NEIEP instructors have a special goal to accomplish. While leading demanding lives at work and maintaining a home life, they are also responsible for designing engaging and well-rounded lessons that adequately explain NEIEP’s educational content. Many would agree that this isn’t always easy.

Understandably there are instances when it is difficult to remember or come up with relevant examples that a student can relate to. How to go about introducing a new unit with a lecture that will be both stimulating and focused? What about new approaches to those complex topics that apprentices seem to struggle with year after year?

While NEIEP provides instructors with support material and training courses such as the BTTC and ATTC, we wanted to offer another approach to the idea of support and learning that would address some of these questions and more. NEIEP’s Community Server was the answer to this area we had been lacking.

This opportunity for information exchange and access to an open forum for peer interaction and learning is available to all instructors. Those seeking advice, solutions to classroom and student matters, or simply to read about others’ experiences can do so within the Community Server. It is also a place where instructors can immediately share practical and relevant information in the form of attachments such as PowerPoint presentations and image files that they feel other instructors may find useful.

In order to get the most benefits out of what this environment can provide, it’s important to keep in mind that the information you seek—whether solutions or advice—is entirely reliant on instructors. This online community of instructors will only thrive if you contribute as an active participant and learner. Consider that your goal within this area is to provide as much information as you would hope and expect to find.

The following are excerpts from some of the discussions taking place:

“I have a student that has problems with Ohm’s Law. What would you recommend to help this student?”

“I put these rules into effect two years ago and my late arrivals dropped to just about zero.”

“Be sure to view the new hydraulic packing replacement Podcast developed by NEIEP. The link to the Podcast can be found on the On-Line Training page.”

“Knowing and understanding the basic rules for series, parallel, and series-parallel is imperative for a student to be able to grasp all he/she needs to work with Ohm’s Law.”
James McGoldrick, Region 1, New York City and nearby New Jersey
Region 1 is doing well. The Mechanic Exam was administered in November. The school year has been running smoothly. Apprentices are in the process of working on and building the NEIEP labs: hydraulic, hoistway, and meter.

I want to wish a happy holiday to our mechanics, their families, and all involved in the NEIEP community. Stay safe. I especially want to thank the NEIEP staff and employees for their tireless efforts to help us not only in Region 1 but all over the country.

E Ray Roche II, Region 2, Northeast
Recruitments have been completed in Local 6 Pittsburgh, Local 14 Buffalo, Local 59 Harrisburg and Local 62 Syracuse. Local 27 Rochester and Local 84 Reading - Scranton will begin in Spring 2008. I attended Career Day Programs at Vocational Technical Schools and Community Colleges in Region 2 to speak on the Elevator Constructor Apprenticeship Program. Region 2 Mechanic Exams have been completed with a performance passing percentage of 74%.

I had the pleasure of being assisted by Area Coordinator Joe Devlin while conducting Mechanic Exams in Local 59 and Local 84. I also assisted Area Coordinator Art Rodgers with the Local 5 Philadelphia Mechanic Exam, and Area Coordinator Jim McGoldrick with the Local 1 New York Mechanic Exam.

My daughter gave birth to a baby girl September 21, making me a grandfather for the first time. It’s a great feeling.

I would like to thank all the Region 2 Joint Apprenticeship Committee members for their cooperation during the year. Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all and don’t forget to count your blessings and appreciate every day.

John Spinella, Region 3, Southeast
Happy holidays from Region 3.

The work in Region 3 has unfortunately come to a screeching halt. I’ve just completed a recruitment in Local 93, and before we could complete the interviews, members and probationary apprentices were being laid-off. Lay-offs have been common throughout the region. The Mechanics Exams in the region have been completed, congratulations to those who were successful, all the hard work paid off, those who didn’t quite make it, try to keep a good attitude and make a commitment to work harder, and you CAN do it. I need to shout out to Local 24 Birmingham Alabama. They had an 83% passing rate. Good job!

With the New Year approaching, it’s always a good idea to discuss your EEOC policy during your January JAC meeting. If you can improve your policy or want to make any changes, this would be a good time to do it. Whatever you do, document the discussion and any changes in your meeting minutes. This is one of the first things that are requested during a compliance review. Also, make sure to send in updated wage rate changes to the ATRs as soon as you get the information.

Again, thanks for all the hard work and dedication from the committees and instructors, you keep the NEIEP engine running!

Ted Shank, Region 4, Midwest
Congratulations to all those hardy Midwest-erners who successfully challenged this year’s Mechanic’s Exam. Work in the Heartland is holding steady. Local 2, Chicago is gearing up to interview 841 applicants after testing 1106 of the 1408 who applied during the two week walk-in registration. The first two weeks in December, Local 55, Peoria will have a walk-in application period two days each in five central Illinois cities: Champaign, Bloomington, Peoria, Springfield, and Decatur. 2008 should bring recruitments in both Wisconsin Locals: 15, Milwaukee and 132, Madison as well as Local 34, Indianapolis.

We are still utilizing the Helments to Hardhats Program in recruitments throughout the region where possible. However, it was reported at a Chicago and Cook County Coordinator’s Meeting that Congress has slashed funding for this program by 80%. The good news is that their web site is still up and running, thus enabling quality candidates to still contact us.

May we all find 2008 to be a most prosperous year.

David Aranda, Region 5, Southwest
Recruitments are in progress in Locals 21,131, and 140. EIAT’s have been administered and we are presently scheduling for interviews. Local 133, Austin has their entrance exam scheduled for the 14th of December. Locals 31 and 81 have a standing recruitment list that we have recently completed.

I want to thank all Joint Apprenticeship Committees for doing a great job in setting up and assisting during the Mechanics exams. Your dedication to the Apprenticeship Program is commendable and I know it is appreciated by your members.

Congratulations to all the new IUEC Mechanics.

Earl Baker, Region 6, Northwest
The mechanics examinations were held in my area on the following dates: Salt Lake City, UT on September 12, Portland, OR on September 13, Anchorage, AK on October 23, Seattle, WA on October 25, Montana on October 26, Denver, CO on November 19, and Omaha, NE on November 20. I haven’t received the results for the Denver, CO and Omaha, NE tests but the other locations did well on the exam.

Recruitments were completed in Boise, ID on June 27, Salt lake City, UT on June 28, and Denver, CO on October 11. There are currently five recruitments in Region 6, the State of

“One of the most difficult tasks that I feel that I face as an instructor is keeping the students interested and involved in class. My class starts at 5:00 pm and runs until 9 pm. All of my students work a long hard day and by the time class rolls around, being in class is at the bottom of their wish list.”

To take advantage of the Community Server, instructors can either go directly to www.neiep.org/communityserver and log in with a NEIEP username and password or log into NEIEP’s website www.neiep.org and instructors will find a link to the Community Server on their home page. Please contact Linda at ldubois@neiep.org or ext. 21 with any comments or questions.

We leave it up to you instructors to make this a successful online community and learning environment.
Montana, Fairbanks, AK, Anchorage, AK, Nebraska, and Denver, CO. Testing in Fairbanks, AK was November 13 and Anchorage, AK on November 14. Montana’s testing will be held November 29 in Helena, MT, Nebraska on December 18, and Denver, CO on January 2 and 3, 2008.

In closing I would like to thank the NEIEP staff, the JAC Committee members and the NEIEP instructors for their hard work and dedication.

Thaddeus Tomei, Region 7, Hawaii and Pacific Islands
We will begin our 2008 Recruitment beginning January 6, 2008 and will be giving the EIAT Test on March 7, 2008. We then will have our Interviews done March 27, 28, and 29, 2008.

Work appears to be steady for the next year and a half; therefore, we are expecting to put on a few more new apprentices during 2008.

We had our Annual Mechanic’s Test done on November 9 and eight apprentices took the exam and two passed.

Roy Francesconi, Region 8, Northern California, Oregon, Utah
Northern California and Northern Nevada both have established applicant lists and should not be opening up new recruitments for approximately one year. Work is slow in Northern Nevada with 2 Probationary Apprentices working.

Northern California is busy with 120 Probationary Apprentices working. The mechanics examination was held in September with 33 Apprentices passing the exam. There are presently 410 Apprentices in Local 8.

Ed Lackey, Region 9, Southern California, Nevada
The total number of test takers for the Mechanic Exam in 2007 was 200.

The passing rate for the total of the region was 68%. In the three separate locations, Los Angeles 63% total passing. San Diego 77% total passing, down from 95% last year. In Las Vegas there was a passing rate of 76%, up from 55% the year before.

Two instructors moved from San Diego to Las Vegas. This I believe raised the passing rate in Las Vegas.

Congratulations to the 136 new Mechanics, almost equal to the number that took the test last year.

The Committee in Los Angeles has closed the application process in the State of California as of October and sometime in the first of 2008 the EIAT will be given to about 1200 applicants.

In California we are still accepting applications and will process those after October later next year as the committee decides.

The rate of new hires has dropped to almost zero. That may change after the first of the year.

Ron McKay, Region 10, Great Lakes
The results are in from the recently concluded 2007 Mechanics Exam. Within the seven Ohio and Michigan Locals, 79 apprentices challenged the exam. The passing rate was 76% which mirrored the 2006 percentage. These results are again due to the efforts of the apprentices and the outstanding instructors who pour their knowledge into them. Best of luck to all those who passed.

Please remember NEIEP’s Continuing Education courses. They will help to keep you at the top of your game. For those of you who were not so fortunate with the exam this year, be sure that you understand your options and enroll in one of those tracts as soon as possible. Your Local JATC committee will support you with enrollment if necessary.

Recruitments in the Great Lakes region will remain sparse for another year or two. Cincinnati Local 11, however, just concluded a walk-in application period. 223 individuals completed applications in their first step of the recruitment process and were tested during the first week of December.

Columbus, Local 37 will begin accepting written requests for applications on December 6. An advertisement will be also be posted on www.monster.com starting then. Details of the recruitment can be viewed in that ad.

The HCL Workshops were held during the beginning of November. Twenty-five instructors from across the country attended. These instructors learned how to effectively present the HCL lab in their classrooms. I’m confident that the students’ troubleshooting skills will be greatly enhanced due to the efforts of those instructors who attended.

A special thanks to all of the JATC committees in the Great Lakes Region for a great job in 2007. Your efforts are having a positive effect on the students in your Locals.

L. Thomas Breindel, Region 11, SEC
Recruitment has been ongoing in Region 11 Local’s 32 and 135 have been completed. Local 80 is taking walk-in applications in Burlington, NC and on December 12 and December 13 in Wilmington, NC.

By now Region 11 Mechanic’s Examinations have been administered. Congratulations to all who passed!

To all of our JAC members and the Instructors in Locals 32, 80, and 135 — THANK YOU again for all the hard work and dedication!!!

Happy holidays to all.

Joe Devlin, Region 12, New England
The Area is busy! After the mechanic’s exams we will be faced with three active recruitments as the New Year begins. Mechanic exam results are as follows. Local 41, Springfield, MA had an 81% passing rate as did Local 4 Maine Campus. Local 4, Boston did well with a 72.22% passing rate which gave the entire local an impressive 76.3% passing rate. Local 39 saw 4 of 6 candidates pass the mechanic exam (67%) while Local 91, Hartford did not do well at 53%. Local 138, Poughkeepsie achieved an awesome 100% rate when its only candidate passed. Local 35 did not have any candidates sit for this year’s exam. It is important to note many candidates who did pass were close to being successful. Hopefully next year will be their year.

Locals 91, 35, and Local 4 Maine will start recruiting soon. Next month Local 91 should commence activities with the approval of the Connecticut DOL pending. I anticipate Local 35, Albany and Local 4, Maine Campus to start before the first of the year.

To all apprentices I urge you to familiarize yourselves with the NEIEP website because valuable information about an individual’s status can be checked online. Remember it is the apprentice’s responsibility to keep their attendance and exam completions current.

Don’t forget to enjoy family activities over the Holidays and come back to school after the first of the year ready to go. Happy Holidays to all.

Tim Daly, Region 13, South Central
Greetings from Region 13
We are in the middle of another school year and it seems that everyone’s back in the groove.

Journeyman tests are behind us. Congratulations to all the new journeyman. For those who didn’t make it, keep up the studies. You must continue your education to be eligible to sit for the test next year.

Thank you to all my JACs for all the work they
do. We need everyone to be in involved. This is a joint effort from both company and union to make our workforce the best we can be.
I will be starting new recruitments in Local 3, Local 12, and Local 63 the first of 2008.
Remember 8 for 8, work safe, and go home all in one piece and enjoy life.
Happy holidays and best wishes to all.

Frank Lopez, Region 14, Miami
First of all, let’s start by congratulating our 52 new mechanics. It’s great to see that their hard work has paid off. Continuing your education is just a click away, just by going to www.neiep.org. It opens your door to a new future. You can receive a college degree, do your state licensing on-line, take self improvement courses, see video podcasts, learn about residential and LULA elevators and much more. So spread the word, education is just a click away.

Thanks to all instructors, JAC members, Local Union staff, and NEIEP staff for their hard work and dedication. At this time our work load has slow down since the previous year. But we’re looking for it to pick up after the holidays.

Happy Holidays to all.

Sonny Yeatman, Region 15, Washington, DC
Local #10 has taken applications on two occasions.
On August 14, 2007 Local 10 accepted 303 applications from 7:00 am until 10:00 am

On November 13, 2007 Local 10 accepted 216 applications from 7:00 am until 10:00 am

We will be holding the EIAT Test on December 7, 2007.

Bailey Dowdy, Region 17, Dominion
We’ve completed mechanic exams in Locals 20 and 48. I’d like to congratulate the six apprentices that passed. As for recruitments, we’ll be taking applications for Local 20 some time in February. Thanks to all!

Kris Katz, Region 18, Minnesota
The 2007/2008 school year is already half over, and the program is running as smooth as can be. We have completed the mechanics exam in Locals 9 and 33—both with great passing results. I’d like to congratulate all the new mechanics in these Locals. Good luck in the future. Local 33 is planning a recruitment for mid spring.

Also, thank you to the instructors. Your hard work and long hours are obviously paying off. Remember our troops and their families this holiday season.

Arthur Rodgers, Region 19, Philadelphia, PA and Baltimore, MD
Greetings from Region 19.
Local 5 Philadelphia finished its recruitment on June 1 with 375 names on its list. Local 7 Baltimore held its Mechanic exam on September 18 and now has 18 new Mechanics. Local 5 Philadelphia held its Mechanic exam on November 5. There were 33 brothers and sisters who sat for the exam and Local 5 now has 22 new Mechanics.

My thanks to the JATC and instructors from both Locals on the fine job they did preparing these brothers and sisters for the Mechanic exam.

Local 7 recruitment has started on November 18 and will finish with a new list by about the 3rd week of February 2008.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Dan Larzalere, Region 20, Arizona and Southern California
Local 18, Las Vegas finished recruitment at the end of September resulting in 171 names on the list. The Mechanics Exam was also held in September for Las Vegas with just under an 80% pass rate. There are currently 170 apprentices enrolled in class in Las Vegas.

The Mechanics Exam held in San Diego resulted in a 77% pass rate. There are currently 183 apprentices enrolled in the Local. Recruitment for San Diego is currently being decided.

W-2s FOR INSTRUCTORS

NEIEP Instructors’ W-2s for 2007 will be mailed no later than January 31, 2008, to all who instructed during the past year. If you are expecting a W-2 and do not receive one from us in the mail by the second week of February, please contact Bridget at extension 16 to inquire about your paperwork.