

**Increasing the Number of Black Engineers**

By Yvette Watson of NSBE

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) recently signed a three-year agreement designed to support the two organizations' mutual goals in regard to increasing diversity in engineering. The agreement outlines collaboration in a number of areas to achieve NSBE's main strategic goal, which is to lead the US to graduate 10,000 black engineers annually, with bachelor's degrees, by the year 2025, up from 3,501 in 2014.

The memorandum of understanding was signed by BMES President Lori Setton, BMES Executive Director Edward Schilling, NSBE National Chair Matthew Nelson, and NSBE Executive Director Karl Reid, EdD. The signing ceremony took place on March 1 at NSBE World Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia.

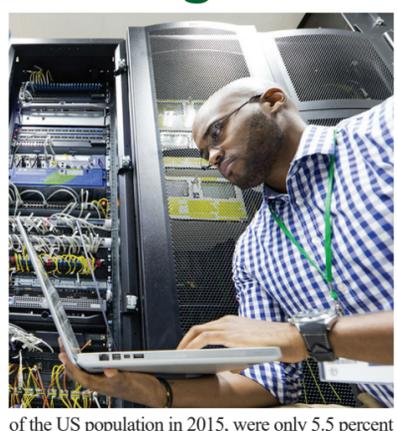
"BMES recognizes that to achieve its own goal to grow a diverse community of engineers, we need a strategy and an experienced and knowledgeable partner," said Setton, who plans to

begin work on the project this year at NSBE's 43rd Annual Convention, in Kansas City, Missouri, from March 29 to April 2.

NSBE National Vice Chair Kristopher Rawls, is a PhD candidate in biomedical engineering at the University of Virginia and a longtime member of BMES. NSBE and BMES leadership kicked off the planning phase of the partnership at NSBE World Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, on March 1.

"NSBE is excited to have BMES as a partner to help reach our goal of graduating 10,000 black engineers annually starting in 2025," said Rawls. "Particularly, we are excited to work together to increase BMES representation within NSBE, which has been a personal goal of mine since I joined NSBE back in 2007. NSBE is also excited to work with BMES on engineering exposure outreach activities through avenues such as NSBE's Summer Engineering Experience for Kids (SEEK) as well as activities led by BMES."

The memorandum of understanding cites statistics that show the urgent need to increase the representation of black students and professionals in engineering. African Americans, 13.2 percent



of the US population in 2015, were only 5.5 percent of the US engineering workforce, 4 percent of the nation's engineering bachelor's degree recipients, and 2.71 percent of those awarded degrees in bioengineering in the US that year. The agreement

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For more information, please contact Catherine Best: 973-413-1911 / MWDBE@rccmail.net

Railroad Construction Company, Inc. (RCC) is an EEO/AA employer. RCC is constantly looking for and fully committed to doing business with certified small, minority, woman-owned, disadvantaged and disabled veteran-owned subcontractors and vendors. RCC also recruits female and minority union workers.

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**6257 Track and System Installation for the New Second Track on the Main Line Ronkonkoma Branch Phase II MTA LIRR Contract Bid Date: April 11, 2017**

**Description of project:** Installation of ~ 8 miles of ballasted track and signals / communication / power systems for the new second track on the Ronkonkoma Branch line.

**Subcontracting opportunities include, but are not limited to:** Installation of signal / communication / power systems, civil support work for electrical sub, and architectural / mechanical / electrical / site work for station platforms.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com

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IS SOLICITING BIDS FROM DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS CERTIFIED WITH THE NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM Replacement of Bruckner Expressway over Westchester Creek (Unionport Bridge) NYCDOT Contract No: 84116BXBR008 Bid Date: April 14, 2017

Subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to Asbestos Abatement, Barrier, CPM Scheduling, Demolition, Drainage, Electrical, Fencing, Field Trailer, Haul and Dispose, Landscaping, Marine Boats, Marine Works, Miscellaneous Metals, MPT, Painting, Paving, Railings, Rebar, Saw Cutting, Sealing, Striping, Surveying, and Testing. Please see contract documents for further opportunities.

Interested firms please contact John Papagiannakis at Skanska Koch Inc., john.papagiannakis@skanska.com

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**Long Island Railroad Expansion Project from Floral Park to Hicksville MTA LIRR Contract Bid Date: July 6, 2017**

**Description of project:** The LIRR Expansion Project from Floral Park to Hicksville is a strategic component in Governor Andrew Cuomo's comprehensive plan to transform New York's vital transportation infrastructure while improving the economy, environment, and future of Long Island. The Expansion is decades in the making. Residents and commuters along the Main Line corridor have long sought a mass transit solution to reduce congestion, improve safety and the environment, and provide an appealing alternative to driving, with minimal disruption to existing services and without residential property takings. The new plan includes construction of a 9.8 mile third track between the Floral Park and Hicksville stations, the elimination of 7 grade crossings to improve safety and reduce road traffic, and upgrades to infrastructure, stations, and parking along the route.

**Subcontracting opportunities include, but are not limited to:** Civil Work, Professional Services, Mechanical Work, Architectural Work, Metals, Electrical Work, and Design Services.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact: [info@skanskakiewitposillico.com](mailto:info@skanskakiewitposillico.com)



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All registered vendors will be added to the TZC Vendor Database, which TZC uses to seek DBE firms for every Subcontract Opportunity.

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*Subcontract opportunities are primarily available for construction firms, however several support service opportunities also exist.*

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Whether you're just starting your enterprise or have been in business for years, being smart about your marketing budget is never a bad idea. This course will look at email marketing, social media, website, and in person strategies to grow your business. Our business experts will discuss with you how to evaluate scams, how to figure out who your customers are, and how to determine when it is really "worth it" to hire someone to help versus doing it yourself. Feel free to ask questions. If you want to save time or money or both, we have you covered.

**Doing Business with the State of Connecticut Friday, April 7, 2017, 9:30 am-12:00 pm Entrepreneurial Center-Butterworth Hall, 1265 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT Main Sponsor(s): University of Hartford Entrepreneurial Center, Connecticut Procurement Technical Assistance Program, Small Business Administration Connecticut District Office Contact: 860-768-5681, [entrectr@hartford.edu](mailto:entrectr@hartford.edu) Fee: Free; registration required**

This workshop will outline how to do business with the State of Connecticut. Representatives from the Connecticut Procurement Technical Assistance Program (CT PTAP) and the Small Business Administration's Connecticut District Office will be available to discuss products and services offered. The overall mission of CT PTAP is to provide marketing and procurement assistance to Connecticut businesses interested in selling their goods or services to federal, state, or local governments. CT PTAP is a statewide program serving all cities and towns in Connecticut.

**Promoting Your Business on a Budget Monday, April 10, 2017, 5:30 pm-7:30 pm Jewett School, 66 Bridge Street, Bucksport, ME Main Sponsor(s): Maine Small Business Development Center, Bucksport Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Contact: Jennifer Sherwood, 207-780-4420, [jennifer.sherwood@maine.edu](mailto:jennifer.sherwood@maine.edu) Fee: Free; registration required**

**Introduction to Google Analytics Thursday, April 13, 2017, 6:00 pm-9:00 pm Brookdale Community College, Monmouth Ocean Small Business Development Center, 765 Newman Springs Road, Lincroft, NJ Main Sponsor(s): Monmouth Ocean Small Business Development Center Contact: 732-842-8685, [mosbdc@brookdalecc.edu](mailto:mosbdc@brookdalecc.edu) Fee: Free; registration required**

For the small business owner, every minute and every dollar counts. In the important realm of your social media and website presence, you need reporting tools that will help you make informed marketing decisions. Google Analytics is a powerful, free reporting tool that you can use to measure the effectiveness of your marketing efforts. The experienced team at the Monmouth Ocean Small Business Development Center is willing and able to provide free instruction and other valuable assistance for your business. In this particular class, learn how to set up Google Analytics to measure website visitor traffic, collect data from your online marketing campaigns, and track social media activity. To register, call 732-842-8685 or visit [www.mosbdc.com](http://www.mosbdc.com).