

Newsletter – Region 7

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| 1. Region | 7 |
| 2. Project Contact | |
| Name | Elise Ibendahl |
| Phone Number | (314) 335-3022 |
| Email | elise.ibendahl@ch2m.com |
| 3. Project Category | Communication |
| 4. Project Description | |
| 5. The Process (What you did, When and How) | <p>Region 7 had just launched a new website in fall 2015, and acknowledged that there was little regional information to share on the newsletter page. Rather than requote information already shared by Society in weekly emails, the Region realized the opportunity existed to develop a newsletter with regional content focused on the sections, branches, younger member groups, and student chapters. Elise Ibendahl, Governor At-Large, volunteered to be editor and to develop the first newsletter. She brainstormed for content and solicited feedback from the Region 7 Board of Direction. A standard outline for the newsletter was developed, including the following optional “standard” news items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Director's Corner 2. Meet the Governors/Director <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List everyone each month in a sidebar b. Feature two governors with photos and bios in each newsletter 3. Calendar: Governor/Director Visits 4. Meet the R7 Section & Branch Leaders: Feature 2-3 leaders from one or two Sections/Branches each month. Provide a link to a website with additional bios if available. 5. Section/Branch Feature: Provide an opportunity for one or two Sections/Branches each newsletter to contribute an overview of their Section/Branch. This could be derived from their annual report to the Region Assembly. |

6. Meet the Student Leaders: Feature 3-4 student leaders each newsletter.
7. Best Practice Feature
 - a. Pick one each month to feature-link to where it is on Geographic Services
 - b. Choose best practices relevant to topics identified at the Region's annual meeting
8. Special Feature - could include:
 - a. Regional Award notice
 - b. Regional Award winners
 - c. Assembly
 - d. MRLC recap
 - e. National Award winner recognitions (from Region 7)
 - f. Grant applications notice
 - g. Grant recipient recaps
 - h. Student conference winners
9. Section News
 - a. As submitted by Sections
10. Link to R7 News from ASCE News
11. Clickable map with links to section/branch websites

An additional list of typical Region activities by month was compiled to aid in identifying special features to include in the newsletter.

She solicited new content in the form of bios for a variety of region leaders (with a focus on a specific section, St. Louis, for the first version), along with an update from the Region Director, short articles on upcoming calendar events (student conferences), and recycled content from other sources about award winners and other regional news.

6. Those in Charge
(Committee, Task Committee, Etc.)

Elise Ibendahl, Editor, and Aaron Frits, Webmaster

7. Time Frame
(When Started, When Completed)

The process started with the Region 7 Board Meeting at the MRLC, and culminated in the first version being distributed in May 2016. The newsletter will continue as an ongoing activity.

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| 8. Success Factors (The Parts that Worked Really Well) | 1) Announcing society award winners, and in particular, highlighting more detail about those winners and their accomplishments. 2) Providing a more in-depth look at one of Region 7's programs, the Grant Program, by detailing one of the grant recipients, their use of the grant, and the success of the activity. |
| 9. Setback Factors (The Parts that did Not Work Well) | It became quickly apparent that there are some limitations. The first limitation is the time available to edit the newsletter; it's important to rely on content developed by others, with a few exceptions for direct Region 7 activities, and to limit actual content development by the newsletter editor. The second limitation is ability of those providing content to the editor to do so in a timely manner. An important lesson is to learn that if something isn't provided by a deadline, it's OK to produce the newsletter without it. The third lesson is that not every newsletter will have content from everything in the outline, and that is fine. Volunteer time limitations might dictate that some newsletters won't feature a best practice, or a section description. It's OK to include those when time allows. |
| 10. Creativity (This is something off the wall that we did) | Many newsletters are simply attached to an email distribution list, and sent to all recipients. We considered and researched different options for distribution, and in the end, we chose to distribute to the section and branch officers a link to the website to view the document, and relied on others to post and distribute to the membership of Region 7 the newsletter. |
| 11. Administration (What was most Important) | Having a current email contact list of leaders for all sections, branches and student chapters within the Region. Geographic Services was able to assist us by providing a current contact list the day we distribute each newsletter. |
| 12. Follow-Up (What was most important?) | To know the reach of our newsletter, Google Analytics was used to evaluate site traffic to the Region Webpage before and after posting the newsletter for viewing. Minimal page views, less than 10, occurred prior to the distribution of the newsletter. Using Google Analytics, we observed that website views jumped to over 71 after posting the newsletter. Determining the reach and readership not only helps tailor the content of the articles, but helped us determine if the method of distributing the newsletter was successful in reaching our members. |
| 13. Recommendations (What you should ALWAYS do with this project?) | Highlight activities that are occurring throughout the region, and recognize a range of groups from Governors to Sections, Branches and Younger Member Groups. By providing variety through a range of topics, everyone can find something of interest in the document, and then they will continue to read this in future installments because of that variety. |
| 14. Cautions (What you should NEVER do with this project?) | Only provide Society or Region level information. The regions members will not find interest in a document that doesn't acknowledge the local activities and the members involved. Also, you have to realize that you'll never have a perfect newsletter with full content, that's the nature of relying on busy volunteers! |
| 15. The Outcome | A good newsletter that was widely read and can be maintained on a quarterly basis. |
| 16. Ongoing Activity (Would you do it again?) | Yes, the Region plans to distribute the newsletter quarterly. |
| 17. Speaker Contact information | |

(person from your Region who would be willing to speak about the Best Practice)

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|--------------------------------|---|
| Name | Elise Ibendahl |
| Address | CH2M, 300 Hunter Ave, Suite 305, St. Louis, MO 63124 |
| Phone Number | 314-335-3022 |
| Email | elise.ibendahl@ch2m.com |
| 18. Additional Comments | <p>This Best Practice includes the following attachments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newsletter Article, May Edition• Newsletter Article, September Edition• Google Analytics Feedback |



Director's Corner

F. Jay Burress, PE, F.ASCE

We are in the midst of a very interesting time within your Society, that is, ASCE. I have just a few bullet points for you to consider:

- The election for your next ASCE President-elect runs online (and online only) from May 1st to May 31st. Robin Kemper is running against Kristina Swallow (listed alphabetically). Please look at their credentials at ASCE.org or ask whomever you think might offer a knowledgeable opinion. My laws prevents me from endorsing a candidate in print, however I do know who I am voting for, and if you ask me I will tell you. Most importantly, take the 5 minutes and vote:
- I am going to Keslon this month to sit on the committee which will set the 2017 budget. The Board, the ASCE staff, and the thousands of volunteers work diligently to provide value to all our members, to the profession and to society. All this effort takes money. Frankly, we have a budget crisis because we are having problems retaining members transitioning from college to the work force. If you are an engineer a few years (or more) out of school, take a new grad under your wing. Mentor them. Show them (as opposed to telling them) why ASCE provides YOU value.
- Lastly, a success story. On April 23rd, President-elect Norma Jean Mattei, numerous Kansas City Section members, project chairman Roy Bravo and I dedicated an ASCE kiosk on the banks of the Missouri River in the shadow of the ASB Bridge in Kansas City. This kiosk has literally been a 20 year labor of love which cost hundreds of hours of volunteer time, tens of thousands of dollars of contributions and the navigation of a lot of red tape. This was a story of a little vision and a lot of bull-doggedness finally paying off. Congratulations to all involved.

Jay Burress, Region 7 Director
jayburress@mcm.bcrs.asce.org

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Region 7 Board of Governors

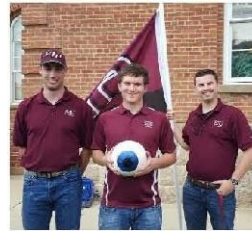


Our Region 7 Board of Governors is here to connect you, the ASCE members of Region 7, to ASCE at the Society level. You can learn more about each of us on the "Contacts" tab of our [Region 7 Website](#), and you can contact us via the contact form at the bottom of the "About" tab on the website. We want to hear from you!

- Jay Burress, P.E., F.ASCE, Director/Chair
- Scott Tagge Asher, P.E., M.ASCE
- Cbman, P.E., M.ASCE, ASCE MKHDPI Frits, P.F., ENV SP, F.ASCE
- Elise Marie Ibcndahl, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE
- Jeffrey Young, P.F., M.ASCE
- Gene L. Rovak, P.E., F.ASCE
- Edward Wilson Stafford, P.E., F.ASCE

MS&T Hosts Mid-Continent Student Conference

Missouri S&T hosted the 2016 Mid-Continent Student Conference in Rolla, MO from April 21-23. This year the conference promoted Steel Bridge, Concrete Canoe, Geo Wall, and Concrete Bowling. It was a beautiful weekend for a conference full of 500 student participants gathered from 150 different schools.



Thursday was in the Gale Bullman Multi-Purpose Building and held all of the steel bridge teams in display, construction, and load testing. Only five of the seventeen teams passed all of the tests, with Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Missouri University of Science and Technology, and University of Missouri going on to represent the conference at the national competition.



Friday was held on campus at the infamous "puck" and supported the display and dunk tank portions of the concrete canoe competition, as well as concrete bowling. The GeoWall event was held in the Materials Lab in Butler Carlton Hall and the canoe presentations were in Toomey Hall. Fourteen teams competed with Cdn, eight in concrete bowling, and three in GeoWall. Friday was also a social with representatives from ASCE STL attending at Lions Club Park.

Saturday held the concrete canoe races out at Lilie Prairie Lake. It was a perfect day for canoe races and the event ran really smooth. Many supporters were also able to make it out to the lake, including friends, family, and faculty members from the universities. Southern Illinois University Carbondale won the concrete canoe competition, going on to represent the conference at nationals. Saturday night was the awards banquet at Columbia College Rolla campus where students ate a catered dinner and received their handmade trophies.

Region 7 Annual Meeting, July 2016

This year's ASCE Region 7 Annual Meeting will be held in Sioux Falls, SD on July 29 & 30, 2016. Every section and chapter is encouraged to send a delegate to the meeting for collaboration and information sharing.

On Friday afternoon, the assembly delegates will meet for 3 to 4 hours to discuss issues and concerns they have experienced with their Sections and to provide topics for discussion with the Region. The Region 7 Board of Governors will concurrently have their Board meeting on Friday afternoon and a social gathering is planned for all that evening.

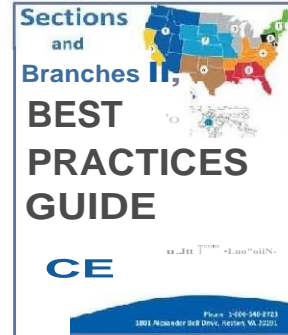
On Saturday, the assembly delegates will present the highlights of their Section/Branch followed by a roundtable discussion of areas where they are successful and where they struggle. The goal is to provide a venue for Society and the Section and Branches to discuss issues of concern and to develop action items.

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for improving ASCE at the local level. The conference will also allow participants to learn about the resources available from Society and the public awareness and promotion of the Dream Big Initiative.

Section & Branch Best Practice Resources

Did you know that a Best Practices Manual is available at the Geographic Services Region, Section, and Branch Resources page, courtesy of ASCE's Leader Training Committee? A series of recorded webinars on [Best Practices](#) is available on the resources page (scroll down to "Best Practices") along with the [Region Best Practices Guide](#). Did you know that you can also [submit your own best practices](#) to be included in the guide? This is a great way to share your successes with other Sections and Branches.



Meet our Leaders

Region 7 relies on volunteers at many levels: students, sections, branches, younger member groups, and our Board of Governors. This issue will focus on Section and student leaders from the St. Louis Area.

Michael T. Buechter, P.E., St. Louis Section President



Michael received his B.S.C.E. degree from the University of Missouri at Rolla and his M.S.C.E. degree from Oklahoma State University. He is a Program Manager at the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District where he works with a diverse and talented team responsible for in-house design and small construction projects. He originally joined the District in 2003 and has been heavily involved in the region's MS4 permit, Green Infrastructure topics, trenchless technology and private inflow reduction projects.

Mike is a past Director of the Engineers' Club of St. Louis, President of the local section of ASCE, past chairman of the local chapter of EWU and serves on several Society level ASCE/EWU operations, technical and standards committees. Mike has published and lectured extensively on technical and historical topics, and is also an adjunct faculty at St. Louis University. Mike and his wife live in Webster Groves with their four boys where he recently completed near a decade as CubMaster of Pack 315.

Matt Harper, PE, St. Louis Section President Elect



Matt is a water resources engineer at Water Resources Solutions. Matt received his Bachelor's of Science degree in Mathematics from Webster University in 2001 and his Bachelor's of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Washington University in 2003. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in Missouri, Illinois, and Kansas. Matt is an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a member of the Engineer's Club of St. Louis. Matt grew up in Columbia, IL and currently lives in Waterloo, IL with his wife and two young sons. In his free time, he enjoys sports, fishing, coaching his son's sports teams, and spending time with friends and family.

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Aaron Frits, P.E., ENV SP. M. ASCE, Region 7 Governor



I am the Road Design Leader for the Kansas Department of Transportation and one of our Region 7 Governors, representing Kansas and Kansas City Sections. I have worked for KDOT for the last 13 years, all in the Bureau of Road Design. I have risen through the ranks, from a Road Designer when I started to my current position of Road Design Technical Advisor (Project Manager). I manage staff and manage projects from 20- preliminary engineering and those under construction. Projects range from bridge replacements and intersection improvements to large system-to-system interchanges, all on the state highway system, all across the State of Kansas. In addition to managing projects, I have several other duties at KDOT. I teach the Professional Development courses in Geometric Design and Roadside Safety, monitor research on transportation topics funded by KDOT and performed by the University of Kansas and Kansas State University, serve on two CIIRP Research Panels, act as a KDOT's Diverging Diamond expert, and serve as an ASCE Committee Member for the Technical Committee on Geometric Design. This is what I get paid to do.

What I don't get paid to do, and what I really enjoy volunteering for, is ASCE. I currently serve as a Region 7 Governor, in addition to being a corresponding member with the leadership Training Committee. I also have served on the Key Contact Committee, and the Oversight Committee. I have been part of the ASCE Legislative Fly-In the last 4 years, and have greatly appreciated that opportunity to interact with our national legislators. It gives you a true appreciation of the effort it takes to make meaningful impacts on national policy. And lastly, I've judged the steel bridge competition for the ASCE Mid-Continent Conference 6 of the last 9 years. (Yes, a Road Designer enjoys judging a bridge competition). One of all those roles, the activities I enjoy the most are with the students and younger members of ASCE. Visiting with students at their chapter meetings, and seeing them at their conferences and competitions has been a great way to see the future of our profession. I like to see the progress students make, from their first days as members, through roles as officers and competition captains, to entering professional practice after graduation. I regretfully didn't get involved with ASCE as a student, so that is probably why I love engaging the students in my current ASCE role now. I also relish the opportunities I have had as a Younger Member serving as a Governor; not often do younger ASCE members get that opportunity to serve on a society level at such an early part of their career. I am very thankful for the fact that someone asked me to serve.

While the above appears to show my time is solely occupied with work and ASCE, I really do spend most of my time with my family. My wife Brianna and I have been married for almost 12 years; she makes it possible for me to do all the ASCE activities I am involved with. I frequently describe her role in the family as both the COO and CFO; she takes care of us all. And she does this while managing her career as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, working for the Veterans Administration as the Homeless Veterans Coordinator for Northeast Kansas.

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Lastly, I have 3 kids: Nolan age 8, Olivia age 5, and Colin, 8 months. They keep me busy with their activities, soccer and basketball for Nolan, dance and soccer for Olivia, and swim lessons for all; Colin truly loves being in the water. We all enjoy being outside: Nolan and I play disc golf, I play softball, we visit local playgrounds, and we all attend various sporting events together (we are Iowa State, Chicago Cubs, and Sporting KC fans). Every day in the family household is a different adventure:

Edward Stafford, P.E., PTOE, F.ASCE PE, Region 7 Governor



I have spent the last 11 years working in local government in the Denver Colorado area, providing communities with expertise in land development, traffic engineering, regional storm water management, capital improvement program management and general public works leadership and management. Currently I work for the City of Boulder as the city's Public Works Development Review Manager.

I have been actively involved in ASCE since college, where I started my service to our profession as the first webmaster for the student chapter at the Colorado School of Mines. After graduation I became actively involved in the Colorado Section as the membership committee chair and was subsequently elected to terms of treasurer, secretary, vice president, and finally serving as section president in 2006. At the Society level I have been active on many committees over the years, including the Committee on Student Activities, Committee on the National Concrete Canoe Competition, Committee on Scholarships, and the Student Transition Implementation Task Committee.

One of my passions in ASCE has been working with college students throughout the nation. I currently serve as the chair of the Committee on the National Concrete Canoe Competition and have been involved in the competition for more than 10 years. Beyond the canoe competition I have also been a practitioner advisor to student chapters and have attended student conferences throughout the U.S. and have had the pleasure of meeting and working with many students through the years that are now practicing engineers.

As a native of Colorado I enjoy spending time in our beautiful mountains when I am not spending my time serving our local communities or ASCE.

Britt Iverson, PE, St. Louis Section Younger Member Chair



Britt is a transportation/site engineering working for ISP Parsons Brinckerhoff. She is a 9 year professional and has been active on and off with ASCE since college. Community involvement has been very important to her since high school and she actively participates in Rebuilding Together St. Louis, Operation Food Search, and volunteering through her church. It has been a privilege for her to represent the St. Louis Younger Members within our section and externally to ASCE.

Michael Donnelly, St. Louis University Student Chapter President



Mike is a junior and has been a member of ASCE since joining the SLU community as a freshman. Previously the treasurer, Mike is excited to see how he can help ASCE evolve and become a true force to be reckoned with come conference in the spring. When he isn't working with ASCE, you can find Mike working closely with the first-year population as he splits his time with Housing and Residence Life as a Resident Advisor.

Claire Laughlin, St. Louis University Student Chapter Vice-President



Claire will be a junior and has been an active in ASCE since freshman year. As past historian and secretary she is looking forward to taking on more responsibilities as the vice president. Outside of ASCE Claire enjoys working and taking care of her new dog.

Michelle Bresnahan, SLU Student Chapter Conference Chair and Past-President



Michelle is a senior this year and has been involved in ASCE since her freshman year. Previously Michelle has served as historian and president. As conference chair, Michelle is looking forward to advancing Saint Louis University's rankings and creating an exceptional experience for everyone. Outside of ASCE, Michelle serves as a peer mentor for the MTK Scholarship Program and is actively involved in the First-Year Experience Group as a peer mentor for the Engineering and Innovation learning Community and peer instructor for a University 101 course. Claire will be a junior and has been an active in ASCE since freshman year. As past historian and secretary she is looking forward to taking on more responsibilities as the vice president. Outside of ASCE Claire enjoys working and taking care of her new dog.

Region 7 Awards Announcements, Coming Soon!

The end of April marked the deadline for submitting nominations for our Region 7 Awards, and we thank Gov. Asher for coordinating our annual awards process. The Board of Governors will review the nominations and winners will be announced soon. Good luck to all nominees, and thanks to all of you for your service to the Society. Region 7 awards include:

- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Outstanding Faculty Practitioner Advisor Award

Around Region 7

Did you know that you can access Region 7 updates from the Society on [ASCE's website](#)? Here's what's going on this month.

SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF MINES AND TECHNOLOGY STUDENT CHAPTER Students 'canstruct' creative structures



Photo courtesy of South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Student Chapter

South Dakota School of Mines and Technology students show off their "canstructions" of Bob the Minion with his birthday cake. The sculptures include 1,517 cans.

COLORADO SECTION Environmental-remediation expert elected Fellow

Charles D. Shackelford, Ph.D., P.E., FASCE, an expert with 30 years of experience in the environmental aspects of waste management and environmental remediation, has been named a Fellow by the ASCE Board of Direction. A professor and head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO, Shackelford had served as director of the EPA's Rocky Mountain Regional Hazardous Substance Research Center, focused on remediation of abandoned mine lands. Discover more about [what made him deserving](#) of Fellow status.

COLORADO SECTION Wastewater and mine-water treatment specialist named Fellow

Linda Ann Figueroa, Ph.D., P.E., FASCE, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the Colorado School of Mines, has been named a Fellow by the ASCE Board of Direction. Figueroa's primary focus throughout her 30 years in environmental engineering has involved wastewater reclamation and mine-water treatment. In the last decade, her work has focused on synthesizing knowledge to develop and demonstrate sustainable technologies.

Read more about [what made her deserving](#) of Fellow status.

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COLORADO SECTION Colorado State water resources grad program coordinator named Fellow

John W. Labadie, Ph.D., P.E., FASCE, professor of civil and environmental engineering at Colorado State University and coordinator of the water resources planning and management graduate program, has been named a Fellow by the ASCE Board of Direction. Labadie specializes in the application of decision support systems, decision analytics, mathematical programming, artificial intelligence, knowledge-based systems, and geographic information systems to complex problems in water resources and environmental systems management. Read more about [what made him deserving](#) of Fellow status.

Great outreach event or other activity? Let the whole Region know!

If you're a local ASCE leader and your Section Branch Younger Member Group or Student Chapter has staged any special events, engaged in outreach from grade-school kids to lawmakers, done charity work, fund raising or anything of the sort, let *ASCE News Weekly* know and we may include it in next month's Region report. You may already have written about it and posted pictures in your newsletter, website, or social media. Share the details and any photos at asce.org/localnews. Got questions? Write to submissions@asce.org.

Region 7 Grants in Action

St. Louis Younger Member Group- Meet A Professional Luncheon



YMs Alison Graves, Britt Marron & Brandi

On Wednesday April 14th, the St. Louis Younger Member Group held the "Meet a Professional Luncheon" at the Monastery at Saint Louis University. The luncheon matched 24 ASCE Student Chapter Members from Saint Louis University (SLU), Southern Illinois University (SIU), and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) with local professionals in their same field of civil engineering.

We began with lunch and a brief presentation on the Society, St. Louis Section & YMG. We had a group introduction using The 5 S's of Meeting People: Stand, Smile, Say your name, Shake hands & Say "Nice to meet you!" The pairs then had free discussion time to discuss careers, their chosen field, goals, etc.



Organizations Represented:

- ESI
- DreamRunners Ltd.
- TAP Engineers LLC
- Horner & Shifrin
- Burns & McDonnell
- Alpr Aucll
- "ff"ro SL nnuis
- Parsons Brinckerhoff
- HNTB
- Himson
- David Tolson & Associates
- SCI Engineering, Inc.
- Reilz & Jens
- Gateway Geotechnical
- Albeno
- SCI Engineering, Inc.
- Metropolitan St. Louis
- St. Louis District
- Wade Trim
- Black & Veatch
- Corputatiml
- Colchnology
- Jacobs Engineering
- AECOF

The event was organized by Alison Graves with assistance from YMC Chair Britt Marron, Brandi Jones & Melanha Norlon. A huge thank you to the Melanha Bresnahan from the SLU Student Chapter for providing the facility, and to the YMG, Region 7, and the ASCE Foundation for sponsoring the event!

[Did you also receive a Region 7 Comm? Send us an article \(or the next newsletter\) at eibendah@ch2m.com!](mailto:eibendah@ch2m.com)

Congratulations to our Region's Society Level Award Winners!

Student Chapters

The University of Wyoming Student Chapter was awarded the 2016 ASCE Distinguished Chapter Award by the ASCE Committee on Student Members, the Richard J. Scranton Outstanding Community Service Award, and is a Robert Ridgway Award finalist this year.

The University of Kansas and St. Louis University Student Chapters were selected by the Committee on Student Members to receive a Certificate of Commendation for outstanding activities as recorded on the 2015 Chapter Annual Report. This distinction earned by only the top 5% of all student organizations. The SIU student chapter was also awarded the "Above and Beyond" award from SLU's Parks College of Engineering!

The United States Air Force Academy Student Chapter was awarded the 2016 Most Improved Chapter by the ASCE Committee on Student Members.

The following eight Student Chapters were awarded Honorable Mention by the committee on Student Member:

- Colorado School of Mines
University of Iowa
- Iowa State University
 - Kansas State University
 - University of Mississippi
 - University of Nebraska-Lincoln
 - University of Nebraska-Lincoln at Omaha
 - South Dakota State University

Institutes

The St. Louis Chapter of EWRI was named the 2016 Outstanding Technical Group/Institute Chapter by the ASCE/EWRI Local Activities Council.

Members

Dr. Noriaki Ohara, Ph.D., M.ASCE from the Wyoming Section has been selected by the Society Awards Committee to receive the 2016 J. James R. Croes Medal as a co-author for the paper, "Physically Based Estimation of Maximum Precipitation over Three Watersheds in Northern California: Atmospheric Boundary Condition Shifting," *Journal of Hydrologic Engineering*, April 2015.

Bruce R. Ellingwood, Ph.D., P.E., F.SEL, Dis. M. ASCE, NAF, selected by the Engineering Mechanics Institute to receive the 2016 Alfred R. Prudential Medal "for the unique role that he has played in introducing concepts of
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probability, statistics and structural reliability to structural engineering and for transforming structural reliability from academic research specialty into a mainstream of structural engineering practice." In selecting you for this award, the committee particularly noted your research on probabilistic models of low-cycle fatigue and fracture.

Mr. James L. Barnard, Ph.D., C.Eng., F. ASCE, NAE of the Kansas City Section has been selected to receive the 2017 Simon W. Freese Environmental Engineering Award and Lecture "For his contribution to the environmental engineering profession and particularly

developing the 131\RDE PHO (13i\Rnard DEKilrification and PHOsphorus removal), Phoredox (later AO <ml A20), l'vfodified Balakrishnan/Tickenfelder (later called the MLTI) and Westbank Processes."

Dr. Thuma oJ. Trout, Ph.D., P.F., VT.ASCF of the Colorildo Section h<s been selected to receive the 2016 Royce J. Tipton Award "for research contributions that have enhanced our underslanning of irrigation-induced erosion, l'he effeclnf irrigalinn and <nil manilgemenl praclices on the fate of soil fumigants, and the impact of deficit irrigation on crop producti'lity."

\-fr. St ven R. Abt, Ph.D., P.F., D.WRF., f.ASCF of the Colorado Section has been seleded to receive the 2016 Hydraulic Structures .Yledal "Tor his substantial leadership and contributions loward l'he advancement of hydraulic engineering by conducting experiments and direding studt'nts in expt'rimental hydraulir> to help establish hydraulic structure design practices."

John Stansbury, P.F., VT.ASCF. of the Nebraska Section has been selected to receive the 2016

Rudolph Hering .Yledal "For co-author of the paper, "Contribulions of Internal and Exlernal Fouling to Transmembrane Pressure in VTRRRs: Experiments <nd VTodeling," Journal of Environmental Engineering, June 2015."

Dr. Tian C. Zhang,. Ph.D., P.F., D.WRF., F.ASCF. of the Nebrasb Section has been selected to receive the 2016 Rudolph I Iering Medal "for co-author of the paper, "Contributions of Internal and Exlernal Fouling lo 'ransmembrane Pressure in VTRRRs: F.xperiments and Modeling," Journal of Environmental Engineering, June 2015."

Prof. Iarry W. Mays, Ph.D., P.f., D.WRF, F.ASCF. of the Colorado Section has been seleded to receive the 2016 VenTe Chow Award "Tor his research on watersheds, water resources, water infrasruclure and hydro systems addressing l'heir design, management and oplimal nperalions, and his popular ilnd aulhorilalive textbooks and handbooks that have had an international impact."



Director's Comer

F. Jay Burress, PE, F.ASCE

On Friday, September 30th at the Annual Business Meeting which is part of ASCE Convention in Portland, Oregon, I will be turning over my role as Director of Region 7 to your newly-elected Director, Marsia Geldert-Murphy. This will be the end of my three year term, which began on a similar Friday in 2013, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

As with many farewell letters, I first would like to take the opportunity to thank some people for their support. My company, Shafer, Kline &



Warren, understands the importance that ASCE and other professional societies provide to the engineering profession. As such, the SKW ownership has graciously provided me with the time-off and resources to serve as Director. This generosity is another example of the degree to which Engineers are committed to helping others, our Profession, and society on the whole. Secondly, I would like to thank the governors who served under me on your regional board for these last three years. Without exception, they performed at a level higher than should or would be expected in a volunteer organization. Their ideas, efforts and passion enabled us to achieve a great deal. Lastly, I want to thank my family for their love and support. There have been numerous trips on behalf of ASCE, some just for an evening, others for up to a week away from home. Their acceptance of that time away made my job easier, and allowed me to devote my efforts to this great organization.

Next, I would like to reflect upon the places I've been fortunate to go, the people I've been privileged to meet, and the things I've been able to do. I was able to visit every section within our region during my term, most more than once. I thank all the sections,

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Region 7 Board of Governors



Our Region 7 Board of Governors is here to connect you, the ASCE members of Region 7, to ASCE at the Society level. You can learn more about each of us on the "Contacts" tab of our [Region 7 Website](#), and you can contact us via the contact form at the bottom of the "About" tab on the website. We want to hear from you!

- F. Jay Burress, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE, Director/Chair
- Scott Tagge Asher, P.E., M.ASCE
- Claman, P.E., M.ASCE
- Aaron Michael Fnts, P.E., ENV SP, M.ASCE
- Elise Marie Ibendahl, P.E., ENV SP, M.ASCE
- Jeffrey Young, P.E., M.ASCE
- Gene L Rovak, P.E., F.ASCE
- Edward Wilson Stafford, P.E., PIDE, F.ASCE

branches and student sections for the invitations to visit and speak. I appreciated the opportunity, and would ask that everyone continue asking governors and all the governors to continue visiting their meetings. I finish my last month with visits to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the St. Louis section. Another director responsibility was representing Region 7's interests at Society-level Board meetings. Those meetings have literally been in every corner of the country, (Miami, San Diego, Vermont and now Portland). The meetings have been interesting as I have discussed and deliberated with my fellow board members what, when, where and how ASCE should represent its members and the profession. I have also had the opportunity to meet interesting people. The ASCE staff in Reston is a talented, dedicated group of individuals and we are all lucky to have them working for us. Many of the industry leaders with whom I've been able to meet and interact are, and should be, inspirations to us all. Lastly, some of the things I've been able to do because of ASCE will stay with me for the rest of my life. One example is taking a tour to the floor of the new locks of the Panama Canal. Civil engineering doesn't get much more amazing than that. A non-engineering event my wife and I were able to attend as a result of being in New York for the ASCE Convention was a performance of Hamilton on Broadway. I consider that a bucket-list item.

In conclusion, while my term is over, my commitment to ASCE is not. I plan on remaining active, locally and at the Society level, through committee work and in any other manner they see fit. And my final words and request is that YOU, as an ASCE member also consider getting involved. ASCE has as much or as little for you to do as you can. Everything you muster will help make a difference, to the profession, and more importantly, to our communities around the world.

Jay Burress, Region 7 Director
 jayburress@members.asce.org

Region 7 Annual Meeting, July 2016

This year's ASCE Region 7 Annual Meeting was held in Sioux Falls, SD on July 29 & 30, 2016. Our sections and Branch sent delegates to the meeting for collaboration and information sharing.



Region 7 Board of Directors hard at work!

On Friday afternoon, the assembly delegates met to discuss issues and concerns they have experienced with their sections and to provide topics for discussion with

the Region. The Region 7 Board of Governors concurrently had their Board meeting on Friday afternoon, followed by a social gathering with the Delegates.



Region 7 Delegates, Sharing a Good Network

On Saturday, we were joined by ASCE President Mark Woodson P.E., L.S., D.WRE, F.ASCE, and the assembly delegates shared the highlights of their section/Branch with the Board and delegates. This was followed by a roundtable discussion of successes and struggles



Regiow 7 Board of Direction and Delegates

throughout the Region. The goal was to provide a venue for Society and the Section and Branches to discuss issues of concern and to develop action items for improving ASCE at the local level. The annual meeting also gave attendees an opportunity to learn about the resources available from Society and the public awareness and promotion of the Dream Big movie. The Region Board of Direction looks forward to supporting Section and Branch activities related to Dream Big through our Grant Program!

Region 7 Sections Win Society Diversity Awards

The Section and Branch Diversity & Inclusion Award was established in July 2003 by ASCE's Committee on Diversity and Women in Civil Engineering (CDWCE), the predecessor of the current committee on Diversity and Inclusion (CDI).

The award was established to recognize Sections & Branches that demonstrate stellar & noteworthy efforts in promoting diversity and furthering of inclusion within the civil engineering profession. CDI selected several honorees this year, with that two honorees are from our region: Kansas City Section and the St. Louis Section.

The Kansas City Section's Diversity and Inclusion Committee collaborated with local groups from the Society of Women Engineers, the American Public Works Association, the National Society of Black Engineers, the Women's Transportation Seminar, and student groups from The University of Missouri-Kansas City for a meet and greet networking event. The section also donated money to an Engineers Without Borders project in Joyabaj, Guatemala.



Tom Jacobs accepted the Diversity Award on behalf of Ute Kansas City Section. Also pictured are Jay Bress, Regiow 7 Director, Elise Bendall from CDI, and Malk Woodson, ASCE President.



MikQ> BuQ>d\ taccQ>pf:Q>d thQ> Diwnity Award an bQ>half of th o st. Louis SQ>ctian. Also pidurQ>d arQ> JayBuaQ>ss,RQ>gion 7 Director; I'is\ IbQ>ndahJ. from CDI; and Mark Woodson, ASCI!PrQ>adQ>nt.

The St. Louis Section has long made diversity and inclusion a priority. The Greenberg Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2009 to honor Aaron Greenberg, a longtime section volunteer who worked extensively with minority youth.

The section's Committee For Diversity And Inclusion organized several events throughout the year, including a joint luncheon with members of The National Society of Black Engineers, work with Cor Jesu High School (an all-girls school), coordinating with Girl Scout STEM,

providing sponsor support of NSBE's annual scholarship and awards program, cosponsoring a walk for education, and participating in the Expanding Your Horizons In Mathematics And Science Conference.

Congratulations, St. Louis and Kansas City!

Section & Branch Best Practice Resources

Did you know that a Best Practices Manual is available at the Geographic Services Region, Section, and Branch Resources page, courtesy of ASCE's Leader Training Committee? A series of recorded webinars on Best Practices is available on the resources page (scroll down to "Best Practices") along with the [Responsive Best Practices Guide](#). Did you know that you can also [submit your own best practices](#), to be included in the guide? This is a great way to share your successes with other Sections and Branches.

Sections



Welcome to our Incoming Governor, Erin Steever!

Erin is a project engineer with Banner Associates, Inc. in Sioux Falls, SD. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (2001) and a Master of Science Degree in Environmental Engineering (2005) from South Dakota State University. Her experience includes consulting engineering for municipalities involving water and wastewater treatment, piping and pump stations, industrial wastewater treatment, and project facility plan development. The aspect Erin enjoys most is working directly with the operators and community leaders in order to identify their day to day challenges and long-term needs. Gaining this understanding allows her to identify the most effective plan to improve their facilities through operation and engineering to bring their systems back into compliance. She is also a certified wetland delineator in South Dakota and Minnesota.

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Erin's involvement in ASCE began as the Community Service Clair for the Student Chapter of ASCE at South Dakota State University (SDSU). She rekindled her involvement in ASCE several years ago moving through Section leadership positions including Vice President, President Elect, President and Past President, South Dakota Delegate and now the Region 7 Governor representing Iowa and South Dakota. She still maintains strong ties to the South Dakota Eastern Branch as Member Clair.



Erin enjoys involvement in the community and profession through engineering outreach activities. Her decision to become an engineer occurred after high school, and she may be making up for missing out on all the outreach activities she missed growing up. Erin serves as the E-Week Events Coordinator for the South Dakota Engineering Society. Her favorite venue for out-letting these creative STEM activities is at the Kirby Science and Discovery Center in Sioux Falls. For several years she was in charge of developing the E-Week curriculum for the afterschool program encouraging girls in 3 underserved middle schools to pursue STEM careers.

One of the most enjoyable curriculums she's put together was inspired by the Disney Pixar movie Big Hero 6®. Volunteers and students built, tested and re-designed paper plate "Speed Racers" to tie in with the with supersonic fast magnetic-levitation bike that the female industrial technology and mechanical engineering student GoGo Tomago's character develops in the movie. The group then moved on to the main build with Baymax as the inspiration. For those of you not familiar with this amazing movie Baymax is a home health aide robot. Volunteer engineers assisted the girls in building a "junk drawer robot" using Popsicle sticks, syringes and pencil erasers to make a Hydraulic Gripper Robot. While she'd like to take

credit for the hydraulic gripper, this was her first adventure with a hydraulic experiment. The robots were part of a grant provided by the SDSU Extension. Another favorite was laying out highway paint striping using students. You just don't realize how long the paint tick marks are until you have students head to foot in the hallway. As you can imagine, she's extremely excited for the South Dakota Section to bring ASCE's Dream Big to the Science Center. This is a wonderful platform to demonstrate the unique facets of engineering and will be a source of inspiration for years to come.

Erin stays connected to the water and wastewater profession as well. She manages a quarterly publication for South Dakota water and wastewater professionals through AWWA, WEF and WWA and serves as the Technical and Education Council Clair for AWWA.

Region 7 Grant Program Returns!

It's that time of year again! No, not for Pumpkin Spice Lattes.. No, not the return of football. No, not back to school activities.

We're talking about the Region 7 Grants Program!

Region 7 will be releasing the FY2017 grant application forms in the next few weeks.. They will be posted on the Region 7 website (<http://htglons.asce.org/region7/resources>), and email will be sent out as well

So keep an eye on your inbox in the coming weeks. And this year, grants are accepted (and encouraged) for Dream Big! Activities.

Outside of engineering, Erin loves running, yoga and spending time skiing, hiking and ice skating with her family: husband, Todd, and two children, Keira (9) and Charlie (7). She's pretty adventurous and likes trying new things, one of the most adventurous may be paddleboard yoga. This is a combination of yoga and Pilates on a 12-ft long paddleboard in the water. She enjoyed this so much she now owns two paddleboards of her own. The family loves to visit the local lakes to paddleboard together. The kids are partial to diving off the boards while mom finds her sense of balance and inner peace.

Meet our Leaders

Region 7 relies on volunteers at many levels—students, sections, branches, younger member groups, and our Board of Governors. This issue will focus on Section leaders from the South Dakota and Iowa Sections and student leaders from the University of Wyoming. We've profiled some leaders from each group—you can view bios for the full Iowa Section Board on their website—check it out!

Justin Bucher, EIT, President, South Dakota Eastern Branch



Justin is a Staff Engineer at Banner Associates in Brookings, SD. He received his BS in Civil Engineering from South Dakota State University in 2014 and has been involved with ASCE since 2010. At Banner Associates, Justin works in the Civil/Municipal department, focusing on land development, site design, drainage, and construction administration. Outside of work, Justin enjoys traveling, golfing, and watching SDSU Jackrabbit Football.

Jedidiah Reimnitz, Vice President, South Dakota Eastern Branch



Jedidiah earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering from South Dakota State University in 2012. He then went on to graduate school at South Dakota State University focusing on hydraulic and environmental engineering. In June of 2014 he joined HR Green as a Staff I Engineer in Sioux Falls, SD while finishing his master's degree. He has been active in ASCE and EWB. His project experience at HR Green includes storm water design, wastewater collection system rehabilitations, and utility infrastructure studies. He enjoys running, biking, swimming, reading, cinema, and playing board games with close friends.

Kent Ode, Treasurer, South Dakota Eastern Branch



Kent is a Staff Engineer for HR Green, Inc. in Sioux Falls, SD. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from South Dakota State University in 2015. Prior to HR Green, he worked for the City of Sioux Falls Engineering Department. His professional experience is in waste water projects including WWIP and lift station design.

Bret Lingvall, PhD, Vice President, South Dakota Section



Bret received his BS, MS, and PhD in Civil Engineering from the University of Utah. Bret specializes in geotechnical and earthquake engineering; with 11 years of consulting and 4 years of teaching experience. Bret's consulting days were spent with Kleinfelder, Inc. working on projects across the United States out of the Salt Lake City office. His active research and consulting portfolio includes static and dynamic **ri**cal modeling of geologic materials, dams and levees, liquefied soils, seismic hazards analysis, very soft soils, retaining walls, geosynthetics, paving materials, laterally loaded foundations, and ground improvement. Bret's global design experience includes serving as a technical advisor for a variety of projects in Canada, South Korea, Guam, and across the US. He continues to serve the profession as a consultant and *peer* reviewer of numerical modeling based geotechnical designs and research. Bret is currently mentoring PhD candidates at the University of Utah and SDSM&T. Bret serves on multiple ASCE Geo-Institute technical committees and is a member of both EERI and the Seismological Society of America. He is the current Vice President of the South Dakota Section of ASCE. In college, Bret was a two-time chapter president of Chi Epsilon. Bret is the father of 2 wonderful daughters (7 and 9) and a 3-yr old son Dane who is affectionately nicknamed "Hurricane" after his boundless energy. His wife and he reside in the pine forests of the Black Hills near Rapid City, SD. Bret is an avid outdoorsman, gardener, and lover of really good food.

Tevis Holzer, EIT, Past President South Dakota Section



Tevis Holzer is a structural design engineer in the Video Product Engineering Systems department at Daktronics. His responsibilities include providing the structural design of sign support structures and foundations. Designing, prototyping, and testing Daktronics products against environmental conditions, wind and seismic loads. Holzer also conducts site surveys to evaluate existing structures and conditions to assist the sales team in estimating associated costs.

Holzer received his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 2012 from South Dakota State University and is an active member of both the American Society of Engineers

and American Institute of Steel Construction. When not at work, Tevis enjoys golfing, hunting, fishing and spending time with family.

Aaron Gran *ist, PE, President, Iowa Section*



Aaron earned his A.A. in Liberal Arts from Waldorf College. He then went on and graduated from the University of Iowa with degrees in Mathematics and Civil Engineering and obtained an M.B.A. from the University of Iowa in 2010. He has been very active in ASCE since 2000. Aaron is a Project Manager for HR Green, Inc. in Cedar Rapids, IA and resides in North Liberty with his wife, Alyssa, and two small children. He enjoys physical training, pick-up basketball, golfing, mountain biking, snowboarding, reading and watching the University of Iowa sports teams.

Brian Boelk, PE, Vice-President, Iowa Section



Brian A Boelk joined HBK Engineering, LLC in 2013 with more than 14 years of practice as a civil engineer. His experience in municipal and consulting engineering encompasses project management, design engineering, contract plan and specification preparation, and construction inspection oversight for public agencies and municipalities as well as for privately owned corporations. Areas of design experience include sanitary sewers, storm sewers, storm water management facilities, storm water runoff analysis, roadway improvements, roundabouts, water mains, site development, EPA and IDOT audits, and agency permit application. He sits on the ISWMM technical committee and also served as a committee member for SUDAS in terms of Stormwater Management.

Gene L. Rovak, P.E., CFM F.ASCE, Region 7 Governor



Gene Rovak is a governor of Region 7 of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). One of the Society's 10 regional governing boards, Region 7 represents members from Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. Rovak began his term in October 2011. Rovak is a senior consultant with Horner & Shifrin, Inc. He received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Washington University with graduate work at University of Missouri—Rolla (now MST)

Within ASCE, Rovak has been very involved with the St. Louis Section, where he is a past-president and held all officer positions and several support positions. As newsletter editor he began the practice of electronic newsletter distribution and then developed the Section's website in the 1990s. He is an active member and past chair of the St. Louis Chapter of EWRI. His related service includes the steering committees for SAME-ASCE Midwest Levee Conferences and for the annual St. Louis Earth Day Symposium.

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Non-ASCE volunteer activities include civic boards and committees including stormwater committee chair, current service as a Planning Commissioner in Creve Coeur, MO and previous the service on the executive board of the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce. Upon graduation, he served in the U.S. Army, including active duty in Vietnam and several years reserve duty in engineer units. Other interests include optics and aviation.

He performs watershed analyses, master planning studies, drainage design and construction documents for infrastructure systems, working with many hydraulic and hydrologic computer models and network flow simulations. Rovak developed original computer models for analysis of multi-basin two-way unsteady flows prior to their availability from commercial vendors or public agencies.

He has presented at numerous symposia, conferences and workshops on hydrology, hydraulics and site drainage topics. He is a registered professional engineer in Missouri, Illinois and Maryland, and is a resident of St. Louis, Missouri and a Certified Floodplain Manager.

Ellen Studebaker - UW Student Chapter President



Hello! I am Ellen Studebaker, President for 2016 of the University of Wyoming ASCE Student Chapter. I am originally from Billings, Montana and will graduate in December 2016. I love traveling, crafts, and being outdoors when the weather allows it. I have spent my summer 2016 with the Montana Department of Transportation on a construction crew and I think the DOT is a good start to my career, so we will see where that will take me. I will try for a Department of Transportation job somewhere in the US, as I enjoyed the diversity of the work and could see the difference I was making for the travelling public.

Will Rich - UW Student Chapter Vice-President



Will is a senior in the University of Wyoming's Civil and Architectural Engineering Department, and is emphasizing in structural engineering. He will be graduating after the 2016 fall semester and plans to attend graduate school in the fall of 2017. He is originally from Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he lived with his mother, father, and younger sister until he began his undergraduate studies in the fall of 2012. Away from the classroom, Will enjoys both watching and playing sports. Tennis, basketball, and soccer are a few of the sports he enjoys playing; however, his favorite sporting event is professional football, where he lives and dies by the fortunes of his beloved Kansas City Chiefs. While Will's immediate goals after graduating include not starving and finding somewhere to live, his eventual goal is to obtain a P.E. in structural engineering.

Gordon Murphy- UW Student Chapter Secretary



For the year of 2016 the members of the University of Wyoming's ASCE student chapter elected Gordon Murphy as their secretary. He is from the small mountain town of Basalt, Colorado and is about to begin his fourth year as an undergraduate in Civil Engineering. While he grew up with an interest in Architecture, he eventually decided to become an engineer due to his history of Legos, computer games, and mathematics. He originally came to the University for its Engineering Program and had enjoyed the many opportunities to be involved that ASCE has offered. For the past few years he has been involved in Concrete Canoe Competition and was one of the University of Wyoming's 2016 co-captains. In the few moments Gordon is not studying or involved in ASCE, he enjoys writing short stories and reading books. When he graduates he hopes to work as an environmental or structural engineer in a large city, helping the world as it evolves in the future.

Kelsey Vandenberg- UW Student Chapter Treasurer



My name is Kelsey Vandenberg, a junior at the University of Wyoming and treasurer of ASCE. I participated on the steel bridge team during the regional conferences and was our chapter's conference chair last year. Besides being in ASCE, I am a member of the Western Thunder Marching Band on the baritone. I don't have a plan yet after I graduate, but I do want to intern at a company for at least four years as an engineer in training. I also wish to travel and see the world.

Region 7 Award Winners

The end of April marked the deadline for submitting nominations for our Region 7 Awards, and we thank Gov. Asher for coordinating our annual awards process. The Board of Governors reviewed numerous high-quality nominations and selected the winners, who are listed below. Congratulations to our winners, and thank you to all our nominees for your dedication to ASCE. Region 7 award winners include:

Outstanding Younger Members

Mr. Vincent Ibragimov, P.E., M.ASCE, Southern Branch, Colorado Section
Ms. Nicole Franken, P.E., M.ASCE, Wichita Branch, Kansas Section

Outstanding Faculty Advisor

Dr. David C. Mays, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE, University of Colorado- Denver, Colorado Section

Lifetime Achievement Award

Lt. Col. Chris Senseney, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE, Southern Branch, Colorado Section

Around Region 7

JULY ASCE BOARD OF DIRECTION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

ASCE Board Sets Strategic Direction; Approves Policies, Budget

F. Jay Burress, P.E., M. ASCE, your Region 7 Director is a member of the Kansas City Section. Jay represented you at the ASCE Board meeting in San Diego, CA, July B-9.

At its July meeting, the ASCE Board debated a host of key civil engineering and ASCE issues and set direction on how to advance the profession and strengthen the organization in the coming year and beyond.

In addition to deliberations on strategic initiatives, adopting new policies, and passing a budget (see story in [ASCE News](#)), the Board addressed additional items on its extensive agenda.

As part of its fiscal year 2017 budget, the Board approved a new print *ASCE News* newsletter that will be mailed to members 10 times per year in conjunction with *Civil Engineering* magazine. Beginning in November 2016, this publication will deliver timely highlights of ASCE activities in a vibrant brief format that provides both at-a-glance updates and guides readers to more content that can be found online. In a survey of randomly selected ASCE members who received sample copies, some 80% said they learned something new about ASCE activities from going through the newsletter.

The Board continues to debate how best to align the Society geographically and to most effectively constitute itself as a Board. After studying options for realignment, the Board elected to retain the Society's existing Region structure, alignment, and representation, for the present. A new task committee will be formed to examine a number of proposals that were raised during the Board's discussion.

The Society's Member Communities Committee (MCC) outlined its strategic planning process and received endorsement of its mission to enable members "to advance the profession and enhance their career growth by integrating member support and promoting member engagement." MCC oversees such successful programs as the Multi-Region Leadership Conferences and younger member and student programs.

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The Board heard progress on ASCE's Global Strategy, which aims to enhance ASCE's global image, global voice, and global footprint, reserve a seat at the table for ASCE in global civil engineering forums; and expand products and services for international members. Currently 25,870 of ASCE's more than 150,000 members live outside the U.S.

The ASCE Public Policy Committee (PPC) held its strategic discussion with the Board, highlighting that:

ASCE successfully advocated for infrastructure issues on Capitol Hill, such as the passage and signing into law of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act last year, and progress toward passing a new Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). The Senate WRDA bill would authorize \$9 billion for new projects and studies at the Army Corps of Engineers, add a dam rehabilitation component to the National Dam Safety Program, establish a new Water Infrastructure Trust Fund, and provide \$220 million in aid for Flint, Michigan.

ASCE worked closely with Congress as a founding member of the STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics) Education Coalition to help achieve enactment of the Every Student Succeeds Act, which maintains a strong focus on STEM subjects.

ASCE has been active in monitoring and addressing recent threats to professional licensure in several states. During the 2015 legislative sessions, six states considered measures to eliminate all professional licensure. While none of these measures were enacted, ASCE views this as a serious threat to public safety and continues to mobilize in opposition.

ASCE Speakers Bureau

Have you chosen a speaker for your next event?

Check out ASCE's Speakers Bureau now live on the web!

Scan the over 110 available speakers at:

<http://www.asce.org/online-speakers-bureau>

For additional information on the Speakers Bureau, contact Laurie Hanson: lhanson@asce.org

South Dakota School of Mines and Technology races to Concrete Canoe nationals

The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology canoe was named "Milkywave."

The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology was among the 21 schools to qualify for this year's [National Concrete Canoe Competition](#), hosted in June at the University of Texas, Tyler.

Ecole de technologie superieure finished first in the overall standings, following the school's steel bridge team national championship two weeks earlier. UCLA finished second, followed by the University of Nevada, Reno.

SDSM&T notched the eighth-best oral presentation in the competition and finished 13th in the final overall standings.

View more photos and see complete [2016 NCCC results](#).

Nebraska Section News

AEI student Design Competition leads to prestigious award for Nebraska engineering students
The University of Nebraska- Lincoln Charles W. Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction recently won the 2016 National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying Engineering Award for Connecting Professional Practice and Education.

The department's submittal "888 Boylston Street-Interdisciplinary Team Design," was the result of a new two-semester capstone class using the ASCE Architectural Engineering Institute Student Design Competition.

The project united electrical, structural, and mechanical engineering students on a team with faculty members and more than 50 licensed



Photo by Brandon Wade for ASCE

professional engineers and architects to design a proposed 17-story mixed-use highrise building.

The award jury praised the project for "its strong interaction with professional engineers as well as the complexity and multidisciplinary aspects of the project."

St. Louis, Missouri Stan Musial Bridge named OCEA Finalist

When a new bridge connects two different states, building a sense of community and ownership around the project is about as important as the engineering details themselves.

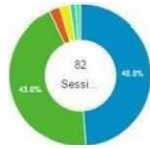
The Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge has achieved it all. The four-lane, cable-stayed bridge spans the Mississippi River to connect St. Louis, MO, and St. Clair County, IL, and is one of six projects to be honored as finalists for the 2016 ASCE Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award.

Learn more about the bridge [here!](#)

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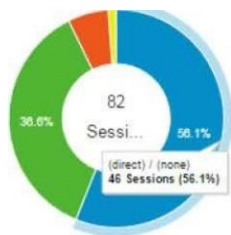
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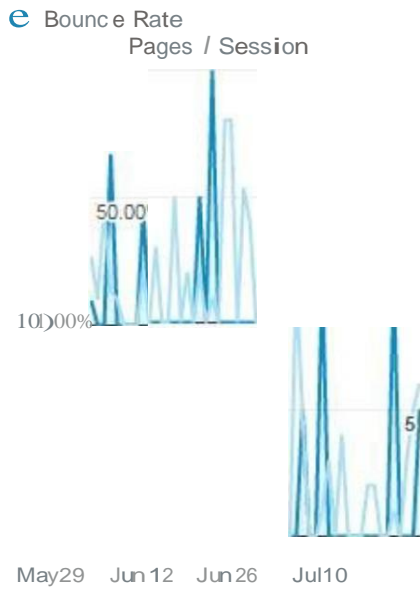
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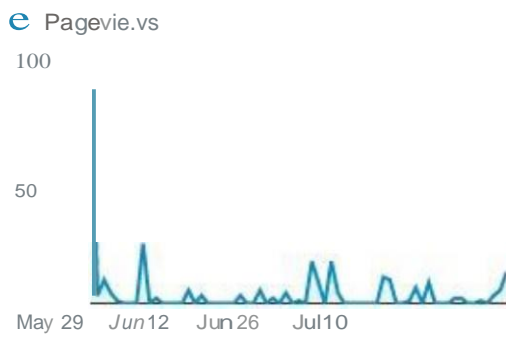
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