



ASCE *American Society of Civil Engineers*

WISCONSIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

May 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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2015 – 2016

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ASCE began in 1852 with 12 members and grew to an organization of 150,000 members in 177 countries. Is ASCE built to last to 2066? What is the recipe for creating a professional association that will head confidently into the future?

Members of ASCE seek personal and professional growth and find ASCE to be a key resource in their career development. Our members express an interest in being part of a community and believe they are connected to ASCE's mission to: "Provide essential value to our members and partners, advance civil engineering, and serve the public good."

The following 'ingredients' are essential for ASCE's future:

1. Speed at which data and information is developed so that we can rapidly formulate opinions, decisions, and uses of that data.
2. Acknowledge social connectivity as psychological factor for well-being.
3. Evolution of what it means to be mission-driven and become a member.
4. The global body of knowledge as the new norm for problem solving.
5. Continue encouraging members' personal and professional growth.

We live in a "now economy" that expects real-time information that directly links us to the body of knowledge. Will the new college grads have a new paradigm for their role as an ASCE member? Will attending dinners and conferences still be the way to receive impactful information in their field of interest or will there be a shift to acquiring timely intellectual insights that can help them perform better in their profession instantaneously?



I believe the ASCE of the future will move to a “body of knowledge” accessible via our website, which is updated regularly to networked channels of discussion containing the latest information available 24/7. The networked channels of discussion would look like a conglomeration of the “like” content from the popular social sites such as ASCE collaborate + Google + Sirius Radio + LinkedIn+ Facebook + cross geography access for problem solving.

The future of ASCE should be designed to serve and strengthen the knowledge worker, who is seeking advancement of mission and increased impact on his or her field of study, science, government, and society.

In carrying out our mission, ASCE will strive to:

- Advance technology
- Encourage lifelong learning
- Promote professionalism and the profession
- Develop civil engineer leaders
- Advocate infrastructure and environmental stewardship

I would like to thank all the ASCE members who braved the weather and/or made travel accommodations to attend the ASCE Spring Technical Conference. Your participation and attendance is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to working with members to develop our winning recipe for the future success of ASCE!

Dan Borchardt, P.E., M.ASCE
ASCE Wisconsin Section President



PAST EVENTS 2016 Spring Technical Conference

From Brad Severson, Conference Planning Committee Treasurer:

The 2016 Spring Technical Conference was held on March 24th at the Tundra Lodge in Green Bay. Despite a blast of winter bringing 10 inches of snow the night before the conference, 200 people braved the elements to make this one of the best attended Spring Technical Conferences to date.

The conference kicked off with a presentation from Tom Buchholz from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Tom discussed the I-41 interstate conversion project, provided updates on the \$1.4 billion I-41 and \$482 million WIS 441 construction projects, and showed corrosion monitoring techniques being employed on the Leo Frigo Bridge.

At the lunch session, Jim Botz and Marty Kemps from Mead & Hunt discussed the award-winning Montello Dam project. Also at the lunch session, student awards were presented, Natural Resources Technology was presented with the 2015 ASCE Superior Employer Recognition Award for Support of Younger Members, and new ASCE Life Members were recognized.

To conclude the evening, Chris Martin from the University of Wisconsin – Green Bay and St. Norbert College gave a very enthusiastic presentation on engineering ethics. Chris took on the difficult task of discussing a seemingly boring topic at the end of a long day, and masterfully kept the audience engaged with interesting anecdotes and ways to relate various ethical theories to the engineering profession.

Between each of these general sessions, sixteen breakout sessions covered numerous topics related to all Civil Engineering disciplines. Also mixed throughout the day was plenty of time to interact with

other engineers, and enough snacks to keep everyone's growling stomachs to a low murmur (those cookies were huge!).

Thank you to the presenters and conference committee on a job well done, and thank you most of all to all of the attendees who weathered the storm (pun intended) to trek to Green Bay and make this such a successful event!

From Larry Ryan and Marissa Wildeck, Wisconsin Section Awards Co-Chairs:

Fourteen Wisconsin Section New Life Members were recognized at the Section's Spring Technical Conference held in Green Bay on March 24, 2016. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, only two were able to make the conference to be duly recognized by the Section membership.

This year's class of New Life Members includes Anthony Binsfeld, James Borg, Daniel Brady, Jack Cox, Harry Farchmin, Saeed Karsheas, Daniel Lau, Curtis Miller, Sun-Nain Ni, William Ripp, Robert Schaefer, Wayne Schumm, Jeffery Western, and Kenneth Yunker.



From left to right: Daniel Brady, Dan Borchardt, Harry Farchmin, and Marissa Wildeck

Two Outstanding Senior Civil Engineering Student Awards (OSCES Awards) were awarded to McKenzie Berg, EIT, S.M.ASCE, a mid-year graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, and David Burt, S.M.ASCE, a senior at the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

Natural Resource Technology was also recognized for their selection by ASCE National as the winner of the 2015 ASCE Superior Employer Recognition Award for Support of Younger Members in the Private Sector.

CIVIL ENGINEERING AND SUSTAINABLE DESIGN: CURRENT DESIGN PRACTICES AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

From Dr. Molly M. Gribb, P.E., F.ASCE, Dean of the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville:

This is intended to be a summary version from the interactive session at the 2015 ASCE National Department Heads' Meeting and 2015 Wisconsin Section Annual Meeting.

Sustainability is one of ASCE's three strategic priorities; with a goal of "...helping professionals to incorporate sustainability principles into their daily practice." In support of this goal, the Society has an action plan and has created a Committee on Sustainability. Perhaps due to this increased attention on sustainability, changes to ABET Civil Engineering Program Criteria for the 2016-17 accreditation cycle will require that civil engineering curricula prepare graduates to "include principles of sustainability in design."

The 2015 ASCE National Civil Engineering Department Heads' meeting held May 18-20, 2015 in Blacksburg, VA included a session on this topic in which ~20 department chairs and heads from across the nation discussed ideas for including sustainable design in curricula, as well as unresolved issues with teaching sustainable design principles.

During a similar interactive session at the September 25, 2015 Wisconsin Section ASCE Meeting held in Madison, Wisconsin participants, primarily practitioners, reviewed the department heads' findings and responded to three questions aimed at informing civil engineering departments about the current state of practice for sustainable design in their firms, and developing a list of educational needs. Participants responded to the following three questions and offered comments and/or suggestions:

1. How are sustainable design principles applied in your work (or at your firm)?
2. What specific skills/knowledge of sustainable design should be included in civil engineering curricula?
3. What are your ideas for incorporating sustainable design in undergraduate civil engineering curricula?

Participants generated a long list of responses to the question about how sustainable design principles are applied in their work. Online document management, use of recycled materials and LEED certification were most cited examples of inclusion of sustainable design in practice. Participants' feedback about the specific skills/knowledge of sustainable design to be included in civil engineering curricula also generated a wide range of ideas, of which material selection, recycling and reuse, and life cycle costs were frequently cited. For the final question in which participants were asked for their ideas of how to include sustainable design in civil engineering programs, a semester class, use of Envision and guest lecturers were the most cited suggestions.

Civil engineering department heads and practitioners identified the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure Envision rating tool and LEED certification criteria as vehicles for including sustainable design principles in civil engineering coursework. Both groups also had questions about how sustainability in design will be defined and evaluated by ABET program evaluators in the accreditation and review process. These interactive sessions also generated a number of ideas and resources to consider that, along with the newest ASCE webinar on this subject, provide information civil engineering programs can use to incorporate the principles of sustainable design in civil engineering curricula.

The complete paper describing the results of these two interactive sessions, including links to online resources, is available here: <https://www.uwplatt.edu/ems/sustainability-civil-engr>. Practitioners or others who wish to provide additional input to be shared with civil engineering chairs and department heads are welcome to send their comments to Molly Gribb at gribbm@uwplatt.edu.



COMMITTEE UPDATES **NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Please welcome Jennifer Bennett and Emil Bautista as our newest additions to the Wisconsin Section Board!

Jennifer is the new Diversity Committee Chair (taking over for Terese Dressel) and is a recent transplant from Houston, Texas. She currently works for Arcadis in Milwaukee as an environmental engineer.

Emil will be assisting Dr. Mark Meyers with the Geo-Institute Chapter. Emil is originally from the Dominican Republic and currently works for GeoTest, Inc. as the Testing Services and Quality Assurance Manager.

LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Are you looking to get involved in ASCE? How about joining an existing Wisconsin Section committee? There are plenty to choose from! We are always looking for additional members to join existing committees!

For more information on Wisconsin Section committees, see the Administrative Manual on the Wisconsin Section website, at <http://www.ascewi.org/administrative-manual/>.

Please contact Justin Bilskemper at Justin.Bilskemper@strand.com if you are interested in increasing your committee involvement.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE INVITATION

From Gregory Schroeder, P.E., Public Affairs Committee Chair:

Are you interested in the many State of Wisconsin political issues that affect Civil Engineering? Are you a king or queen of social media? Do you have a talent for expressing issues in written form? If the answer is yes to any of these then the Public Affairs committee needs your help.

As your relatively new Public Affairs chairperson, my vision is that we would have an internet forum for the discussion of Public Affairs of Wisconsin. What are the most important issues impacting Civil Engineers or our service to the public? Our Public Affairs cannot be a one person operation. We need a vetting of opinions to be sure that we accurately representing a consensus of our profession.

Ideally, our internet forum would be internal and confidential to allow for a more free flow of ideas. Like I said, I need input on what forum would be right for our members. It has to be convenient; maybe an existing social media account or easy link from your home page. Will it be Linked In, Facebook, Twitter or a hosted bulletin board? I will provide my email at the end of this article for your input.

In the meantime, what are the current issues that you have some passion about? Think about this. Remember our connections and how we are stronger together. Put my email address (gregory.schroeder@we-energies.com) in your contacts. Send me a note next time the radio news captures your attention with a State or local issue near and dear to Civil Engineering. A text will work as well!

Send me a test email and let me know if I may include you on Public Affairs group emails. That would be like being a committee member with minimal commitment, but unlimited potential! With your help we can increase our engagement and positive impact where we are most needed.

JUMP START YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL - EXPERIENCE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

From Harry Farchmin, P.E., LEED AP, Management Technical Committee Chair:

The 2016 Spring Technical Conference's Management and Leadership Track featured an introduction to the American Council of Engineering Companies of Wisconsin's Leadership Institute program (<http://www.acecwi.org/?706>). Tom Pulse (President of Ayres Associates and class advisor) and Lindsay Kaufmann (Michael Baker Jr. and class of 2015) presented an overview of this popular and effective leadership and career development series. The leadership experience is tailored to launch professionals on a development track for successful project management and principal positions. Participation in this exclusive program is an outstanding professional development opportunity and results in approximately 40 professional development hour credits.

Leadership Institute focuses on the non-technical side of the profession. It is tailored to launch professionals on a development track for successful project management, principal and leadership positions. This is not your typical educational conference; it is a leadership experience composed of six interactive sessions, goal setting, action planning and relationship building that lead to a transformative experience.

ASCE Wisconsin section members are encouraged to consider applying for the Leadership Institute Class of 2017. Leadership Institute is open to engineers and other design professionals within Wisconsin's design profession. Many of your firms are already ACEC WI members; however, your firm/organization need not be a member to apply.

Download the Leadership Institute brochure to learn more. Application materials are due to ACEC WI (acecwi@acecwi.org) by July 13, 2016.



UPCOMING EVENTS/DEADLINES WISCONSIN SECTION ASCE BOARD ELECTIONS

The Wisconsin Section Board is beginning to seek out candidates for the 2016-2017 Section Year. We are currently looking for members to fill the following roles:

- Vice-President – Four year term (Vice-President 2016-2017, President-Elect 2017-2018, President 2018-2019, Past-President 2019-2020)
- Director-At-Large – Two year term (2016-2017 and 2017-2018)
- Director-At-Large – Two year term (2016-2017 and 2017-2018)

Please contact Justin Bilskemper (Justin.Bilskemper@strand.com) for more information or to announce your candidacy. Elections are to occur in July.

2016 ANNUAL MEETING

The date has been set for the ASCE Wisconsin Section Annual Meeting! Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on **September 16, 2016** at the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa in Lake Geneva. The planning committee has worked with the resort to reserve blocks of rooms in the main resort (Grand Geneva Resort and Spa) and the waterpark (Timber Ridge Lodge and Waterpark). Come for the conference, stay and enjoy the resort!



AWARD NOMINATION/ENTRY FORMS

The Wisconsin Section is currently accepting award nominations for the following categories (click on the links to be taken to the nomination form or visit <http://www.ascewi.org/awards/>):

- Engineering Achievement Awards
 1. Category A - Projects less than \$2,000,000
 2. Category B - Projects greater than \$2,000,000 and less than \$10,000,000
 3. Category C - Projects greater than \$10,000,000 and less than \$20,000,000
 4. Category D - Projects greater than \$20,000,000

- Individual Achievement Awards
 1. Distinguished Service
 2. Young Civil Engineer of the Year
 3. Engineer in Education
 4. Engineer in Consulting
 5. Engineer in Government
 6. Engineer in Private Practice

- Excellence in Journalism Award

The awards in these categories will be presented at the Annual Meeting to be held on September 16, 2016, at the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa in Lake Geneva.

The Secretary of the Wisconsin Section, Ken Mika (kmika@naturalrt.com), must receive all nominations by June 1, 2016. Stories for which the Journalism Award nomination is being submitted must have been published between April 1st of the previous year and March 31st of the year in which the nomination is being submitted.

The Jury of Judges reviews the Engineering Achievement Award nominations. All other awards are determined by the Wisconsin Section's Nominations committee.

SOUTHEAST BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Annual ASCE SE Branch Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on June 10, 2016 at Ironwood Golf Course in Sussex, WI. The proceeds from this event support the ASCE Southeast Branch Scholarship program which awards scholarships to students in southeast Wisconsin.

Your registration includes lunch, dinner, bloody mary bar, two drink tickets, golf, cart, one ball for throwing off the balcony game, range balls and free entry into the raffle prizes. Wrist band sales include two mulligans and entry for the super duper big prizes. We will also have a hospitality cart providing things like ice cream, apples, water and other snacks.

Click on "Get more Information" and "Register Now!" below to get information and register for the event.

[Get more information](#)

[Register Now!](#)

Last year we sold out all 27 holes, so sign up while you still can! Registration is now OPEN and closes on June 3! Confirm your teams and sign them up for the best golf tournament experience of the year. We hope to see you at the event!



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FIVE FREE PDHS!?!

Are you looking for some professional development opportunities to bolster your technical skills? Do you need continuing education credits? Have you taken advantage of your FIVE FREE PDHs for 2016?? Check out the programs being offered by ASCE's Continuing Education Department. For more information, please see the ASCE website at http://www.asce.org/continuing_education/. The deadline for the free on-demand webinars is December 31, 2016.



CALENDAR OF SECTION EVENTS

The calendar is simply a guide and may change throughout the year:

MAY

- ❖ Wisconsin Section Board Meeting

JUNE

- ❖ June 1 - Nominations due for Individual Merit and Engineering Achievement Awards to the Wisconsin Section Secretary

JULY

- ❖ Wisconsin Section Board Meeting

AUGUST

- ❖ August 12-13 - Region 3 Assembly, Chicago, IL

SEPTEMBER

- ❖ September 16 - Annual Meeting, Lake Geneva, WI
- ❖ September 18-19 - Presidents and Governors Forum, Reston, VA



INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITY REQUEST

If you have Involvement Opportunities (example - community service event or organization) for Wisconsin Section members that you would like featured in the Wisconsin Section Newsletter, e-mail Justin Bilskemper at Justin.Bilskemper@strand.com with a detailed description of the opportunity and help needed.



UPDATE YOUR ASCE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Please update your ASCE online profile with current e-mail and mailing addresses to guarantee you receive ASCE newsletters and important information. As a reminder, those of you that have passed your PE exam, make sure to update your account with ASCE National. To update your ASCE profile, go to www.asce.org or call (800) 548-2723.



ASCE Wisconsin Section Website is continually updated. Please visit it at <http://www.ascewi.org/> to stay up to date on events. There are also links to all of the four branches within the Wisconsin Section.