

Regional Corresponding Members – Region 7

1. Region	7
2. Project Contact	
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3. Project Category	Region Operations
4. Project Description	Engagement by Section and Branch members as Corresponding Members to the Region by including them in monthly conference calls and other Region functions to foster better communication and expose active members to the governance structure of ASCE and future advancement opportunities.
5. The Process (What you did, When and How)	In addition to Region Assembly delegates from each Section, Region 7 has invited ASCE leadership from Sections, Branches and Student Chapters to attend Region Governor’s meetings.
6. Those in Charge (Committee, Task Committee, Etc.)	Region 7 Director and Governors are the voting members of the BOG and the Corresponding Members are non-voting members who attend non-executive sessions with the BOGs.
7. Time Frame (When Started, When Completed)	Starting in Fall 2017, Region Delegates attending the Region Assembly in Lawrence, KS were asked to participate in the Region 7 Board of Governors monthly conference calls. This activity is ongoing. Region 7 Board of Governors meet once a month, two meetings are face to face and the remaining are conference calls.
8. Success Factors (The Parts that Worked Really Well)	The Regions purpose is to provide a pipeline between the Society and the Geographic Units. The Corresponding Members are active members in leadership roles at the Section and Branch level. This helps expedite a more direct communication of Society initiatives, tools and activities to the Branches and Sections and likewise a more direct communication of the Section and Branch issues, needs and successes to the Region. Continued engagement from the Sections and Branches on a more frequent basis allows Corresponding Members to assist with the newsletter, website, planning assembly events, feedback on award and grant rules, etc.
9. Setback Factors (The Parts that did Not Work Well)	Consistency from year to year, as Sections and Branches determine their delegates, and there can be yearly turnover. As well, the pool of corresponding members were attendees at the annual Assembly who volunteered to become a corresponding member. Therefore, the Sections and/or Branches who attend the Assembly and volunteer are in the

	Corresponding Member ranks. Those Sections and Branches who either did not participate or their delegate did not volunteer do not have a Corresponding Member for the following year.
10. Creativity (This is something off the wall that we did)	Corresponding Members assist with certain region activities (ie: management of the Region website), which other Regions may not allow for, giving local leadership more direct involvement with Region affairs.
11. Administration (What was most Important)	The most important part of having Section delegates or representatives of other Branches and Student Chapters becoming involved in the Assembly, monthly conferences calls and Region administration, is having individuals excited about ASCE engaged at another level. That helps the Region, but more importantly, it's another line of communication to ASCE leadership at the lower levels.
12. Follow-Up (What was most important?)	Finding a Champion that would participate and communicate back to their Section and/or Branch. Including everyone in correspondence and invite all to participate.
13. Recommendations (What you should ALWAYS do with this project?)	Stress the importance of the Corresponding Members and thank them regularly for their time and efforts. Encourage Sections, Branches and Student Chapters to attend the annual Region Assembly meeting and increase your pool of leadership succession.
14. Cautions (Recommendation What you should NEVER do with this project?)	Never assume that the Section delegate is the only one interested in attending or knows of the activities of all Branches and Student Chapters in the Section.
15. The Outcome	<p>Provides an enhanced mechanism for Region priorities, programs and activities to be effectively communicated at all constituent levels of the Regions. This resulted in a widespread distribution of the Region 7 Grant Program and ultimately allowed for Branches to benefit from the program.</p> <p>Since all Sections and Branches at the Region 7 Assembly report on their yearly activities and budgets, a secondary outcome was hearing about Section and Branch successes directly from the leaders themselves. This exercise can lead to new ideas and more efficient programs for other Sections and Branches. Branches and Sections can ask in depth questions about activities that interest them that someone else is already doing successfully and they have a personal contact to reach out to gain more insight</p> <p>The Wichita Branch felt that the benefits of attending the region assembly were so important to the success of the Branch that he offered to organize and host an Assembly meeting in Wichita so that other officers could attend.</p>
16. Ongoing Activity (Would you do it again?)	Yes. I am currently a Corresponding Member to the Region.
17. Speaker Contact information (person from your Region who would be willing to speak about the Best Practice)	

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18. Additional Comments (We strongly recommend attaching relevant photos and graphics)	The monthly BOG meetings focus largely on the administration of the Region, Sections and Branches. Attendees can gain a lot of good information about Society initiatives, Region outreach, and other activities going on with other Sections and Branches in the Region.