



From the Region 4 Director

I hope Spring is being good to you. I want to take this opportunity to share some things that are happening with ASCE as well as with Region 4. Our Student Chapters (there are 45 of them) have just completed their annual **Student Competitions** in a virtual environment. My highest compliments to our schools that hosted this weird year; USC for the Carolinas Conference, Lipscomb and Vanderbilt for the SE Conference, Fairmont State for the Virginias Conference and Purdue for the Great Lakes Conference. These students did a tremendous job organizing and holding their conferences under tough circumstances. With civil engineer leaders like those coming up through our Student Chapters, our Society and profession are in great shape for the future.

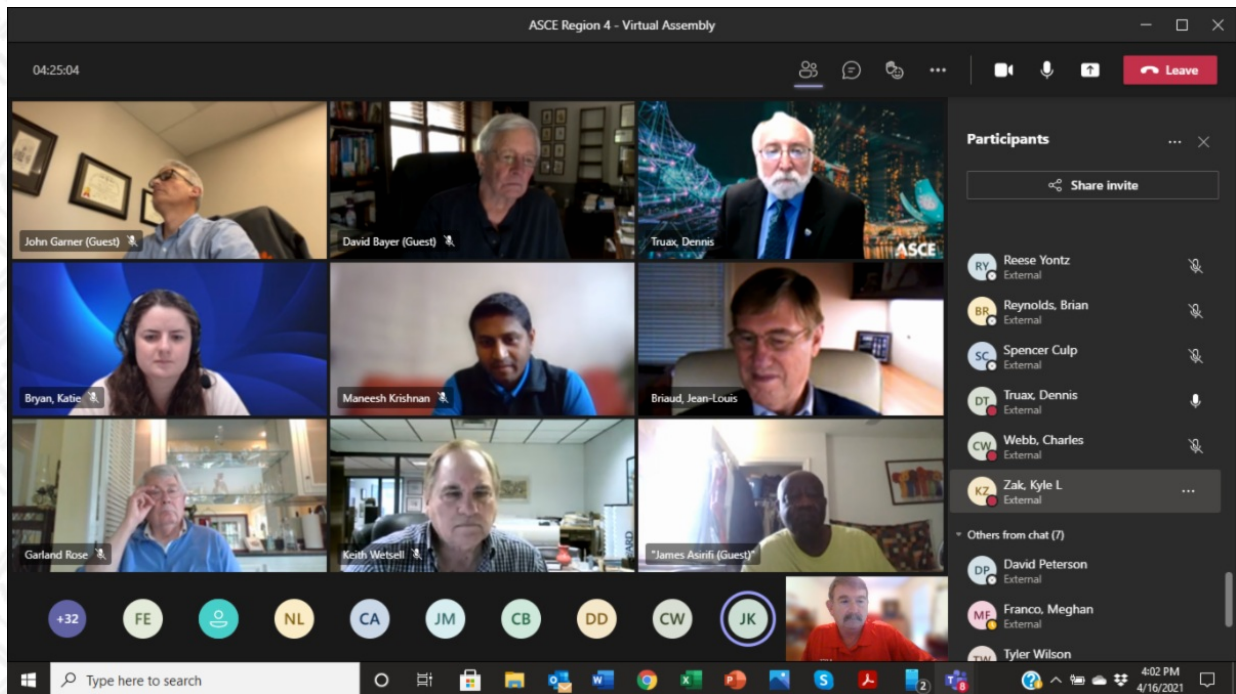
We also just held a full blown **virtual Regional Assembly** that I think was successful. We had 140 members sign up and we had a good number of them participate during the six hour event. We approved **\$4,300** in grants to Younger Member Groups and Student Chapters to use to improve retention and transition. Our Regional Governors reported on activities that their Sections have pursued to provide member value during this pandemic time. WV issued their state Report Card with the help of students pulling together the data. Our Younger Member Advisory Council continues to make a difference, they are taking over the responsibility to prepare to host the **2023 MRLC in Charlotte** and they are making sure that I get my stuff together for the newsletter. If you have an urge to get involved as a Younger Member please reach out to **Katie Bowman**, the chair of the YMAC, or your local YMGs. The Region 4 **DV Terrell competition** presentations were a part of the Assembly and we heard from four of our Younger Members, there's more on this in the Newsletter. We had a great presentation from our own University of Louisville member and leader of the ASCE Student Presidential Group, **Sophie Lipomanis**, on ways that we can reach out and help our Students.

ASCE President **Jean-Louis Briaud** joined us as did President-Elect **Dennis Truax** to share their visions for our Society. Thanks to them for taking the time to join in. We also heard from **Maria Lehman** and **Peter Moore**, the nominees for election to President-elect of ASCE this year. This is the year that my term ends as your Director and since this isn't the NCAA, I have not been allowed another year of eligibility so we heard from **Findlay Edwards** and **J.P. Mohsen** who are the two nominees for election for the position of Society Director. There are links to their short video presentations on the Region 4 website. We also heard from our two Governor nominees, **Colette Easter** from

Kentucky and **Maneesh Krishnan** from Arkansas on their visions for our Society. It is important that we all take part in electing the leadership of our Society. You will be receiving notice about the elections, which are held in May, **PLEASE TAKE THIS RESPONSIBILITY SERIOUSLY AND VOTE!**

As I move into the last six months of my term, please let me know if I can assist your Sections and Branches. I have a presentation on the new **ASCE Code of Ethics** that I can share virtually and I am always looking for an invite to speak about “Life After Concrete Canoes” to our Student Chapters. Just send me an invite.

Bob Cagle, ASCE Society Director
bcagle75@gmail.com



Update from Region 4 Governors' Virtual Assembly

The Region 4 Governors' Virtual Assembly took place on Friday, April 16th, 2021 from 12:00pm to 6:30pm. The Virtual Assembly was an opportunity to get updates from each branch, present DV Terrell Awards, and discuss nominees.

Findlay Edwards and **J.P. Mohsen** are the two nominees for election for the position of Society Director. Please take the time to view their short video presentations by downloading the PowerPoints associated with their names on the Region 4 [website](#).

The **Vision Statements** for the two nominees can be found

here: [Findlay Edwards](#) and [J.P. Mohsen](#).

Be sure to watch your email and VOTE when the time comes.

DV Terrell Award Results:

The Region 4 Assembly of the American Society of Civil Engineers is proud to conduct the Daniel V. Terrell Paper Competition for Younger Members. This prestigious competition has been held since 1953 and commemorates **Dean Terrell's** many years of work and service to the Society and especially his leadership in the establishment of the District Council System, the predecessor of the Region 4 Assembly. All members, associate members or affiliates of ASCE (not including student members) who are 35 years of age or less on February 1 of the year of the award, residing in Region 4, are eligible to submit papers in this competition. The competition consists of a written paper on a specific ethics-related topic, followed by a presentation by the entrant at the Region 4 Meeting.

This year's competition was fierce, and we had four very good entries from across various parts of our Region, including: Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, and North Carolina. This year's ethics topic was *"During the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses and universities shut down and/or imposed other stringent measures to combat the spread of the virus. How should the civil engineering profession respond to this situation and what are our ethical responsibilities associated with civil engineering related operations such as offices, universities, construction sites, exam centers, and transit systems in response to the pandemic?"*

Thank you to the wonderful four (4) presenters in this year's competition. Their biographies are included below.

First place award comes with \$500 and plaque and second place comes with \$250. The winners were as follows:

1st Place = Arkaprabha (Arko) Bhattacharyya
2nd Place = Katie Bryan





Arkaprabha (Arko) Bhattacharyya is a first year Ph.D. student at Purdue University's Lyles School of Engineering. He is specializing in the domain of Disaster Risk Reduction, Urban Resilience Planning, and Capacity Building. Before coming to Purdue, Arko earned his bachelor's in Civil Engineering from Jadavpur University in India. Arko is a big fan of English football. He also loves reading fiction novels and watching movies.



Katie Bryan is a transportation engineer at Halff (pronounced like the number $\frac{1}{2}$) Associates in Little Rock Arkansas. She is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island, and from Benson, Arizona. She enjoys reading and playing with her new cat.



Nima Mahmoodi is a Project Engineer at Mindel Scott in Louisville Kentucky. He got his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Kentucky and is currently working on his Master's Degree in Transportation Engineering at the University of Louisville. His favorite hobbies outside of work are playing golf, working on landscaping around the house, reading a good book, and working on his research at the University of Louisville for his Master's Thesis. He was born in Pensacola, Florida and then moved to Lexington, Kentucky where he completed his K-12 education and furthermore his B.S. He then relocated to Louisville for his career.



Charles "Chas" Webb is the Drainage Assistance Supervisor for the City of Raleigh. He has earned his bachelor's in Civil Engineering and master's in Engineering Management from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Chas is President of the ASCE NC Eastern Branch and the NC Section Treasurer. Chas enjoys running, golf and playing classic rock on the piano.

Governors' Bullets:

ARKANSAS

- Bingo going well
- Virtual Meetings - Annual Meeting in October
- **Fundraising is up and running**- \$22K so far. Grant funding for student chapters. \$12K in scholarship and \$15K to student chapters for activities
- **Website is updated and running**
- YM Group is active

INDIANA

- 2021 Annual Meeting - Have run into some issues and was pushed back to **May 11 and May 13**
- Triene University was in top 5% of student chapters (Congratulations!)

KENTUCKY

- Student chapters are planning for Fall meetings to be back in-person
- Section is working with Western Kentucky University on revitalizing the **Pennyroyal Branch**, which has been dormant for about 15 years. The same individuals at the Section level are working on this are the same ones that were involved in the revitalization of the Frankfort Branch 5-6 years ago
- Section is working on developing webinars to help members obtain PDH's that the pandemic has greatly hindered
- Section is working towards the **2021 Section Annual Meeting**, hopefully in-person. No date or location has been set. The 2020 Section Annual Meeting was canceled due to COVID, so they are excited to get back
- All Branches continue to host virtual meetings

NORTH CAROLINA

- NC Section is re-grouping for 2022 with plans for a **Fall Conference** in September
- Branches have seen a significant drop in activity. Coordination is ongoing between the Branches on virtual meetings to help maintain activity level and build momentum
- Section is following up on **historical engineering landmark site visits**
- Student Chapters have seen a decrease in activity, with limited participation in the Carolinas Conference

TENNESSEE

- Tennessee Section and Branches have continued to host meetings and activities virtually
- The Holston Branch partnered with Mr. Al Hogan and the Tennessee and American Concrete Pipe Association's ACPA **Virtual Pipe School Encore program** which was held March 2nd through 4th
- The UTK Student Chapter successfully hosted the first annual **fishing tournament**

- In March Vanderbilt and Lipscomb successfully pulled off the Southeast Student Conference
- West TN Branch is hosting their annual **Construction Jr.** event, but this year the event will be held virtually and use Tinkercad software
- TN Section participated in the ASCE Legislative Fly-in
- The Chattanooga Branch held an "Emerging Careers Panel" event on February 24. The event, moderated by Ram Ganesh from Terracon, featured a discussion on how to find career success and provided attendees with an opportunity to ask for career advice

[SOUTH CAROLINA](#)

- Branches have been holding meetings virtually on a monthly basis. Most branches will be taking off for the summer
- The SC Section is working with HQ to finalize the roll-out of the Infrastructure Report Card. Looking at a formal release in late summer
- ASCE SC Section participated in **Engineers Day** on the Hill with the SC Society of Professional Engineers in Columbia, SC on **March 23, 2021**
- SC Section is working on updates to their Operations Manual
- Midlands Branch to host **Virtual "Mixology" Class** in May

[VIRGINIA](#)

- Virginia Section is working on its **Centennial Celebration in 2022**. Centennial Gala is to be on **March 26, 2022** in Richmond, VA. More details to come and please join us in celebrating!
- Section is putting together a committee to explore realigning the branches within the VA Section to better serve the needs and provide more value to its members
- Working on revamping its Section website
- Update to Report Card will be complete by Summer 2021

[WEST VIRGINIA](#)

- Continue to provide presentations of the 2020 WV Infrastructure Report Card
- Virtual Section meeting was held on March 6th, 2021
- Section is planning for FTF Annual Meeting in September, date TBD
- Branches have not been active, but are beginning to plan for virtual meetings
- Participated in the **2021 Legislative Fly-In**
- WV YMG has held virtual meetings and are planning to continue
- FSU hosted the 2021 Virtual Virginias conference April 8th-10th
- The WVU Student Chapter will hold a **Virtual Technical Conference** April 23rd, 2021
- FSU Student Chapter will hold a **Virtual Technical Conference** June 3rd, 2021

