



Civil Engineer THE NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2005



Kick-off National Engineers Week — Attend the Annual Engineering Banquet at Saint Martin's College

More About Engineering

Speaker: Arvid Grant, P.E., C.E.,
S.E., L.S., Fellow ASCE member and
ACI member

Mr. Grant is a marvelous individual and we look forward to his speech and presentation of photos of bridges he has designed.

1961-1996; Mr. Grant was founder and principal of Arvid Grant Associates, Consulting Engineers. He is now retired. Mr. Grant has earned the following awards:

1979: Washington Engineer of the Year, CECW; 1980: Washington Engineer of the Year, NSPE; 1970: ASCE, National Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement, Columbia River Bridge; 1985: Design Excellence Award, President of the United States, Ohio River Bridge, W. Virginia; 1986: US Department of Transportation, First Prize Award, Major Structures, Ohio River Bridge; 1987: American Concrete Institute, Alfred E. Linday Award "For greatly advancing the art of bridge design through insight into the interplay of function, technology and esthetics".

During the AGA professional practice the firm developed and introduced into engineering practice in the US and elsewhere innovations. Some of them are:

- A) Sliding Teflon bridge bearings, Cascade Orchards Bridge, Wenatchee River, 1965.
- B) Development and popularization of field use of very high strength concretes (now tip) since 1963, used in all AGA bridges.
- C) Large, concrete cable stayed bridges with long spans, first anywhere.
- D) Segmentally assembled from large pre-cast concrete elements continuous bridge girders; Pasto, 300+ elements for 1,800 ft. long girder, Ohio River, 260+ elements for a 1,500 ft long, 5 ft. deep girder.

Annual
Engineering
Banquet
FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 18th

St. Martins
Worthington Center

6:00pm Wine Social
6:45pm Dinner

Baked Cod or Baron of Beef

*Cost:

\$25 per person (pre-paid)

\$35 at the door

\$40 per couple (pre-paid)

\$45 at the door

Credit cards accepted

*Students half price

RSVP by
Monday, Feb. 14th

Jeannette 360.438.4320
or e-mail her at:

jbanter@stmartin.edu

ASCE Responds: Indian Ocean Tsunami

On behalf of its 137,000 members worldwide, the American Society of Civil Engineers extends its condolences to the families and countrymen of the victims of the December 26 earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean. We join with the global community in sorrow over the magnitude of the loss and suffering, and pledge our support to help restore the well-being of the affected regions. See more info on the ASCE national website.

There are many opportunities for ASCE and its members to assist. The Society has been in regular consultation with governmental agencies and nongovernmental organizations both in the United States and abroad to coordinate its response. Currently, the focus is on humanitarian aid and the greatest need is for financial contributions. ASCE has a long-standing partnership with the American Red Cross. You may make contributions to the tsunami victims directly through the Red Cross at <http://www.redcross.org/>

This would perhaps be a quieter time of the year but for the weather. Everyone wants to move dirt while the rain holds off with or without the sunshine. The holidays are over and the winter has made a few fleeting overtures but not enough to stay spring fever. It doesn't feel like winter when it is 54 degrees outside, and you really can do some earthwork without creating an awful mess. One thing is certain though that when we think the worst is over winter holds a last stinging blast for us to endure. Right now though everyone is in a hurry and I ask myself how can it be procrastination if all I do is crisis oriented.

We had a very nice walk through the new Tacoma Convention Center. **Attendance was somewhat disappointing.** On the bright side, with a group of 12 it is very intimate and each person's questions get addressed. We really enjoyed the tour and Charles Solverson did a great job as our host. Thank you Charles.



This month's meeting is at St. Martins on Friday, February 18, and it would be nice to have a good turnout. This is the Engineers Week celebration hosted by St. Martins Engineering School. Local organizations for engineers will be represented including ASCE. This is a very enjoyable event with good food, good speakers, and a good opportunity for engineers to get together socially.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend if you can.

We will be in Arizona for the Spring Pacific Northwest Council this month. This should be an interesting meeting and no doubt ASCE's redistricting will get a lot of press.

With the vote to reorganize the governance structure of ASCE comes the opportunity to have more member participation with the creation of regional governors. This is an excellent time for the councils to interject what they hope to see in the new structure. On the lighter side, I understand that Arizona is lovely in February, so I am looking forward to that.

O.K. The gist of this was we are all busier than the devil, our monthly section meeting attendance for January was off, it would be great to have good attendance for the remaining meetings this spring, and ASCE National has begun the governance restructuring.

Until next time
Best regards,

Kathy Hargrave

Tacoma/Olympia Section President 2004-'05

"...we are all busier than the devil, our monthly section meeting attendance for January was off, it would be great to have good attendance for the remaining meetings this spring."



ATTENTION WASHINGTON ASCE MEMBERS

QBS IN WASHINGTON IS THREATENED BY NEW LEGISLATION

Contact your state legislators today to oppose changes that undermine Washington's Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) law! Legislation introduced in the Washington House of Representatives and the Washington Senate would seriously undermine the integrity of Washington's QBS procurement system.

House Bill 1435 would allow a water-sewer district to use price as a factor when contracting out engineering services in the district. The bill was introduced in the Washington House of Representatives on January 24th and is currently in the Committee on Local Government.

The bills include the following language:

When selecting a professional engineer or professional engineering firm to perform services on behalf of the district, the district may, in

lieu of pursuing selection under chapter 39.80 RCW, elect to require that the person or firm submit, with its statement of qualifications or project proposal, a declaration of the professional fees and fee rates to be charged in performing the services. In making its selection, the district may choose among the persons or firms qualified to perform the services on the basis of the lowest proposed fees and/or fee rates for the work.

The bills also amend Washington's QBS statute by inserting the following language into the statute:

A new section is added to chapter 39.80 RCW to read as follows: *RCW 39.80.040 and 39.80.050 need not be complied with by a water-sewer district selecting a professional engineer or professional engineering firm to perform services on behalf of the district under RCW 57.08.050(6).*

There are two major problems with these bills. First, these bills would

undermine the state's QBS law, which requires the state to examine a bidder's qualifications before discussing price for a project. Second, these bills would create unnecessary and time-consuming hurdles to contracting out for design services.

ASCE believes that the selection of professional engineers as prime consultants and subconsultants should result from competition based on the qualifications best suited to complete the work successfully.

Qualifications including the training, registration, experience, skills and availability of the proposed project personnel are paramount in engaging engineering services. Cost of engineering services, while important and meriting careful negotiations and performance accountability, is related to work to be performed which often is not clearly defined at the time the engineer is selected. Therefore, cost should be secondary to professional qualifications. (ASCE Policy Statement 304)

Send a letter to your State Representatives and Senator from ASCE's Online Advocacy Site!

Login to ASCE's Internet Advocacy Website at <http://www.asce.org/advocacy.html> to send a letter to your state representatives and senator. Use your six-digit ASCE member number for the "Name" and your last name for the "Password". Click the "State Advocacy" button at the top of the page.

The website will provide you with a sample message and talking points to help you craft your own personal message to your lawmaker.

Please be sure to include your full postal address and contact information in your message so that the representative's or senator's office can identify you as a constituent and will know where to send a response. Please remember to send a copy of your message to ASCE's government relations office at govwash@asce.org. Alternatively, you may choose the fax option to send your message.

Action Requested:

* Call, fax, or write to your Representative and Senator and urge them to oppose H.B. 1435. Let them know that you are concerned about putting unnecessary barriers in place to contracting out for engineering services.

Talking points on H.B. 1435 are included below.

* Let ASCE know of your action. Knowing which legislators are hearing from their constituents can help us a great deal in working with them in the future. Send copies of your correspondence to Lauren Bailey, ASCE's Manager of State Government Relations, at lbailey@asce.org.

Talking Points on H.B. 1435:

* This legislation would override the state's successful qualifications-based selection (QBS) law of hiring design professionals based on their qualifications to perform a particular job.

* This legislation would allow price competition for engineering services.

* This legislation would make outsourcing state design work much more difficult by requiring a statement of fees and fee rates prior to the issuance of any new contract solicitations for engineering work in a water-sewer district.

When writing to your legislator:

1. Identify yourself as an engineer

and a constituent.

2. Explain that you oppose H.B. 1435.

3. Ask your legislator to let you know his/her position on the bill.

When calling your legislators:

1. Identify yourself as an engineer and a constituent.

2. Briefly explain that you oppose H.B. 1435.

3. Ask if the legislator has a position on the bill.

a. If the legislator already opposes the bill, thank him/her for supporting engineers.

b. If the legislator is undecided, ask him/her to consider opposing the bill.

c. If the legislator favors the bill, politely ask him/her to reconsider his/her support and explain that this is an important issue for you.

For more information, please contact Lauren Bailey, ASCE's Manager of State Government Relations, at (202) 204-2500, or via e-mail at lbailey@asce.org

This website will help locate your district legislator: <http://www1.leg.wa.gov/legislature>

9th Annual Tradeshow Presented by SEAW – SW Chapter

February 16, 2005

3:00pm to 8:30pm

Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center

Pick up the latest product literature, expand your knowledge of products, attend vendor seminars on state-of-the-art construction and engineering practices.

The Tradeshow is FREE for all attendees registered BEFORE February 4th (\$10 after February 4th). Proceeds from this event benefit scholarships and an equipment grant for Saint Martins College in Lacey.

To Register: e-mail: seawswchapter@comcast.net or leave a message at 253.565.0769.

For an updated list of all registered vendors or additional tradeshow information, visit the SEAW Tradeshow web site at:

http://home.comcast.net/-seaw_tradeshow

SEAW Tradeshow Schedule (times subject to change)

Vendor Display Area
Doors Open 3:00pm

Vendor Seminars
(in break-out rooms)
3:30 - 7:30pm

Dinner (buffet)
5:30 - 7:30pm

Raffle
7:40pm

Tradeshow Ends
8:30pm

Section Calendar

2005

February 18—Joint meeting with St. Martins at the Worthington Center.

March—Joint meeting with SAME at the McChord Golf Course. Date to be announced.

April—Honors and Awards. Week of April 11, 2005 - date to be confirmed.

May 10th last section meeting before Summer. Date and place to be announced.

September —Joint meeting with SEAW. Date, location and program to be announced.

*DATE/TIMES/LOCATIONS ARE TO BE VERIFIED

Section Meetings are open and held once a month, September through May. Meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of the month. Locations alternate between Tacoma and Lacey, and times vary between lunch and dinner meetings.

Local Board Meetings are open and generally held the first Monday of the month at 5:30pm. Locations vary. Please check the WEB site, this calendar, or contact the president for confirmation.

<http://sections.asce.org/tacoly/tacoly.htm>

TRANSPEED Courses

The TRANSPEED Schedule Below is a list of the upcoming courses.

Please view our website at <http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/Transpeed/index.html> for specific course descriptions and dates. Click on the specific course link to view the course outline.

I look forward to seeing you at a TRANSPEED course soon. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me anytime.

Christy Pack

TRANSPEED Program Manager
UW Engineering Professional Programs
10303 Meridian Ave N #301
Seattle, WA 98133
1-866-791-1275 toll free
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Roadway Design

- * Access Management
- * Design and Application of Roadway Safety Features
- * Culvert Repair and Rehabilitation
- * Roadway Culvert Hydraulic Design
- * Pavement Rehabilitation Strategies
- * Pavement Design
- * Roundabout Design Concepts and Guidelines
- * Site Access and Circulation Design
- * Basic Roadway Geometric Design
- * Techniques of Pavement Rehabilitation
- * Roadway Value Engineering

See the website at

<http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/Transpeed/index.html> for more.

2004 Winter/Spring Professional Development Short Courses

For a complete description of the course and registration information visit our website <http://www.engr.washington.edu> or call us at: Engineering Professional Programs, University of Washington, phone: 206.543.5539 (fax) 206-543-2352 or (toll free) 1.866.791.1275

Stephanie Strom, Program Mgr:
ssstrom@u.washington.edu
(direct) 206-685-9682
Stacy Williamson, Prog. Coord.
stacyw@u.washington.edu
(direct) 206-543-5743

Managing Environmental Impact for Design and Construction
Seattle, February 16-17, 2005

Rehabilitation of Pavements
Lacey, February 23-25, 2005

Construction Inspection of Public Works Projects
Seattle, February 28-March 1, 2005

Administering Consultant Contracts
Seattle, March 1, 2005

Public Works Construction Project Management
Seattle, March 3-4, 2005

Basic Highway Capacity For Engineers and Planners
Seattle, March 7-9, 2005

Fundamentals of Traffic Engineering
Seattle, March 14-16, 2005



Tacoma/Olympia Section Board **2004 - 2005**

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kathyhargrave@sitts-hill-engineers.com

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We're on the web!

<http://sections.asce.org/tacoly/tacoly.htm>