2012 Awards Program—Call For Nominations

By Leo X. Morand, P.E.

The Illinois Section, in keeping with the objectives of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), is soliciting nominations for its 2012 Awards Program to be held in October. The Awards Program is held annually to recognize local engineers and engineering firms who have been committed to the advancement of civil engineering and have contributed to a general improvement in the quality of life.

ASCE is dedicated to the advancement of the science and the profession of engineering to enhance the welfare of mankind.

Founded in 1852, ASCE is the oldest and one of the most prestigious national engineering societies in the United States. ASCE is dedicated to the advancement of the science and the profession of engineering to enhance the welfare of mankind. Illinois Section Award recipients may be nominated by the Section to become candidates for the 2013 ASCE National Awards Program.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

Nominations for all awards are due by July 20, 2012, and should be sent to Leo Morand at Gewalt Hamilton Associates Inc., 850 Forest Edge Drive, Vernon Hills, Illinois 60061. Application forms, instructions and additional information will soon be available at the Illinois Section website www.isasce.org. Please consider your colleagues and peers, and those programs and projects you may be involved in, and take the time to prepare and submit nominations for individuals, employers, and projects that you think are worthy of recognition. Persons wishing to submit a nomination may contact Leo Morand at (847) 478-9700 or by e-mail at LMorand@gha-engineers.com if they have questions or need assistance.

ILLINOIS SECTION AWARDS CATEGORIES

Following is a summary description of the various individual, public/corporate employer, and project awards for which nominations are sought:

Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award

The Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award recognizes an outstanding project that contributes to civil engineering progress and to society. The project must be complete as defined in the 2012 ASCE Official Register, pages 639-642. The following criteria will by given special weight in making the selection: contribution to the well being of people and communities; resourcefulness in the planning and solution of design problems, (continued on page 4)
We Engineers need to start being leaders; not just people in the background figuring out how to make what others’ visions work. We need to be the ones involved at the beginning, when ideas are being formed and shaped. As a diverse group of individuals with different back grounds, interests, hobbies, and goals, some of us are more comfortable being designers, in the background, while others are more comfortable being in the public eye, working with, and directing others. I am not suggesting that every Engineer needs to be a leader, we all have different comfort levels for different types of work and I would never suggest pushing someone to do something they are not comfortable with. But I do believe we all should take the opportunity to observe and experience, to some degree, tasks which with we are not familiar.

When it comes to design teams we are, more often than not, thought of as a necessary evil, and not respected or thought of as leaders. Frequently we are brought in after the site plans have been developed by non-engineers who do not understand how a site can affect the site plan and costs of a project.

Thinking about past projects that I have worked on and the permitting process for the various jobs, it amazes me how we are required as professionals to take responsibility for those plans we are submitting and sign/seal them. But, when it comes to reviewing the plans, the reviewer is not required to be a licensed engineer. I do not have a problem with an unlicensed person reviewing plans for compliance with local ordinances, because when you are working on multiple projects in multiple communities, sometimes an ordinance can be missed or even confused with which municipality it applies to. There are also the instances where new ordinances have been passed after a project is started.

I do however have an issue when the comments affect the design and will end up creating a future problem, all because we as Engineers are being directed to modify our design based on comments from a reviewer who is not licensed and sometimes isn’t even an Engineer. And even though we are directed to make these changes, I do not believe the argument of “well that is what we needed to do to obtain the permit or that we are somehow relieved of our responsibilities as the designer because that is what we were directed to do” would really hold up in a court of law.

We as Engineers need to attempt to educate the reviewers and also be leaders, in order to create change that benefits the public as well as our industry.

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(continued on page 5)
Social Networking and Civil Engineering

By: Bob Walker, M. ASCE

In case you haven’t heard, social networking is in. Communication through Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn has become the norm with more than just generation “Y”. It seems that the Midwestern civil engineering world is also embracing this phenomenon.

The big question is, how can these social networks help your career?

Many civil engineers use these social networks for both business and pleasure—The big question is, how can these social networks help your career?

Facebook and Twitter are great for having fun and keeping in touch with your friends, but their informal nature makes them less ideal for advancing your career. Surprisingly, some companies have opted not to block social networking sites on work computers. As long as you are using your head and not spending an excessive amount of company time online and are not posting unprofessional content, there is no reason that these could harm your career. In fact, many young professionals are using Facebook and Twitter for both personal and professional networking.

LinkedIn on the other hand has been specifically designed for professionals. If used to its full capacity, LinkedIn can be a great way to help your career. Many people use LinkedIn to find a job, but it can be more than that. After all it is not what you know, it’s who you know right? LinkedIn provides an easy way to organize “who you know”. Just be sure to remember that a LinkedIn account with a lot of contacts is just the start. Next steps include the same steps you would implement in the business development atmosphere—nurturing clients through communication. Keep the following in mind when using your LinkedIn Account:

• Keep a current and complete professional Profile.
• Add a picture—It personalizes your profile and studies show you receive 30% more clicks in search results when you have a picture.
• Post your achievements.
• Connect with clients and colleagues.
• Use existing contacts to introduce yourself to new contacts.
• Don’t over-post. There is a fine line between good information and spam.
• Help your contacts. Giving recommendations and helping connect people will make your contacts more likely to help you.
• Join groups. Groups, like the Illinois Section of ASCE, let you know about upcoming events. These groups can also provide interesting discussions on current events.

If you are not on LinkedIn, join. If you are already on LinkedIn, but are not using it effectively, make it a goal to improve. It is not difficult, and the effort should be repaid once you are actively networking. Remember, connecting with current and potential clients can provide those critical business development “touches”, while connecting with colleagues can lay the groundwork for your next job search. See you online!

Bob Walker, a Project Manager for Engineering Enterprises, Inc. in Sugar Grove, Illinois, is Vice Chair for the Urban Planning and Development Group. This article was provided by UP&D.
the pioneering use of materials and methods, innovations in construction: consideration of impact on the environment; usual aspects of a project or aesthetic values; and its contribution to the “quality of life.” Two project size categories are established: projects having a construction cost of less than $5 million and projects having a construction cost of $5 million and greater. Having two awards recognizes that smaller projects often have a great impact on society and need to be recognized in the same vein as larger awards. Projects in both size categories may be nominated for the National OCEA award.

**Sustainable Project of the Year**
The Sustainable Project of the Year award recognizes creativity in the form of innovative sustainability. Projects may be any that demonstrate innovation in sustainability. To be eligible for consideration, projects must, first and foremost, demonstrate adherence to the principles of economic, social and environmental sustainability. The criteria used to evaluate sustainable projects are: (a) the extent to which innovative design or construction methods improve economic, social and environmental sustainability; (b) the promise shown by the innovation to extend future developments in sustainability; and (c) the degree to which the project extends public understanding of sustainability in construction.

**Civil Engineer of the Year**
The Civil Engineer of the Year award recognizes an outstanding professional engineer: whose contributions to society by exemplary professional conduct in a specific outstanding instance and established reputation for professional service; with objectives and lasting achievements in improving the conditions under which professional engineers serve in public and private practice; who has made significant contributions toward improvement of employment conditions among civil engineers and the professional aspect of civil engineering education; and who provides professional guidance to young civil engineers. Membership in ASCE is not a requirement for the Illinois Section ASCE Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award.

**Young Government Civil Engineer of the Year**
This award will be presented to a civil engineer, preferably a registered professional civil engineer, who is employed full-time in public service for a minimum of five years, is 35 years of age or less on February 1, 2012, a citizen of the United States, and has shown excellent performance that has demonstrated leadership potential in the public sector, evidence of high character, and professional integrity. Membership in ASCE is not a requirement for the Illinois Section ASCE Young Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award.

**Citizen Engineer Award**
This award will be presented to a member who has made volunteer efforts that better our world in such areas as local or national legislation, education at all levels, non-profit volunteer organizations, community activities, etc. The nominees will be evaluated on the positive impact and overall contribution as a result of their efforts, number of people involved or reached (continued on page 5)
by their effort, originality, and level of effort.

**Public Involvement Award**

This award will be presented to an ASCE Illinois Section member group (two or more individuals) which has made volunteer efforts that better our world in such areas as local or national legislation, education at all levels, non-profit volunteer organizations, community activities, etc. The nominees will be evaluated on the positive impact and overall contribution as a result of their effort, number of people involved or reached by their effort, originality, and level of effort.

**Government Employer Recognition Award**

This award will be presented to a government employer who encourages their engineers to actively participate in ASCE. Special recognition will go to those organizations who exhibit exemplary support as evidenced by: providing a model for involvement through agency-wide participation in local, regional, and national ASCE activities; allowing engineers time off to attend ASCE meetings and seminars; supporting and encouraging technical and professional growth; encouraging engineers to prepare articles for publication in ASCE professional and technical journals; and assisting in the payment of society dues.

**Private Employer Recognition Award**

This award will be presented to an employer in the private sector that encourages their engineers to actively participate in ASCE. Special recognition will go to those organizations who exhibit exemplary support as evidenced by: providing a model for involvement through agency-wide participation in local, regional, and national ASCE activities; allowing engineers time off to attend ASCE meetings and seminars; supporting and encouraging technical and professional growth; encouraging engineers to prepare articles for publication in ASCE professional and technical journals; and assisting in the payment of society dues.

**Excellence in Journalism Award**

This award was founded in 1994 for the ASCE National Awards. This award is given annually to a reporter or reporters whose news coverage enhances public understanding of civil engineering issues and the impact of civil engineers in this state (or nation). Only reports from general (non-trade) print publications are eligible. The publications must be regional or local. News stories must be published: a) in English; b) in Illinois; and c) between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012.

Leo Morand, a Project Engineer with Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc. in Vernon Hills, is the 2012 Awards Committee Chair as well as a Director of the Illinois Section.

This Article was provided by the Annual Awards Committee.

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**President’s Notes**

(continued from page 2)

This past month six members of the Section attend the Section and Branch Leaders Workshop in Kansas City, five of the members were there to learn about all of the services that ASCE National has to offer in order to assist the section and also to learn about topics that National is working on. One of our members, Thera Baldauf was in Kansas City to present information regarding the Illinois Sections Sustainability Committee. Thera presented information regarding the committee in August at the Region 3 Assembly and was requested to present at the Conference to members of Region 3, 6 & 7. Thank you, Thera.

Last month, I asked that anyone who had any comments or suggestions for the newsletter to send me an e-mail. If you have thought of any comments or suggestions since the last newsletter or if you think of anything at any time during the year, please send me an e-mail and let me know.

ASCE
Session started at the beginning of the month and bill introductions began picking up. With it being the second year of the 97th General Assembly, we will be watching both new introductions as well as the bills we were tracking for you last year. The bill introduction deadline was February 10 in the Senate and February 16 in the House. The House and Senate were in 1/31-2/2 & 2/7-2/9. Committees were light at the start of the month with the Governor’s State of the State Address on Wednesday February 1, 2012.

Our lobbyists attend TFIC’s State House Committee Meeting on Tuesday afternoon. It was a very informative meeting where the group discussed a number of issues that are starting to move in the House and Senate. The groups biggest priority is to assist IDOT in working on an additional Bond Authorization. The group has been in discussions with IDOT and I hope ASCE will be a part of that process. I will keep you informed of any movement on this issue.

The Group also discussed SB 2514 and SB 2549, which are anti-road fund diversion bills. It was decided to slip in support of these bills. These bills are posted in Senate Revenue Committee which cancelled this week.

(continued on page 7)

Posted Bills of Interest

**H5180**
*IDOT: Projects: Public Hearing*
Amends the Department of Transportation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Provides that prior to the commencement of any repair or maintenance project that is estimated to close a street or lane off to traffic for a period longer than 5 business days, the Department of Transportation shall conduct a public meeting. Sponsored by S. Mathias.

**H5226**
*Toll Hwy.: Toll Funds Allotment*

**H5756**
*Architect Selection-Committee*
Amends the Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Qualifications Based Selection Act. Provides that the public member of a State agency’s committee to select firms to provide architectural, engineering, and land surveying services shall be appointed every 2 years and serve a 2-year term. Provides that a public member may not serve consecutive terms. Sponsored by K. Dunkin.

**S2549**
*State Funds Sweeps Bans*
Amends State Finance Act; the Motor Fuel Tax Fund, State Construction Account Fund, and the Road Fund shall not be subject to sweeps, administrative charges or charge-backs or any other fiscal or budgetary maneuvers that would transfer any of those funds into other funds of the State unless authorized by law. Sponsored by C. Lauzen.

**S3216**
*Trans: Pub-Private Partnerships*

**S3318**
*Illiana Expressway Agreements*
Amends Public Private Agreements for the Illiana Expressway Act; removes language providing that such agreement includes a provision stating that, in the event contractor finds it necessary, proper, or desirable to enter into subcontracts with one or more design build entities, then it must follow selection process that is, to greatest extent possible, identical to selection process contained in the Design Build Procurement Act; IDOT may buy property for the Expressway project using powers granted to it in the Eminent Domain Act; also clarifies bonds, indebtedness, securities or other financing; related clarifications. Sponsored by T. Hutchinson.

**S3728**
*EPA-CCDD-Quarries/Mines*
Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Sponsored by D. Harmon.
SB 2530 was also discussed; it would require General Assembly approval for Toll increases. The group voted to oppose this legislation based on the fact that we would not have a $12 billion capital program with the Tollway if this legislation would have been in the statutes. This bill was posted to Senate Executive Committee who placed it in a Sub-Committee on State Government Operations. Traditionally sub-committees are a location where a piece of legislation stays to have hearings on the issue or even to keep it from moving again.

Our lobbyist will continue to watch this issue and will talk with the sponsor, Sen. Matt Murphy, about his plans for the bill.

SB 3216 and HB 4502 are the “trailer” bills for P3. The committee voted to oppose this legislation because it removes the prohibition on leasing current Tollway facilities. These two bills are still in assignments/rules committees and are not posted as of mid month.

The Final week of February got a late and slow start. This week committees were light, but while nothing of concern was in committee, we did have a meeting of both Transportation Committees for the first time this session. The Governor’s Budget address was on February 21 and was rather disappointing to those of us who were hoping for some details as to the upcoming budget season. He spoke for only 30 minutes and gave us very little insight as to his vision and plan for the 2013 budget. We will be watching and sharing details as the budget comes together.

Bike the Drive: Saddle Up for This Unforgettable Ride

The freedom of the road beckons on Sunday, May 27. Bike the Drive. Hop on your bike the one day of the year when the length of Lake Shore Drive is open to cyclists and closed to auto traffic.

Registration now open at http://bikethedrive.org/signup. Enjoy the striking skyline and the shimmering water of Lake Michigan as you cruise up and down the entire length of Lake Shore Drive for MB Financial Bank Bike the Drive. The funds raised by MB Financial Bank Bike the Drive are a crucial part of the Active Transportation Alliance’s work to improve biking, walking and transit in the region.
The ASCE Illinois Section has produced its Second Annual Resume Book. Members of the ASCE Student Chapters at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago have submitted one-page resumes for internships and jobs. A PDF copy of this year’s resume book is freely available to all professional members of the ASCE Illinois Section upon request. If you are an employer interested in obtaining the resume book, please provide your ASCE membership number and contact John Green at greenjg@halcrow.com

Illinois Section ASCE Student Chapter Resume Book

ASCE Policy Statements

Approved by the Engineering Practice Policy Committee on March 25, 2010
Approved by the Policy Review Committee on May 7, 2010
Adopted by the Board of Direction on July 10, 2010

Policy
The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) actively participates in and strongly supports the involvement of civil engineers, as well as individual citizens and coalitions, in the legislative and regulatory decision-making processes at the local, state and national levels.

Issue
In a period of enhanced awareness about the long-term effects that technical aspects of all types of engineered projects have on the lives of individuals, there is public concern for the environment, there is recognition that capital is limited and must satisfy competing demands, that technology is changing at a rapid rate and that natural resources have finite limits. Effective public decision-making requires that a wide variety of viewpoints be assessed.

Rationale
Civil engineers have a responsibility to develop clear statements of purpose and to analyze the costs, benefits and impacts of proposed actions, thereby assisting the general public in making more informed decisions about technical and engineered projects.

Civil engineers are encouraged to participate in and seek appropriate public involvement through:
- Public and social media information programs and meetings;
- Public hearings;
- Presentations and discussions of viable alternatives including the engineering, environmental, social and economic impacts;
- Explanations of the consequences of project delay; and
- Active participation in elected or appointed legislative or regulatory bodies of government.

ASCE Policy Statement 139
First Approved pre-1974

Land Surveying Education in Chicagoland through Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Would you like to train yourself or your employees to become licensed Professional Land Surveyors? If yes, SIU Carbondale offers its high quality land surveying courses in the Chicagoland area for those who cannot attend SIU Carbondale full-time. Along with the theoretical concepts, this program has a complete laboratory component where students learn the required field techniques and equipment used in today’s practice. Generally, one course per semester is offered on weekends in the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. New students can now join the 24 credit hour sequence every summer by taking the Basic Surveying course. Those who have already taken an approved Basic Surveying course, or equivalent, can join the sequence in a Fall semester (Spring semester enrollments may be allowed depending on the pre-requisites).

Course offerings are subject to minimum enrollment requirements. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Brandon Edwards (bpedward@siu.edu) or Mr. Kyle Allred (kyallred@siu.edu) in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, or call the Department at (618) 536-2368.
Section Activities

T&DI

Board Meeting
Date: Tuesday, March 13
Time: 5:30 pm
Place: Christopher B. Burke Engineering
9575 W. Higgins Rd., St 600
Rosemont
RSVP: By Monday, March 12th

EWRI Chapter

Monthly Meeting
Date: Tuesday, March 13
Time: 5:30 pm
Place: MWH
175 W Jackson Blvd, 19th Floor
Chicago, IL 60604
(Use elevator banks on the Van Buren side of the building.)
RSVP: Arun Herr at
Arun.K.Heer@usace.army.mil

SEI-IL March

Dinner Meeting
Date: Wednesday, March 14
Time: 5:30pm Cocktails
6:00pm Dinner/Presentation
Topic: Design and Construction of the I-88 Precast Arch Bridge
Over the Fox River
Speaker: Todd Ude, PE, SE.
exp US Services, Inc. Chicago
Thomas Hough, PE.
exp US Services, Inc. Chicago
Place: Pazzo’s
311 S. Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606
PDHs: 1 Hour

T&DI

Luncheon Program
Date: Thursday, March 22
Time: 11:30 Social
12:00 Lunch
12:40 to 1:30 Speaker
Topic: I-290–A Fresh Look at Transportation Needs
Speaker: Pete Harnet, IDOT District 1
Bureau Chief of Programming
Place: Maggiano’s
1901 E. Woodfield Dr.
Schaumburg, IL 60173
PDHs: 1 Hour
Cost: $45 ASCE
$50 Non-member
$35 Government
$15 Student
RSVP: By Monday, March 19th at
https://www.123signup.com/event?id=sfdqv

SEI-IL

Student and Young Professionals Program for Structures 2012 Congress
(SAVE THE DATE)
Date: Thurs-Sat, March 29-31
The ASCE/SEI Structures Congress is your annual opportunity to broaden your technical knowledge, sharpen your business skills, deepen your understanding of cutting-edge research, and network with your peers and colleagues. The 2012 program will include 11 concurrent technical tracks that focus on the theme: “Forging Connections in the Windy City.” The sessions will demonstrate processes and present projects that are redefining structural engineering in the areas of bridge and transportation structures, buildings, and advances in research. You will exchange ideas with your peers and learn how other companies have adapted to changes in today’s global economy. The Congress presents a tremendous opportunity to earn PDH’s and gain new knowledge so that you and your business will thrive. For more information, please visit the web pages below for both students and professionals.
For Students: http://content.asce.org/conferences/structures2012/student.html
For Young Professionals: http://content.asce.org/conferences/structures2012/younger-member.html

T&DI

Board Meeting
Date: Tuesday, April 10
Time: 5:30 pm
Place: Clark Dietz, Inc.–Engineers
118 S. Clinton St., Suite 700
Chicago, IL 60661
RSVP: By Monday, April 9 to
host Charlie Frangos at
charles.frangos@clarkdietz.com
(Any ASCE member is welcome to attend.)

President Elect and Student Scholarship Spring Dinner
(SAVE THE DATE)
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2012
Place: Maggiano’s
111 W. Grand Ave.
Chicago, IL

Springfield Legislative Drive Down
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2012
Place: Springfield, IL
Questions: Contact Darren Olson at
dolson@cbbel.com
(continued on page 10)
In an effort to inform Illinois Section members of the discussions at the monthly Board meetings, the Section Secretary contributes this monthly article to the newsletter. Any questions or comments on the Board activities are welcome by contacting Patrick Lach, at plach@heyassoc.com

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer MacKinnon presented the Treasurer’s Monthly Report.

Group Reports

- All Groups presented a written report outlining previous and current month’s activities.

New Business

- The Board approved $1,000 for the Northwestern Student Chapter for their Regional Conference participation.
- E-Week: The Section is participating in two events at the Chicago Architecture Foundation and at the DuPage IIT Campus.

- Several Board members are attending the 2012 National Fly-In Day in Washington D.C. in March 2012.
- The Illinois Section supported a letter to Congress to urge the government to address Transportation needs in the country.

Old Business

- The Springfield Legislative Drive-In date is still being rescheduled.
- There are several students being sponsored to attend the Structures Congress to be held in Chicago.
- The Section is planning on visiting the three student chapters to discuss how the Section can help them and scholarship opportunities.
- Student Scholarship and President-Elect Spring Dinner: The dinner will be held on April 11, 2012 at Maggiano’s in Chicago. President Elect DiLoreto will be attending.
- An update from the Section’s lobbyist in Springfield was provided.
- Report Card: The Section is presenting to AWWA in April.

By Patrick Lach
plach@heyassoc.com

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Section Activities
(continued from page 9)

ASCE Region 3 Activities

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>HEC-RAS Computer Workshop for Unsteady Flow Applications</td>
<td>Hydraulics &amp; Water Resources</td>
<td>March 7-9</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Dam and Levee Safety, Evaluation and Rehabilitation</td>
<td>Hydraulics &amp; Water Resources</td>
<td>March 29-30</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seismic Design and Performance of Building Structures</td>
<td>Structural</td>
<td>March 29-30</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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Section Activities
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