
POLISH-AMERICAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

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All members and friends of Polish-American Engineers Association are cordially invited to attend our meeting.

- DATE:** Friday, January 15th, 2021
- TIME:** Business Meeting begins 8:00 p.m.; Presentation to follow immediately
- PLACE:** virtual meeting via Skype: <https://join.skype.com/t4h5mFMbYbgJ>
(not Zoom as before, due to the 40 minute time limit on Zoom)
- SPEAKER:** Dr. Andrzej S. Nowak
- TOPIC:** Are Our Bridges Safe?
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Dr. Andrzej S. Nowak

Dr. Nowak is Professor and Department Chair of Civil Engineering at Auburn University, after 25 years at the University of Michigan and 8 years at the University of Nebraska. He received his MS and Ph.D. from Politechnika Warszawska.

His area of expertise is structural reliability and bridge engineering, and major research accomplishments include the development of a reliability-based calibration procedure for the calculation of load and resistance factors. The procedure was successfully applied to the calibration of AASHTO design code for bridges, ACI 318 Code for Concrete Buildings and Canadian Highway Bridge Design Code.

He made important contributions in bridge diagnostics and evaluation, analytical load models for bridges and buildings and the development of efficient experimental procedures for WIM measurement of truck loads, dynamic loads on bridges and fatigue load spectra.

Dr. Nowak has authored over 450 technical publications, chaired 38 doctoral committees, and chaired a number of committees associated with professional organizations such as: ASCE, ACI, TRB IABSE and IABMAS.

He has an Honorary Doctoral Degree (Honoris Causa) from Warsaw University of Technology, he is a Fellow of ASCE, ACI and IABSE, he received the ASCE Moisseiff Award, IFIP WG 7.5 Award, Bene Merentibus Medal, Kasimir Gzowski Medal from the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers.

ABSTRACT

The presentation outline: importance of bridges, major problems, safety measures and implementation of safety in bridge engineering practice. On the other hand, overdesign can be expensive. Bridge performance depends on load and load carrying capacity (resistance), in an optimum bridge, the load carrying capacity is slightly above the expected load.

Inadequate safety results in need for frequent repairs and in drastic cases – collapse of a bridge. Therefore, knowledge of the actual live load is important for a rational management of highway bridges.

have a minimum GPA of 3.5. Applications and supporting materials will be accepted through Thursday, January 28, 2021.

One \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded for full-time studies in the United States for the Fall 2021/Spring 2022 academic year. For more information and to apply, please see:

<https://www.thekf.org/kf/scholarships/tuition/science/>

Lyra Singers Carols Video

Available for view on-line through February 2, 2021; cost \$5.00

The Lyra Singers invite all PAEA Members and Sympathizers to view their Carols video on line. In this time of Pandemic, please consider supporting the Lyra Singers, and the performing arts, which is forced to adapt to the new realities to survive.

Below is information from the notification:

In keeping with Polish tradition,
the Lira Ensemble's video of Polish and American Carols
will be available on the Lira website
through Candlemass – February 2nd.

Poles and Polish Americans sing and listen to Christmas carols
well into January and often until Candlemass.

Lira's video gives you an opportunity to:

- see the Lira Singers appear on stage during a theater concert
- hear Lira's beautiful and unusual repertoire sung in three and four-part harmony – which is becoming rare in the United States
- see the Lira Singers appear in authentic folk outfits from the Kaszubian region of Northern Poland – which are rarely seen in this country

The Carols Video is available on Lira's website. For only \$5.00 you can view the video as often as you wish, through February 2nd, 2021. To purchase, see:

www.liraensemble.org

(note: the video link is on the Home Page, just below the large photos)

Chopin Theater GoFundMe

As sent in a separate email, the PAEA received a GoFundMe appeal from our friends at the Chopin Theater. We have been guests at the Chopin Theater for several excellent plays; and have been invited for many more, which we were not able to make as a group. Lela and Zygmunt have always made us feel at home, and have supported us as they could.

It would be a true shame and loss to Polonia (and all of Chicago) if they had to close their doors permanently due to this terrible pandemic. Please consider supporting as you can; and let your family and friends who might be interested/able to support them know.

For more information, and to make a donation, please see:

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/chopin-theatre-humble-request-for-30th-anniversary>

Copernicus Foundation Request for Support

The Copernicus Foundation is requesting Polonia support for their bid to purchase a property adjacent to theirs, from the City of Chicago. Below is the content of an email we recently received, with more details about what each of us can do to help (by signing their petition).

Please consider supporting them (in the spirit of mutual support, as is part of our mission); as they support many Polonia organizations; and hosted our meetings for many years.

Dear Polish Engineers,

As you might know, the Copernicus Foundation is trying to buy the abandoned firehouse at 4841 N. Lipps from the City of Chicago in a negotiated sale. The Foundation would renovate the property keeping its historic façade and having it be part of our campus. The Copernicus Foundation is willing to pay \$300,000 for the property which the city appraised at \$208,000.

Sadly, the city appears to be accepting an offer from an outside developer, 4841 N. Lipps LLC (Ambrosia Homes) who will only be paying \$1 for the property. There are a number of steps that have to be taken before that sale is final, so we are asking for your support in trying to stop the sale.

Please sign our petition at www.FightForTheFirehouse.com and express your support of the Copernicus Foundation. The site will also allow you to send an e-mail directly to your Alderman asking him not to vote for the negotiated sale of the firehouse to 4841 N. Lipps LLC.

Please pass this information along to any of your friends and colleagues and share it on your social media!

This will show Mayor Lightfoot and the Aldermen that our community supports the Copernicus Foundation in its endeavor to develop this property in the best interests of the many communities we serve.

Thank you,

Alina Bosak
Event Coordinator
Copernicus Foundation
773-313-3893



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