

## Multi-Region Leadership Conference Breakout – Region 8

<b>1. Region</b>	8
<b>2. Project Contact</b>	
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<b>3. Project Category</b>	Region Operations
<b>4. Project Description</b>	Region Breakout at MRLC
<b>5. The Process</b> (What you did, When and How)	<p>Provided a fun way for members of Region 8 to learn about the Region and to engage with each other</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Region 8 Breakout (in three parts)</b></p> <p>The Region 8 breakout has approximately 150-180 attendees annually. There are 7 governors in Region 8 in addition to the Director that assist with the breakout. The entire activity was conducted in approximately 1 hour.</p> <p><b>Intro</b> - Distribute the attendees so that they are at diverse tables – mix of YMs, Students and Section/Branch Leaders and geographic mix (ie preferably not a table from all one state, one university or one section). We did this by distributing playing cards as they entered the room. Then attendees with the same cards gathered at tables (i.e. Diamonds 1-4, Spades 10-King etc.). It worked well except we didn't have enough tables and didn't put any signage on the tables in advance.</p> <p><b>Part 1 – Meet Region 8</b> – This part is intended to demonstrate diversity in the room and also help attendees identify similarities or people they may want to connect with later at the reception. For instance students may identify practicing professionals in an area (technical or geographic) they are looking to work in upon graduation.</p>

Brief intro of Governors – Share a quick anecdote or fact (preferably interesting/funny that may give attendees an ice breaker for the reception later) that hadn't been shared previously in the MRLC.

Brief intro of attendees – stand (and be seated) if you are:

1. Section leaders
2. YMs
3. Branch leaders
4. Students
5. By State
6. By number of MRLCs attended
7. By years of experience
8. Practice area – geo, water, transpo, structural, land development, enviro...
9. Consultant
10. Government

**Part 2 – Region 8 Trivia** – This part is intended to help the attendees learn a bit more about the Region, have fun, win prizes, and break the ice at the table they are at in prep for Part 3. Have each table pick a team name and team scribe. You can assist with the choosing the team scribe by providing guidance for example: “Who has the birthday closest to today? The person to your right is the table scribe”. Make sure everyone knows that they cannot google the answers and then start the game.

10-20 questions – some multiple choice, some not

For example –

1. Region 8 is one of a total of 8, 9, 10 or 11 geographic regions?
2. Region 8 is comprised of 9 states. How many sections are in Region 8? How many branches? How many student chapters?

3. Region 8 is home to 3 notable (ie tallest, largest) dams. Name 2 and their locations...

At the end of the game, the tables exchanged papers with a neighboring table for scoring. Prizes (\$1 or so per prize) were given out to the top 2 or 3 tables (and the losing table).

**Part 3 – Guided (sort of) discussion.**

The last part of the breakout was intended to facilitate sharing and conversation amongst the members at each table. Each person completes each statement from the list below with their individual answer. Once all questions have been read and individually answered on paper, the table decides whether they want to discuss one or more of the statements or if they would prefer to go around the table and let each person share a statement/answer of their choice and then discuss... Either way – start with a student...

Statements –

1. This weekend, I would like to ....
2. The main reason I am here is ...
3. I joined ASCE ...
4. I wish ASCE would...
5. I think my (or my Section/Branch/student chapter/YMG’s) best quality is ...
6. Students who volunteer are...
7. I wish Region 8 would...
8. If I could change the world I would ....

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

The Region Director, as narrator, keeps the activity moving. Governors act as a liaison for 1 to 3 tables (depending on size of group/number of governors) and encourage interaction among the table members.

**7. Time Frame**  
(When Started, When Completed)

The entire activity was completed in approximately 1 hour.

**8. Success Factors**  
(The Parts that Worked)

Not sure what the attendees liked the best. I would recommend that the evaluation forms for the MRLC include Region info so that feedback can be given to the appropriate Region Director.

Really Well)	
<b>9. Setback Factors</b> (The Parts that did Not Work Well)	The distribution of attendees to tables – will need to rework this for next year (also need to have enough tables for everyone – we were short by 2-3).
<b>10. Creativity</b> (This is something off the wall that we did)	Everything was a little different than in past year’s breakouts in an effort to better engage the attendees while acknowledging the differences between the various groups in attendance.
<b>11. Administration</b> (What was most Important)	Developing the questions for parts 2 and 3. I asked for support from the Region governors, which was a HUGE help.
<b>12. Follow-Up</b> (What was most important?)	
<b>13. Recommendations</b> (What you should ALWAYS do with this project?)	This is a ‘pick what works and edit as appropriate’ type event...
<b>14. Cautions</b> (What you should NEVER do with this project?)	See above
<b>15. The Outcome</b>	Good reviews at the MRLC – though we don’t have specific feedback (see note above about evaluation forms).
<b>16. Ongoing Activity</b> (Would you do it again?)	<p>Yes, but with modifications. We need to rework table assignments. This year I provided all of the awards due to the short time frame in coming up with something for the breakout, next year I will ask the governors to bring a couple/several awards each and will contact ASCE for some.</p> <p>Next year I will also create a powerpoint for the various parts. The room was too big for everyone to hear well and there were enough questions (can you repeat that statement? that question?) that a powerpoint would’ve helped. I will also include intro information on the Region in the powerpoint – our structure, our goals/vision/activities.</p> <p>Additionally, next time, I will involve the governors more during the various parts. This year they made sure that attendees were participating and prevented cheating (use of phones/tech during trivia) but they could’ve done more, if I had been more prepared. Finally, I need to figure out a way to capture the discussions during Part 3 without doing an extended whole group report out session.</p>
<b>17. Speaker Contact information</b> (person from your Region who would be willing to speak about the Best Practice)	

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<b>18. Additional Comments</b>	