



# Monthly Newsletter

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Since October 10, 1950

May 2012

## Columbia Section Monthly Meeting

Date:	May 23, 2012
Place:	Snipes Mountain Brewery, 905 Yakima Valley Highway, Sunnyside WA— <a href="#">Directions</a> Dinner will start at 6:00PM, and the presentation will begin at 7:00PM
Meal:	Order off the menu, prices will vary.
Topic:	The I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East—Project Update
Speaker:	<b>Brian White-WSDOT</b>
RSVP to:	Paul Knutzen (509) 735-1589 <a href="mailto:ptknutzen@meierinc.com">ptknutzen@meierinc.com</a>

## President's Remarks

Hi everyone,

This month we're excited to hear from Brian White who is Assistant Regional Administrator for the South Central Region of the Washington State Department of Transportation. Previously he was Project Director for the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East Project, a half-billion dollar highway widening and improvement project. Prior to then, he was Program Manager for the Highway Capital Construction Program, overseeing the development and implementation of numerous highway improvement projects, and worked on a variety of paving and bridge construction projects. He joined WSDOT shortly after graduating from the Oregon Institute of Technology in 1991.

Stay tuned for next month, officers for the Section will be voted on at the June meeting. If you're interested in running for election, please let me or Paul know and we'll see to it that you are added to the ballot. Have a great week.

Sincerely,

Chris Ells, PE

**ASCE Columbia Section President**



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## ASCE Goes to Capitol Hill, Asks Congress to Pass Surface Transportation Bill

More than 160 Society members from 46 states came to Washington, D.C., for this year's Legislative Fly-In, the 12th time this annual event has been held, to make the case for infrastructure investment and to urge their representatives and senators to pass a bipartisan bill reauthorizing surface transportation programs... [See the full article.](#)

## WSDOL Rules to better define Land Surveying Scope and Practice

The Board has been granted approval to proceed with development of rules that will better define the land surveying scope of practice under current law. [See the full article.](#)

## The Howard Preston Scholarship Award

The Columbia Section of the American Society of Civil engineers invites applications for the Howard Preston Scholarship Award. The purpose of the scholarship is to promote excellence and professionalism in the field of civil engineering. The scholarship will provide financial support of the student's educational expenses. Please email [Paul Knutzen](#) if you would like an application.

## ASCE Columbia Section Seeking Officer and Director Nominations

Walla Walla & Pendleton/LaGrande Area Director Positions are open for election this year. Columbia Section Officer positions are also. If you are a current Section paying dues member you are eligible to run for office. If you're interested in having your name on the ballot, please email [Teresa Peterson](#) so you can be added to the ballot!

## OSBEELS: Oregon Senate Bill 126

Senate Bill 126, enacted by Governor Kitzhaber June 1st, goes into effect Jan. 1st, 2012, and allows the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) to regulate the professional conduct of Certified Water Rights Examiners (CWRE) and to discipline violators. [See the full article](#)

## WSU: Civil engineering becomes four-year program in Richland

Undergraduate civil engineering students at Washington State University Tri-Cities will be able to complete their degrees at the Richland campus beginning next year rather than having to move to Pullman for a final year of coursework. [See the full article.](#)



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