



"advance the Civil Engineering profession by serving the members of Region 8 as an extension of the Board of Direction"

Hello Everybody and Hope that the New Year is well with you!

ASCE's 2018 New Year certainly has been busy. It started off easy and the momentum has been building. Many of you know that only lasted a week, at least for those of you that attended the Las Vegas Regions 8 & 9 Multi-Regions Leadership Conference (MRLC). Attendees were involved for two days of go and go and the ASCE staff and member committees seemed to make sure everyone had enough to do. The workshops for Sections & Branches, Younger Members, and Student Members, with the addition of Institutes, provided for many opportunities to learn and network.

Prior to the MRLC, the Region 8 Board of Governors met the first day and then the BOG and the Assembly met the second day, just prior to the start of the MRLC. From what I observed of the Assembly activities and reports back, you all were involved, and much information was exchanged. I was unable to attend except on breaks of the ASCE Board of Direction meeting that was occurring at the same time. Thank you, Sections and Branch for attending, and the good work of Region 8's Governors.

The BOG meeting was in closed session interviewing Region 8 Governor and Director candidates. The results will appear on ASCE ballot and the voting will occur between 1 May and 1 June 2018. There are two Governor positions open, and one Director position. Those that you will see on the ballots for Governors are: Jessica Smith, Alaska Section and Kate Thompson, Columbia Section in Washington. Two people will appear on the ASCE ballot for Director and they are: Tony Lau, Hawaii Section and Dennis Richards, Arizona Section. All are well qualified; get to know them through the reading of their bios or if they are at a meeting you are attending.

During the time that the Region 8 Assembly was meeting, the ASCE Board of Direction (BOD) was meeting to select the official nominee(s) for the ASCE 2019 President-Elect. Two were selected; Louis C. Aurigemma, P.E., F.ASCE (Region 5), and Kancheepuram (Guna) N. Gunalan, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE, F.ASCE (Region 8). As with the Region 8 Governors and Director candidates, get to know the 2019 President-Elect candidates and vote in May.

Last week, I had the good fortune to visit and meet with the Inland Empire Section. Robin Kemper, 2018 President-Elect, was also present and I am sure that she enjoyed her visit as much as I did. The first evening, Section President Bill Meeks had a dinner meeting of the Section Board where Robin and I had the opportunity to sit and talk about ASCE and to get to know one another. It was a wonderful evening and thank you.

However, the next evening was the Section's January 2018 Banquet and it was an event to blow your socks off. The attendance was to capacity with sections members, younger members, and student chapter members from the University of Idaho, Washington State University, and Gonzaga University. The evening started off with Robin meeting with the students and younger members.



Following Robin's session, it was time for some networking and the phones were in hand taking names, emails, and phone numbers and sharing many things. Oh, it was so good to observe as all mixed about the room. Once people were through the food line and seated, more conversation occurred. I had the good pleasure of sitting at a table of Gonzaga students and to hear where they are from, their interests, classes, internships, and some of their goals.

Following Robin's presentation, Section President Bill completed the evening with many recognitions. These recognitions were for involvement in ASCE and the community. Two awards that I would like to bring to your attention are examples of the Inland Empire Section's involvement and a means of recognizing others. The two are: 2018

Engineer of Merit Award and Scholarships.

The Engineer of Merit Award was presented to Kevin Chang, Ph.D., PE, University of Idaho Professor and Student Chapter Faculty Advisor, plus many other things that Kevin does. Congratulations Kevin!



The scholarship award, \$1500, was presented by the Section to one student from the University of Idaho (Joshua Graff), Washington State University (Cai Yamamoto), and Gonzaga University (Sean Urann).



This was for an essay paper on a subject, my apologies for not having the correct subject. It just seemed that it was one of those that may be considered outside the comfort zone. Like me, writing a monthly article which is like pulling teeth and I am starting to run out of teeth to be pulled.

In closing of the banquet, Bob Turner informed all present that the Inland Empire Section will be hosting the Region 8's Fall Meeting of the BOG and Assembly in Spokane, 6, 7, 8 September 2018. Sections and Branches, mark your calendars and save the date.

It is always a pleasure to hear from you, please continue to [share your thoughts](#). Thank you for being a member of ASCE.

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Tacoma-Olympia Section Update

Greetings from the Tacoma-Olympia Section! Thanks for the opportunity to highlight our section in the Region 8 newsletter. The Tacoma-Olympia Section represents

members west of the Cascades crest from South King County (north of Tacoma) west to the Pacific coastline and South to the Cowlitz County line.

Our section has been busy hosting joint meetings with other engineering, military, and surveying professional organizations. We are doing these collaborations to increase our meeting attendance. This month we are co-hosting with the Land Surveyors Association of Washington to network and hear about one of our county's geographic information system, record of surveys, and plats. We anticipate about 45 people for our dinner meeting which nearly quadruples our meeting attendance from previous years. In December, we hosted a joint meeting with the Seattle Section where we heard from the Engineering Director of the Port of Seattle. Our attendance was sixty members and nearly evenly split between our section and the ASCE Seattle Section. We think our strategy of collaborating with other groups is working and we are excited for the upcoming year.

Two of our members are recently back from the MRLC meeting in Las Vegas on January 11 and 12th. This was a chance for them to network with other sections and branches to discuss ways to improve our collaboration and outreach activities. Tom and Chris were able to join our local ASCE student chapter from St. Martins University (SMU) for dinner with Roger Millar, the Washington State Secretary of Transportation, and a current ASCE Board of Direction Director-at-Large. Secretary Millar is a member of our Section and was named the 2017 ASCE Government Engineer of the Year. Dinner was a great opportunity to meet students and discuss their future. St. Martins University will be hosting the 2019 Pacific Northwest Regional Student Conference next year, so those student members were busy taking workshops on hosting such an event. Our local Section members anticipate providing support for the SMU student Chapter.

Attendees to the MRLC conference were able to weigh in and discuss the strategic plan being adopted by ASCE this spring and learn about the new Canon 8 adopted to the Code of Ethics. Canon 8 deals with diversity and treating all persons fairly. It encourages equitable participation without regard to gender or gender identity, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, age, sexual orientation, disability, political affiliation, or family, marital, or economic status. This canon has been in the works for at least thirty years and was finally adopted by the Board of Direction last year.

We also learned about the many resources and tools that ASCE has for educational outreach and the running of the Section. One of the most exciting announcements at the conference concerned the anticipated release of the documentary film DREAM BIG to all public schools in the United States beginning later this year. DREAM BIG has been a big success introducing students and the general public to the exciting world of Civil Engineering and ASCE is hoping that Sections will help in the purchase and distribution of the film to middle and elementary schools in our area. They anticipate offering a blue ray or DVD disc for \$5.00 but are looking for Sections to make a local connection with the film and associated lesson plans. More details on this release of the film are expected to be coming out in February. [So stay tuned.](#)

Tom Szymoniak, P.E., M.ASCE
Tacoma-Olympia Section

Region 8 Award Winners

Inland Empire Section Awards

- **Kevin Chang, Ph.D, P.E.**, Inland Empire Section has been awarded the **Engineer of Merit** award by the Inland Empire Section
- **Joshua Graff**, University of Idaho, **Cai Yamamoto**, Washington State University, and **Sean Urann**, Gonzaga University were awarded the **\$1500 Scholarship** by the Inland Empire Section

Environmental and Water Resources Institute Award

Dr. Blake P. Tullis, Ph.D, F.EWRI, M.ASCE, Northern Utah Branch of the Utah Section, has been selected by the Environmental and Water Resources Institute to receive the **2018 Hydraulic Structures Medal** for "significant contributions to hydraulic engineering in the areas of nonlinear weir spillway design, air vent sizing small embankment dam bottom outlets, culvert hydraulics, fish passage, physical modeling in support of hydraulic structure engineers through applied, innovative, hands-on design sources." Congratulations to Dr. Tullis! *ASCE Headquarters, Geographic Services*

Region 8 Calendar of Upcoming Events

March

- Legislative Fly-In, Arlington, VA, March 13-15, 2018
- OPAL, Arlington, VA, March 15, 2018
- ASCE BOD Meeting, Arlington, VA, March 16 &17, 2018

April

- Pacific NW Student Conference, Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Falls, OR, April 5-7, 2018
- Rocky Mountain Student Conference, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, April 5-7, 2018
- Pacific Southwest Student Conference, Arizona State University/Northern Arizona University, April 11-14, 2018
- Mid-Pacific Student Conference, Sacramento State/University of the Pacific, April 19-21, 2018

Visit [Region 8 Events](#) for more information.

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