

## AAWRE Hosts Engineering Ethics Sessions at EWRI Congress



Attendees participate in discussions during opening ethics session on May 13, 2008

More than 100 professional engineers and EWRI Congress attendees participated in the American Academy of Water Resources Engineers (AAWRE) special engineering ethics sessions the week of May 13-16, at the 2008 EWRI World Water and Environmental Resources Congress. The Academy organized three 2-hour sessions during the Congress to provide AAWRE diplomates and other Congress attendees a convenient opportunity to fulfill annual Professional Development Hours (PDH) renewal requirements. The participants had the opportunity to examine different ethical dilemmas for engineers, as presented via video.

The sessions were presented as interactive short courses, which encouraged a forum for group discussions. The case(s) focused on the numerous kinds of pressures that engineers face and the impact(s) that these pressures can have. The case study focused around the final inspections of a manufacturing plant in foreign lands. Participants had the opportunity to learn about their professional peers' opinions and feedback, and to exchange ideas regarding the case study.

All sessions were presented by Steve K. Starrett, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at Kansas State University and facilitated by Alicia Karwoski, P.E., M.ASCE, Manager of ASCE Professional Practice. The welcome and introductions were given by the Academy's administrator, Frank Kim.

Professor Starrett specializes in the expertise of surface water hydrology, hydraulics, nutrient and pesticide transport, erosion control, and engineering ethics. Mr. Starrett owns his own firm, Starrett Engineering, LLC, and also serves as an expert witness. He also serves on the ASCE Committee on Licensure and Ethics, and chairs the AAWRE Education and Ethics Committee. Dr. Starrett has also been selected to be the Technical Chair for the 2009 EWRI Congress in Kansas City.

For more information regarding this ethics case, please contact Professor Starrett at [steveks@ksu.edu](mailto:steveks@ksu.edu).

AAWRE session attendees earned two Professional Development Hours (PDHs) for participation. AAWRE intends on conducting additional ethics sessions at 2009 EWRI Congress and other water engineering conferences, as the ethics portion is a topic that is highly emphasized in the AAWRE's specialty certification program. For more information on AAWRE, please visit [www.aawre.org](http://www.aawre.org).

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