



2024 OUTSTANDING SECTION / BRANCH AWARD NOMINATION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS

- 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):	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Large Section/Branch (> 4000 members) <input type="checkbox"/> Large Section/Branch (1501-4000 members) <input type="checkbox"/> Medium Section/Branch (501-1500 members) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Section/Branch (< 501 members)
Section/Branch Nominee:	Vermont Section
Name and Board Position of Contact Member:	Erin Robinson, Membership Chair (Non-voting)
ASCE Member ID:	#000011904775
Address:	81 East Allen St (Apartment A), Winooski, VT 05404
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E-mail:	erin.robinson@arcadis.com

NOMINATION QUESTIONS/SCORING

125 points maximum

A. COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS (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:	9
Newsletter Links (if available):	Constant Contact: https://sections.asce.org/vermont/newsletter
	Thrive/Informz: See attached copy.

- Website (5 points maximum):
Verify that all links are active prior to submission.

Website Link:	Home Vermont Section
Discuss the content included on your website:	Content includes:
	<p>Home- background information on ASCE, promote upcoming events, highlight our sponsors, and showcase civil engineering news (like PDH opportunities)</p> <p>About- breaks down the industry and organization to be more digestible to members</p> <p>Events- accessible link to the events calendar for members to see any upcoming YMG event, section event, society-wide initiatives, and section board meetings</p> <p>Contacts- lists the position, company, and contact for the current section board</p> <p>Awards- documents society-wide awards the section has received</p> <p>Resources- links to job postings from sponsors, common VT design manuals, governing documents, and other files an ASCE Vermonter may need in their career and the organization.</p>

- 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	<p>Our LinkedIn and Instagram are used to promote events, spotlight members, and celebrate student chapter/YMG/section/industry achievements. These are unique tools to engage with new members and inform existing members. Younger generations interact with these posts, so our events get more visibility and attract new members.</p> <p>Documentation of posts can be seen in the following links: Vermont Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (VT ASCE) Groups LinkedIn https://www.instagram.com/vtasce/</p>
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B. PROFESSIONAL / LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES, AWARDS / RECOGNITION, SCHOLARSHIPS AND MENTORING (20 Points Maximum)

- Professional / Leadership (Non-Technical) Activities (5 points maximum):

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

Professional Committee:	Number of Meetings:	Presentation Topic(s):
Monthly Officer and Committee Chair Meetings	11	The goal of these meetings was to brainstorm, organize, and execute a vision for the section. This included: event planning, student chapter check-ins, institute coordinations, member feedback, and section alignment with current ASCE initiatives. An agenda was created to guide conversation, but the casual settings and openness of the board were conducive for free speech from all members- new and veteran. These monthly meetings were offered in several formats: virtual, hybrid, and in-person.
VT ASCE Thrive/Informz Committee	14	This biweekly check-in meeting was formed by the webmaster and social media board members to coordinate tasks. It was also open for any member interested in supporting or learning about Thrive/Informz.
Younger Member Committee	3	YMG Event Planning

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

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Presentation Topics / Describe Seminar:
January 25-27, 2024	2	ERYMC & WSIBL The section encourages members to build leadership skills and professional connections in the industry and organization by promoting ASCE region-wide conferences. We sent Zelda Dively and Andrea Ameden to the Miami, FL ERYMC to develop their networks and present new ideas to improve an aspect of the section. We offered financial support to participants.

March 15-16, 2024	2	<p>Region 1 Assembly On March 15th and 16th, Stephanie Wyman (Region 1 Governor) and Sean Wines (President-Elect) attended the ASCE Region 1 Assembly in Portland Maine. During the assembly, members representing the different sections and branches spoke about the successes and difficulties throughout the past year. Ideas were shared on how to come up with solutions to the challenges experienced throughout the year and there were opportunities to celebrate the successes. Overall, the meeting was very informative and a good networking opportunity to share ideas for future plans in the Vermont section along with the many other sections and branches represented in Region 1.</p>
September 15-16, 2024	2	<p>2023 ASCE Presidents and Governors Forum On September 15th and 16th, over 100 Section and Branch Presidents, Region Governors, incoming Society Directors, Technical Region Leaders, Committee Members, and Presidential Officers from around the world participated in the 2024 Presidents and Governors Forum and Leader Orientation at ASCE Headquarters. Our Section and Branch leaders shared successful programs and activities during our Best Practices sessions. ASCE's General Counsel Tara Hoke capped off the day with a presentation on Legal Issues impacting ASCE's local groups. The overall sentiment was that the program was reinvigorating, energizing, and motivational.</p>

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

Awards Given by the Section/Branch

Name of Award:	Recipient:	Describe:
Project of the Year	MSK Engineers	A phase 1 mapping effort revealed as much as 50% of the system could be served by lead pipes. MSK developed new methods for funding, public outreach, data management, pipe material identification, and construction. To date, over 200 lead service lines have been replaced across three construction contracts and hundreds more are slated for replacement. This project has eliminated an invisible and persistent risk for over 200 homes and businesses and all work was provided at no cost to homeowners.
Young Engineer of the Year	Jordan Duffy, P.E.	Jordan received the Vermont State Young Engineer of the Year award back in February at the E-week banquet hosted by Vermont Society of Professional Engineers. He is a water resources engineer at Fitzgerald Environmental Associates in Colchester, and prior to that he worked for VHB splitting his time between the Land Development and the Environmental teams. Jordan holds bachelor's and

		master's degrees in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Vermont. He has served in numerous positions with the Vermont section of ASCE, including as 2022-23 president, and he is being inducted as a New England Delegate tonight. We would like to recognize Jordan's outstanding engineering career thus far and his many contributions to the Vermont Section of ASCE.
Engineer of the Year	<p>Vermont Dam Safety Program Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Benjamin Green, PE (Section Chief) - Andrew Sampsell, PE - Steven Hanna, EIT - Russell McGinnis, EIT 	We would like to recognize the team's flood response and recovery efforts during and following the July 2023 historic flooding event. The DSP worked around the clock starting the night of July 9 for several weeks performing critical tasks to protect the safety of Vermonters, property, and the environment including flood control dam operations and monitoring, emergency communications, and inspections.

Society Awards Received by the Section / Branch or its members

Name of Award:	Recipient:	Describe:

- Scholarships (5 points maximum):

Scholarships to High School Students (1 point each)

Name of Scholarship:	Amount of Scholarship:		Describe:

Scholarships to College Students (1 point each)

Name of Scholarship:	Amount of Scholarship:	Describe:
UVM ASCE Student Chapter	\$250	\$250 was donated to the UVM ASCE student chapter. This was \$50 more than budgeted. NOTE: The donation was not back-checked with the budget but the over-donation was not intended to show preference to UVM over other student chapters.
Norwich ASCE Student Chapter	\$200	\$200 Norwich student chapter donation

MathCounts	\$250	\$250 MathCounts donation (taken off the budget last fall) was processed. We will be sure to include this in next year's budget.
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- Mentoring Activities of ASCE Members (5 points maximum):

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Describe:
Continuous	12	Mentoring program that matches UVM and Norwich students with YMs for career path advice
February 23, 2024	3	<p>Mentorship program during E-Week</p> <p>This was an excellent opportunity for emerging or seasoned pros to connect with bright students who are stepping foot in the engineering field. Not only were members instrumental in shaping student's future careers, but this program also provided an avenue to meet potential interns or entry-level recruits who could be valuable additions to your teams. Members shared their experiences, honed leadership skills, and expanded their professional network.</p>

C. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES / INSTITUTE CHAPTERS AND ACTIVITIES (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)

Technical Committee:	Number of Meetings:	Presentation Topic(s):
Geo-Institute Chair- Adam Sevi, PE	3	Flood resiliency, response, and mitigation

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

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Describe:
October 17, 2023	40	<p>Annual Geo Institute Meeting at Norwich University</p> <p>The meeting was held at the Partridge Pub – Wise Campus Center at Norwich University. Four panel members presented 5-10 subject slides apiece as an introduction and reference for a question-and-answer panel discussion regarding issues associated with the July 11th, 2023 rains here in Vermont. 2 PDHs were offered.</p>
November 16, 2023	50	<p>ASCE NH-VT Joint Meeting at Hotel Coolidge</p> <p>The annual Joint ASCE NH-VT Meeting was at Hotel Coolidge in White River Junction, VT on Thursday, November 16th. Ben Green, PE and the Vermont Dam Safety Program provided a presentation on the July 2023 flood event and its impact on Vermont dams and dam safety. The presentation touched on the flooding, the performance of the Winooski River Flood Control Dams, including the Wrightsville Dam, which made</p>

		national news for nearly activating the auxiliary spillway, findings of the rapid inspection program of nearly 400 dams state-wide, a review of several dam failures and near misses, and lessons learned with key takeaways. PDHs were offered.
December 5, 2023	20	Champlin Associates Water and Wastewater Treatment Lunch and Learn Virtual Lunch and Learn where Champlin Associates discussed water and wastewater treatment technologies.
March 27, 2024	20	Transportation Design Build Project in Syracuse, NY Lunch and Learn Discussed a large design build project in Syracuse NY. This is a small piece of an overall much larger project to move I-81 onto existing 481 to remove I-81 traffic out of the heart of downtown Syracuse. We will look at an overview of widening two 15 span bridges on existing 481 to support an additional lane of traffic on both the northbound and southbound bridges. We will dive into the retrofit of existing bridge elements and the complications involved along with scheduling and time constraints that come along with a design build project on this scale.
January 26, 2024	50	Lunch Presentation at ASCE Ski Day Shawn Patenaude, PE, Snowmaking Department Manager at Sugarbush Resort, gave a presentation on the aspects of snowmaking at Sugarbush and a summary of the improvement projects across the mountain in the past 3 years as well as some upcoming proposed projects. PDHs were provided.

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

Describe other technical / educational activities and benefits for Section / Branch members:	PC Lunch & Learn UVM Firestone Building- April 18th, 2024: Kaitlyn Keenan gave an overview of the design team, construction, challenges, schedule, etc., then left some time for Q&A. About 20 in attendance.
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D. MEMBERSHIP (10 Points Maximum)

Describe efforts to involve Student Members in Section/Branch Activities (2 points):	Transportation is one of the biggest issues our section has with increasing student attendance at events, so most events took place near campuses to ensure accessibility for all.
Describe Member recruitment programs (2 points):	Board members were encouraged to bring/introduce coworkers to meetings and events. This increased the section's visibility and audience range.
Describe Member retention programs (2 points):	Feedback on events, section governing, etc is crucial for retaining members, because it helps the board understand the wants and needs of our general members. Feedback is open at all events. For example, some members expressed interest in changing the mountain location for the 2025 Ski Day because the current one was not cost effective, not accessible for all ski

	skill types, and lacked food options. Using this feedback, the planning committee changed the 2025 mountain location to Bolton. This has already generated a lot of interest from members.
Describe any recognition programs for employers supporting ASCE (2 points):	As part of a VT-ASCE Sponsorship, a company's logo are featured on the VT-ASCE website and our monthly newsletter for the 2024 calendar year. Our Black Diamond Sponsors also received two 2-month job postings in 2024 (a \$300 value!). Recognition was given at our annual Ski Day event, which was well attended by students and younger members.
Describe other Membership Activities / Events (2 points):	Most in-person board meetings are accompanied by a cold pack of hard ciders or seltzers. After the business portion of the meetings concluded, members are welcome to stay and enjoy a beverage. This time is dedicated to strengthening the bonds in the section. Members can ask questions about jobs, the organization, etc, or share updates on personal achievements.

E. PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES (10 Points Maximum)

Describe outreach activities with elementary, middle, or high schools (1 point each, 5 points max):	On October 24th, students from Stowe High School, Norwich, VTSU Randolph, and UVM and professionals from ASCE VT and AIA VT gathered to participate in a design charrette with the primary objective of brainstorming and generating innovative ideas for the renovation of a historic building owned by the Stowe Electric Department. The proposed renovation plan was to transform the building into a mixed-use office space, complete with offices, conference space, and a power-outage command center. This event provided a platform for students to engage in practical problem-solving and design, guided by industry professionals from both ASCE VT and AIA VT. Come spring, these ideas will be explored further in Norwich, VTSU Randolph, and UVM capstone projects as they explore the building's architectural engineering, structure, and associated site design.
Describe outreach activities via media outlets (1 point each, 3 points max):	To keep our members informed about changes to licensure, we used our newsletter to spotlight a recent change. During the April edition, we included a section titled "'Energy Goals' Education Requirement for Professional License Renewal." In short, ahead of the July 31, 2024 biennial renewal, professional engineers in Vermont need to complete two hours of education regarding the State's energy goals and any updates regarding corresponding State energy programs applicable to the profession.
Describe other public outreach or educational activities (1 point each, 2 points max):	In February 2023, the section produced the 2023 ASCE Report Card, which was brought to the statehouse by our Government Relations Chair, Jessica Louisos. This inspired legislative outreach to the VT legislature throughout the year, including testimony on the new dam safety legislation and flood reduction act that was passed.

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

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

<p>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).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Norwich University <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. PA: Matt Schley 2. University of Vermont <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. PA: Stephanie Wyman, PE <p>The two practitioner advisors are in contact with the student chapter presidents and act as a liaison between the student groups and the professional groups.</p>
<p>Describe Student Interaction Activities between each ASCE Student Chapters and the Section/Branch (2 points each, 10 points max):</p>	<p>The section participated in the following events/actions with the student chapters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monetary donations each year upon request 2. Student and younger member bowling- March 22nd 3. UVM and Norwich chapter events on campus (free to students including dinner) 4. VTASCE Norwich Hockey Night – January 13th 5. VTASCE UVM Hockey Night – February 16th 6. Apple picking social with the section - October 4th 7. Student ski day social at Wunderbar (This was an informal gathering and will provide another great opportunity for members of the Vermont engineering community and students to network.) - January 26th 8. Student capstone review and design night -April 26th 9. Student design charette 10. FE/PE study sessions 11. VTASCE UVM Football Night - March

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

<p>Describe outreach activities with college students other than those involved with ASCE (5 points each, 20 points max):</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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G. COMMUNITY SERVICE, PUBLIC SERVICE, HISTORY & HERITAGE, SUSTAINABILITY, AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS (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 jlawrence@asce.org.

<p>Describe public service projects (2 points):</p>	<p>Toys for Tots</p> <p>On December 14th, the VT section of ASCE once again teamed up with the Vermont Society of Engineers (VSE) and for the first time, the Vermont State Labor Council (VSLC) to run the annual Toys for Tots drive and Holiday Social. This was the most successful year yet, collecting a total of 10 full boxes of toys! The Toys for Tots organization was particularly thankful, stating that there was a huge need for toys this year due to the summer flood which impacted Vermont families across the state.</p>
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Describe History and Heritage Activities (2 points):	<p>VT ASCE Annual In-person Dinner Meeting</p> <p>The evening consisted of a tour of two bridges recently replaced or repaired along the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) in Hardwick following the July 2023 historic flooding event (including a stop at the historic Fisher Covered Bridge in Wolcott), followed by a social event where we honored this year's Engineer, Young Engineer, and Project of the Year awards, as well as inducted the 2024-2025 board members. June 18, 2024</p>
Describe Government Relations activities (2 points):	<p>ASCE Legislative Fly-In</p> <p>Every year the ASCE Legislative Fly-In brings together 225+ ASCE members from across the country to share their everyday engineering experiences with Congress and advocate for current and future bills that directly impact the engineering community. This year the conference was held February 28th to March 1st and the Vermont Section of ASCE was represented by Tyler Barnard (New England Council Delegate) and Jessica Louisos, PE (Government Relations). Tyler and Jessica met with representatives of Vermont's Members of Congress to highlight and discuss some of the most pressing issues impacting Vermont's infrastructure including the recent historical flooding events and the resulting financial impacts. This was also a great professional development opportunity for attendees to hone their skills in public policy and advocacy networking.</p>
Describe Sustainability Seminars held by the Section/Branch promoting the advancement of the principles of sustainable development (2 points):	<p>Annual Energy PDH Event</p> <p>This in-person meeting was hosted by Evan Langfeldt, CEO of O'Brien Brothers, at one of their model homes in the Hillside at O'Brien Farm development in South Burlington (one of the first 100% carbon-free, climate resilient, microgrid communities in the country!). The meeting focused on what developers in Vermont are doing to help us reach our Vermont Energy Goals. Evan discussed the groundbreaking collaboration and pilot program between O'Brien Brothers and Green Mountain Power to bring highly energy-efficient, grid resilient houses that come standard with solar and battery storage systems on-line in South Burlington. The event included a tour of the model homes in see solar, Tesla Powerwalls for renewable energy storage, and carbon-free heating and cooling systems.</p>
Describe Community Service events (1 point each, 2 points max):	

H. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION (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.

<p>Inclusive Events - What best practices has your Section/Branch implemented to ensure meetings/events are equitable and inclusive for all prospective participants? (1 point each, 5 points max):</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hosted meetings at accessible venues - ADA, virtual components, etc. 2. Added federal and major religious holidays to our internal planning calendar to avoid conflicts
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	3. Offered accommodations to a member who was pregnant
Leadership & Engagement - In what ways has the Section/Branch/Group demonstrated a commitment to DEI? (1 point each, 5 points max):	The section increased gender diversity on the leadership board by increasing the number of women in leadership positions.
Inclusive Communications and Training - In what ways does your Section/Branch ensure that communications with and about members and partners are inclusive and asset-based and discuss how you Section/Branch supports DEI related training and programs? (1 point each, 5 points max):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Newsletters were reviewed by all board members before publication for use of inclusive language 2. Posting events on various social media outlets: LinkedIn, Instagram, and the newsletter, to ensure more demographics were able to receive notifications

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

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 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 Activity/Event/Initiative:	Date (if applicable):	Describe:
Ski Event at ASCE Ski Day Social Event	January 26, 2024	VT ASCE reserved the Blazer Room at the Valley House Lodge for the entire day. The Valley House Lodge is located just up-slope from the main Lincoln Peak Village and is right next to the Valley House Quad lift loading area. Registrants were welcome to leave their belongings in that room and come and go throughout the day, while skiing and riding. An artisan sandwich buffet that includes a variety of sandwiches, mixed green salad, side salad (pasta or potato), dessert, and assorted drinks was provided at noon during the presentation. Over 50 members attended.
E Week Banquet	February 23, 2024	The in-person banquet was held at the Delta Hotel on Williston Road in South Burlington. The event celebrated the engineering community, outstanding engineers, and accomplishments in Vermont. It included our annual award ceremonies and other presentations, followed by a Keynote Presentation by Manon Belzile, team member and propulsion lead at BETA Technologies. The section organized and financially supported the event. Over 50 members attended.

<p>Younger Member Leadership Symposium - Alumni Summit</p>	<p>September 13-15, 2024</p>	<p>Erin Robinson, VT Membership Chair, was sent to AS YMLS to represent the section and build her leadership skills. She shared her new knowledge of communications barriers, team management, and boundary setting with the section upon her return. 1 person attended.</p>
<p>Student Support Summit (S3) Working Group</p>	<p>July 2024 - Ongoing</p>	<p>Erin Robinson, VT Membership Chair, was asked to be a member of the Student Support Summit (S3) Working Group, a Task Committee on Student Chapter Development. She gives a voice for CYM and small sections. The purpose of S3 is to develop a visionary roadmap for ASCE's student program and resourcing to generate greater student involvement, retention, inclusivity and applicability to our organization and the profession. 1 person attended.</p>