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The Sidney Robin Memorial Newsletter of the Philadelphia Section ASCE

Our 108th Year

February 2021

# SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2020-21

Vol. 93-6

Planning and scheduling topics and speakers for our Section Meeting program for the upcoming season continues. It appears that virtual meetings will continue to be offered for the remainder of the season given the restrictions still in place, but we will provide updates on this as they occur. As you may have seen and experienced, the virtual format has worked well and these have been wellreceived. We thank those of you who have participated in them for your flexibility on this, as it has allowed us to have a meaningful program despite the restrictions. We intend to move forward with our usual full complement of both Section meetings and Technical Groups.

We do know that the main drawback of virtual meetings is the inability to interact and network as we would all do at in-person meetings. On the "plus" side, it has allowed many of us to more easily schedule to attend meetings as no travel is needed and many of us have done this sitting at our desks or our dining room tables. Also, we are recording the meetings when we are able and the presenters are in agreement, thus one can view them at a later date as well.

The information we have at this point is provided below for your planning purposes. We would suggest that you use this to **mark your cal**endar at this time and hold the dates.

Beyond **March**, we are looking at the usual multi-topic meeting for **April** (date to be determined), as well as the **Spring Social (May 13)**.

## **ASCE VISION**

*Civil Engineers are global leaders building a better quality of life.* 

#### **ASCE MISSION**

Provide essential value to our members and partners, advance Civil Engineering, and serve the public good.





# **FEBRUARY SECTION MEETING**

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

This month's meeting will be a little different – an evening of networking (well, virtual...) and trivia!

Teams will be assembled to compete for prizes through three rounds of trivia, including questions in these areas: Philadelphia ASCE Trivia General ASCE Trivia Civil Engineering Trivia

So, grab a beverage and/or a snack and join us for a fun, friendly competition to determine who will receive the esteemed honor and be crowned ASCE trivia master!

Section President–Elect **Briana Pampuch** will serve as the moderator and master of ceremonies for the event.

#### *ТІМЕ* - 5:00 рм to 6:00 рм

LOCATION - virtual, Zoom Meeting (access info will be emailed to registrants)

REGISTRATION - RSVP by Wednesday, February 10, available at our website (www.asce-philly.org)

THIS IS A FREE EVENT!

For additional information, please contact

Section Director Tania O'Kane (tlokane@hntb.com or 814-442-6565).

We hope to see you there!

# **MARCH SECTION MEETING**

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

# THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021

Virtual/Zoom Meeting (link distributed following registration) SUBJECT: Amtrak Acela Program More information will be provided in the March edition of THE NEWS.

# DUES - IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YET, YOU'RE LATE ...

Retaining membership in ASCE allows you to stay connected to the latest industry trends and keeps you linked to the best professional development programs and engaged with a worldwide network of peers. Your continual involvement builds a solid foundation to keep your career on track and moving toward achieving your professional and personal goals.

Dues for the current year were payable by January 1, but, if for whatever reason, you have not renewed, please avoid an interruption in your benefits and renew now. Choose the renewal option most convenient to you: online at **asce.org/renewal** (the quickest and easiest way), by phone at **800-548-ASCE (-2723)**, or by mail, using the invoice sent to you last fall (if you still have it). Ensure a positive return on your investment in a Civil Engineering career by renewing with ASCE.

# THE NEWS



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

This is my first chance to say "happy 2021" in print and it has been quite the interesting year so far. While we, unfortunately remain locked down and isolated from each other to a great degree, the new year is bringing some promise, with vaccines available and hopefully being distributed on a wider basis to allow all of us to get this protection. While the Christmas/holiday season was most likely very different for many of you than in years past, we still found ways to reach out and contact family and friends through virtual means.

With us being Engineers and Problem-Solvers, we have found a way to embrace what's available technology-wise (Zoom, TEAMS, etc.) and continue our meeting program, both on a full Section level as well as through our Younger Member Forum, Institutes, and Technical Groups. Thus, while we continue to miss the networking and camaraderie (and the good food) we have enjoyed with our in-person meetings in the past, we can at least still get the technical updates and information our members want and need. I thank the many Section officers, Board members and committee volunteers who have helped us keep the meetings going, and I also continue to thank those of you who have been able to partake of the offerings and events and continue to support what we do. In much the same way, our work on improvements and enhancements to our built environment is able to carry on as well, allowing the much-needed investment in infrastructure to continue (and keeping us all busy and well-occupied).

I am proud to report that at this point, about the midway of my term as Section President (where has the time gone?!), we have been quite successful in our ability to offer those meetings, topics and presenters that have proved to be popular and well-received. Our annual joint meeting with ASHE Delaware Valley last month had over 230 in attendance, once again being our largest meeting of the season as it has been for many years. Many of our younger contingent will certainly miss its usual large event, the Winter Social, but other activities are in the works that will attempt to take its place until it can once again test the capacity of McGillin's

February marks the annual celebration of **Engineers Week**, and locally, as we have usually done, we add a couple more days to make our Week 9 days long. I am pleased to note that two of "our own" have been selected for the top honors – **Bill Thomsen**, one of our Past Presidents who continues to be very active in our Section, will be introduced as the **2021 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year**, and **Kevin Brown**, a current Director and past President of our Younger Member Forum, also a very active Section member, is the incoming **2021 Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year**. Please join with me in congratulating each of them on their honors, along with other award and scholarship recipients. **E Week** will kick off with its **Opening Ceremony** on **February 18**, and we hope you will be able to participate.

Best, Jen Reigle, PE President, ASCE Philadelphia Section jreigle@pennoni.com | 215-254-7723

#### SECTION AGENCY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

As you may be aware, our Section offers a **Section Sponsorship Program** to allow firms to help provide our various activities and programs for our membership and the Civil Engineering community in the Philadelphia area. This involves a financial commitment which is reflected in the placement of the participant's logo and business card in *THE NEWS* and on the Section's website. This comes with other benefits and privileges as well. To date, 13 firms have participated in this Program, and we thank them for their support and generosity.

There are government and quasi-government agencies which by regulation or policy cannot participate in the Sponsorship Program, but have offered the same or similar levels of volunteer and in-lieu services for various efforts and programs we have been able to produce. Thus, our Section's Board has approved the **Agency Partnership program** to help to recognize the assistance these agencies have provided. There is no financial consideration or obligation for this partnership, and an Agency Partner is able to be recognized as such if it meets the following criteria:

- An employee of the agency is involved in the Section's governance as an officer or member of the Board of Directors, either in a voting or non-voting position. This would include President, President Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Director and Immediate Past President. Honorary Board Members would be at the discretion of the President.
- An employee of the agency has been recognized as a recipient of a National or Section Award.
- An employee of the agency has been instrumental in a significant Section undertaking or effort that is worthy of special recognition at the discretion of the President.

The Agency Partner has the following benefits for the term of one Section season:

- Its logo will appear in each edition of *THE NEWS*.
- Its logo will be included in the Sponsors section of our website, with a link that will allow direct access to its website for those wanting to review *Continued on page 5*

#### ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION-2020-21 SEASON

**PRESIDENT** Jennifer Reigle, Pennoni

PRESIDENT ELECT Briana Pampuch, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

VICE PRESIDENT Mohamed Elghawy, Traffic Planning

& Design, Inc.

**SECRETARY** Jesse Gormley, Pennoni

ASSISTANT SECRETARY Jeanien Wilson, Philadelphia Dept. of Streets

**TREASURER** Joseph Natale, DVRPC

ASSISTANT TREASURER Caroline "Cricket" Schreppler, Advantage Engineers

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Andrew Bechtel, College of New Jersey

#### DIRECTORS

Kevin Brown, Urban Engineers, 2020-22 Scott Cepietz, Michael Baker International, 2020-22 Michael DeVuono, Arcadis, 2020-21 Gregory Dunn, Michael Baker International, 2019-21

Thomas Kulesher, JMT, 2020-22 Tania O'Kane, HNTB, 2019-21

PAST PRESIDENTS\*

Kazi Hassan, CDM Smith Angelo Waters, Urban Engineers, Inc Cathy Farrell, HNTB

\*In accordance with our Constitution and Bylaws, only the immediate Past President will serve on the Board, and only for a one-year term. We show the most recent three Past Presidents as has become our tradition.

#### Contact Us:

President—Jennifer Reigle, PE Pennoni 1900 Market Street, Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-254-7723; jreigle@pennoni.com

Secretary—Jesse Gormley, PE Pennoni

1900 Market Street, Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-254-7876; jgormley@pennoni.com

#### PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE Editor of THE NEWS

Robert Wright

Section Outreach Coordinator Jeanien Wilson

Staff Writers Assunta Daprano, Lindsay Chateauvert SEND COPY TO: ASCE, c/o Urban Engineers, Inc. 530 Walnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106

> COPY DEADLINE FOR MARCH 2021 ISSUE FEBRUARY 19, 2021

#### **YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS**

Assunta Daprano, Forum Editor Katrina Lawrence, Forum President 2020-21 McCormick Taylor kalawrence@mccormicktaylor.com

#### **HIP HIP HOORAY!**

The YMF wanted to start this section by celebrating the amazing accomplishments of the several Board members. Please join us in congratulating the following individuals:

- Katrina Lawrence, President Passed the AICP Certification!
- Tim Abel, Secretary Passed the PE!
- Kirsten Brown, Professional Development Chair – Passed the PE!
- Joseph Natale, Awards Chair
   Received the Region 2
  Younger Member Award!
- John Doyle, Student Member Transition Chair – Received the 2020 GVFTMA Top TDM Professional under 40!

**Congratulations again!** 

# GAME NIGHT!

#### **JANUARY 14**

YMF celebrated the start of a new year by hosting a virtual game night on Zoom. Our first event of 2021 drew in a crowd of more than 20, including students and young professionals in the greater Philadelphia Area. Attendees were placed into break out rooms to play games such as Codenames, Jackbox Fibbage, and Scattergories. Attendees were able to switch breakout rooms every 30 minutes to enjoy a different game and network with others. Each game began with attendees introducing themselves within the breakout room. After the games were ended, attendees went around the "room" highlighting something positive in their lives from 2020 and sharing their favorite ASCE memory. Special thank you to **Kevin Walsh** and **Ajin Fatima**, for planning this great event! The YMF is looking forward to hosting another game night in the Spring!



#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS ENGINEERS WEEK EVENTS SCHEDULED

The **Engineers' Club of Philadelphia**, through its Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee, will be celebrating **Engineers Week 2021** from **February 18 through February 27** with two events which will highlight the various contributions of Engineers and Engineering students in the Delaware Valley. Please note this information in your calendar and plan to participate.

With the current restrictions on gatherings in place, Engineers Week events will unfortunately be limited to virtual format, but networking opportunities and break-out rooms will be available to facilitate as close to "face to face" interaction as possible.

#### **OPENING CEREMONY**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18** 6:00 PM Networking 6:30 PM (approximate) Formal Program and Awards Price: \$20 Reservation deadline February 16

#### **YOUNG ENGINEERS SOCIAL**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

6:00 pm

There is no fee for participation in the Social Reservation deadline February 19

Those who register will be sent the log-in information for the meeting the day before the event.

Please visit **www.engrclub.org** for additional information and to make your reservations.

As previously reported, our own **Bill Thomsen** has been selected as the **2021 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year** and will be officially cited as such at the Opening Ceremony. Additionally, we are proud to report that **Kevin Brown** has been selected as the **2021 Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year**. He will be officially recognized and "installed" at the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Opening Ceremony/kickoff dinner noted above. Kevin serves as a Transportation Construction Manager in the Construction Services group at Urban Engineers at the firm's headquarters in Center City. He has been with Urban for twelve years, starting as a co-op student and returning as a full-time Engineer following his graduation from Widener University in 2009 with his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He returned to Widener to obtain his Masters degree in Civil/Structural Engineering in

2014. He has been involved in and managed numerous local highway and transportation construction projects and is currently directing the \$40 million I-76 (Schuylkill Expressway) viaduct rehabilitation effort.



Kevin is an active member and supporter of several professional organizations. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia (ECP)

and the Architecture Construction Engineering (ACE) Mentoring Program, Eastern Pennsylvania in addition to our Section. He is also a member of the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE), the Construction Management Association of American (CMAA), and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). He has worked tirelessly on student outreach efforts and increasing the awareness of the engineering professions, particularly to economically-disadvantaged students at all levels. He has additionally worked with our Younger Member Forum (YMF) for many years, and served as the Forum's President, to help newly-minted Engineers adapt to the workplace and interact with peers in social activities and volunteer projects in the community, and is active at the National level of ASCE on its Committee on Younger Members (CYM). He also leads younger member efforts and activities at the Engineers' Club.

In recognition of his various contributions and efforts, Kevin was cited as our Young Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year in 2017. He has additionally made a significant commitment in conjunction with his firm in the establishment of the Kevin Brown Scholarship, a \$5000 award administered in conjunction with the ACE Mentoring Program locally.

Kevin feels fortunate to have a strong support network with very supportive family and friends. He is a lifelong Philadelphia resident. We congratulate him on this honor!

# **N-ASCE\*** HOW DO THEY DESIGN LEGO KITS?

# Have you ever wondered how LEGO kits are made? *Interesting Engineering* offered this information right after Christmas, when, no doubt, children of various ages were busy building something (or leaving stray pieces around to

be "found" by their barefoot parents...) with their newlyacquired sets. LEGO has had a long and illustrious history and has brought joy to children, young and old, for many decades. Their model kits are much-loved the world over and we'd

be very surprised if you didn't have a few at home. But have you ever wondered how LEGO set designs are achieved? What does LEGO actually mean? LEGO is actually an

abbreviation of the two Danish words "leg" and "godt" which loosely translated to English means "play well". According to LEGO, it's their name and their ideal which was officially adopted in 1934. They later noticed that the term also means "I put together" in Latin (legō), which is very fortunate.

Ole Kirk Kristiansen was a master carpenter and joiner who founded a business in the village of Billund, Denmark in 1932. He initially started building stepladders, ironing boards, and stools. When he began having trouble sourcing enough wood to make these products, he decided to change tactics and try and make wooden toys for children instead. He continued to grow the business and in 1946 decided to invest in new technology, plastic injection molding. This was seen as a little crazy at the time.

Critics noted that children would never want plastic toys, instead, they preferred and loved wooden ones. Ignoring the critics, he decided to experiment with making blocks that were initially stackable rather than the inter-lockable ones we love today.

In 1949, LEGO produced around 200 different plastic and wooden toys. These included the Automatic Binding Bricks which were the direct forerunners to modern bricks. These were initially sold in Denmark exclusively. In the early 1950's LEGO officially called these "LEGO Mursten" or LEGO bricks and succeeded in acquiring a trademark for them. They were later patented in 1958. Two years later, a devastating fire damaged their wooden toy warehouse and LEGO stopped building them altogether afterward. Ever since, LEGO has continued to innovate and add new design LEGO kits and blocks all around the world.

LEGO kits begin life, as a big pile of loose bricks, or "elements," as LEGO prefers to refer to them. The designers get to plunder the "vaults," or stores, where all currently available elements are stored and cataloged. These even have handy reference displays at the end of each aisle for ease of reference. Once designers have got a good stock of pieces to work with, they begin to experiment with them to get a rough model of the intended final product. They may get lucky and be able to assemble the model from the existing pieces. If not, they'll need to have some new pieces specially made.

Some sources seem to indicate that this should be the last resort in order to keep the production of the kit costs, and therefore shelf price, as low as possible. New pieces could mean anything from simply changing the color of an existing element to of course a completely new design. Other considerations include trying to keep a balance within an existing theme and look (Star Wars, Pirates, etc) as well as the number of blocks per kit, and age group they are targeting.

New elements are first hand-drawn and then translated into

# **SECTION COMMITTEES**

Our Section runs very well and it is mainly a result of the dedication and service of our many volunteers, both our Officers and Board Members as well as our various Committees. While many of you know the former group well, you may not be all that aware of the latter. Our Committees address many of our regular and ongoing issues and keep our Section vibrant and in the forefront of service to our membership. A list of our Committees and chairs for this season is provided below. We would like to thank all of these folks for their contributions and diligence in helping our Section do what it does.

Additionally, if you have a particular interest in helping the Section as a Committee volunteer, please reach out to us at **info@asce-philly.org** or through our Section Secretary, **Jesse Gormley** (contact information is provided on page 2).

Audit – Mohamed Elghawy Awards - Bob Wright Engineers Week Hall of Fame Recognition - Ruben David Budget and Finance - Joe Natale Civil Engineers in Government – Jeanien Wilson College Scholarship - Scott Cepietz **Communications** – Jesse Gormley E-mail Outreach - Jeanien Wilson Webmaster – Greg Dunn Facebook - Joe Natale, Michael DeVuono Newsletter - Bob Wright Sponsorship - Bob Wright Continuing Education – Mohamed Elghawy Humphrey Fund – John Zarsky Membership - Andrew Bechtel Mural – Angelo Waters Nominating (for Board Positions) - Jen Reigle **Program** – Briana Pampuch Venue Coordination - Troy Illig Check-in/Name Tags – Nha Truong Society Relations - Cathy Farrell Region 2 Director – Jack Raudenbush Region 2 Governors - Greg Kuklinski, Carol Martsolf, Joe Platt, Pat Sullivan Region 2 Younger Member Representative - Joe Natale PA Council - Cathy Farrell, Bob Wright Legislative Affairs - Spencer Finch Spring Social – Troy Illig Subsidiary Groups - Mohamed Elghawy Construction Management - Bob Wright Delaware Valley GeoInstitute - Russ Preuss Environmental and Water Resources - Eric Lindhult Structural Engineering Institute – James Deeney **Transportation and Development Institute** - Bill Thomsen Younger Member Forum - Katrina Lawrence

3D on CAD programs. Here the designers play around with texture, color, and finish. Once LEGO designers are happy, the designs are sent to print in their prototypes lab. In recent years, they have begun implementing a 3D printer. Once printed, they are washed and dried, and then they need to be painted and decorated if needed. Decals, if needed, are also designed and printed as stickers ready for applying to the new element. The designers experiment with colors and details until they get the closest fit to what they are trying to emulate.

When the results are acceptable to the designers, new elements and decals are created, and the kit is ready for test production. Elements are printed with decorations which are stamped on, rather than using stickers (though not always) in a fully automated manufacturing process at LEGO's production plants.

As with all toys, new design LEGO kits need to pass the highest quality assurance. This process includes using child testers to give their views on how easy to follow the instructions are, and if the final model is fit for purpose. Minor tweaks and refinements are made constantly until the kit is finally ready for mass production, packaging, and marketing. Thanks to *Interesting Engineering* for this information.

\*N-ASCE – Not always something concerning Engineering...

#### **SEPTA Rebuilding the System – Elwyn to Wawa Service Restoration** By Robert Wright, Editor

For the first meeting of the new year, we were still virtual, and despite the more nationally-significant event happening in Washington at the same time (the presidential inauguration), our Section joined with the Delaware Valley Section of the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE) to once again conduct a combined meeting, something that has been happening for the past 30 years. We've learned over the years to stick with success, and this meeting has often been one of the most popular for each of our Sections, thus there is no need to change the "formula." With roughly 230 attendees, it certainly was a popular event - maybe not as popular or notable as what was happening in Washington, but...

A president who was not involved with any inauguration proceedings, Delaware Valley Section President Drew Sirianni, opened the meeting and after a few announcements turned the controls over to Brian Neckermann, the Project Manager for Walsh Construction, the contractor for the project. Mr. Neckermann presented a brief background of the nearly \$180 million project, which is an extension of SEPTA's Media-Elwyn Regional Rail line beyond the current terminus at Elwyn to a new station in Middletown adjacent to Baltimore Pike. This effort involves three separate contracts, one of which focused on track removal, which was completed in 2010 and set the stage for the current improvements, and two others that are currently underway.

The rail line at one time extended to West Chester and SEPTA trains went there until 1986, when the service was truncated at Media, and later extended to Elwyn. Several of the bridges date back over 200 years, and Mr. Neckermann explained that the structures over roadways at Baltimore Pike and Lungren Road would need to be replaced as they had narrow underclearance profiles. Several culverts were also older structures, but one stone arch culvert was able to be restored and saved with a new concrete lining and endwall. Slope stabilization was also a major consideration, and several innovative measures, including geosynthetic reinforced slopes and stone riprap, were able to be used to minimize the impact and the degree of slope to remain within the existing right-of-way.

Mr. Neckermann noted that Contract R3-2 included the bridge and civil/infrastructure work. This will cover 3.5 miles of new track, catenary and support structures, four bridges, five culverts, and a new crew facility and five-track train yard at Lenni Road. This was partly a design-build effort, with AECOM handling the design of bridges, retaining walls, track, and electrical systems as a traditional design package, and Jacobs performing the designbuild work which included the culverts, slope stabilization, and alternates for minor walls. Walsh broke the contract into three work areas, with one including the widening of Baltimore Pike and placement of the new bridge across it, which required weekend traffic closures to set beams. The retaining walls were designed as cast-in-place concrete, but at the station, this was revised to be the T-wall precast type to address concerns about adjacent drilling for H piles and the vibration associated with that. The drilling facilitated the placement of sleeves for the controlled modulus column (CMC) piles needed for the station platform support.

The station is partially on structure across the adjacent Chester Creek and three separate bridges support it, one for each track and one for the island platform between them. Mr. Neckermann showed that a ramp from the pedestrian underpass below the tracks to the platform was part of the platform bridge. The station building and canopies, the parking garage, a loop circulation roadway for drop-offs and buses, and a new intersection and traffic signal at Baltimore Pike are part of Contract R3-3, also held by Walsh. This is a multi-prime effort with separate contracts for electrical and mechanical construction associated with the station and parking structure. The garage has a considerable amount of precast concrete panels and will be able to accommodate 600 cars. This portion of the work is scheduled to be completed in early 2022, which will allow service to be extended to the new Middletown Station. The station name was Wawa years ago, to reflect the nearby town of the same name, not the convenience store chain that has blossomed in the last few years (the headquarters of which are still located nearby the station), but the new incarnation of the station will reference Middletown Township.

Several questions were submitted through the Q & A feature of the presentation and Mr. Neckermann provided insightful responses.

President Sirianni closed the informative session and thanked Mr. Neckermann for his good presentation.

#### PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Continued from Page 2

- its program, staff, responsibilities, budget, experience, qualifications, employment opportunities, and current projects, among other items.
- At each Section meeting, its logo will be included in the recognition of sponsors prominently displayed in the meeting room. This may consist of a poster and/or a Powerpoint presentation with sponsors' logos that will run continuously during the pre-meeting activities.
- It will be eligible for the Meeting Sponsorship opportunity available to all Section sponsors. This would allow it to bring agency representatives, literature, displays, handouts, and "giveaways" at a specific meeting at which the agency will be featured.
- Its profile information can be featured in an article in one edition of *THE NEWS*.
- Its logo will be included in the event program for our annual Spring Social.

## LOOKING TO REFER A NEW MEMBER? OR SOMEONE WHO'S NOT AN ENGINEER?

ASCE's Member Get A Member referral program is a good way to refer prospective new ASCE members to our society. For each new member you refer, you can receive a **\$50 Amazon gift card** when they join. You can refer up to five colleagues at a time. More details are available at asce.org.

Also, please keep in mind that ASCE isn't just for Civil Engineers. While you may be surprised to learn this, ASCE allows Non-Engineers to be members as well, with a specific grade of membership - the Affiliate Member grade - available for this purpose. While those with Civil Engineering degrees and backgrounds can usually join ASCE right out of school as Associate Members (and are eligible for reduced levels of dues if they have been Student Members), the Affiliate Member grade is available to anyone having "an interest in the advancement of the purposes and objectives of the Society", as stated in the definition provided in the ASCE Register, who may not have been eligible for Student Membership and/or do not meet the criteria for Associate Membership.

Thus, the Affiliate Member grade is ideal for those who work in related fields who may have an interest in Civil Engineering but do not have a Civil Engineering degree. Affiliate Members enjoy the same benefits and perks of ASCE membership as do other member grades above Student. Additionally, you may want to let some of your colleagues and friends know about this so they can consider ASCE membership and you can get some cash for the referral.

At the other end of the "spectrum," for those of you more senior and experienced members, the Fellow grade of membership is worth consideration. This is the highest level of membership one can attain on one's own and is a laudable and esteemed achievement. The specific requirements for application for this grade of membership are listed on **asce.org**.

We will begin the formal recognition, with logos, etc., of our Agency Partners next season, but will include them by name for the remainder of this season to cite their support and assistance. We are proud to cite the initial "crop" of Agency Partners:

Amtrak

City of Philadelphia Department of Streets

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 6-0

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

## **2021 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The Section offers two distinct scholarships annually:

- ASCE Philadelphia Section Student Scholarship
- ASCE Philadelphia Section Member Scholarship
- We additionally support a scholarship awarded during Delaware Valley Engineers Week.

All scholarship winners will be recognized as the Section's guests at the March 2021 dinner meeting.

# ASCE PHILADELPHIA SECTION STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

A minimum of one \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded by the Section to a Civil Engineering student who meets the following requirements:

- The applicant must be matriculating in a fulltime Civil Engineering or Architectural Engineering program at one of the Philadelphia Sections five Student Chapters: Drexel University, Swarthmore College, Temple University, Villanova University, or Widener University.
- The applicant must be an active ASCE Student Member.

Application Requirements:

- Cover letter containing:
- The applicant's name
- The applicant's ASCE ID Number
- The applicant's institution
- Degree Level
- Address/telephone number
- Additional information for consideration (such as need, class rank, or GPA)
- Resume
- Letter of Recommendation from faculty advisor
- Essay (limited to 1,000 words) on the following topic: *How do you foresee the Civil Engineering work environment changing in the post COVID19 era? What concepts of the current work environment would you like to continue and what would you consider changing?*

Submittal Deadline: Applications (including recommendations) must be submitted by February 19, 2021 to Scott Cepietz (scott.cepietz@mbakerintl.com).

#### ASCE PHILA. SECTION MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP

A minimum of one \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded by the Section to a Civil Engineering student who is the child of an active Philadelphia Section member. The requirements are the same as that of the Student Scholarship except:

All children of active Philadelphia Section members matriculated in any full-time Civil Engineering or Architectural Engineering program at an accredited college or university are eligible.

Application requirements and submittal deadline are the same as for the Student Scholarship. The applicant's cover letter should include parents name and ASCE ID number.

We encourage all eligible students to apply. Good luck!



Michael Baker

THE NEWS

