

Los Angeles Section

Monthly: Est. 1913

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greg Heiertz, P.E.
Los Angeles Section President



As I come to the end of my tenure as Los Angeles Section President, I hope I have been able to continue the standard of excellence set by my predecessors. I have tried to continually improve and expand the activities of the Section. Your comments, criticisms, suggestions and occasional compliments have been much appreciated over the past year. The success of the Section, however, does not rest primarily with the President. Our success depends primarily on our active and engaged members. There are many members that have taken leadership positions over the last year and have worked to make this year a success. Allow me to recognize just a few.

Past President Jay Higgins has been an inspiration and mentor to me over the past twelve months. His talent and energy are tremendous assets for the success of the Section. As Past President, Jay has been involved in many aspects of Section administration. He has taken a leadership role in developing policies and procedures. He is an active participant on the Section Investment Policy Committee. He is our liaison with the ACE Mentor Program. Recently, Jay has agreed to lead the fundraising effort for the 2013 Section Centennial celebration. Most importantly, Jay is an inspirational source of wisdom and advice for me and the rest of the Board.

Section Treasurer Gary Gilbert has successfully reorganized the financial reporting procedures for all of the subsidiary organizations of the Section, including the Branches, YMFs, Technical Groups and Institutes and Student Chapters. The streamlining of financial reporting was especially critical because the Section was responsible for filing Federal Income Tax returns for the first time this year. Gary took on this additional responsibility with great enthusiasm and energy.

Section Secretary Janice Horcasitas has been instrumental in keeping the Section paperwork organized. She has been extremely diligent and faithful in the accurate preparation of agendas and minutes for Section Board Meetings. She was also indispensable in helping to administer the Section Newsletter advertising program. Her efforts resulted in significantly increased revenues to the Section.

Our Vice President of Student Activities Karen Sepulveda had a busy year coordinating the activities of our eleven Student Chapters. She was personally responsible for success of a number of Section-wide student events including the successful Southwest Region Student Conference at Cal State Los Angeles.

Bill Flores, our Vice President of Technical Groups has overseen the activities of Technical Groups and Institutes. He was instrumental in assisting them in implementing the new financial reporting procedures that were initiated this year.

President Elect John Hogan has been the source of wise and astute business advice to the Board. He organized a very successful Branch and Section Officer Training and Planning Workshop in August. John has developed a Section budget for the upcoming fiscal year that continues to address the needs of our members in spite of a very challenging economic environment. John is also responsible for organizing our annual section event and award program which will take place on October 8.

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Another Year Over and What Have We Done?

This is our last issue during the term of Los Angeles Section Greg Heiertz, P.E. During the last few months we have heard his thoughts on quite a few things, the most memorable of which (for me) is his piece about holidays and looking at engineering landmarks. That piece was quite unique, tried it on one of our staycations and found the experience very enlightening.

In this issue, President Heiertz extends his gratitude to a number of people who have worked diligently in the background to make sure that our Section runs as efficiently as possible while simultaneously creating significantly creating value to our membership. In addition to these worthy individuals, I would like to personally thank our Section Administrator Gayle Stewart and her staff for all the back office support especially ensuring that all of our events are organized and for keeping us up to speed with respect to announcements. Special recognition also goes to Lorena Arce for her unwavering support in our advertisement and Newsletter finances.

Another article included in this issue is an update on Legislative Affairs that have an effect on our organization and our membership, specifically here in the Los Angeles Section. However, much more than these, your active participation in ASCE's Key Alert Program would significantly enhance our ability to objectively assess pieces of legislation or regulations as they are being drafted. We have indicated this several times in the past and our call to action continues through the changing of the next administration.

We thank President Heiertz for such a productive year. We look forward to supporting our incoming Los Angeles Section President John Hogan, P.E. beginning in October. Our leadership is great, our Section is sustainable, but we continue to ask ourselves, what else can we do for our profession? Only you can answer that. We would love to hear from you.

Enjoy this issue of your newsletter!

Thanks.
- Dr. Cris B. Liban, P.E.

Reminder:

Copy deadline for the Oct. 2011 issue is Sept. 1, 2011; copy deadline for Nov. 2011 issue is Oct. 1, 2011.

ASCE's 2011 Member-Get-A-Member Drive Depends on You!

This Month in Sacramento

By Richard Markuson

Governor Signs ASCE Supported Lien Bill

Governor Jerry Brown has signed Senate Bill 424 that, effective July 1, 2012, gives design professionals providing services for private works of improvement the ability to convert a design professionals lien into a mechanics lien. Existing law (Civil Code §8300 et. seq.) permits the design professionals lien and mechanics lien but did not allow the conversion – which could leave the design professional at risk when construction commences.

This bill requires the design professional to file a mechanics lien within 30 days of the expiration of the design professionals lien and to specifically state that it is a converted design professional lien and that it shall be recorded and enforced in the same manner as a mechanics lien, except the design professional need not provide a preliminary notice to enforce this mechanics lien. This mechanics lien shall be effective as of the date of recordation of this mechanics lien and shall be given priority pursuant to the provisions of Section 8450.

Changes at High-Speed Rail Authority

The California High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) has seen a trio of influential departures this month. Curt Pringle has resigned from the HSRA Board on which he has served since 2007 saying he is doing so to “focus my attention on my company and my other responsibilities.”

Jeffrey Barker, executive officer for communications, policy and public outreach at the HSRA, has also left the embattled agency. Barker, a Republican, was appointed by Gov. Schwarzenegger and was an aide to Schwarzenegger before joining the HSRA.

Ogilvy Public Relations (Ogilvy PR) reported the termination of its lobbying services for the HSRA. Ogilvy reported that Washington, D.C.-based lobbyist Drew Maloney had been paid a total of \$60,000 this year for his high-speed rail work.

A Republican veteran of Capitol Hill, Maloney works for Ogilvy Government Relations, a subsidiary of Ogilvy Public Relations. Ogilvy PR quit its \$9 million contract with the high-speed rail authority in late June, amid accounts that it was about to be fired.

Democrat Mark Kadesh, formerly chief of staff to Sen. Dianne Feinstein, remains registered as a D.C. lobbyist for the rail group.

The move comes as Governor Brown continues to recast the rail administration. Pringle said in his resignation letter that he continues to support the project and is confident it will be finished. However, he said the project “will not be successful without political leadership from the governor.

“With this resignation”, Pringle wrote, Gov. Brown “will have the ability to appoint someone to reflect his point of view.” Pringle did not offer what the thought that point of view might be.

Currently, the HSRA is selecting the initial route and will release their business plan to the Legislature in October, including cost and risk assessments. Construction is proposed to begin in September of 2012

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Outstanding Student Chapters, Student Leaders, and Advisors in Region 9

by Camilla M. Saviz, P.E., Ph.D., M. ASCE, Governor-At-Large



Each year, ASCE Student Chapters are recognized with various Society-level awards based on the Chapter's previous year of activities as documented in their Annual Report. Awards are presented by the Society President upon recommendation of the Educational Activities Committee. ASCE Region 9 is pleased to recognize the 2011 Student Chapter award recipients:

- **Robert Ridgway Student Chapter Award.**

Established in honor of Robert Ridgway who served as ASCE Society President in 1925, this award is made annually to the single most outstanding Student Chapter.

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

- **Distinguished Chapter Award.** *This award recognizes the most outstanding Student Chapter within a Region, other than the Robert Ridgway Award winner.*

University of California, San Diego

- **Certificate of Commendation.** *These certificates may be awarded to recognize up to five percent of Student Chapters for the quality of their general Chapter activities.*

University of California, Los Angeles

- **Letter of Honorable Mention.** *Student Chapters that miss receiving a Certificate of Commendation may be recognized with a Letter of Honorable Mention for notable activities.*

California State University, Chico

San Jose State University

University of California, Berkeley

- **Letter of Significant Improvement.** *With this letter, the Society recognizes Student Chapters that demonstrate significant improvement over their previous year's activities.*

University of the Pacific

- **Letter of Recognition for Service.** *Student Chapters with a distinguished record of service to the community, the Society, and the profession can be selected as finalists for the Society's Richard J. Scranton Outstanding Community Service Award. Finalists receive a letter of recognition acknowledging their service.*

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Faculty Advisors and Practitioner Advisors provide guidance, continuity, and support, playing key roles in the success of ASCE Student Chapters. The Society recognizes the voluntary effort provided by these dedicated individuals through Advisor Awards and Certificates of Commendation. Award recipients are selected based on nomination letters submitted by Student Chapter members. ASCE Region 9 gratefully acknowledges the following advisors who received awards in 2011 for their dedicated service:

- **Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award.** *This award recognizes a single faculty member within a Region for their outstanding service as Faculty Advisor to the Student Chapter.*

Gregg L. Fiegel, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE (California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo)

- **Outstanding Practitioner Advisor Award.** *This award recognizes a single ASCE member within a Region for their outstanding service as Practitioner Advisor to the Student Chapter.*

Greg R. Young, P.E., M.ASCE (Practitioner Advisor to the ASCE Student Chapter at University of California, Davis)

- **Practitioner Advisor Certificate of Commendation.** *This certificate is awarded to an ASCE member who provides notable service as Practitioner Advisor to the Student Chapter.*

Bill Flores, P.E., M.ASCE (Practitioner Advisor to the ASCE Student Chapter at California Baptist University)

Two Society-level awards recognize student members for their participation and leadership. ASCE Region 9 is pleased to recognize the following student members who received awards in 2011:

- **Daniel W. Mead Student Contest.** *The Mead contest allows students to compete on the basis of a paper submitted on a specific topic in professional ethics. Authors of the top five papers selected receive awards that include a cash prize and a plaque or certificate.*

1st place: Christine Truong, S.M.ASCE (California State University, Long Beach)

- **Student Leadership Award.** *This award recognizes an ASCE member who has demonstrated leadership as a student. Recipients are selected based on letters of nomination from the Faculty or Practitioner Advisor, Department Head, or Section/Branch officer.*

Yungling Chow, A.M.ASCE (California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo)

Spencer Reed, EIT, S.M.ASCE (California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo)

Congratulations to all award recipients!

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Access National ASCE at: www.asce.org

L.A. Section web site at:
www.ascelasection.org

The Los Angeles Section was involved in many exciting and significant events over the last year. Here's just a sampling:

The year began with the Los Angeles Section Annual Event held at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana on October 16. The event was attended by over 100 members, friends and family members. The evening featured a State of Section address by outgoing President Jay Higgins, installation of Section officers for 2010-11, and presentation of Section project and individual awards.

The Orange County Younger Member Forum, with support from the Los Angeles Section, hosted the 2011 Western Regional Younger Member Council (WRYMC) in Costa Mesa February 11 through 12, 2011. The event was attended by over 100 Region 8 and 9 delegates. A significant accomplishment at the WRYMC business meeting was the approval of a recommendation to add the 501(c)6 tax designation to ASCE. This designation allows ASCE greater flexibility to conduct legislative and lobbying activities. The Los Angeles Section Board subsequently endorsed the WRYMC recommendation.

On Friday February 18, 2011, over 250 high school students from throughout the Los Angeles area gathered at the University of Southern California (USC) to watch months of hard work literally get crushed. The 17th Annual ASCE Popsicle Stick Bridge Contest is a kickoff to National Engineers Week. This high school outreach event, which was organized by the MLAB and OC Younger Member Forums, was supported by the Los Angeles Section

The annual Life Member Brunch was held on March 5, 2011 at the Monterey Hill Steakhouse. This event, which is co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Section and the Life Member Forum, honors the career achievements of our members who have advanced to Life Member status. We were honored to have ASCE National President Elect Andrew W. Herrmann as our keynote speaker at this year's brunch.

The ASCE Region 9 Awards Dinner was held on March 9, 2011 in Sacramento. Outstanding projects and individuals from throughout California were recognized by the Region 9 judges. Many Los Angeles Section members and their projects were honored at this gala event. The Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension was selected as Project of the Year. Several other Los Angeles Section projects also received awards. Marlon Calderon was recognized as the Outstanding Civil Engineer in the Public Sector. Bill Flores received the Outstanding Practitioner Advisor Award. Julia Moye was honored as the Outstanding Civil Engineer in Legislative Activities, and Terry Dooley received the Outstanding Civil Engineer in Community Service Award.

On March 11, 2011 the Los Angeles Section, along with the Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch and the Younger Member Forum, hosted the annual Student Night and Job Fair at the Starview Ballroom in the Sheraton Universal Hotel. This event honors some of the most talented civil engineering students from throughout the Los Angeles Section. The gala scholarship award dinner was attended by over 200 students and practicing civil engineers. Numerous scholarships were awarded to deserving students by the Los Angeles Section, MLAB and YMF.

The College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology at California State University, Los Angeles hosted the 2011 ASCE Pacific Southwest Student Conference March 23 through 26, 2011. The Los Angeles Section actively supported the conference.

This is only a sampling of the many events sponsored by the Los Angeles Section and organized by our Branches, YMFs, Technical Groups, Committees, and Institutes. Each of these events is a unique and exciting way for members to become involved in ASCE.

I want to thank the entire Los Angeles Section Board for their dedication and commitment throughout the year in helping to make our Section and its activities successful. I appreciate the opportunity to have served as Section President and I look forward to continuing to serve as your Past President next year.

This Month in Sacramento

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with a goal of completion by 2017. A conference to prepare for preliminary bidding is set to occur on Sept. 8.

It is projected that construction would provide 160,000 temporary jobs.

ASCE Key Contacts

The California Legislature introduces more than 2,500 bills every year – many of them can directly or indirectly affect your practice of engineering. If you want to be more involved in representing your profession and ASCE – take the first step and become a key contact. ASCE's Key Contact program will notify you of important legislation – both here in California and in Washington DC and give you an easy way to make your position known to your elected officials. Join today!

For more information on ASCE's legislative program contact Richard Markuson. For information on Transportation measures – contact Kenneth Rosenfield and for Water bills – Mark Norton.

A Great Idea From the Life Members

The ASCE Life Members' Public Image Committee request that members take their (to be discarded) Civil Engineering magazines to their doctor's office or barber shop and merge them with the stack of magazines. We feel that this will be an effective way to make the general public more aware of what civil engineers do.

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**You are cordially invited to
the ASCE – Los Angeles Section's**

**Annual Meeting, Officer Installation & Awards Lunch
Saturday, October 8, 2011
11:00 a.m.
Disneyland Hotel**

Members & Guests: \$50.00

**Students: \$15.00
(parking included)**

Registration & Reception: 11:00 a.m.

Lunch: 11:45 a.m.

Program: 12:30 p.m.

For reservations, please send checks payable to "ASCE LA Section", 1405 Warner Ave., Suite B, Tustin, CA 92780. Indicate "2011 Annual Event" in memo section. Please return completed registration form with payment by September 30th. Sponsor packages available.

Name (for name tag): _____ Phone: (____) _____

Company: _____ Fax: (____) _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email (for reservation confirmation): _____

Spouse/Guest Name(s) for name tags: _____

My check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed for # _____ reservations (parking included).

ASCE Announces 2011 Class of Distinguished Members

Distinguished Membership is the highest recognition the Society may confer, second only to the title ASCE President. It is reserved for members of the Society who have attained the grade of Member or Fellow and who demonstrate acknowledged eminence in some branch of engineering or in its related arts and sciences. The 2011 Distinguished Members are:

Jacobo Bielak, Ph.D., P.E., Dist.M.ASCE, NAE
 John E. Breen, Ph.D., P.E., Dist.M.ASCE, NAE
 Ross B. Corotis, Ph.D., P.E., S.E., Dist.M.ASCE, NAE
 Robert A. Dalrymple, Ph.D., P.E., DCE, Dist.M.ASCE, NAE
 Chandrakant S. Desai, Ph.D., P.E., Dist.M.ASCE
 Sidney O. Dewberry, P.E., L.S., Dist.M.ASCE
 Mohammed M. Ettouney, D.Sc., P.E., Dist.M.ASCE
 Phillip L. Gould, Ph.D., P.E., S.E., Dist.M.ASCE
 Francis E. Griggs, Jr., Ph.D., P.E., L.S., Dist.M.ASCE
 Neil M. Hawkins, Ph.D., Dist.M.ASCE
 Dallas N. Little, Ph.D., P.E., Dist.M.ASCE
 Robert D. Nichol, P.E., Dist.M.ASCE
 Robert E. Paaswell, Ph.D., P.E., Dist.M.ASCE
 Shamsheer Prakash, Ph.D., P.E., Dist.M.ASCE

The Class of 2011 will be formally inducted during the 141st Annual Civil Engineering Conference in Memphis, Tenn. on October 20, 2011. Since 1852, only 615 individuals have been elected to Distinguished Membership.

Post-Disaster Teams

"...the Society is the single best organization to carry out this type of work for our nation.", Hon. Sherwood Boehlert, M.C. (Ret.), Former Chair, House Science Committee

ASCE has a long history of participating in and conducting engineering studies of national significance, one that dates back to the Johnstown Flood in the late 1800s. ASCE has participated in more than a dozen such assessments in the last decade. The reports published by these study teams have been widely recognized within the professional community for their contributions to our understanding of civil engineering practice and public safety and welfare. Such studies are an important part of the Society's continuous effort to advance public safety and engineering practice, and contribute to the understanding of how to make engineered structures safer in the event of both natural disasters and man-made events.

Learn more about ASCE Assessments and corresponding reports at www.asce.org. Available now are the following:

- New Zealand - Earthquake, September 23, 2010
- Chile - Earthquake and Tsunami, February 27, 2010
- Haiti - Earthquake, January 12, 2010
- Samoan Islands - Earthquake and Tsunami, September 29, 2009
- Galveston, Texas - Hurricane Ike, September 13, 2008
- Sichuan, China - Earthquake, May 2008
- New Orleans/Southeast Louisiana - Hurricane Katrina, August 29, 2005
- Post-Katrina Levee Assessment Team
- External Review Panel
- Boston, Massachusetts - Big Dig Collapse, July 10, 2006
- Sumatra - Earthquake and Tsunami, December 26, 2004
- September 11, 2001, World Trade Center Findings
- September 11, 2001, Pentagon Building Performance Report.



Younger Member Forum P.E. REVIEW COURSE FALL 2011



Advance in your civil engineering profession by earning your license and becoming a Professional Engineer. Our courses are taught by practicing professionals. Our PE Exam instructors review the following subjects: Environmental, Geotechnical, Construction, Water, Transportation, Structural, and the specialized topics of Surveying and Seismic.

The PE Review Course will be held in the heart of Los Angeles. Meetings occur twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday nights. The Surveying and Seismic courses are each offered on three different Saturdays.

Please share this announcement with co-workers and colleagues.

For more information, please contact us:

Maria Miranda at (562) 889-4982 or mlmiranda3@gmail.com
 Omar Sanchez at (714) 319-0552 or oasanchez25@yahoo.com

DISASTER TRAINING

Classes are being organized for volunteers to help in the event of a major disaster under the auspicious of the State of California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA). Classes will be held in ASCE Branch areas when there are sufficient requests. Qualified individuals are California Registered Civil, Structural, Geotechnical, Certified engineering Geologists, or Architects. If you are interested in attending a class, or are interested in arranging a class, please contact the ASCE Disaster Preparedness Committee Chairman.

There is no charge for the class.

The class lasts 4 or 5 hours

The Class can commence as early as 8 AM or after work.

Monday through Friday or on Saturday

Classes will be given for VOLUNTEERS from professional organizations to assess damage, and COORDINATORS from City or County to direct Volunteers for their area. Coordinators may act as Volunteers outside of their area of expertise.

To register for the class submit your name along with your telephone number and e-mail address. You will be contacted when 10 or more request a class. The maximum number in the class should not exceed 20.

If your Branch, or Firm would like to offer the use of its facilities for a class, please register and provide the name of contact person, phone, and E-mail. You will be contacted to make arrangements.

Thank you for your support.

Jack W. Rolston, Chair

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2011 STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING REVIEW SEMINARS & MANUAL

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“Register early and save up to \$400”

All classes are on Saturdays or Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

At the La Quinta, 3 Centerpointe Drive, La Palma, CA 90623, Phone: (714) 670-1400

May 14	Wind & Seismic Provisions	Ben Yousefi, MS, SE
May 22	Advanced Analysis/Dynamics	Dr. Farzad Naeim, Ph.D., SE, Esq.
June 11	Concrete Design, Part I	Dr. Cheng Ming Lin, Ph.D., S.E
June 19	Steel Design, Part I	Dr. Michael Engelhardt, Ph.D., PE
July 10	Wood Design	Kelly Cobein, MS, SE
July 16	Steel Design, Part II	Dr. Michael Engelhardt, Ph.D., PE
July 30	Concrete Design Part II	Chris Tokas, MS, SE
July 31	California (CBC) Amendments	Chris Tokas, MS, SE
August 6	Masonry Design	Dr. Chukwume Ekwueme, Ph.D., SE
August 28	Steel Design, Part III	Dr. Michael Engelhardt, Ph.D., PE
September 17	Concrete Design, Part III	Dr. Cheng Ming Lin, Ph.D., S.E
October 1	General Overview/ All topics	Ben Yousefi, MS, SE

For complete registration information please check our web site

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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS
International Committee, Los Angeles Section

7th International Engineering and Construction Conference (IECC'7)

February 13-15, 2012

Website: www.a-tech.hk/IECC7/index.html

HOST

Centre of Excellence in Engineered Fibre Composites
University of South Queensland, Australia

SPONSORS

ASCE Los Angeles Section - International Committee
University of California, Irvine
ASCE UCI Student Chapter

CONFERENCE THEME

“Green Infrastructure System”

VENUE

Brisbane, Australia

The ASCE Los Angeles Section International Committee is organizing its 7th International Engineering and Construction Conference (IECC'7), jointly with the Centre of Excellence in Engineered Fibre Composites (CEEFC), University of Southern Queensland (USQ), Australia. The conference will be held during February 13-15, 2012, in Brisbane, Australia.

Conference Objectives

The 7th International Engineering and Construction Conference (IECC'7) is a multidisciplinary forum with several symposia covering a wide range of engineering areas with emphasis on engineering design and construction. The goal of this conference is to enhance the lines of communication between researchers and technical professionals to exchange innovative research and technological advancements. The conference theme focuses on “Green Infrastructure System”. This theme incorporates innovative building systems in which affordable green construction, materials and system are pronounced. The conference will cover most of the subjects associated with the above mentioned vision. The objective of the conference is to focus on various topics related to green infrastructure development which incorporates innovative building systems, materials and design. The previous objectives cannot be separated from the wider objectives of eco-villages, city planning, green materials and green construction management on the community level. This would also require successful sustainability and energy efficiency code development. The conference will also deal with carbon finance in construction, renewable energy in construction, environmentally compatible engineering in design and construction, assessment and monitoring of long-term performance, recyclable construction materials and systems, and other state-of-the art papers related to built environment and energy conservation are also encouraged.

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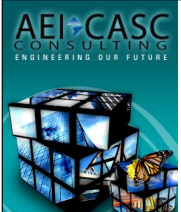


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