

**Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE) Board Planning Meeting Conference Call via Teams
Friday, March 4, 2022, at 12:00 P.M. EST**



The conference call/meeting began at 12:00 p.m. The following people were in attendance on the call:

Brianna Ritacco, CSCE President
Clay Patterson, CSCE Treasurer
Rich Cohen, CSCE Secretary
George Gerard, CSCE Director I
Danielle Spicer, ASCE Region 1 Governor
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant

Tom Loto, CSCE Water Resources Committee Chair
Ranjit Bhawe, Chair of CT Chapter of the ASCE
Transportation & Development Institute
Alex Mora, Chair of CT Chapter of the ASCE
Structural Engineering Institute

1. Review/Approve CSCE Board Conference Call Minutes - February 4, 2022

Since there was no quorum at this meeting, no vote was taken.

2. Report from ASCE Region 1 Governor – Danielle Spicer

2.1 ASCE Steel Bridge Competition - 1-3 Volunteers Needed at UConn on 4/23/22 - Scott Nolan is interested in volunteering. CSCE would like to get an idea of the timeframe that the volunteers would be needed. Danielle Spicer will forward information about the timeframe and competition to Brianna Ritacco.

2.2 ERYMC Coordination – The MRLC was held earlier in February. Danielle Spicer would like to have a call next week with Jodi Constant and Katie Klose to discuss the details of the ERYMC. Katie Klose and Aaron Foster are in DC this week to attend the ASCE Fly-In. In a follow-up meeting with Region 1 representatives on February 28, 2022, it was determined that there aren't many events planned by the Region 1 Governors between now and June.

3. Recent Events

3.1 Monthly Virtual Lunch Meeting on February 16, 2022 – This meeting was co-sponsored by the CSCE Legislative Affairs Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at Quinnipiac University. The meeting went well and featured introductory remarks from U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal and Congressman John Larson and a presentation by Mark Rolfe, P.E., Deputy Commissioner for the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) on the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – Impacts on Connecticut's Transportation Systems. Over 170 people registered to attend this meeting.

3.2 CSCE/WTS Joint Virtual Lunch Meeting on March 1, 2022 – This meeting was co-sponsored by CSCE and WTS. At this meeting, Stephanie Slocum, P.E., founder of Engineers Rising, LLC, gave a presentation on Breakthrough Conversations: The Self-Advocacy Secret Weapon for Women at Work. Seventy (70) people registered for the meeting and over 50 attended. The majority of attendees were not WTS or CSCE

members, so we were able to reach an even larger audience. This may increase outreach efforts related to CSCE and WTS.

4. Upcoming Events

4.1 Monthly Meetings

- March 22, 2022 – This in-person dinner meeting will feature a presentation by Siefert Associates about the Reconstruction of Upper & Lower Toll Plazas and Southbound Approach at the Henry Hudson Bridge. This meeting is being held at the Norwalk Inn, Norwalk, CT, and is sponsored by the Fairfield County Branch of CSCE.
- April 13, 2022 – This in-person dinner meeting at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy will feature the distribution of the 2022 CSCE Student Awards and a presentation by Sara Ramsbottom, P.E. at the CT Department of Public Health. The due date for the student award applications is March 15, 2022. CSCE needs to decide winners during the week of March 21 - March 25. Amy Petrone can send out a meeting invite to review the applications.
- May 10, 2022 – This virtual lunch meeting will feature a presentation about the Applications of iTwin and is sponsored by the CT Chapter of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute. Information to promote the meeting has been received.

4.2 2022 ACE Awards - May 26, 2022

- The applications are due March 31, 2022. Amy Petrone needs approximately one month's notice to order the plaques. CSCE needs to schedule a meeting to review the applications. Brianna Ritacco and Amy Petrone will develop an event schedule for the day of the ACE Awards. Brianna Ritacco will ask CSCE Past President Billy Cunningham if he would like to contact ASCE to see if the ASCE President or ASCE President-Elect attend the ACE Awards and give a presentation.

4.3 2022 Geotechnical Spring Workshop – Date/Topic/Location: TBD

- Location – CSCE cannot hold the event at UNH in April. UNH may be open to events hosted by visitors like CSCE after May. This may make it a possible location for the seminar sponsored by the CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute. If no space can be located, this event could be held virtually.
- Speakers – The CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute is still looking for speakers.

4.4 2022 ERYMC - June 10-12, 2022 – A planning meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday. The meeting attendees discussed if CSCE should buy ASCE masks/sanitizer in bulk to distribute at the conference and its other events. It was decided that this type of purchase is mute at this point in the pandemic.

4.5 2022 SEI Structures Seminar – The tentative date for this event is Friday, June 17, 2022. Six speakers have been identified and 4 speaker topics have been finalized. The location hasn't been finalized yet. Brianna Ritacco will check at the CT DOT and Amy Petrone asked CSCE Past President Jason Waterbury about the availability of the MDC Training Facility.

5. CSCE Executive Board Activities

5.1. Report from President - Brianna Ritacco

- Goal related to CTDOT Involvement – She followed up with Deputy Commissioner for DOT partner program.
- Amy Petrone ordered an external hard drive.
- Presentation Recordings- Brianna Ritacco has looked at Youtube vs Vimeo.
- Requests for CSCE participation at virtual events with high schools – Some high schools, including Farmington High School and Hartford public schools, have asked CSCE members to attend events with high school students to share their experiences related to civil engineering. The meeting attendees discussed if anyone was interested in participating in these types of events. George Gerard, Rich Cohen, and Clay Patterson would be interested in attending these types of events. CSCE may be able to pre-record a presentation and have a couple of representatives be available virtually to answer questions. Rich Cohen suggested that CSCE could assemble a 20–25-minute presentation that featured CSCE members sharing their experiences and ASCE clips that could be distributed to schools in September or October. Another idea was that CSCE could host an event highlighting careers in civil engineering, record it and share it with high school guidance counselors. Either suggestion could include videos highlighting civil engineering projects and a time elapsed video. ASCE may have guidance for such a presentation. CSCE could also include clips from the ASCE Dream Big movie.
- Open Board Positions – There are 2 open positions for the 2022-23 Board (Secretary and Newsletter Editor). Rich Cohen is interested in being Vice President and Tyler Parker is interested in being Treasurer. Clay Patterson was going to see if Taylor Dalling from Langan was interested in joining the Board.

5.2. Report from Secretary – Rich Cohen

- The ACE Award applications were updated and distributed.
- He will look for civil engineering-related videos to share with high school students.

5.3. Report from Newsletter Editor – Tyler Parker

- People should send ideas for articles (engineer spotlight, project spotlight, etc.) to him before the March Newsletter release date, which is anticipated to be during the week of March 28-31, 2022.

5.4. Report from Director I – George Gerard

- Vertical Banner – He would like to add the ERYMC skyline logo to the banner.
- New CSCE Laptop Bag - Amy Petrone ordered the bag.
- Goals related to the review of scholarships and spending/operating budget – He will work on these topics over the summer.

6. Reports from Institute/Committee Chairs and the Fairfield County Branch of CSCE

6.1 Legislative Affairs Committee - Chair - Roy Merritt

- SE Licensure in CT - A group of CSCE representatives may meet with Robert Zygmunt about SE licensure next Friday.

6.2 Structural Engineering Institute - CT Chapter - Chair – Alex Mora

- SEI Student Sections - Byungik Chang of UNH and the CT Chapter would like to have some meetings with students to attract them to SEI CT Chapter. He would like to start a student chapter at UNH. This may give students ideas for designing with different materials.

6.3 Water Resources Committee - Chair - Tom Loto

- He is working on the Infrastructure Report Card chapter on water resources with other engineers. Hopefully, his co-authors will be interested in becoming members of the Committee.

6.4 Transportation & Development Institute CT Chapter - Chair - Ranjit Bhav

- One person has joined the Board of this Chapter.

With no more business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m. The next board meeting will be on Friday, April 1, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.