

The Section Informant

The Official Newsletter of the WV Section ASCE



Spring 2016 Issue

Gregory K. Michaelson, Ph.D., Secretary/Editor

SAVE THE DATE!

WV YMF will be hosting a professional public speaking workshop on March 18th.

The next WV Section ASCE meeting will be held at the WV EXPO on March 24th at 9:00 am at the Charleston Civic Center.

BSC's 2nd Annual Southern Technical Conference will be on April 7th on BSC's campus.

WVU's 52nd Annual Spring Technical Conference will be on April 22nd on WVU's campus.

FSU's Annual Summer Technical Conference will be on June 2nd on FSU's campus.

The Annual WV Section Meeting Will be held in early September (stay tuned for more details).

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Don't forget to check out:

WV Section ASCE [Website!](#)

NEW WV Section ASCE Blog!
(<http://wvasce.blogspot.com/>)

Message from the President

Jeffrey T. Huffman, P.E. (President, WV Section ASCE)



ASCE Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good spirits with anticipation of spring weather, although winter has been mostly spring like. This second year as president is passing quickly and will pass even quicker as many ASCE project and events are on the horizon. We have many large goals for ASCE; revitalization of Branches, populating the new Section and Branch websites, finalization of the Infrastructure Report Card, and updating our Constitution and Bylaws. Plenty to get involved in, jump in where you can.

The Charleston and Huntington Branches have been meeting more frequently. Haylie Ballard (Haylie.Ballard@amwater.com) is leading the effort to schedule more meeting. Contact her with ideas and look for an email (and on the website) for details on the scheduled activities. I encourage the Northern and Eastern Panhandle to ramp up their activities to increase younger member involvement (they are the future of the Section).

Our Section website is now hosted by The Society (for **FREE**), therefore we need to place current information on the site. Section, Branches, and Student Chapters can place officer contact information, scheduled meetings, etc. on the site. Please send everything to Dan Fint (DFint@mbakerintl.com).

The Infrastructure Report Card is well under way under the great leadership of Rodney Holbert. Carol Stevens has been crucial along with Dave Meadows and Shelley Porter. There is a lot of work remaining, but the methodology is established, so the final product is within reach. If you can lend your expertise to one the report card areas, please let Rodney know (rodney.holbert@burgessniple.com). All help will be greatly appreciated.

We are forming a task committee for updating our Section Constitution and Bylaws. We have mandated updates from The Society as well as a need to update meeting requirements and locations, etc. If you interested in helping with this committee, please email me (jeff.huffman@marshall.edu) as soon as possible.

A lot is going on. I hope you take the opportunity to get involved. I look forward to seeing everyone at a future meeting.

Local Engineers Honored by West Virginia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers

Shelley Porter, P.E. (WV YMF President)



At the 2015 Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) two local engineers were awarded prestigious honors recognizing their contributions to the civil engineering profession. The society announced Roger K. Randolph, P.E., as the 2015 recipient of the Roy D. Koch Award in recognition of his outstanding dedication and unselfish participation in the Society and Engineering Profession. The society also announced Wael Zatar, Ph.D., as the recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Civil Engineering Educator of the Year Award.

Mr. Randolph graduated from Ohio University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 1967. He went on to obtain his master's courses at West Virginia Institute of Technology in 1972. He is a registered Professional Engineer in West Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio and also a registered Professional Licensed Surveyor in West Virginia. He began his career as an Engineer at Union Carbide working under Roy Koch from 1967-1972. In the early 1970's he established his business Randolph Engineering, in Scott Depot, with his wife Grace in the basement of their home. He is a Past President of ASCE, a founding and active member in the Putnam Chamber of Commerce, and serves on the board with the Putnam County Solid Waste Authority. In 2009 he received the Volunteer of The Year Award from the Putnam County Development Authority and in 2014 he received the Mayo Lester Community Service Award from The Putnam County Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Randolph and his wife Grace have been longtime active volunteers in Putnam County and have been very supportive members of the society.



Pictured from left to right:
Jerry V. Elkins, II, P.E., Roger Randolph, P.E., and Shelley Porter, P.E.



Pictured from left to right:
Shelley Porter, P.E., Wael Zatar, Ph.D., and Jerry V. Elkins, II, P.E.

Dr. Zatar received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from Cairo University in Egypt, and his Ph.D., also in civil engineering, from Saitama University in Japan. His over 25 years of research and expertise in the field of pre-stressed concrete and structures have gained national and international acclaim. He has written over 165 journal and technical publications, reviewed 4 textbooks, and given many presentations across the globe. Dr. Zatar came to our region in 2004, as an Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering at WVU Institute of Technology and joined Marshall University's engineering faculty in 2006. Since 2011, Dr. Zatar has served as Dean of Marshall University's College of Information Technology and Engineering and has tirelessly worked on the establishment of the new Arthur Weisberg Family Applied Engineering Complex. He is a member of the Pre-stressed Concrete Institute, Past-President of the WV Section of ASCE, is a member of 31 national engineering/education committees.

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Governor's Corner

Carol A. Stevens, P.E. (ASCE Region 4 Governor, WV)

As we have just celebrated another Engineer's Week, our profession continues to be involved with worldwide issues affecting the lives of people. As a society, we are now 150,000+ strong with members in 177 countries around the world. There are currently 339 student chapters, with 53 of them outside of the US. The three ASCE strategic initiatives are (1) SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE, (2) RAISE THE BAR and (3) the ASCE GRAND CHALLENGE. As civil engineers, we are entrusted to maintain and modernize America's deteriorating infrastructure as well as make our communities sustainable (1). The investments needed to improve our infrastructure continue to increase well beyond available funding. ASCE has issued a grand challenge to civil engineers and the industry to work on closing the infrastructure gap (2). Also, it's time to align engineering education with a changing world (3). You can read more on each of these initiatives at http://www.asce.org/our_initiatives/.

There is an historic election for president-elect coming in May. For the first time ever, there are two women on the ballot, Robin Kemper, PE, LEED AP, F.SEI, F.ASCE (<http://www.asce.org/templates/person-candidate-detail.aspx?id=18682>) and Kristina Swallow, PE, ENV SP, F.ASCE (<http://www.asce.org/templates/person-candidate-detail.aspx?id=18684>). Be sure to cast you ballot come May!

ASCE's giant-screen movie *Dream Big: Engineering Wonders of the World* has moved into full production and is slated for release in early 2017. Learn more here: <http://www.asce.org/dream-big-contest/>.

Finally, applications are open for society committee appointments until March 15, 2016. Anyone interested in serving on any of the many committees should apply here: http://www.asce.org/asce_committees/.

Update from the Fairmont State University ASCE Student Chapter

Leann Rakes (Recording Secretary, FSU ASCE Student Chapter)



Fairmont State University's Student Chapter of ASCE has started the year with great goals and the drive to achieve them. Our chapter kicked off the fall semester by hosting a cookout on campus for ASCE members. We enjoyed grilling some hamburgers and creating some great relationships over good music and corn hole. In October, several members participated in Bridge Walk at the New River Gorge Bridge. It was a great way for our members to bond and take some great pictures while some students even got the opportunity to conquer their fear of heights. Our chapter conducted a food drive for the Wesley House Foundation before leaving for fall break. The Wesley House Foundation provides free lunch to students on Thursdays and helps provide free food to students in need.

To start our spring semester off with a bang, the Concrete Canoe team poured the canoe in preparation for Regionals. Everyone is excited about going to Regionals this year and hopefully we earn a spot for National's again. In February, our newly elected officers traveled to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for the Multi-Regional Student Chapter Leadership Conference. They came back with lots of great ideas to help boost involvement and improve the overall chapter. We are currently planning for the West Point Bridge Design and preparing for WV EXPO.

Fairmont State will hold their Annual benefit dinner on Friday, May 6th at Muriele's Italian Restaurant, pending another regional victory. The travel to Texas will be a huge cost burden, so please plan to attend if your schedules allow and team is victorious.

Our Annual Summer Technical conference will be held on Thursday, June 2nd and we are still looking for Speakers. If you would like to present please email our chapter President at kmcdiffitt@students.fairmontstate.edu or faculty advisor at tiacomo@comcast.net.



Pictured from left to right:
Leann Rakes (Recording Secretary), Katie Kelly (President), Quentin Knight (Vice President), Sammy Jesmer (Treasurer), Ben Costello (Corresponding Secretary)

Update from the Marshall University SAME-ASCE Student Chapter

Levi Masters (Publicity Chair, MU SAME-ASCE Student Chapter)



The Marshall University ASCE Student Chapter started the school year with registering 20 new members into our chapter! With the engineering program here at Marshall growing, so is our chapter. On October 10th, along with FSU, we went to the New River Gorge Bridge to take the catwalk tour. This was a once in a life time chance to walk under the bridge where we had a close up view of the engineering of the bridge. In addition, the Canoe team has been having practices on the weekends at Beech Fork Lake. The rowers are getting ready for their big event. Paige Thewes, Canoe Captain, has the canoe team ready for action at the Virginias' Conference. The concrete has been placed and cured and is ready for the finishing touches.

The chapter hosted the 8th Annual Richard F. McCormick Technical Conference on January 28, 2016. We had six speakers that presented on a wide range of topics. One of which was our very own Dr. William Ford, who presented his research on "Control of Benthic Sediments on Fluvial Carbon and Nitrogen Budgets in Disturbed Watersheds". Our nearly 75 attendees received six professional development hours and experienced a well-rounded conference. To wrap up the day, we had architect John Harris (Bastian & Harris) present on the design of the new Arthur Weisberg Family Applied Engineering Complex at Marshall University.

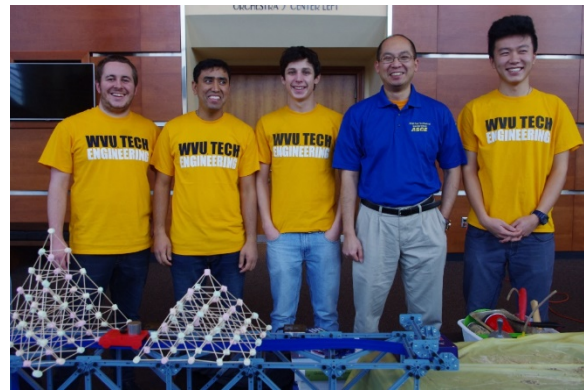
In addition, our chapter helped host (along with the SAME Huntington Post) Engineering Career Day on campus on February 25th. This was a great opportunity to give back to the community by getting high school students interested in engineering as a career. The students experienced hands on projects that showed them different aspects of engineering.

Update from the West Virginia University Institute of Technology ASCE Student Chapter

Tigra Yang, Ph.D. (WVUIT ASCE Faculty Advisor)

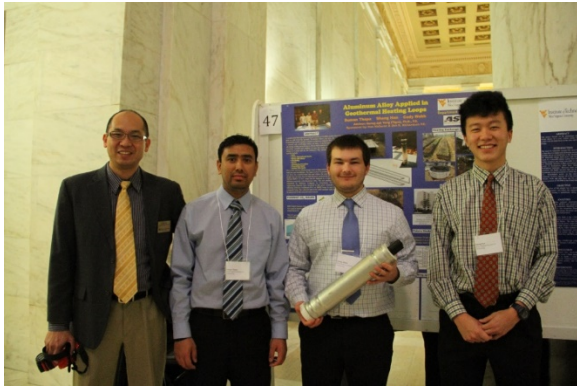


On February 20, 2016, several members of the WVU Tech ASCE student chapter traveled to the Clay Center in Charleston, WV to participate in demonstrations in celebration of National Engineers Week. Our chapter had several different hands-on demonstrations to show the children their potential in the civil engineering field. Demonstrations included a bridge design software, a marshmallow and toothpick bridge competition, as well as a sandbox model to show the forces during an earthquake. Hundreds of young students were attendance, as well as parents and professionals from the Kanawha Valley.



On February 25, 2016, student members of the WVU Tech ASCE participated in the 2016 Undergraduate Research Day at the State Capitol building. Suman Thapa, Sheng Han, and Cody Webb presented research on their topic "Aluminum Alloy Applied in Geothermal Heating Loops", sponsored by the Halloran Company in Charleston, WV, with the help of advisor Dr. Tigra Yang. The research that was conducted focused on the application of aluminum alloy to improve the efficiency and lower the cost of installation of geothermal heating and cooling systems.

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The 2016 ASCE Virginia's Conference is quickly approaching and the WVU Tech ASCE student chapter has been working continuously around the clock. Our members have been working nonstop to put everything together such as welding members for the steel bridge, pouring the mold for the concrete canon, and rehearsing their presentation for the Hardy Cross competition. ASCE student chapter members are also fundraising to help with competition fees as well as fees that come with repainting their competition trailer. If there are any professionals or companies that would like to sponsor our chapter, please contact the student chapter president Sheng Steven Han at (304) 553-6155 or ASCE student advisor Dr. Tigra Yang at hoyang@mail.wvu.edu.



Professional Presentation & Public Speaking Workshop

Shelley Porter, P.E. (WV YMF President)

The West Virginia Section Younger Members Forum (WV YMF) announces an opportunity for Young Professional ASCE Members to improve their Public Speaking Skills! The WV YMF will be hosting a Professional Presentation and Public Speaking Workshop on Friday, March 18 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the board room of West Virginia American Water (1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, 3rd floor, Charleston WV 25302). Attendance is **FREE** for Young Professional Members (non-student ASCE members 35 years or younger). Seating is limited! Please RSVP to shelley.porter@amwater.com with your name, ASCE member number, and contact information.

Matthew Sutton will be conducting the workshop. Matthew manages integrated marketing and communications projects for Fahlgren Mortine out of their Charleston, West Virginia office. With over ten years of agency experience in West Virginia, Matthew has managed and supported clients throughout the state in various industries including energy, healthcare, public utilities, banking and tourism. Matthew has specialized throughout his career in public issue campaigns, branding and media and community relations. In addition to his professional work, Matthew is dedicated to supporting his community through his volunteer efforts. He serves on the Board and is Development Chair for the Childhood Language Center, on the Board of the East End Family Resource Center, serves on the Advisory Board for the Recovery Point of Charleston and is a Council Member for the Local Young Child Wellness Council. His professional and personal experience in community outreach and public opinion makes him one of the leading public relations specialists in West Virginia.



fahlgren  mortine

2nd Annual Southern Technical Conference at Bluefield State College

Kerry D. Stauffer, Ph.D. P.E. P.S. (BSC ASCE Faculty Advisor)

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Student Chapter of Bluefield State College invites you to mark your calendars for our 2nd Annual Southern Technical Conference. The conference will be held on April 7, 2016, in the Basic Sciences Building Auditorium, on the Bluefield State College campus in Bluefield, WV. This one-day conference covers various aspects of the Civil Engineering industry. Six (6) Professional Development Hours are available for participating in the entire conference. Please help us to spread the invitation to your colleagues and associated professionals for this great event!



- ASCE Member (Professional) \$80
- Non-ASCE Member (Professional) \$100
- Retiree \$50
- College Faculty/Student \$25
- WVDOH Employee FREE

The online registration link can be found on the BSC Homepage (<http://bluefieldstate.edu/>) or from the direct link [HERE](#). If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Dr. Kerry Stauffer, P.E. P.S. at kstauffer@bluefieldstate.edu or (304) 327-4124.

52nd Annual Spring Technical Conference at West Virginia University

Jennifer Weidhaas, Ph.D. P.E. (WVU ASCE Faculty Advisor)



West Virginia University's (WVU) American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Student Chapter invites you to attend their 52nd Annual Spring Technical Conference. The information provided during this daylong session will be of great interest to state and private agencies, consulting engineers, and contractors. The conference will be held on April 22, 2016 in the Blackwater Room of the Mountainlair on WVU's campus. Payment for the conference can be accepted here: <https://squareup.com/market/wvu-american-society-of-civil-engineers>. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by Friday April 1st. If you would like more information about presenting or attending this conference please email wvu.asce@gmail.com.

Additional WV Section ASCE Activities (Click Images for Links)

The WV EXPO (<http://wvexpo.com/>) is soon approaching on March 23rd and 24th. Hopefully you can attend and expand your knowledge (and collect a few PDHs). While there, please attend the WV Section meeting at 9:00 am on March 24th as well as the ASCE Student Chapter presentations on March 24th at 2:00 pm. Don't forget to stop by the WV Section booth and the various student chapter booths in the exhibit hall.



Right on the heels of EXPO the student chapters will be participating in the Virginias Conference on March 31st through April 2nd, taking place this year at George Washington University. Please support the student chapters as they prepare for this conference, either with your time or financially. Good luck to everyone competing, and we at the WV Section ASCE hope everyone's canoe and steel bridge perform well at the conference.

The Society Annual Convention this year (September 28, 2016 through October 1, 2016) will be held in Portland, Oregon. Registration opens in June. Visit www.asceconvention.org for additional information.

