

2024 OUTSTANDING SECTION / BRANCH AWARD NOMINATION FORM

<u>INSTRUCTIONS</u>

- An event/activity may only be used once and cannot be repeated throughout the application. Please select the most appropriate category. There are potential negative points for an event/activity that is repeated.
- Sections should NOT include activities completed by their Branches and Branches should NOT include activities completed by their Section.
- Applications are limited to 12 pages plus a copy of one newsletter.
- Point totals are listed under each category for a maximum of 125 points.
- Only list activities from October 1 September 30 which can be either virtual or in-person.
- Please e-mail an electronic PDF file to Nancy Berson at ASCE: nberson@asce.org by October 30, 2024.

BASIC INFORMATION

Award Classification (check one):	 □ Very Large Section/Branch (> 4000 members) □ Large Section/Branch (1501-4000 members) □ Medium Section/Branch (501-1500 members) □ Small Section/Branch (< 501 members)
Section/Branch Nominee:	Houston Branch
Name and Board Position of Contact Member:	Alexa Nichols - Past President
ASCE Member ID:	920240
Address:	P.O. Box 420472 Houston, TX 77242
Telephone:	(903) 720-2674
E-mail:	AlexaNicholsEng@outlook.com

NOMINATION QUESTIONS/SCORING

125 points maximum

A. <u>COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS</u> (15 Points Maximum)

Newsletter (1 point per issue, 5 points maximum):

Please include one electronic newsletter with the Award nomination package or include a link to an active website. The links must be active to receive points for this section. Points will be given for the number of newsletters published either on the website, e-mailed to members or on social media.

Number of Newsletters Published Annually:	The Houston Branch sends out 11 newsletters annually via email to its mailing list. The newsletters are typically sent out on the first Monday of every month (excluding July). Our website hosts the newsletters and articles in the Branch Newsletter Section under the News & Events tab.		
Newsletter Links (if available):	Newsletter Articles: 1. October 2023 2. November 2023 3. December 2023 4. January 2024 5. February 2024 6. March 2024 7. April 2024 8. May 2024 9. June 2024 10. August 2024 11. September 2024		

Website (5 points maximum):

Verify that all links are active prior to submission.

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Website Link:	https://ascehouston.org		
	The ASCE Houston Branch website serves as an essential resource for our members,		
	packed with valuable information and tools to enhance their experience. Here's a detailed		
	overview of what can be found on the website:		
	Homepage		
	Includes announcements, upcoming events previews, info on the Report Card, social		
	media feed integration, and sponsorship ticker		
	About Us		
	Leadership Directory: Users have access to a complete directory of current Branch		
	Officers, YMF Chairs, and Institute Chapter Chairs, along with their contact info and		
	photographs.		
	Branch Governance: The Rules of Operation, Bylaws and Organization Chart outline		
	the governance and operational guidelines of the Branch.		
Discuss the content	News & Events		
included on your	Event Calendar: The site features a comprehensive calendar that includes all		
website:	upcoming and past events, complete with detailed descriptions, dates, times, locations,		
	and registration options		
	Newsletters (referenced above)		
	Photo Gallery: Photos are posted here for Past Branch Events		
	Younger Member		
	Younger Member Forum (YMF) Info: YM Announcements and Upcoming Events		
	Current and Past YM Chair Pages		
	Institutes		
	Descriptions, Announcements, and Upcoming Events for each Institute		
	History & Awards		
	Branch Awards and Recognition: This section detailed the awards given by the		
	Branch and the criteria for nomination, celebrating the achievements of its members.		
	Additionally, there is a gallery of past Branch Officers (with contact details removed for		
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privacy) from 2007 to the present, as well as photos of Past Presidents dating back to 1943.

Sponsors and Opportunities

- Sponsor Information and Form: This section provided insights into our corporate sponsors and opportunities for sponsorship, detailing how to become a sponsor and the associated benefits.
- Job Listings
- Volunteer Opportunity Form: Includes a list of all available Branch positions

Resources and Outreach

- PDH Certificates: Branch and Technical Session PDH certificates provided.
- <u>Scholarship</u> and <u>Mentor Program</u> Information: Available applications for Scholarships and ASCE Houston Mentor Program participation.
- <u>STEM Outreach</u>: Page used during STEM Outreach events to aid in explaining Civil Engineering to young students
- <u>Links and Reference Documents</u>: Links to Houston Area Resources and Organizations
- Social Media Tools (5 points maximum):

Provide screenshots in a separate document how you communicate with members on social media. The judges may ask you to give them access to your group/page to review if they are not public.

Discuss all active Social Media platforms and their title used to communicate with your Section/Branch The Branch is active on several social media platforms to engage members and promote events. They include:

- Instagram: ASCE Houston (@asce houston) Instagram photos and videos
- LinkedIn: ASCE Houston Branch | LinkedIn
- Facebook: ASCE Houston Branch | Houston TX
- Linktree: https://linktr.ee/ASCEHouston

These platforms are used to share news, event updates, volunteer opportunities, and civil engineering content relevant to members and the broader community. Our following in the past year has risen significantly due to the consistency and frequency of our Branch news and relevant content that is shared.

B. <u>PROFESSIONAL / LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES, AWARDS / RECOGNITION,</u> SCHOLARSHIPS AND MENTORING (20 Points Maximum)

• <u>Professional / Leadership (Non-Technical) Activities</u> (5 points maximum):

Professional / Leadership (Non-Technical) Committee Meetings (1 point each, 2 points max)

1 1010001011017	_caac.cmp	(item recimied) Committee meetings (i penti eden, 2 pentie max)
Professional Committee:	Number of Meetings:	Presentation Topic(s):
Houston Branch Board of Directors	14	11 Monthly meetings + 3 Special meetings with the Board of Directors where agenda items and upcoming events are discussed.
Public Relations Committee	10	Meetings include education on speaking to government officials, Q&As with PACs, and planning visits with public officials
Membership Committee	1	Meeting was held to discuss Membership Committee duties in-depth and establish division of volunteer work and roles.
Younger Member Forum	4	Quarterly Meetings with the YM Chairs to update and coordinate on planned activities: 2 in-person and 2 virtual
YM Sandcastle	3	Workshops for Sandcastle Competition Planning & Design

Professional / Leadership (Non-Technical) Seminars (1 point each, 3 points max)

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Presentation Topics / Describe Seminar:
8/26/2023	20	Government Affairs Training - Training and demonstration for Branch Board and Committee Chairs on how to talk to Elected Officials put on by the Public Relations Committee
5/29/2024	35	Business Development and Communication: How to Build Personal Brand that Accelerates Success - Dacia Coffey
6/26/2024	45	Stop Sabotaging Your Success: The Do's and Don'ts of Everyday Professional Communication - Dacia Coffey

		ASCE Houston Branch Leadership Orientation & Workshop – Hosted by
9/12/2024	40	Incoming President prior to the start of their term to educate future leaders on ASCE,
		establish goals for the year, and incorporate input from future leaders

• Awards/Recognition (1 point each, 5 points maximum):

Awards Given by the Section/Branch

Name of Award:	Recipient:	Describe:
Houston Branch Award of Honor	Julia Clarke	Conferred on a subscribing member of the Houston Branch who has supported the Branch through active participation in committee activities and who has served ASCE at the State and National levels
Houston Branch Presidential Medal of Merit	Ron Reichert	Conferred to a subscribing member of the Branch, who is not an active Board Member, in recognition of their outstanding volunteer service to the Branch.
ASCE Houston Young Engineer of the Year	Johnny Kim	An outstanding younger member from the ASCE Houston Branch is selected to be recognized during Houston Engineer's Week

Society Awards Received by the Section / Branch or its members

Name of Award:	Recipient:	Describe:
Government Civil Engineer of the Year	Carol Haddock	To recognize distinguished civil engineers employed in public service for significant engineering contributions as a practitioner in public service.
Charles Martin Duke Lifeline Earthquake Engineering Award	Jamie Padgett	To recognize an individual who has made a definite contribution to the advancement of lifeline earthquake engineering.
Outstanding Public Official Award	Tom S. Ramsey	To recognize those members of the engineering profession who have rendered meritorious service in elective or appointive positions in government.
Outstanding Section/Branch Website Award	Houston Branch	Large Section/Branch category. This award is made annually to the most outstanding Section and Branch Websites.
Outstanding Section/Branch Commendation	Houston Branch	Large Section/Branch category. The recognition is awarded to Sections and Branches that were selected as runners-up for the Outstanding Section and Branch Award.

• <u>Scholarships</u> (5 points maximum): Scholarships to High School Students (1 point each)

Name of Scholarship:	Amount of Scholarship:	Describe:
2024 Houston Branch High School Scholarship (1)	\$1,500	Awarded to outstanding high school seniors with a permanent address within a county served by the branch who will be pursuing a STEM degree in Fall 2024. Recipient: (1) Emerie McCann
2024 Houston Branch High School Scholarship (2)	\$750	Same as Above. Recipients: (1) Leen Abdellatif and (2) Cardin Tran
2024 Houston Branch High School Scholarship (3)	\$500	Same as Above. Recipients: (1) Mohamed Abdelmeguid, (2) Chelsea Pham, and (3) Alex Shield

Scholarships to College Students (1 point each)

Name of Scholarship:	Amount of Scholarship:	Describe:
2024 Houston Branch Student Chapters Scholarship (3)	\$1,500	Awarded to outstanding students from local ASCE Houston Branch university chapters. The scholarships are awarded based on overall merit, in recognition of personal student achievements, involvement with the ASCE Student Chapter, and financial need and responsibility. Recipients: (1) Isamary Fajardo Abrego, (2) Jemima Allagoa, and (3) Ariana Alexander

Updated 4-2024 4

2024 Houston Branch Student Chapters Scholarship (3)	\$1,000	Same as Above. Recipients: (1) Josue Escobar, (2) Alexander Martinez Melendez, and (3) Arkin Si
2024 Houston Branch Student Chapters Scholarship (1)	\$500	Same as Above. Recipients: (1) De'Jah Vigilante
2024 EWRI Houston Scholarships (2)	\$1,500	Awarded to students majoring in civil engineering, environmental engineering, environmental science, soil science, biological systems, hydrogeology, landscape architecture, or a related field. The scholarships are awarded based on academic merit, extracurricular activities, quality of written statement, and financial responsibility. Recipients: (1) Fabiola Gonzalez and (2) Audrey Arroyave
2024 SEI Houston Scholarship (1)	\$600	Awarded to students majoring in structural engineering. The scholarships are awarded based on academic merit, quality of written statement, recommendation letter, and financial responsibility. Recipient: (1) Isamary Fajardo Abrego

• Mentoring Activities of ASCE Members (5 points maximum):

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Describe:
1/30/2024	40	Career Prep Workshop - Branch professionals guided students through their transition from student to professional. Industry experts reviewed resumes and offered feedback. The event included an engaging presentation followed by a panel discussion, along with time for Q&A.
2/27/2024	20	YM PE Luncheon - Topics included: PE Exam Changes, How to Prepare for the PE Exam, and a Q&A Session. The presentation included speaker Mark Ingram, PE who was a former lead instructor for a well-known PE test preparation company.
3/6/2024	40 students; 40 engineers	Shadow an Engineer Day - High school seniors from STEM programs were teamed up with local engineering firms and government agencies for an immersive experience of "A Day in the Life of a Civil Engineer" featuring office tours, site visits, and a Q&A lunch, providing students with invaluable insights into the field of civil engineering.
Monthly	10-20 students per meeting	Speaking Tips / Introductions - Ron Reichert provided coaching to university students prior to each Branch meeting, helping them effectively introduce themselves during the networking and student introduction segment of the event.
3 meetings between April and May 2024	2 engineers; 5 students	Funding Proposal and Grant Applications Meetings with Students - The ASCE Houston Branch supported students in developing funding proposals for submission to the branch, section, and region, aimed at securing various sponsorship and grant opportunities.
4 meetings from Jan. to Sept. 2024	5-15	Mentor Program Ad-Hoc Committee Meetings - Establish Requirements and Guidelines for New Mentor Program Committee

C. <u>TECHNICAL COMMITTEES / INSTITUTE CHAPTERS AND ACTIVITIES</u> (15 Points Maximum)

Section/Branch Technical Committees or Institute Chapters (minimum of 2 technical or virtual meetings per year: 1 point each, 5 points max)

meetings per year, i point each, 5 points max)		
Technical Committee:	Number of Meetings:	Presentation Topic(s):
EWRI	12	 Tunnel Vision Webinar 3 of 4: HCFCD and San Antonio - 10/5/2023 Tunnel Vision Webinar 4 of 4: Dallas and Austin - 10/19/2023 EWRI Houston Chapter 3rd Annual Conference - 11/9/2023 EWRI Technical Lunch: Memorial Park Master Plan - 2/22/2024 GLO River Basin Flood Studies Overview Webinar - 3/8/2024 Walking Tour of Exploration Green - 4/26/2024 TWDB presents a Comprehensive Approach to Coastal Flood Risk

		Analysis - 6/6/2024
		8. Conference Planning Committee Meetings: 4/5/2024, 4/19/2024, 5/3/2024,
		5/17/2024, 6/14/2024
		1. Texas COPRI Annual Fall CONFERENCE 2023 – 10/19/2023
		2. Bayport Wharf 1 and Wharf 8 Coastal Analysis – 6/11/2024
		3. Clear Creek Environmental Challenges and Monarch Butterfly Regulations
COPRI	6	- 6/11/2024
COPKI	8	4. COPRI Port Houston Overview and Project 11 Update - 7/31/2024
		5. TxDOT Maritime Division's 2026-2027 Texas Port Mission Plan - 8/13/2024
		6. TxDOT Maritime Division's Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Legislative Report,
		89th Session - 8/13/2024
	6	Geoforensic Evaluation of the City of Sugar Land Police Station/Court
		Building - 11/16/2023
		2. Innovative Design for T-Ramps and Elevated Intersection Bridges –
		1/24/2024
SEI		3. Condemnation, or the Wrath of the Gulf of Mexico – 3/28/2024
JL1		4. Steel Bridge Erection Plans Using BIM Technology – 5/23/2024
		5. Long Span Three I-Girder Integral Steel Straddle Bent Application for
		I10/US69 Beaumont Eastex – 7/25/2024
		6. Lattice Steel Tower Emergency Stabilization Project for Evergy's Clinton-
		Stillwell 161kV Transmission Line – 9/19/2024
Geo -	2	1. QA/QC of Drilled Shaft Installation - 1/17/2024
Institute	۷	2. GEOHOUSTON 2024 Conference - 5/13/2024

Section/Branch Technical Seminars / Courses with PDHs (1 point each, 5 points max)

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Describe:	
10/11/2023	20 (virtual)	Geotechnical Series 1 of 5: Geotechnical Considerations for Design of Retaining Walls in Texas	
10/17/2023	35	Advancing Safety with Innovative Intersections	
11/8/2023	15	Design of Modular Structures for Industrial Facilities	
12/6/2023	30 (virtual)	Geotechnical Series 2 of 5: Geotechnical Considerations for Design and Construction of Water/Wastewater Projects	
1/10/2024	40 (virtual)	Geotechnical Series 3 of 5: Geotechnical Considerations for Design and Construction of Site Development Facilities	
2/7/2024 40 (virtual) Geotechnical Series 4 of 5: Geotechnical Considerations for Desig Construction of Water and Wastewater Facilities		Geotechnical Series 4 of 5: Geotechnical Considerations for Design and Construction of Water and Wastewater Facilities	
3/13/2024	30 (virtual)	Evaluation of Foundation Distress and Causation for Distressed Building Structures	
3/19/2024	35	Improving Front End Decision Making	
4/3/2024	12 (virtual)	Abrasive Texturing Treatment for Low Trending Friction for Roadways and Airport Runways	
4/10/2024	45 (virtual)	Geotechnical Series 5 of 5: Geotechnical Considerations for Slope Stability, Ditches, Embankments and Detention Ponds	
4/16/2024	50	The Benefits of Subsurface Utility Engineering	
5/21/2024	60	Ethics	
6/18/2024	30	Considerations in Culvert Analysis & Design	
9/24/2024	30	Quality Management Systems – The International Organization for Standardizat (IOS) Needs and Expectations	

Other Technical / Educational Activities and Benefits for Section / Branch Members (1 point each, 5 points max)

Describe other	Monthly Branch Meeting Keynote Presentations:
technical / educational	The Branch hosts monthly Branch meetings which provide 1 Professional Development
activities and benefits	Hours(PDH). The keynote speaker is often a public official speaking about upcoming
for Section / Branch	local projects and networking with members. The average attendance is approximately
members:	130+. Below is a list of our Keynote Presentations:

1.	Fort Bend County Judge - KP George 10/17/2023
2.	Houston Metro Chairman of the Board - Sanjay Ramabhadran 11/14/2023
3.	Former Space Pioneer and Current Space Enthusiast - Candy Torres 12/12/2023
4.	Houston Airports Project Director - Barry A. Gardebled 3/19/2024
5.	General Manager of the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District - Mike Turco 4/16/2024
6.	Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner - Adrian Garcia 5/21/2024
7.	Waller County Precinct 3 Commissioner - Kendric Jones 6/18/2024
8.	Fort Bend County Precinct 4 Commissioner - Dexter McCoy 9/24/2024

D. <u>MEMBERSHIP</u> (10 Points Maximum)

Describe efforts to involve Student Members in Section/Branch Activities (2 points):	 Branch Meeting Student Introductions: Time is set aside during regular Branch Meetings for students to stand and introduce themselves, listing their school, interested career path, and expected graduation date. We typically have around 30 students attend each Branch meeting. Heavily Discounted Student Tickets for In-person events: Student tickets are heavily discounted, and most student tickets are covered by industry sponsors. Free Student Tickets for Virtual Branch Events Dedicated Practitioners Advisors (PAs) as Information Conduits: We have dedicated PAs who are regularly in touch with all six of our Student Chapters to inform them of important Branch activities that are relevant for the students. Student Participation in CECON Poster Session: A corporate sponsor of the Branch financially supported six students to attend Texas Section CECON (Sept. 2024). Students were required to participate in the poster session.
Describe Member recruitment programs (2 points):	 Discounted Government Ticket Prices: Government employee tickets are heavily discounted to encourage attendance and recruitment of government employees. Participation in Houston-Area Younger Member Initiative (YMI). Several Houston-area organizations with YM groups (ASHE, YPT, ASIE, WTS, AWWA, WEAT, etc.) have combined social events to network and cross-pollinate between organizations. See events below: YMI: Pickleball & Volleyball Social 11/10/2023 YMI: YM Happy Hour - ASCE, ASHE, & YPT 2/22/2024 YMI: Volleyball Social 4/4/2024 YMI: Astros Social 9/10/2024
Describe Member retention programs (2 points):	 At-Risk Emails: Emails were sent to all at-risk members in March 2024 to remind them that their membership will expire if they do not renew. Annual Life Member Recognition Ceremony: 3/19/2024. During the March Branch Meeting, new Life Members were recognized during a special ceremony where they were presented with their Life Member certificates. Discounted Life Member Tickets: Life members receive discounted registration fees for all monthly in-person and virtual Branch Meetings. Membership Links in Newsletter: Membership sign-up and renewal links are included in membership reports published within the monthly newsletter.
Describe any recognition programs for employers supporting ASCE (2 points):	 Houston Branch Sponsors are verbally recognized at all general Branch meetings; and their logos are posted on the Branch's website and newsletter. Corporate sponsors are recognized throughout the year on social media posts Platinum sponsors for the Branch and all sponsors for the YM Fundraising Events are displayed on the printed Scholarship Programs
Describe other Membership Activities / Events (2 points):	 Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) Dinner Reception: 5/6/2024. The Branch hosted a dinner reception to coincide with the OTC. ASCE President Marsia Geldert-Murphy and Executive Director Tom Smith as well as approximately 45 professional and student volunteers were in attendance. Volunteer Appreciation Happy Hour: 8/28/2024. The Branch hosted a happy hour in appreciation of the volunteers. Approximately 30 volunteers attended. Institute Happy Hours: COPRI Happy Hour – 11/13/2023

b. EWRI January 2024 Happy Hour Social – 1/18/2024
c. COPRI Happy Hour – 4/10/2024
d. EWRI-COPRI Joint Happy Hour – 5/16/2024
e. EWRI September Happy Hour Social – 9/18/2024

E. <u>PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES</u> (10 Points Maximum)

Describe outreach activities with elementary, middle, or high schools (1 point each, 5 points max):	 STEM/Nova Day - 10/14/2023, ASCE participated in STEM/Nova Day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS), where members volunteered at a booth to engage with scouts and their families, showcasing STEM-related demonstrations and activities. This event provided a valuable platform for ASCE members to inspire the next generation in STEM fields. High School College Fair Night - 10/11/2023. Branch volunteers engaged with high school students at Deer Park High School South Campus to discuss civil engineering and introduce students to ASCE, emphasizing the organization's resources and opportunities for aspiring engineers. The aim was to inspire students and cultivate interest in the field of civil engineering. Science Day in the Library- 11/6/2023. ASCE Houston Branch volunteers served as additional support for students while the librarian led a lesson. They assisted in constructing toothpick building structures and facilitated testing of these structures on an "earthquake machine." Middle School STEM Club Engineer Visit - 1/10/2024. Branch volunteers spoke to middle school students during their STEM club meeting at Spring Woods Middle School. The engineers shared their personal journey into the field, discussing the role of a civil engineer, the various projects designed, and the impact of engineering on everyday life. This event was organized to promote awareness and interest in civil engineering among young students. Engineer Alliance for the Arts Bridge Competition - 4/19/2024. The Branch sponsored the Engineers Alliance for the Arts Houston Bridge Competition at Heights High School Performance Hall. High school students designed and constructed bridges based on two scenarios, which were tested against multiple variables. Numerous Branch members, along with students from the UT Tyler – HEC Student Chapter, volunteered their time to provide guidance to the participants beth at the event and in the weeks leading up to the sementition.
Describe outreach activities via media outlets (1 point each, 3 points max):	 participants both at the event and in the weeks leading up to the competition. Newspaper: Houston Chronicle 2/18/2024. Full page layout for Announcement of Houston Engineer of the Year, Melvin Spinks, an ASCE Member. "The Legacy of Houston's 2024 Engineer of the Year" Television: KTRE 9: 5/31/2024. Interview with 2 members of the UT Tyler HEC Steel Bridge team and their Faculty advisor. "Students from UT Tyler's Houston Engineering Center qualify for national steel bridge competition" KLTV 7: 6/2/2024. Interview with 2 members of the UT Tyler HEC Steel Bridge team and their Faculty advisor. "Students from UT Tyler's Houston Engineering Center qualify for national steel bridge competition" Podcast: Highway & Hometowns Podcast by TCPA: Released 10/9/2023. ASCE Houston member, Veronica Davis interviewed about the state of infrastructure in the Houston Area as the Director of Transportation & Drainage for the City of Houston. Highways & Hometowns Podcast 10/9/2023.
Describe other public outreach or educational activities (1 point each, 2 points max):	 Free Cities of the Future Screening - 2/20/2024. The Branch coordinated free attendance for the "Cities of the Future" screening at the Houston Museum of Natural Science for their members and families. The event featured three screenings, offering the chance to view the film for free. Outstanding Engineering Student Luncheon - 2/21/2024. The ASCE Houston Branch served as a table sponsor at the Outstanding Engineering Student Luncheon. Two Branch members attended the event, recognizing the achievements of which celebrated exceptional engineering students from the six local universities and fostering connections within the community.

3. Scholarship Ceremony at April Branch Meeting – 4/16/2024. A Scholarship Ceremony with Certificates and Programs was performed at the April Branch Meeting. Each student awarded a scholarship by the Branch and Institutes was registered for free for the meeting to receive their certificate an scholarship check.

F.<u>COLLEGE OUTREACH ACTIVITIES</u> (20 Points Maximum for entire section) – CHOOSE #1 or #2.

1. Section/Branch has an ASCE Student Chapter(s)

1. Section/Branch has an ASCE Student Chapter(s)				
List each Student Chapter and at least one current Practitioner Advisor for each school. Note if you have less than 5 schools in your Section/Branch. (2 points each if five schools or more, 10 points maximum).	 Rice University - Moe Elahmed; Lauren Blaik University of Houston (Main Campus) - Steve Hrncir, Aadit Kapadia University of Texas at Tyler - Houston Engineering Center (HEC) - Moh Mashkur, Osvaldo Diaz University of Houston (Downtown) - Aaron Orozco, Hai (Harry) Minh Nguyen Texas Southern University - Emily Anderson, Ron Reichert Prairie View A&M - Steve Hrncir, David Peters, Beatriz Estrada Guerra 			
Describe Student Interaction Activities between each ASCE Student Chapters and the Section/Branch (2 points each, 10 points max):	 City of Houston East Water Purification Plant Tour with Student Chapters. 2/28/2024. The student tour provided an in-depth look at the facility's operations and infrastructure. The tour highlighted the importance of sustainable practices and innovative solutions in water management. Students had the opportunity to engage with professionals, ask questions, and gain valuable insights into civil engineering applications in water purification. University of Texas at Tyler - Houston Engineering Center Student Body Meeting 2/27/2024. Practitioner Advisors Osvaldo Diaz and Moh Maskur provided a presentation to the UT-Tyler HEC student chapter, sharing career advice and insights from their post-graduation experiences. Texas Southern University Student Body Meeting 4/24/2024. Branch President Alexa Nichols and ASCE member Camaaron Jackson presented to the TSU student chapter on the land development process and benefits of ASCE. Texas Southern University November Student Body Meeting 11/30/2024. Practitioner Advisors Emily Anderson and Ron Reichert presented to the TSU student chapter on engineering ethics and job opportunities, sharing their experiences at Halff and AmeriTex. Texas Southern University Competition Planning Meeting 2/21/2024. ASCE Houston Branch member Hector Rubio spoke to TSU students about his experiences in ASCE student competitions and offered advice as they prepared for their first competition in concrete bowling at the Region 6 student symposium. EWRI Student Event: Sugar Land Surface Water Treatment Plant Tour 4/26/2024. The student tour provided an in-depth look at the facility's operations and infrastructure. The tour highlighted the 10.85 MGD Surface Water Treatment Plant that utilizes micro filtration after sedimentation and is running as a base load water supply 24/7/365 to reduce groundwater use and meet requirements of the Fort Bend Subsidence District. EWRI University of Houston Classroom Outreach: 4			

2. Section/Branch does not have any ASCE Student Chapter(s)

Describe outreach activities with college students other than those involved with ASCE (5 points each, 20 points max):

G. <u>COMMUNITY SERVICE, PUBLIC SERVICE, HISTORY & HERITAGE,</u> <u>SUSTAINABILITY, AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS</u> (10 Points Maximum)

NOTE: ASCE also awards a History and Heritage Award. If you have such activities and want to be considered for that award, describe those activities here and submit a copy of this application directly to Jennifer Lawrence at ilawrence@asce.org.

	1. Toys for Tots Fundraiser and Toy Drive. The Branch held a fundraiser and toy
Describe public	drive in conjunction with the December Branch Meeting registration. The Branch
service projects (2	collected \$280 and approximately 21 toys to donate to Toys for Tots.
points):	2. EWRI Volunteer Event with Houston Parks Board : 2/24/24. ParksByYou Day to
	plant native plants and grasses at W.11th Street and T.C. Jester Blvd.
	1. March Geo Institute Technical Session: Reflections on a 50-year Journey of a
	Geotechnical Professional 3/21/2024
	2. 80th Anniversary Happy Hour : 4/23/24. The Branch hosted a happy hour to
Describe History and	celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Branch. There were 80+ attendees.
Heritage Activities (2	3. Branch Birthday Cake 3/19/2024. A Branch Birthday Cake was displayed and cut
points):	at the March Branch Meeting to celebrate the Branch's birthday on 3/23.
F	4. Past President's Meeting Program: Branch Past Presidents are invited to attend
	the Past President's Branch Meeting to be formally recognized as a Past
	President. At least one Past President is invited to give a short speech on what the
	Branch was like during their term as President. 1. Meeting with Houston At Large Council Member Carter - 2/20/2024.
	2. Meeting with Houston At Large Council Member Carter - 2/20/2024.
	3. Harris County Strategic Planning: Invited to participate in Harris County
	Strategic Planning effort. Attended three meetings and provided written input.
	4. Meeting with Houston At Large Council Member Peck - 6/25/2024
Describe Government	5. Meeting with Harris County Commissioner Garcia on 8/12/2024
Relations activities (2	6. Houston Permitting Center Feedback : 8/26/2024. Met with Houston Staff to give
points):	feedback from ASCE members on customer experience
	7. HCFCD Draft Review Comments : Invited to review the Harris County Flood
	Control District's Draft Update to the Policy, Criteria, and Procedures Manual.
	EWRI provided written comments to the District.
	8. Reimburse one Key Contact for attendance at ASCE's Washington DC Fly-in
Describe Sustainability	1. 2023 Climate Solutions Symposium (In Person & Virtual) - 10/5/2023. As a
Seminars held by the	member of the Engineering Council of Houston, ASCE Houston participated.
Section/Branch	2. EWRI Climate Change and Rainfall IDF Statistics Webinar - 8/8/2024.
promoting the	3. It's not just for the birds! Rebuilding Rookeries in Texas Estuaries –
advancement of the	10/19/2023 at the COPRI Fall Conference
principles of	 New Approaches for Natural Stable Channel Design – 10/19/2023 at COPRI Fall Conference
sustainable	5. San Leon and Dollar Reef Oyster Mitigation Projects – 10/19/2023 at COPRI
development (2	Fall Conference
points):	6. Finding Resiliency - 11/9/2023 at EWRI Houston 3rd Annual Conference
	YM Trash Bash Bayou Cleanup Event (Joint event with YMI Houston) -
Describe Community	3/23/24. YM volunteers cleaned up trash along Little White Oak Bayou.
Service events (1	2. EWRI Buffalo Bayou Partnership Volunteer Day - 7/13/24. Volunteers weeded,
point each, 2 points	removed invasive plants and vines, spread mulch, and performed light clean-up
max):	and trash pick-up along Buffalo Bayou
	1 1 9 7

H. <u>DIVERSITY</u>, <u>EQUITY</u>, <u>AND INCLUSION</u> (15 Points Maximum)

ASCE fosters a fully inclusive culture that celebrates individual uniqueness, engenders a sense of belonging, and promotes equitable opportunity for all people to participate as members and stakeholders of the civil engineering community. ASCE's Committee on "Members of Society Advancing an Inclusive Culture" reviews this section to select Outstanding Section/Branches for their efforts in developing and implementing programs that promote an equitable and inclusive climate in the profession.

The Branch hosts the monthly Branch Meeting at venues with wheelchair and elevator access. 2. The Branch Meetings are held during lunch January through August and during dinner September through December. The changing of meeting times is Inclusive Events - What an intentional decision to maximize and diversify participation based on best practices has your Section/Branch personal circumstance restrictions. implemented to ensure 3. At the March Branch Meeting (3/19/2024) discounted "no-meal" tickets were meetings/events are made available for purchase due to Ramadan. equitable and inclusive for 4. Vegetarian and gluten-free meal requests are offered at all Branch meetings to all prospective accommodate dietary needs and restrictions. participants? (1 point 5. All Branch keynote presentations at the Branch meetings are offered in each, 5 points max): "hybrid" format, where members who may live far from the venue (the Branch covers an area of 13 counties) can participate virtually. 6. The Board selected meeting dates to avoid conflicts with major religious The 12 members of the 2023-2024 Board of Direction include diversity in: a. Gender: 7 Males and 5 Females b. Race: 2 Asian, 5 Caucasian, 4 Hispanic, 1 Middle Eastern c. Age: Range from 28 - 52 years old 2. Annual Light Rail Pub Crawl 10/20/2023. The Branch co-sponsors the Joint event with YPT Houston. The event showcases the METRO Light Rail along the pub crawl route. 3. Annual Joint Societies Meeting Program 11/14/2023. The annual "Joint Societies Meeting" includes invitations for other local engineering and infrastructure organizations to make a brief announcement about their programs. 16 organizations participated in 2023 including APWA, ACEC, Leadership & Engagement ASCE, ASHE, ASIE, CMAA, EAA, EWB, HHAE, NSBE, SWE, TexITE, TSPE, - In what ways has the and WTS. This is an opportunity for members to expand their network. Section/Branch/Group 4. Girls Exploring Math and Science Day - 11/4/2023. An engaging event demonstrated a designed to inspire young girls to pursue careers in STEM fields. The Branch commitment to DEI? (1 hosted a booth with a hands-on STEM activity at the HMNS. point each, 5 points max): NSBE Fresh Start Event - 6/1/2024. An engaging event designed to inspire underserved and minority students to pursue careers in STEM. The Branch hosted a hands-on activity for three classrooms of students. Inaugural Women in Engineering Day Event - 6/24/2024. The event intent is to celebrate the contributions of remarkable women in the engineering field. This inspiring gathering featured an engaging panel discussion designed to empower women and promote diversity within the profession. Attendees connected with influential women leaders who shared their journeys and insights, underscoring the vital role of mentorship in shaping a more inclusive and innovative industry. The dedicated networking session focused on professional development, including an opportunity for free headshots. **Inclusive Communications** Keynote Presentations and monthly (or more often) technical webinars are and Training - In what provided in a virtual format for those unable to make in-person meetings. ways does your 2. Providing paper copies of programs at ceremonies (Scholarship, Appreciation, Section/Branch ensure Engineer's Week, and Officer Installation). that communications with 3. Printed newsletters are available upon request. and about members and 4. Technical Webinars are free for members, making PDHs affordable. partners are inclusive and 5. Events and Meetings are advertised on the Branch Website, during Branch asset-based and discuss Meeting Presentations, in the monthly newsletter, and via social media to hit all how you Section/Branch age demographics. supports DEI related Intentional selection of diverse speakers and topics across race, gender, and

I. <u>ADDITIONAL SECTION / BRANCH ACTIVITIES</u> (10 Points Maximum)

types of civil engineering.

Describe any other non-standard activities that are not covered under other sections of the nomination form that your Section or Branch has undertaken to promote or advance the Civil

Updated 4-2024 11

training and programs? (1

point each, 5 points max):

Engineering profession to either your members or the public. Note that Sections applying for the award should not include their Branch activities and vice versa for Branches. These can include other Community Service projects, hosting of Regional meetings, fundraising, mentoring, and other best practices. Describe the activity and give dates, locations and number in attendance. Also describe any activities relative to the creation of a Section / Branch strategic plan and/or efforts to support the Society's Strategic Initiatives (ie. sustainability efforts). These activities may also be eligible for the Leader Training Committee Best Practices Manual. A maximum of two (2) points will be given for each of up to five (5) non-standard activities.

Type of Date (if Activity/Event/Initiative: applicable):		Describe:	
Top Golf Student Scholarship Fundraiser	3/28/2024	The ASCE Houston Branch organized its Annual Top Golf Competition Fundraiser to raise approximately \$1,300 in funds for student scholarships.	
Volleyball Tournament Student Scholarship Fundraiser	9/4/2024	The ASCE Houston Branch organized a Volleyball Tournament at Powder Keg (A Volleyball Bar) to raise funds for student scholarships. There were 18 teams and over 100 attendees raising approximately \$2,000 toward student scholarships.	
YM Technical Tour: AmeriTex Precast Plant Tour	6/20/2024	The YMs organized a visit to the AmeriTex Plant in Conroe, TX. AmeriTex technical staff provides a short presentation discussing engineering theories and specifications behind the manufacturing process of concrete pipe and box culverts followed by a plant tour.	
AIA Sandcastle Competition Team	9/21/2024	The ASCE Houston Branch competes annually as a team in the AIA Sandcastle Event on East Beach in Galveston, Texas. Participants in the event typically include Architects, Engineers, and Contractors.	
Suburban Counties Panel Discussion	2/6/2024	Engineers from three suburban counties at different points in development participate together on a panel moderated by the TCPA Executive Director to answer questions about development requirements and philosophies within their respective counties. Panelists include Brazoria County Engineer Matt Hanks, Fort Bend County Engineer Stacy Slawinski, and Waller County Engineer Ross McCall	
Joint Meeting with Houston Contractors Association (HCA)	8/22/2024	The Branch participated in an annual joint meeting with HCA to allow engineers and contractors to network. The keynote speaker was Houston Council Member Sallie Alcorn. Attendance was approximately 300 people with about half as members of ASCE.	
YM Social with ASCE YMLS Alumni Summit	6/13/2024	The Houston Branch sponsored a happy hour for the attendees of the YMLS Alumni Summit Attendees and the Houston YM Forum. Attendance was approximately 40 people.	
APA Roundtable: The Value of Planning in Shaping Houston's Future	9/26/2024	Joint Event with APA, ASCE, AIA, WTS, TexITE, and BlueprintHouston, to explore the way grassroots efforts, planning, and policy reforms have led to shaping the built environment in Houston. Investigate the value of a collaborative and multidisciplinary approach to infrastructure. Speakers include leaders for the following organizations: Houston Land Bank, Harris County Precinct 4, City of Houston, and the Houston Parks Board.	

Quick Links

- About Us
- Events Calendar
- Newsletter Sign Up
- <u>Volunteer Opportunities</u>
- Branch PDH Certificates [±]
- 2024 Sponsorship Form
- Job Listings & Classified Ads

About ASCE Houston



Welcome to the ASCE Houston Website. Established in 1943, the Houston Branch is one of the largest ASCE Branches in the United States serving more than 3,500 members across 13 local counties. Read our <u>President's Message</u>.

ASCE Houston Newsletter- September 2024 🖶



Welcome to the ASCE Houston Branch Newsletter of upcoming events, articles, jobs and more from our membership.

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President's Message

Hello ASCE Houston Members.

I can't believe it's already September! We kicked the month off with our Younger Member Volleyball Fundraiser last week, with 18 teams participating. We had two winning teams who battled for their spot as champions of their respective brackets in the pouring rain. We have a great start on scholarship funds for next year thanks to everyone who participated and sponsored, so thank you!

In August, we had record attendance at our Annual Joint ASCE/HCA meeting at St. Arnold's. Houston City Council Member Sallie Alcorn educated us about the City of Houston budget and where both new infrastructure funding and infrastructure maintenance funding come from and how they fit in with the rest of the budget.

My last month serving as President is going to be an incredibly active month for ASCE Houston. (Just check out our <u>calendar</u>!) In honor of my last month as ASCE Houston Branch President, I give you a photo of my presidential acceptance speech for the American Presidency below. (kidding!)



Later this month, I will be passing the gavel to your incoming president, Johnny Kim, at the September Branch Meeting. I know that you, the Branch members, will be in great hands with Johnny Kim at the helm and a great incoming board. If you are interested in volunteering for the next term, our volunteer interest form is available <u>here</u>.

In addition to the Installation ceremony, The September Branch meeting will also include our Volunteer Appreciation ceremony and Dexter McCoy, Fort Bend County Precinct 4 Commissioner, as our keynote speaker. Make sure to <u>register</u> ahead of time to secure your spot.

It has been a great honor to serve as your President. Thank you all for the opportunity to serve you! I would like to take a little space to give a special shoutout to all the board members and volunteers who served during my term, as I could not have done this without you. You are amazing!

Cheers to you all and I'll see you around!

Thanks,

Alexa Nichols, P.E., CFM, ENV SP

President

president@ascehouston.org

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Calendar of Events



YMI: ASTROS SOCIAL

September 10, 2024 7:10 PM to 10:00 PM

Minute Maid Park 501 Crawford St, Houston, TX 77002

Register Now

View Details



YM SOCIAL WITH ASCE YMLS ALUMNI SUMMIT

September 13, 2024 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Kirby Ice House 1015 Gessner Rd, Houston, TX 77055

Register Now



EWRI: SEPTEMBER 2024 HAPPY HOUR SOCIAL

September 18, 2024 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM

VinSanto 12525 Memorial Dr #190, Houston, TX 77024

Register Now

View Details



SEI TECHNICAL SESSION

September 19, 2024 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Ballroom at Tanglewood 5430 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77056

Register Now

View Details



AIA SANDCASTLE COMPETITION 2024

September 21, 2024 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Galveston East Beach 1923 Boddeker, Galveston, TX 77550



ASCE SEPTEMBER HOUSTON BRANCH IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING

September 24, 2024 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

The Ballroom at Tanglewood 5430 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77056

September Houston Branch Meeting

Register Now

View Details



APA ROUNDTABLE: THE VALUE OF PLANNING IN SHAPING HOUSTON'S FUTURE

September 26, 2024 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Texas Southern University Public Affairs Building 114 3100 Cleburne St, Houston, TX 77004

Register Now

View Details



September 26, 2024 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

One Westchase Ground Floor Conference Room 10777 Westheimer Rd Suite 100, Houston, TX 77042

Register Now

View Details

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Articles

September 2024 Keynote Speaker



Dexter L. McCoy

Fort Bend County Commissioner Precinct 4

Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy is a proud product of Fort Bend County's Mission Bend community, serving Precinct 4 residents on Commissioners Court since January 2023. The son of a teenage mother and a biological father who was incarcerated for much of his childhood, he defied the odds and excelled in Fort Bend public schools, graduated from Boston University, and devoted his career to public service and preserving human dignity, starting as an appointee in the Obama Administration, continuing as a district leader in the Fort Bend Independent School District, and most recently as the chief of staff to the Fort Bend County Judge.

Since being sworn into office, Commissioner McCoy and his team have advanced policy initiatives focused on engaging historically excluded communities and improving quality of life. They passed the first paid parental leave policy for county employees, invested millions in mobility and parks improvements, and appointed the precinct's first Latina justice of the peace. Commissioner McCoy and his wife Chelsea live in Richmond with their daughters Piper and Porter, along with their Goldendoodle Fitz.

September 2024 Tech Session



Anmar Al Rikabi, PMP, CCM, ENV SP

Houston Airports - Senior Project Manager

Anmar Al Rikabi is a civil engineer with an MSCE and a Ph.D. in engineering management. He also holds several professional certifications, including PMP, CCM, and ENV-SP. Mr. Al Rikabi has over 24 years of professional experience in project management, construction management, engineering management, and quality control/quality assurance management across various sectors, including Aviation, Infrastructure, Transportation, Oil, Gas, and Chemicals (OG&C). He has worked with several engineering, construction, and procurement firms, such as Bechtel and Parsons. Currently, he is a Senior Project Manager at the Infrastructure Development Office (IDO) at the Houston Airport System (HAS). He has planned, managed, and supervised multi-million-dollar projects with FAA, FHA, DOE, Chevron, NASA, the Air Force, the US Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Houston's General Services Department (GSD), and Houston Airport System (HAS). His experience includes direct hire, construction management-at-risk (CM-at-Risk), engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC), design-build (DB)/design-bid-build (DBB), and time and material (T&M) contracts.

EWRI 4th Annual Conference







YM Volleyball Fundraiser Tournament



ASCE Houston hosted our first and very successful Volleyball Fundraiser Tournament! Rain or Shine, everyone had a lot of fun playing and networking. We hosted 18 teams with over 100 attendees. We raised \$2,000 toward the Branch scholarships for students in the Greater Houston Area. Congratulations to our bracket winners, Chewblocka's and AKV! Thank you to our fellow ASCE volunteers for coordinating the brackets.

We want to give a huge shoutout to our sponsors:

- Gold H2B Engineers
- Silver Ninyo and Moore | WGA Consulting Engineers | AKV Consulting Engineers | T & D Engineers | HR Green | Gauge Engineering
- Bronze Frayre Engineering & Consulting, PLLC | BGE, Inc | Vogler & Spencer Engineering

Thank you for making this event unforgettable. See you next year for another fantastic volleyball fundraising tournament!

YMI: Astros Social



- YMI Astros Social scheduled for Tuesday September 10 from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at Minute Maid Park.
- https://ascehouston.org/meetinginfo.php?id=890
- For more information, contact Ore Adedapo at ymsocial@ascehouston.org

AIA Sandcastle Competition



- The ASCE Houston Branch will once again be competing in the annual AIA Sandcastle Competition to be held on Saturday September 21 in Galveston.
- https://ascehouston.org/meetinginfo.php?id=875
- Contact Mitchell McDonald and Osvaldo Diaz at ymsandcastle@ascehouston.org

Young Member Committee Applications Announcement

The Houston Branch YMF is accepting candidate nominations for the new 2024-2025 Committee Chairs of the ASCE Houston Branch Younger Member Committee. Committee chair positions available this year are:

- Younger Member Forum Chair
- YM Social Activities Chair
- · YM Technical Activities Chair
- YM Community Service Activities Chair

- YM Sandcastle Committee Co-Chair (2-year position, progressive)
- YM Fundraising Co-Chair (2-year position, progressive)
- YM Mentorship Chair (NEW!)

Don't wait to be asked – volunteer! Know someone who might be interested? Help spread the word and let them know! Applications are due **September 9 by 12 pm** (<u>APPLICATION FORM HERE</u>).

Have guestions? Contact our Branch Director, Albert Dorantes at branchdirector@ascehouston.org.

CECON 2024: Registration Now Open

The Texas Civil Engineering Conference (CECONTM) offers a snapshot of the best in Texas civil engineering, while providing unique opportunities to learn and build relationships across the state and beyond, contributing to the industry's technical diversity as never before. With the upcoming 2025 ASCE Infrastructure Report Card it is only fitting that for this year's CECON program we showcase, celebrate, and highlight the engineering communities' work and accomplishments over the last four years within most infrastructure foundations that has contributed to continual improvement and betterment of our state's infrastructure, covering including transit, aviation, water, energy, and many others.

TOP 4 REASONS TO ATTEND CECON:

- · Build relationships with Texas civil engineers & suppliers
- Explore legislative & industry panels
- · Learn from innovative technical presentations
- Earn Professional Development Hours (PDHs)

Register online for CECON 2024 here.



September 2024 Membership Report

Currently, adjusted assignments to the Houston Branch include 3,309 members. 91% of all renewals elected to pay their Texas Section Dues. Thank you for your ASCE participation and keep up the good work!

	2024 ASCE Houston Branch Membership Report				
	Report Date	Total Assigned Membership	Total Section D	ues Paid	
Jan	01/09/24	3,430	2,268	67%	
Feb	02/05/24	3,461	2,454	71%	
Mar	03/05/24	3,538	2,773	79%	
Apr	04/01/24	3,162	2,644	85%	
May	05/08/2024	3,215	2,735	89%	
June	05/31/2024	3,223	2,616	85%	
Aug	08/05/2024	3,266	2,661	86%	
Sept	09/02/2024	3,309	2,856	91%	

Who do I contact with Membership questions?

Houston Branch Membership Co-Chair: Abigail Borders

Email: abigail.borders@aecom.com

Phone: 281-703-1475

Houston Branch Membership Co-Chair: Ashlyn Ortiz

Email: aortiz@ehra.team

Phone: 713-337-7461

National Membership Contact - memrec@asce.org or call 800-548-2723

Membership Information - http://www.asce.org/membership/

Online Application - https://join.asce.org/default.aspx

Renew Your Membership - http://www.asce.org/renewal

August 2024 Treasurer's Report

Checking	\$49,226.77	
Savings	\$134,484.17	
CD Account	\$45,000.00	
Paypal	\$15,376.93	
TOTAL	\$244,087.87	

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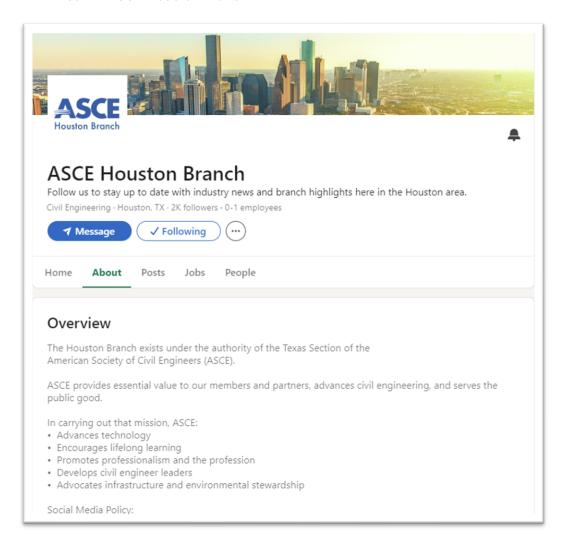
SPONSORS

Become a Sponsor! <u>Learn More</u>

ASCE Houston Branch 2024 Outstanding Section Award Nomination

Social Media Screenshots

1. LinkedIn – ASCE Houston Branch

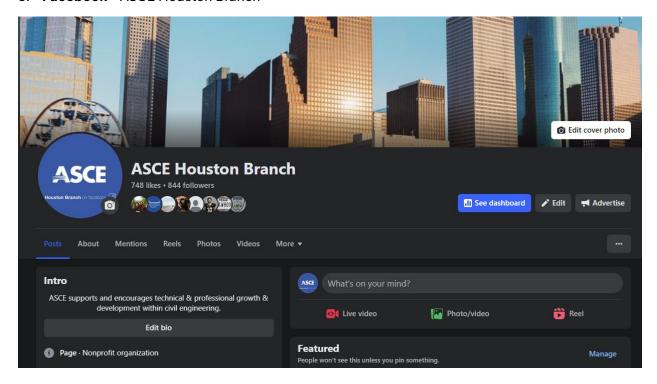


2. Instagram - ASCE_Houston





3. Facebook – ASCE Houston Branch



4. Linktree – ASCE Houston

