The 2018 Annual Awards Dinner was held on Friday, September 21 at the Moto Museum. Special thanks to Britt Marron, the Annual Dinner Chair for a wonderful evening at an incredible venue!

**ASCE ST. LOUIS SECTION SCHOLARSHIPS**

The ASCE St. Louis Section Annual Scholarships are awarded in recognition of membership in an ASCE Student Chapter, enrollment as a civil engineering student, excellence in academic performance, and active participation in issues reflecting the role of engineers in the advancement of our society. Each of the Section’s colleges is solicited for nominations. The scholarship awards were presented by Past President Matt Harper.

- **Dylan McCloskey**
  - St. Louis University

- **Ryan Gueldener**
  - Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville

- **Daniel Davis**
  - University of Missouri – Columbia

- **Haley Hostetter**
  - Southern Illinois University – Carbondale

- **Taylor Husman**
  - Missouri University of Science and Technology

**2017 MIKE ALIZADEH / GEOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Mike Alizadeh scholarship is awarded due to a generous endowment by the Alizadeh family, in recognition of pursuing a Master’s Degree in Civil or Geological Engineering with a geotechnical or environmental emphasis at a Midwestern university. The scholarships awards were presented by President Lyle Simonton who is also the Alizadeh Scholarship Chairman.

- **1st Place** – Claire Stewart
  - University of Arkansas

- **2nd Place** – Victoria Watson
  - Missouri University of Science & Technology

- **3rd Place** – Martin Wallace
  - University of Missouri – Columbia
The Professional Recognition Award recognizes the importance of professional attainment in the advancement of the science and profession of engineering and is presented to a Member of the St. Louis Section of ASCE who has made substantial contributions to the engineering profession and the St. Louis Section. This year’s Professional Recognition Award goes to Dr. Robert (Bob) Holmes.

Dr. Holmes has been a dedicated public servant with the United States Geological Society (USGS) for over 30 years and has taught as an adjunct professor of Civil Engineering at the Missouri University of Science and Technology for the last 10 years.

During his 30 years at the USGS, Dr. Holmes worked to help foster technical capacity and professionalism in the USGS workforce. One key example is his serving for over 25 years as the course coordinator and instructor for a Basic Hydraulics Principles short course, where he has trained well over 500 USGS engineers, scientists, and technicians in the study of open-channel hydraulics.

Dr. Holmes served as Director of the USGS Illinois Water Science Center from 1999 to 2008 with responsibility and oversight of USGS science and data activities throughout Illinois from 3 offices. In 2008, Dr. Holmes became the USGS National Flood Hazards Coordinator, a position that includes serving as a senior advisor to the USGS Director and Associate Directors on flood science issues, coordinating USGS response on major flood events such as Hurricanes Ike, Harvey, Marie and now Florence, and representing USGS externally on flood hazard issues with leaders in other international, federal, state, and local agencies, as well as to national media. In 2017, Dr. Holmes became Chief of the USGS Branch of Hydrodynamics while continuing his duties as the National Flood Hazard Coordinator. As the Chief of the Branch of Hydrodynamics, he oversees USGS research and scientific investigations in the areas of open-channel hydraulics, erosion, sedimentation, and geomorphology.

Dr. Holmes is an established expert in the fields of sediment transport, river mechanics, hydraulics and modeling, and providing expertise in complex streamflow ratings. He not only shares his expertise with other professionals and students, his ability to convey technical information has led to his being featured on the Discovery Channel, The Weather Channel, CNN, NBC, ABC, CBS, among others.

With ASCE, Dr. Holmes served as Past-President of the Mid-Missouri Section, is the current chair of the St. Louis Section of EWRI, and works on several technical committees. He developed and led the Rolla Water Resources Monthly Luncheon Series and ASCE EWRI St. Louis Section Monthly Webinar series. He is also active as a professional liaison to the Missouri S&T ASCE student chapter. In 2015, Dr. Holmes received the ASCE Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award.
The Young Engineer Award recognizes professional contributions of younger members to the Society and to the St. Louis Section and is presented annually to a Member of the St. Louis Section of ASCE who is judged to have attained significant professional achievement, and who is less than 35 years of age. This year’s Professional Recognition Award goes to Dr. Siavash Zamiran.

Dr. Zamiran earned a Bachelor’s of Science in Civil Engineering in 2009 from Azad University in Sanandaj, Kurdistan, followed by a Master’s of Science in Civil-Geotechnical in 2012. He then went on to earn his PhD in Engineering Science – Civil/Geotechnical Engineering from SIU-Carbondale in 2017.

Since 2017, Dr. Zamiran has worked with Marino Engineering Associates, where he performs stability analyses of reinforced slopes and retaining walls, subsidence investigations, and computational structural analysis of high-pressure natural gas and petroleum pipelines affected by ground subsidence. He is also teaching as an adjunct professor at SIU-Edwardsville.

Academically, Dr. Zamiran has worked as a Research Assistant and collaborative researcher at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale and Edwardsville and Azad University, with research topics including Seismic investigation of cantilever retaining walls, investigation of deep foundations in swelling weathered rock, subsidence investigation of Illinois coal mines, investigation of the behavior of soil nail walls in seismic and static conditions and liquefaction studying of monopile foundation in wind turbines.

Dr. Zamiran has been active with ASCE including: Key Contacts; committee member with Geo-Institute Rock Mechanics Committee, Deep Foundations Committee, and Geophysical Committee; head of judges at ASCE Mid-Continent Student Conference, Geo Wall Competition, and founder and former president of SIUE Geo-Institute Graduate Student Organization where he was the instructor of 4 free public workshops in geotechnical engineering.

Other highlights include:
- Author and co/author of more than 30 conference and journal articles, one book, and reviewer of more than five journals.
- Notable awards received: International Association of Foundation Drilling Award, GeoConfluence Research Scholarship, and Itasca Education Partnership Award.
- Upon his graduation with a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, he was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Student award.
2018 Service to People Award
Thomas Sieckhaus, LEED AP

To bring public recognition to individuals who have performed outstanding service to people in their communities and to further public understanding and recognition of the identification “Civil Engineering - A People-Serving Profession”, the St. Louis Section grants the Service to People Award to an individual who is judged to have performed significant service to the community in connection with planning, design or construction of the people serving works of the civil engineering profession. This year’s Service to People Award goes to Mr. Tom Sieckhaus.

Tom has always been an engaged member of our profession, seeking the advancement of the students at Missouri S&T and being an active member of the Clayco leadership team. Interns and new engineers at Clayco express how the company works to develop their careers and also looks to be active in the profession and the community. Tom has been a leader in setting that corporate culture and does much of the heavy lifting that makes it actually happen.

Following the events in Ferguson MO in 2014, Tom wished to do more to improve the situation and our community. In response, Tom envisioned and initiated the Construction Career Development Initiative, CCDI. Tom has since poured his time, energy and support into building CCDI into a vehicle that will change lives and communities for generations to come. Through CCDI activities, Tom looks to engage students from underserved schools in professional engagement related to the construction industry. According to the CCDI Mission Statement:

*We connect youth in underserved communities with career opportunities in construction — from professional trades to college degree programs. Our communities are our partners. That’s why we devote our time, our energy, and our resources to efforts that support the areas where we operate and the people who live there. We’re working to build the future. We’re in it for the long haul.*

Perhaps the greatest benefit to our civil engineering profession in St. Louis is that he’s actively engaged the professional community and has 74 sponsors and collaborators in the CCDI programs. The programs engage the youth of the underserved high schools to gain mentoring and then engage in the construction profession. Tom oversees many of the mentoring and development activities personally, giving of his time, talent and philanthropy. Many students enter as trade apprentices with partner companies and those with the interest and academic drive necessary are entering into university education toward the profession of engineering or construction management. See some of the students’ stories at: [https://ccdi.org/spotlight/](https://ccdi.org/spotlight/)

Tom was unable to attend the dinner, but will be honored and presented with his award at the November 13th ASCE Luncheon at the Engineering Center of St. Louis, so be sure to attend!
PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD

S. Sprigg Street Bridge Over Active Sinkholes
Civil Engineering achievement within the St. Louis Section is recognized annually by ASCE with the selection of a “St. Louis Section Project of the Year Award”. The Award is given for achievement—not to an individual—so that the many individuals who have worked on the project are recognized as having contributed. Basis for the Award is “an engineering project that demonstrates the greatest engineering skills, and represents the greatest contribution to civil engineering progress and mankind”.

This year’s Project of the Year Award goes to the “S. Sprigg Street Bridge Over Active Sinkholes” project.

Horner & Shifrin completed the design and construction management of a replacement bridge on Sprigg St. over Cape La Croix Creek for the City of Cape Girardeau. The original bridge was constructed in the 1930s, with a cave developing under the bridge by 1991. In 1993, subsurface investigations began for a new replacement bridge, which was constructed in 1995. By 2007, sinkholes began forming, as many as 20 within 1,100 feet of the bridge. In 2008, the US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, prepared a Task Force Report, which evaluated the sinkholes that affect the road, bridge, rail line, buildings, quarry, cement plant, dairy farm, and utilities. By June of 2013, four new sinkholes developed at the bridge, destroying the north approach roadway and threatening the structural integrity of the north abutment by exposing piles, requiring closure of the bridge.

Sprigg St. is an important route connecting downtown Cape Girardeau with industrial and farming areas to the south, so the City hired Horner & Shifrin to design a solution to re-open the route. Horner & Shifrin teamed with Stantec and TSi Geotechnical, Inc. for geotechnical investigations and Civil Design, Inc. for survey. Construction management was provided by Robertson Contractors, Inc. out of Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

INSTALLATION OF ASCE ST. LOUIS SECTION 2018-2019 OFFICERS

Officers sworn in for the 2018-2019 St. Louis Section Board by Region 7 Director Marsia Geldert-Murphey. Pictured left to right are: Chad Schrand (President), Brent Vaughn (President Elect), John Weiland (Secretary), Lyle Simonton (Past President), Melissa Marks (Director of Professional Development), Christopher Toenjes (Director of Tech. Development). Not pictured: Jordan Pettibone (Vice President), Alison

Passing of the gavel from Lyle Simonton to Chad Schrand