



A MESSAGE FROM OUR *president*



I am thankful to the ASCE Virginia Section for selecting me as President. I hope to serve our members with honor and respect for the Civil Engineering profession. Our motto for 2019 is, **"Engineering a Sustainable**

Virginia." In 2019 ASCE has numerous continuing education opportunities, networking events, government relations, mentoring, and many other collaboration committees to strengthen our careers.

I am in pictured (right) with the ASCE Past, Present, and Future Presidents. I met the ASCE Past President, Kristine Swallow, PE, ENV SP, F.ASCE in Washington, D.C. at the 2017 ASCE Legislative Fly-In. I have served as the ASCE Virginia Section Advocacy Captain for three years. I met our President and President-Elect Robin Kemper, PE, LEED AP, F.ASCE, F.SEI and Kancheepuram N. Gunalan, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE, F.ASCE at the 2017 Region IV Spring Conference in Knoxville, TN. At the Region IV Spring Conference I listened to the Region IV Daniel V. Terrell Paper Competition presentations and attended Government Relations training. Attending and participating at various ASCE events has **allowed me to meet with ASCE members** from around the country and our Virginia Section.



Engineering a sustainable Virginia is important to me because I desire for future generations to enjoy **Virginia's natural beauty and unique infrastructure.** Civil Engineers are currently designing a Coastal Virginia that is resilient against sea level rise and land subsidence. Waterfront engineers are planning to deepen our waterways so we can continue to import and export commerce on ultra large container vessels. Transportation engineers are maintaining and building a transportation network that meets our peak travel demands via highways, airports, light rail, bus, pedestrian, bicycles, and railroad. Our Universities will continue to research, develop, and train Civil Engineers to sustain our infrastructure.

I am excited to be a part of an organization that supports these endeavors and promotes the important **career of civil engineering.**

-Daren Williams, P.E.

MLRC
Conference 2

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO 3

OTHER NEWS 6



*Bringing
the civil engineering
community together.*

MLRC *Conference*



VA Section Goes to Orlando

Participation in the Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders strengthens and expands the programs and activities of Sections and Branches through the **interchange of ideas**, information and experiences, while it exposes incoming officers to the tools needed to be **effective leaders**. This year, the Multi-Regional Leadership Conference (MLRC) was held in Orlando, FL. Multiple professional Section and Branch leaders as well student chapter leaders attended the

conference to bring back **tools, ideas, and energy** to their local chapters.

The team learned about ASCE initiatives like Dream Big distributions, state Report Card committees, as well as engineering ethics, leadership skills, logistics of running a successful chapter, and membership benefits.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



Virginia Engineer's Conference, Newport News

The VA Section of ASCE was an associate sponsor for the VA Engineers Conference in early March held in Newport News. This annual statewide conference is an educational event for engineers to learn about **professional, technical, and business topics** including civil, innovative technology, and transportation.



ASCE OPAL Awards, Crystal City

ASCE hosted the Outstanding Projects and Leaders (OPAL) Awards Gala on March 14 to celebrate 20 years of **celebrating civil engineering's best achievements**. The OPAL leadership awards honor a civil engineer's career achievements in the five categories of construction, design, education, government, and management.



ASCE Legislative Fly-In, Washington D.C.

Every spring, ASCE holds its Legislative Fly-In Program in Washington, DC. The Fly-In is an intensive two-day program that provides participants with an inside look at the public policy process. At the 2018 event, 210 ASCE members visited over 270 Congressional offices, advocating for aviation, water, and water resources infrastructure as well as urging Members of Congress to draft a comprehensive infrastructure bill. This year's event, held March 12-14, focused on **ASCE's federal and state priority issues including licensing, higher education, STEM education, sustainability, natural hazards impact mitigation, transportation infrastructure funding, and more**.



Civil Engineering Soiree, Richmond

The Civil Soiree was held on April 18, 2019 at the Jefferson in Richmond. This is the Virginia Section's Annual Meeting, where members join their **engineering colleagues from across the Commonwealth** for a night of fun and camaraderie. ASCE Region 4 Director, Bob Cagle, from North Carolina was in attendance to induct VA Section Officers and give an update on the Region. Terry Neimeyer, ASCE National At-Large Director was the keynote speaker. Thanks to all those who joined, it was a successful event!



Windy City at the National Building Museum

Discover Engineering Family Day, Bull Run Branch

On February 16, 2019, the Bull Run Branch joined ASCE President Robin Kemper, and volunteers from Bechtel, ASCE Headquarters, and the National Capital Section at the National Building Museum to promote our profession to the next generation. Discover Engineering Family Day, held at the National Building Museum, allowed us to **demonstrate how civil engineers benefit the public** as we reached out to thousands of students from the DC area. With the Dream Big movie kits going out to public schools across the counties served by the Bull Run Branch, students and their parents were doing the exercise Windy City, taken directly from the movie. This exercise **challenged students** to use their engineering skills by building a structure that can remain standing in a strong wind, while teaching them about how our civil engineering profession benefits the public.

Big thank you to our volunteers who joined the President of ASCE, Robin Kemper, P.E., LEED AP, F.SEI, F.ASCE, as we provided a learning experience for students and parents that highlighted how we engineer to **inspire the next generation**. We also want to thank Bechtel for sponsoring the Dream Big movie and ASCE Headquarters staff for supplying the material for the Windy City exercise.

Educational Outreach, Hampton Roads Branch

ASCE chapters share a common goal to **inspire young students to become the next generation of civil engineers**. Through educational outreach committees, we are able to reach out to young people throughout the state and engage them in the field of civil engineering. The educational outreach program provides a means to **connect and share** our passion for civil engineering, expand awareness, and make a difference in the young student's career choices. The Norfolk Branch has been developing this program, and staying busy with multiple events to kick off 2019. ASCE has been working with Elementary and Middle Schools in Norfolk, Virginia to inspire young students and spark interest in Civil Engineering. The young students enjoy the **hands on displays** that demonstrate the activities our profession uses and builds. The Women in Transportation joined ASCE at the most recent career fairs at Azalea Garden Middle and Suburban Park Elementary Schools. The combination **promoted diversity** and drew interest from more students during the event.



Suburban Park Elementary School, Norfolk



Career Day Azalea Gardens Middle School, Norfolk



VMI Honored as Ridgeway Finalist and Most Outstanding Student Chapter in Region 4

The Virginia Military Institute ASCE Student Chapter has recently honored with the distinction of being selected as a Ridgeway Finalist. The Ridgeway Award is given to the Student Chapter with the highest score on their annual report out of all the student chapters. The annual report has different categories the student chapter is graded on including student chapter statistics, goals for the student chapter, special/service projects, and a power point presentation. Because of their high score, the VMI ASCE Student Chapter had the highest score out of all 42 student chapters in Region 4, so they were named as the Most Outstanding Student Chapter in Region 4. This is a great honor for the VMI Cadets and Congratulations on this distinction.



OTHER NEWS

Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the winners of our 2019 Annual ASCE Virginias Section Scholarship: Reid Auchterlonie from UVA, Carolyn Olmsted from VT, Emma Stephens from UVA, and Meredith Sutton from UVA. Each of our four winners received a \$2,500 award. The annual scholarship is open to undergraduate students majoring in Civil Engineering from ODU, VMI, UVA, and VT, as well as children and grandchildren of ASCE Virginias Section members. Thank you to all the excellent applicants, as well as to our panel of judges. Applications for the 2020 scholarship will be available in November 2019 for award in Spring of 2020.

Upcoming ASCE Region 4 Spring Assembly, Indianapolis

This event is upcoming May 10-11, 2019! Come join your Region 4 leadership in beautiful Indianapolis, IN on May 10th and 11th for the Region 4 Spring Assembly. Spring Assembly and BOD Meeting will be held at the Westin Indianapolis. Events will begin on Friday, May 10th at noon with the Governor's Meeting. Contact Bob Cagle at bcagle75@gmail.com with any questions.

Dream Big Movie Distribution, Statewide

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) created the Dream Big: Engineering Our World movie and campaign. This movie, which celebrates the engineering wonders of the world, aims to inspire today's youth, inform the public about the important work engineers do, and change perceptions about the profession. From Australia to Haiti, from China to France, this film dives into the extraordinary design of our most treasured civil wonders to better understand their purpose and function and their ability to withstand the tests of time. As Norma Jean Mattei, Ph.D., P.E., the 2016 President of ASCE said, "Dream Big aims to educate students on the inspiring work of engineers around the globe, igniting in them a passion for engineering at an early age that can carry through their school years and beyond." She goes on to state "We also want students to understand how engineers work together to solve the major challenges of our time and shape the world of today and tomorrow." The movie is being distributed to STEM teachers statewide, who inspire the next generation to use their curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills to engineer the future.

