



CECG

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
441 G STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

October 21, 2014

Dr. Robert D. Stevens, P.E., F.ASCE  
President  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
1801 Alexander Bell Drive  
Reston, Virginia 20191

Dear Dr. Stevens:

I congratulate the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) for promoting an appropriate standard for the engineering profession in the 21<sup>st</sup> century through your vital "Raise the Bar" Initiative.

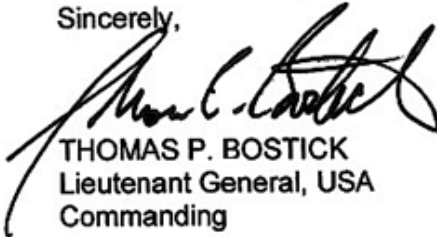
In today's rapid pace of increased technology, individuals must acquire additional technical and specialty training to be significant contributors and competitors in a global market. Engineers must understand more about business, public policy, communications, globalization, life-long learning, ethics, leadership, teamwork, and other professional skills. They must also be able to demonstrate the positive attitudes supportive of the professional practice of engineering. ASCE Policy Statement 465, which advocates the attainment of a formalized Body of Knowledge for entry into the practice of engineering, is an essential step towards having engineers at a truly professional level.

While demands on engineering curricula have increased, many schools have significantly reduced the credit hours required to earn an engineering degree. This trend is counter to our needs. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) shares your concern that the body of knowledge necessary to enter the professional practice of engineering in the future is beyond the scope of today's four-year ABET/EAC degree -- even when coupled with pre-licensure on-the-job experience.

Your model for attainment of the formal educational portion of the Body of Knowledge is logical, practical, and achievable. I expect that distance learning and independent education programs will become more prevalent in the future for both degree and non-degree granting programs and I agree it is important to provide flexible paths for fulfilling the Body of Knowledge. For all of these reasons, the implementation of Policy Statement 465 is, in my view, a step in the right direction and one the USACE fully supports.

A workforce thoroughly prepared for entry into professional practice can only lead to heightened protection of the public's health, safety, and welfare. If I or my staff can be of any assistance in moving this key initiative forward, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom P. Bostick", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

THOMAS P. BOSTICK  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding