or newsletter

7. NEDEA Events for 2011

- a. Board agreed to organize programs such that they will attract more family members. Board is contemplating the following: have professional seminars for members as well as for their kids, summer picnic at a new location with more family games, Iftar in the month of Ramadan, cricket match, annual dinner, female events to provide social gathering among women, etc.
- b. After our survey with NEDEA members, we will plan our programs accordingly.

8. NEDEA Newsletter:

- a. Start monthly newsletter that will be distributed to NEDEA members via e-mail and also post them at our web-site.
- b. Rashid requested each Board member to provide their brief bio and a picture so it can be published in the first newsletter.
- c. There will be a section call "Announcements." This section will be dedicated to our members who would like to share any personal information for themselves or their family members, such as graduation, promotion, wedding, new job, achievements, etc.
- d. It will include NEDEA past events pictures and brief description.
- e. It will include news from NED University. This will provide connection of NEDEA, Chicago, to NED University and to understand how we, as a group, can help our Alma Mater.
- f. It will include interview of one of our members every month.

9. Web-site Issues

- a. Currently an outside consultant is managing our web-site; however, the Board is not satisfied with the current standard of our website. Board would like to see updates on the website more frequently as it will attract members to visit our website.
- b. Website needs to have an option for online payment. This will be a huge benefit to our members as well as for our organization.
- c. Rashid will forward the current website consultant information to Anees, who will investigate this issue to find out more reliable consultant at a reasonable rate.
- d. Bilal inquired about the possibility of having Face-book account of NEDEA

10. Next Meeting

- a. The tentative date for the next meeting is Sunday, December 19, 2010.

11. Closing Remarks

- a. Rashid summarized that today's discussion was directed towards three goals:
 - Improve communication – newsletter, website
 - Increase membership – lifetime membership option, more emphasis on family oriented programs
 - Have a strong balance sheet - sponsorships, ads, online payment option to provide cost-effective programs for our members and to support our alma mater.
- b. Rashid mentioned that in order to achieve our goals, we can create sub-committees to do specific tasks. This will provide opportunity to our members to participate and help in achieving our goals. The general consensus was that it is a good idea to have sub-committees.

12. Meeting Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

ANNUAL DINNER - NOVEMBER 12, 2010

Annual Dinner, General Body Meeting and the Election were held on November 12, 2010, at Ramada Banquet Hall in Glendale Heights. We have over 100 guests and they enjoyed the good food, net working time and light music.



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