



ASCE Illinois Section

News

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Reinventing Yourself as the Industry Moves Forward

By Ani Vasudevan, P.E.

The engineering workplace is going through a necessary paradigm shift in how projects are being designed and delivered to the owners. Digital and data transformation has become a household term. Companies around the globe are spending more of their operating costs on research and development. These investments enable innovative methods to adopt digitization, automa-

The automation movement of the early 20th century in the auto and manufacturing sectors saw a disruption in the workforce. Will this happen to the civil engineering industry?

tion, Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) through the lifecycle of a project. Around 40 years ago, Alvin Toffler in Future Shock, predicted the current state of the workforce and quoted

“The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and re-learn”. The automation movement of the early 20th century in the auto and manufacturing sectors saw a disruption in the workforce. Will this happen to the civil engineering industry? There is no right answer to this question as we cannot predict the future, but we are innovators and very capable of adapting. Let’s explore in detail how we can, at all stages in our careers, reinvent and align ourselves to the demands of the always-evolving marketplace.

Is the future already here?

Digitization is not something new to civil engineering. When I was in my junior year of college, I still remember using a handheld mini-drafter to draw a full general plan and elevation of a bridge. This was then replaced by 2D and 3D CADD tools which subsequently led to the devel- (continued on page 9)

President's Notes

Megan McDonald, P.E.



I am honored and excited to be serving as the ASCE IL Section President for our 2800+ members in Northern Illinois for 2019-2020. I would like to take a moment to wish Past President John Green the best while he takes on a new opportunity for both his career as an Assistant Professor and continues his volunteering efforts with the Fresno, CA Chapter of ASCE. I appreciate his volunteer time over the last 10+ years to ASCE and know that he will continue on in his service across the country.

I believe this last year was an exciting time to be a civil engineer in Illinois, especially as a member of ASCE. Our Illinois Infrastructure Report Card provided the necessary information and data to our legislators to support the need for a capital bill. Our Springfield Drive-In provided a face to our plea for raising the gas tax to fund the much-needed improvements and investments required to maintain and improve our grade in Illinois. Without the participation and time from our members, our infrastructure future could look far bleaker. An extended thank you to our Report Card Committee, who has worked tirelessly every four years to gather and analyze information to create something that our elected officials can rely on and use as we move forward with Re-build Illinois.

As I stated in October, our work isn't over. We can't sit idly now that we have the capital bill. We, as engineers, need to continue to

build on those relationships with the legislators that we started at the Fly-In and the Drive-In. Take a moment to reach out to your legislator and thank them for investing in our infrastructure and let them know that you can be a resource for them if needed. Make sure you sign up to be a Key Contact (<https://www.asce.org/keycontacts/>) with ASCE so that you can stay current on the on key legislation on the national and state level. Let's keep the momentum going through 2020.

We will need a lot of momentum going into 2020. As President, I am looking forward to promoting new events, updated committees such as the newly named Diversity & Inclusion Committee, and new fundraising opportunities to engage our members and bring us together.

This year I will be focusing on providing resources to members to help them feel comfortable speaking to their legislators, both for members new to the Drive-In as well as seasoned veterans who could use a refresher on topics and methods to connect with their legislators. I will be looking to new fundraising opportunities to support our Diversity & Inclusion Committee and the scholarships they offer every year to minority students to promote civil engineering. I hope you will join me for this year and support ASCE through your time, financial support, and participation.

ASCE Illinois Section News

ILLINOIS SECTION NEWSLETTER

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Transportation Asset Management in Illinois

By Robert Brzezona, P.E.

The State of Illinois contains one of the largest highway and bridge systems in the country. Following the signature of the Rebuild Illinois Capital Pro-

IDOT's Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP) ensures that the money spent on maintaining and improving our infrastructure is done cost efficiently.

gram into law, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has released a comprehensive multi-year plan for 2020-2025. The Department's priority is to meet the goals set within the State's Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP)¹. A TAMP is a requirement set by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). The TAMP describes how a state DOT will manage assets on the National Highway System (NHS) to achieve performance effectiveness in a fiscally responsible manner.² This is a national framework for measuring and improving the performance of America's transportation system. The TAMP ensures that the money spent on maintaining and improving our infrastructure is done cost efficiently.

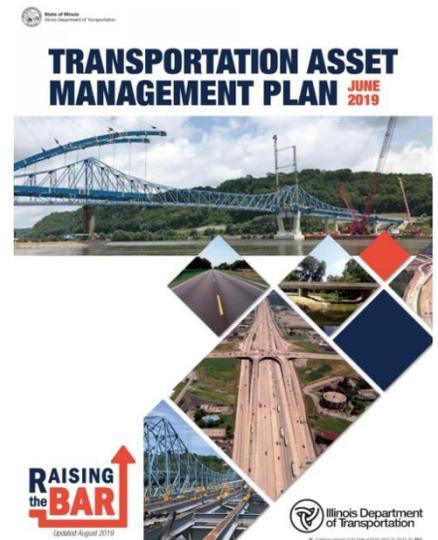
The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) determined that

IDOT developed a plan that met requirements of MAP-21. The act was passed in 2012 but since then, the FHWA set a series of dates requiring the implementation of asset management plans. IDOT has met the dates for the implementation of MAP-21. As part of the plan, IDOT set acceptable condition ratings for roads and bridges at a value where preservation methods are effective in extending their life.² The plan sets performance goals based on a percentage of total miles (Pavements) or total area (Bridges) to meet the acceptable

The plan sets performance goals based on a percentage of total miles (Pavements) or total area (Bridges) to meet the acceptable condition.

condition. States are penalized by the FHWA when over 10 percent of bridges on the National Highway System (NHS) are categorized as structurally deficient. The increased funding from the Capital Program will give the Department the means to reduce the percentage below 10%.³ In order to meet the goals of TAMP, IDOT plans to implement preservation measures earlier in an asset's life cycle which will maximize its usable life. Finally, the Department goes beyond the minimum federal requirements by applying the TAMP

goals to all state-maintained pavements, not just those in the NHS.



The TAMP was developed and finalized prior to the passage of capital program and the current version does not consider the impact of the recent capital program. Even so, the TAMP provides the Depart-

The TAMP provides the Department a comprehensive plan of action to assess its assets, reduce long term costs, manage risks, and invest for the future.

ment a comprehensive plan of action to assess its assets, reduce long term costs, manage risks, and (continued on page 11)

Highlights from the ASCE UP&D and EWRI Chicagoland Permitting Workshop

By Amar Farooqi, P.E.

The ASCE Illinois Section's Urban Planning and Development Group and Envi-

The Permitting Workshop was important for consulting engineers to gain a better understanding of the various permit processes in the Chicagoland area and to learn about updates from various agencies that they work with on a day to day basis.

ronmental & Water Resources Institute hosted the Chicagoland Permitting Workshop on Thursday November 7th in Schaumburg. The workshop was important for consulting engineers to gain a better understanding of the various permit processes in the Chicagoland area and to learn about updates from various agencies that they work with on a day to day basis. Representatives presented regarding their respective permitting processes, updates to rules and regulations, timelines for obtaining permits, forthcoming changes and enhancements to the permitting process, and answering questions

from consulting engineers. The presenters included Jonathan E. Karabowicz and Abigail Robinson from IDOT, Kurt Woolford from the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Heather McGowan from IDNR, Dan Feltes from MWRD, Andrew Billing from Mackie Consultants, a Consultant to the City of Chicago Department of Buildings, Colin Smalley from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Mike Tuman from DuPage County Division of Transportation.

During the morning session, Jonathan Karabowicz and Abigail Rob-

inson from IDOT provided an overview of the process of obtaining traffic permits from IDOT and instructions of what is expected to be included in ADA/PROWAG design plans. Kurt Woolford from Lake County Stormwater Management Commission gave information on what the commission is considering adopting in the new ordinance expected to be adopted by May 2020 based on the guidance of the updated Bulletin 70 rainfall data released earlier this year. Kurt also introduced the use of the Commission transitioning from a paper based to a digital permit review process which uses Bluebeam sessions to help streamline comments and for agencies to collaborate with one another more effectively. Heather McGowan from IDNR presented an outline of



what to expect during the permitting process at the Office of Water Resources and proposed updates to the Part 3700 rules. (continued on page 10)

103rd Annual Awards Dinner

Highlights

By Thomas Borges, P.E. and Brian Olson, P.E., CFM, CPESC

The ASCE Illinois Section celebrated its 103rd Annual Awards Dinner in the Modern Wing of the Art Institute of

With over 460 people in attendance, including consultants, contractors, local agency and city officials, and students from Chicagoland Universities, the event was a tremendous success.

Chicago on the evening of October 2, 2019. With over 460 people in attendance, including consultants, contractors, local agency and city officials, and students from Chicagoland Universities, the event was a tremendous success. Special guests included staff from local agencies including the Illinois

Tollway, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOH), Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA), Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD), and the DuPage County Stormwater Management.

The evening began with hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and networking upstairs in the Modern Wing's Terzo Piano and Bluhm Terrace. All guests were then escorted downstairs to Griffin Court, where 670 The Score radio personality Dan Bernstein served as guest emcee to the event. Mr. Bernstein did a fantastic job keeping the awards presentation moving along while at the same time ensuring that the guests were engaged and

entertained during the evening's program.

The ASCE Illinois Section honored 32 Life members at the 103rd Annual Awards, 12 of which were able to attend in person. A Life Member is an individual who has made a lifetime commitment to ASCE and the civil engineering profession by remaining a member for the full length of their professional career and this status is bestowed on a member in recognition of his or her long-term support of the Society. Life Members are exempt from payment of membership dues.

Volunteers were recognized who gave their time and effort throughout the year by serving on various committees, technical institutes, and the Section Board. The ASCE (continued on page 6)



ASCE Life Members honored at the event



2019-2020 ASCE Illinois Section board members

103rd Annual Awards Dinner Highlights

(continued from page 5)



Illinois Tollway Chief Engineer Paul Kovacs with Young Government Civil Engineer of the Year Winner Laura Thompson and other Tollway staff members



CDOT Deputy Commissioner and Chief Engineer Dan Burke and other CDOT staff members

Illinois Section Board is composed of a President, Past President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, six directors who serve staggered 2-year terms, and the seven chairs from the technical institutes and Younger Member Group. ASCE Past President Dhooli Raj welcomed all guests to the event, recognized the generous sponsors, and honored recent National ASCE Award winners. Dhooli also presented Outgoing Region 3

Governor Darren Olson a gift as a token of appreciation for his 20 years of service from the Institute level to the Region level. Governor Olson then swore in the 2019-2020 Board which included Incoming Region 3 Governor John Lazzara, followed by President Megan McDonald who spoke of the initiatives she has for the upcoming year as President of the Illinois Section.

The event included an open bar and hors d'oeuvres during the cocktail

hour and wine service throughout the duration of the dinner program. Individual ticket pricing was kept affordable to encourage attendance and relied heavily on the generous sponsorship of industry leaders in engineering and construction. The sponsors made a commitment to support the industry and the engineering community by making financial contributions to support the ASCE Annual Awards Dinner at the Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze levels. We would like to thank all our generous sponsors with the following recognition in this newsletter:

2019 Annual Awards Dinner Sponsors

Platinum (\$2,500): AECOM, Alfred Benesch & Company, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ciorba Group, Collins Engineers, EXP, ASCE-IL Geo-Institute, GSG Consultants, HDR Engineering, HNTB Corporation, MWRDGC, Northwestern Univer-
(continued on page 7).



670 The Score Radio Personality Dan Bernstein was the Guest Emcee for the evening



ASCE Illinois Section Past President Dhooli Raj hands over the reins to 2020 President Megan McDonald

103rd Annual Awards Dinner Highlights

(continued from page 6)

sity, Orion Engineers, Parsons Corporation, Primera Engineers, Robinson Engineering, Rubinos & Mesia Engineers, Stanley Consultants, Terra Engineering, Transmart/EJM Engineering, TranSystems, Ty Lin International

Gold (\$1,500): Clark Dietz, Gannett Fleming, Jacobs, Michael Baker International, Thomas Engineering, V3 Companies

Silver (\$1,000): Arcadis, Crawford, Murphy & Tilly

Bronze (\$500): Aqua Vitae Engineering, Gasperec Elberts Consulting, Hillsdale Fabricators, Stantec

Sponsors made a commitment to support the industry and the engineering community by making financial contributions to support the ASCE Annual Awards Dinner at the Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze levels.

The main event of the evening's program is the presentation of awards to the outstanding individuals and project winners in the Sustainability in Civil Engineering Achievement and Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement award categories. There were many deserving nominations and the Awards Committee wishes to thank all those that participated by submitting a nomination. The Awards Selection Committee includes a member from each



Hors d'oeuvres and open bar were included during the cocktail hour in Terzo Piano/Bluhm Terrace

technical institute, and a minimum of two representatives from the Illinois Section Board of Directors. All award recipients are chosen by a vote of the Selection Committee. Following this vote by the committee, a vote of the Illinois Section Board is required to ratify the



Outgoing Region 3 Governor Darren Olson with Incoming Region 3 Governor John Lazzara

committee's selections. Below are the 2019 award recipients:

- **Government Civil Engineer of the Year:** Anthony Charlton, P.E. (DuPage County)
- **Citizen Engineer of the Year:** Tim Scully-Granzeier (Arcadis)
- **Young Government Civil Engineer of the Year:** Laura Thompson, P.E. (Illinois Tollway)
- **Young Civil Engineer of the Year:** Joseph Avram, P.E. (Primera Engineers)
- **Private Sector Employer Recognition:** EXP
- **Sustainability in Engineering Achievement:** Oswego Public Safety Campus, Village of Oswego
- **Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (Under \$10 Million):** Forest Avenue over (continued on page 8)

103rd Annual Awards Dinner Highlights

(continued from page 7)

Ravine Bridge Replacement,
City of Highland Park

- **Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (\$10-\$35 Million):** 41st Street Pedestrian Bridge, City of Chicago
- **Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (\$35-\$100 Million):** Morton Grove – Niles Water Commission Water Transmission Facilities Project

Thank you to all who came to celebrate and support this very special Annual Awards Dinner and the exceptional people and projects that were recognized at it. The support



The dinner service and awards program was held in Griffin Court of the Art Institute's Modern Wing

There were many outstanding project nominations and the Awards Committee wishes to thank all those that participated by submitting a nomination.

our members provide for the Illinois Section through the generous sponsorships and attendance at events held throughout the year allow for ASCE to recognize and honor the profession and the outstanding practitioners that advance it.

The Illinois Section also appreciates the Life Members who have

committed themselves to the success of ASCE through their membership, support, and contribution to the Society, as well as the student members who keep the Illinois Section moving into the future as they enter the industry.

And finally, thank you to all the volunteers who dedicate their time and expertise to the Board and the individual institutes and committees that make up the Illinois Section. Their energy, dedication, and commitment to ASCE are the backbone of the organization and how the Illinois Section provides value to our members.

Thomas Borges, P.E. is the Highways and Roads Design Manager for the Chicago office of Bloom Companies, LLC. He served on the IS-ASCE Board as a Director to 2019 and was Co-Chair of the 2019 Awards Dinner Committee.

Brian Olson, P.E., CFM, CPESC is a Senior Water Resources Engineer at EXP. He served on the IS-ASCE Board as a Director to 2019 and was Co-Chair of the 2019 Awards Dinner Committee.

Photography By: Brittany Bekas Photography

Reinventing Yourself as the Industry Moves Forward

(continued from page 1)

ment of BIM (Building/Bridge Information Modeling). Today, BIM has become a very valuable tool to not only design and create drawings but also to maintain and oper-

As we move forward into the future, it is imperative that we continue to hone our skills and develop a mindset of lifelong learning and intrapreneurship.

ate infrastructure over the full life cycle of a project. Europe's Cross-rail project, the 73 mile underground rail corridor that will connect east and west London, is an excellent example of how BIM was adopted to overcome initial funding challenges and streamline the project process.

Over the last few years, the construction industry seems to have front row seats to the latest trends in automation. The industry is witnessing a surge in innovative technologies such as inspection drones that can reach where human eye cannot, autonomous construction vehicles that can be operated remotely thus reducing the risk of construction site injuries, the use of augmented reality systems to keep construction workers up to date on information related to project site safety and other vital project data, 3D-printed houses and pedestrian bridges are slowly entering the commercial marketplace.

Built environments have begun to expand at a rapid rate and so have engineering challenges. The

advent of AI in engineering has led designers to use high-level computational software to solve these complex problems. AI has also made day-to-day tasks more seamless and efficient. Machine learning with the aid of artificial neural networks and fuzzy logic, two distinct yet effective problem-solving methodologies have been a significant part of engineering academic research over the last decade. Furthermore, IoT and AI will revolutionize our ability to collect and process vast amounts of data and detect patterns to make our infrastructure more resilient in the future. Design engineers are currently shifting towards using generative design software that offers thousands of unanticipated solutions to a set of problem parameters, where the AI component of the software learns from these solutions to solve similar problems.

How can we adapt?

As we move forward into the future, it is imperative that we continue to hone our skills and develop a mindset of lifelong learning and intrapreneurship. An informal definition of "lifelong learning" is the process of gaining skills and knowledge through your life to help you stay ahead of the change curve. Intrapreneurship is another important skillset that the industry is looking for in individuals. Given the resources, autonomy and creative freedom, intrapreneurs are the people who innovate from within an organization and develop out-of-the box solutions to various infrastructure problems.

The various technologies that are set to take over the industry can be

intimidating. The dollar amount to be spent to formally educate ourselves in these technologies moves us further away from trying to learn them. However, the good news is that there are multiple affordable avenues out there today that offer quality education. The OpenCourseWare movement that started in the late 90s in Europe, is now being adopted by numerous universities across the United States. This E-learning movement is a perfect platform for engineers who juggle personal and professional lives every day to learn about new technologies. In a nutshell, you can learn to code, learn how to develop machine learning algorithms or become a big data expert, all while riding the train to work every day.

It is our responsibility to accept change, adapt and utilize it in our favor to deliver quality solutions to our clients and end-users. We can only do so if we don't forget the questions that led us to become engineers in the first place.

Various websites such as Edx, Udacity, Udemy, Coursera, etc. offer beginner to expert level courses in various fields ranging from how to write a simple VBA code to mini degrees that are taught by industry experts in the fields of AI for a fraction of the cost. Some of these courses range from semester-long timelines with multiple capstone projects to boot camps (continued on page 10)

Reinventing Yourself as the Industry Moves Forward

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that can be finished in weeks. These platforms may not make you a subject matter expert overnight, but the idea is to get non “tech” engineers familiarized with unfamiliar concepts and offer a stepping stone to further utilize their learning towards adapting to the changes in the civil engineering industry.

Future Challenges

Change is inevitable and more often than not, change is for the better. We, as engineers, have a

mission to reshape the world around us. It is our responsibility to accept change, adapt and utilize it in our favor to deliver quality solutions to our clients and end-users. We can only do so if we don't forget the questions that led us to become engineers in the first place - How can we minimize the damages to infrastructure? How can millions of road users have an access to safe, cost-effective and time saving transportation systems? How can we save our infrastructure from natural calamities and

inclement weather? What boundary conditions are essential to a stable, sustainable and efficient urban infrastructure development?

Ani Vasudevan, P.E. is a Bridge Engineer working at AECOM. He has more than 6 years of experience in designing and delivering horizontal infrastructure projects around the country. Ani is from India and moved to the United States in 2009 to pursue his graduate degree in Structural Engineering.

Highlights from the ASCE UP&D and EWRI Chicagoland Permitting Workshop

(continued from page 4)

In the afternoon session, Dan Feltes from MWRD provided important changes to the Watershed Management Ordinance with the updated Bulletin 70 Rainfall Data set to be effective to all applications submitted on and after January 1st, 2020. He also introduced some new standard details, Urban Tree Stormwater Planter Box and Underground Vault. Andrew Billing, Consultant to the City of Chicago Department of Buildings, gave a brief history of the City of

Chicago Stormwater System and Stormwater Management Requirements. Colin Smalley, from the Army Corps of Engineers, provided tips regarding the permitting process with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mike Tuman from the DuPage County Division of Transportation ended the workshop with information regarding the Highway Access Permit process and examples of do's and don'ts during the design of access points, grading, and drainage.

We would like to thank all the agencies that presented at the workshop and to all those that attended the successful event. The Urban Planning and Development group meets every third Thursday of the month at Chandlers in Schaumburg.

Amar Farooqi, P.E. is a Project Engineer at GSG Consultants, Inc. within the Civil Design Department and Chair of the IS-ASCE Urban Planning and Development Group.

Transportation Asset Management in Illinois

(continued from page 3)

invest for the future. The multiyear plan, which was released in the fall of 2019, emphasizes the need for a proactive approach to asset management. The combination of new funding and data driven asset management will go a long way to improving the transportation system in Illinois. However, it should be noted that Illinois had not had a capital program in over 10 years. It will continue to take a significant effort by state lawmakers, the Department's staff, and industry advocates to meet the goals in the TAMP.

Article Sources:

1. Illinois Department of Transportation. FY 2020-2025 Proposed Highway Improvement Program, State of Illinois, October 2019, <http://www.idot.illinois.gov/Assets/uploads/files/Transportation-System/Re-ports/OP&P/HIP/2020-2025/2020%20MYP%20Internet%20Version.pdf>
2. Illinois Department of Transportation. Transportation Asset Management Plan June 2019, State of Illinois, 08/19,

- http://www.idot.illinois.gov/Assets/uploads/files/About-IDOT/Misc/IDOT_TAMP.pdf
3. Rebuild Illinois, June 28 2019, https://www2.illinois.gov/IISNews/20266-Rebuild_Illinois_Capital_Plan.pdf

Robert Brzezona, P.E., is the Highway Department Manager for Michael Baker International and Chair of the IS-ASCE Transportation and Development Institute.



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Winter 2019

In an effort to inform Illinois Section members of the discussions at monthly Board meetings, the Section Secretary contributes this article to the newsletter. Any questions or comments on the Board activities are welcome by contacting Andrew Walton at awalton@orionengineersllc.com.

■ Treasurer's Report

▲ A treasurer's report was presented at the September, October, and November 2019 meetings. All reports were approved.

■ Highlights from Illinois Section Activities and Group Reports.

▲ **2019 Annual Awards Dinner** – The 2019 ASCE IL Section Annual Awards Dinner was held on Wednesday 10/2/2019 at The Art Institute of Chicago (Modern Wing) located at 159 E. Monroe St., Chicago, IL 60603 to celebrate local civil engineering leaders and projects. Please see the article included in this newsletter for a recap of the event. New officers, directors, and technical institute chairs for the 2019-2020 IS-ASCE board were sworn in at this event.

▲ **ASCE National Convention in Miami, FL** – The 2019 ASCE National Convention was held this year in Miami, FL from Thursday 10/10/2019 thru Sunday 10/13/2019 at the Hyatt Regency Miami. The ASCE Convention is ASCE's flagship membership event and is the single annual opportunity that the entire Society is represented together. For more information about the ASCE National Convention, please refer to the following webpage:

<https://www.asceconvention.org/>.

▲ **ASCE-IIT CAEE Career Fair** – The ASCE IIT Student chapter hosted its 5th Annual Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering (CAEE) career connection fair on IIT's campus at Hermann Hall on Tuesday 10/08/2019. For more information, please contact ASCE IIT Student Chapter president Zachary Haney at zhaney1@hawk.iit.edu.

▲ **#ASCE Day** – On Tuesday 11/5/2019, the Society celebrates "ASCE Day" to commemorate the founding of the Society 167 years ago on November 5, 1852. ASCE members are encouraged to share a post of their favorite ASCE memory using the hashtag: #ASCEDay, purchase branded merchandise for discount, and/or submit a financial gift to the ASCE Foundation.

▲ **ASCE Holiday Party** – The ASCE IL Section and Technical Institutes Holiday Party will be held on Wednesday 12/11 at Haymarket Pub & Brewery located at 737 W. Randolph Street, Chicago, IL 60661. The party will kick off at 6:00pm and members are required to bring a toy to donate for the Toys-for-Tots charity. Please contact YMG Member Brian Janus with any questions at bmjanus@transystems.com.

▲ **Future Cities Competition** – The 2020 Future Cities competition in Chicago will be held in January on Saturday 1/18. Volunteer mentors and judges are needed in addition to sponsorships from local businesses. Section members are encouraged to ask their employers to contribute and to volunteer as student mentors and

judges. More information can be found at www.futurecity.org/illinois-chicago or by contacting Future Cities IL Regional Coordinator Don Wittmer at dwittmer@hntb.com.

▲ **2020 ASCE Regions 3, 6 & 7 Multi-Region Leadership Conference (MRLC)** – The ASCE Regions 3, 6 & 7 Multi-Region Leadership Conference will be held this year in Detroit, MI from Friday 1/10/2020 thru Saturday 1/11/2020 at the Detroit Marriot at the Renaissance Center.

▲ **ASCE Legislative Fly-In & OPAL Awards Gala** – Registration is now open thru Thursday 11/21/2019 for the ASCE National Legislative Fly-in, held in Washington, D.C. from Wednesday 3/11/2020 thru Thursday 3/12/2020. This intensive two-day program provides participants with an inside look at the public policy process at the National level. The ASCE Outstanding Projects and Leaders (OPAL) Gala will be held at the conclusion of the Fly-in at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill on Friday 3/13/2020. The OPAL leadership awards honor civil engineers for career achievements in each of five categories: construction, design, education, government and management. Illinois Section member Dr. Raymond J. Krizek has been selected for the OPAL Education award for his demonstrated excellence in furthering civil engineering education and Central Illinois Section member Sergio A. Pecori was selected for the OPAL Management award for his exceptional management skills in his professional career.

(continues on page 13)

News & Secretary Report

(continued from page 12)

▲ **Construction Institute (CI)** – The Illinois Section’s Construction Institute (CI) hosted a dinner meeting focusing on the Central Tri-State Reconstruction program by the Illinois Tollway on Wednesday 11/13/2019. For more information or if you’re interested in joining this institute, please contact CI Chair Zach Pucel at zjpu-cel@transystems.com.

▲ **Environmental & Water Resources Institute (EWRI)** – The EWRI hosted a Bulletin 70 Updates Seminar at the Fountain Blue in Des Plaines on Wednesday 10/23/2019 and a joint ‘Chicagoland Permitting Seminar’ in conjunction with the UP&D at Chandler’s Chophouse in Schaumburg on Thursday 11/7/2019. Please contact EWRI Chair Jeana Gowin at jgowin@cbbel.com with any questions or for more information.

▲ **Geo-Institute (GI)** – The GI hosted a lecture on ‘Liquefaction-induced Building Settlement’ on Wednesday 10/23/2019 on Northwestern University’s campus in the Ford Motor Company Engineering Design Center in addition to a dinner meeting focusing on ‘Cost Effective MSE Wall and Precast Modular Wall Solutions’ on Tuesday 11/12/2019 at Pazzo’s located at 311 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL. Please contact GI Chair Alex Barlan for more information or with any questions at asceilgeotech@gmail.com.

▲ **Structural Engineering Institute (SEI)** – The SEI hosted a dinner committee meeting at TranSystems’ downtown Chicago office located at

222 S. Riverside Drive, Chicago, IL. The IS-ASCE SEI is also a cooperating organization to support the National SEI Structures Congress which will be held from Sunday 04/05/2020 thru Wednesday 04/08/2020 at the St. Louis Union Station Hotel in St. Louis, MO. For more information on SEI activities, or if you have any questions, please contact SEI Chair Justin Pattison at jmpattison@transystems.com.

▲ **Transportation & Development Institute (T&DI)** – The September T&DI luncheon featured IDOT Secretary of Transportation Omer Osman, providing an overview of the current IDOT program and recently passed Capital Bill. The event was held at Maggiano’s in Oak Brook, IL on Thursday 9/12/2019. Please contact T&DI Chair Robert Brzezson for more information at robert.brzezson@mbakerintl.com.

▲ **Urban Planning & Development Group (UP&D)** – The UP&D hosted a joint ‘Chicagoland Permitting Seminar’ in conjunction with the EWRI at Chandler’s Chophouse in Schaumburg on Thursday 11/7/2019. The UP&D is looking for new members – if you’re interested in joining this group, please contact UP&D Chair Amar Farooqi at afarooqi@gsg-consultants.com.

▲ **ASCE Younger Member Group (YMG)** – The ASCE Younger Member Group hosted a November dinner meeting focusing on the ORD Multimodal Facility on Wednesday 11/13/2019 and is leading the planning of the ASCE Illinois Section and

Technical Institutes Holiday Party. The YMG also hosted the ASCE Student & Professional Bowling / Resume Event at the bowling alley in the UIC Student Center East on Thursday 11/14/2019. Members of the ASCE Student Chapters at UIC, IIT, and NU networked with working professionals and were offered guidance about the engineering industry while also having their resumes formally reviewed by working professionals in the industry. For more information or if interested in joining this group, please contact YMG Chair Anirudha Vasudevan at anirudha.vasudevan@aecom.com.

▲ **ASCE Diversity & Inclusion Committee (D&I)** – The newly introduced ASCE Illinois Section ‘Diversity & Inclusion’ (D&I) Committee replaces the previous ‘Minority Affairs’ Committee with a name that better represents ASCE Canon 8 – Treat All Persons Fairly. Please contact D&I Committee Chair Nihar Shah for more information at nshah@RME-i.com.

The Illinois Section Board Meetings are held every first Monday of the month, except for holidays. The next board meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2019 at 5:30pm at Orion Engineers’ office located at 328 S. Jefferson Street, Suite 950, Chicago, IL 60661. If you are interested in attending these meetings, please contact President Megan McDonald at megan.mcdonald@clarkdietz.com.

By Andrew Walton, PE

ASCE IL Section Secretary 2018-2020
awalton@orionengineersllc.com

ASCE IL Section Holiday Party

Date: Wednesdays, December 11

Time: 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Place: Haymarket Pub & Brewery
737 W. Randolph St.
Chicago, IL

Cost: ASCE Members: \$40

General: \$50

Government: \$35

Student: \$30

Door: \$60

All attendees must bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.

Cost Includes appetizers and drinks

RSVP: [Register here](#) by Monday, December 9th by Noon

Sponsorship Opportunities

Bronze: \$100 Regular, \$75 Gov't (includes 1 ticket)

Silver: \$200 Regular, \$150 Gov't (includes 2 tickets)

Gold: \$400 Regular, \$300 Gov't (includes 4 tickets)

Contact: Brian Janus (bmjanus@transystems.com)

ASCE IL Section T&DI Board Meeting

Date: Wednesday, December 11

Time: 5:15 – 6:00pm

Place: Haymarket Pub & Brewery
737 W. Randolph St.
Chicago, IL

RSVP: Robert.Brzezoni@mbaker-intl.com

ASCE IL Section UP&DG**December Meeting**

Date: Thursday, December 19

Time: 5:30pm

Place: Chandlers
401 N. Roselle Road
Schaumburg, IL

RSVP: Amar Farooqi:
afarooqi@gsg-consultants.com;
630-994-2632

ASCE IL Section EWRI Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 14

Time: 4:30pm

Place: Horner Shifrin, Inc.
8755 W. Higgins Road
#325
Chicago, IL 60631

ASCE IL Section UP&DG**January Meeting**

Date: Thursday, January 16

Time: 5:30pm

Place: Chandlers
401 N. Roselle Road
Schaumburg, IL

RSVP: Amar Farooqi:
afarooqi@gsg-consultants.com;
630-994-2632

ASCE IL Section T&DI January Technical Luncheon – Save The Date – Commissioner Jamie Rhee, Chicago Department of Aviation

Date: Thursday, January 23

Further Detail of the event to follow.

Women in the Built World

Date: Friday, February 7

Time: 8:00am – 5:30pm

Place: Merchandise Mart
222 Merchandies Mart
Plaza, Suite 1212
Chicago, IL 60654

WitBW Information, Registration, and Sponsorship
<https://www.women-wire.org/witbw-2020-chicago-symposium/>

For more WitBW Information, Registration, and Sponsorship you can also visit: www.women-WiRE.org/events

For all Section, Group and Committee events, check out the Section website at:

www.isasce.org/calendar/