

**Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE) Board Virtual Meeting via Teams
Friday, June 21, 2024 - 12 p.m. Noon - Meeting Minutes**



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

Rich Cohen, 2024-25 CSCE President	Tom Wamser, YMG President
Tyler Parker, 2024-25 CSCE President-Elect	Ariana Antonucci, YMG Vice President
Eric Hoyt, 2024-25 CSCE Vice President	Mike Ciacciarella, YMG Secretary
Byungik Chang, 2024-2025 CSCE Treasurer	Carolyn Foston, President of the Fairfield County Branch
Jodi Constant, 2024-25 CSCE Secretary	Jose Infante Corona, Fairfield County Branch Board Member
Aaron Foster, 2024-25 CSCE Director I	Landon Barlow, Chair of the CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant	Ranjit Bhawe, Chair of the CT Chapter of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute
	Kim Fletcher, Chair of Student Chapters Committee
	Sanjeev Mohan, SEI-CT Chapter Board Member

1. Report from Region 1 of ASCE – CSCE needs to schedule a time/day with Region 1 Governor Geoffrey Schwartz for the 2024-25 CSCE Officer Inductions
2. Review/Approve CSCE Board Conference Call Minutes from February 19, March 15, April 19, and May 17, 2024 – Rich Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings on February 19, March 15, April 19, and May 17, 2024. Tyler Parker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
3. 2024-2025 CSCE In-Person Monthly Meetings: The group talked about the details of the following meetings:

2024-25 Dates	Topic	Co-Sponsors	Location
September 18 Wednesday	ACE Award Winner – VHB – UConn Science 1 Intersection Improvements	CT Chapter of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute & the ASCE Student Chapter at UConn	UConn – Since the Graduate Storrs is available on September 10, 11, & 18, Amy Petrone will reserve the location for the 18 th .
October 15 Tuesday	Water/wastewater topic - Tom Wamser has a colleague who can give a presentation about underground tanks. Jose Infante Corona has colleagues who could speak about this topic.	CT Chapter of the Environmental & Water Resources Institute and students at CT State Three Rivers	CT State Three Rivers – Amy Petrone will contact this college to reserve October 15 for this meeting.
November 19 or 20 Tuesday or Wednesday	Geotechnical topic	CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute and the ASCE Student Chapter at Quinnipiac University	Quinnipiac University – Since the MNH-105 room is available on November 19 and 20, Amy Petrone will contact this school to reserve either date.

2024-25 Dates	Topic	Co-Sponsors	Location
December 11 Wednesday	I-95 Norwalk Incident - Effective Emergency Communication & Collaboration – Yonkers Contracting Company and Stantec worked on this project.	Fairfield County Branch	Two Roads Brewing is available for this dinner meeting. People talked about hosting a webinar in December instead of a dinner meeting. In the past, CSCE hosted a webinar on a geotechnical topic in December. CSCE moved this Branch dinner meeting from March to December so that CSCE could host a dinner meeting in March at a school when more students would be on campus and not taking midterms/finals.
January 28 or 29 Tuesday or Wednesday	Business Management topic – The group brainstormed topics. Does UHA have any research topics that could be the topic of a presentation by UHA? Are there any company representatives who would like to give an overview of the acquisition of firms or different ownership models, such as private equity?	Continuing Education Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at the University of Hartford	University of Hartford - Amy Petrone will contact this school to reserve either date.
February 11 Tuesday	Structural Engineering topic – Aaron Foster will ask the Goldstar Bridge team to present on this topic. An alternative topic is under the Utility/Offshore Wind category and could be given by Avangrid/UI either in January or February or at a webinar.	CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute and the ASCE Student Chapter at UNH	Univ. of New Haven – Bartels Alumni Lounge - Amy Petrone will contact this school to reserve this date.
March 11 or 12 Tuesday or Wednesday	CTDOT Commissioner - State of the DOT address - Aaron Foster will email the CTDOT Commissioner's office and request this presentation.	Legislative Affairs Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at CCSU	Constitution or Connecticut Room in Memorial Hall at CCSU - Amy Petrone will contact this school to reserve either date.
April 16 Wednesday	The group discussed the following possible topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA Strategic Plan • DEEP and/or • Projects/initiatives related to state conservation agencies like the Eightmile River Watershed • Airport Projects - Tweed New Haven? New terminal at Bradley? • CTTransit Projects - This topic or others could be offered in partnership with the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) 	Government Engineers Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at the USCGA	Consolidated Club at the USCGA - Amy Petrone will contact this school to reserve this date.
May 14 Wednesday	ACE Awards	CSCE	Aqua Turf Club - Glass Room Reserved
June 27	CSCE-ITE Annual Golf Outing	CSCE – ITE	Timberlin Golf Club

3.1 August – Promotional Postcard Mailing of 2024-25 Meetings/Events – Amy Petrone will coordinate this mailing again. Rich Cohen made a motion to spend approximately \$1300 on this mailing, which is similar to what CSCE spent on it last year. Aaron Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3.2 CSCE Board Meeting Dates - CSCE will keep holding virtual Board meetings at Noon on the third Friday of the month via Teams. CSCE may have the meeting on August 16 in person to help kick off the CSCE program year. Rich Cohen or Amy Petrone will email the Board to find out people’s availability for such a meeting.

3.3 Hold dinner meetings on the evening before some annual events discussion:

- CSCE could host a presentation on the Thursday before the April 2025 Geotechnical Seminar.
- Instead of hosting a meeting before the 2024 GEO-CT Conference, CSCE could host a tour of a recently constructed facility (MDC Tunnel, etc.) on the Thursday afternoon (9/26) before the 2024 GEO-CT Conference.
- The CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute is planning a drill demonstration day primarily for students. This event could be coordinated with a CSCE Dinner Meeting.

4. Annual Events

4.1 The group discussed CSCE’s annual events:

- 2024 ACE Awards – This event went well.
- 2024 GEO-CT Conference - Half of the program is set. Presentation abstracts are due June 30.
- SEI-CT Seminar – Presentation abstracts are due July 1 - Sangyul Cho is the new president of the SEI-CT. CSCE should invite him to the CSCE Board Teams meetings.
- 2024 Geotechnical Seminar – This event is tentatively scheduled for April 25, 2025.
- 2024 Floodplain Management Conference - No date appears to be set for this event. Rich Cohen will reach out to them to offer to co-sponsor and maybe schedule a presentation before it.

4.2 Annual Sponsors of CSCE - CHA Companies and Seaboard Drilling are annual sponsors this year. CSCE will keep promoting this opportunity to support CSCE.

5. Potential Collaborations & Webinars – The group discussed the following topics for webinars & collaborations:

5.1 Possible Collaborators:

- Coastal Resiliency – Connecticut Association of Flood Managers (CAFM)
- Water Infrastructure - New England Water Environment Association
- Women in Engineering/ WTS – Tom Wamser is in contact with representatives from Professional Women in Construction (PWC) to co-host events with CSCE, the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS).
- Habitat for Humanity – This may involve a significant cost by CSCE.

5.2 Webinar Presentations

- Sustainability – Sustainable ocean farming in Branford CT (www.greenwave.org)
- Ethics – Webinar featuring Frederick Hedberg of Robinson+Cole
- Multi-modal Transportation - BikeWalk CT, ConnDOT Community Connectivity Program
- Construction - United Precast / National Precast Concrete Association of America. On a related topic, CSCE YMG held a popular tour at United Concrete in 2023 and another tour could be held again.
- Utility Engineering – Avangrid / UI / Eversource – Avangrid’s VP of Projects, Jim Cole, P.E., is interested in giving a presentation to CSCE this year. The Connecticut Port Authority State Pier Terminal was a topic at the Geotechnical Seminar in April 2024. Several engineering firms worked on that topic and could be approached for a presentation.
- Technology – ITS – Rich Cohen will try to talk with people from ITS at the golf outing about giving a virtual presentation.
- History & Heritage – A webinar could be held on historic and/or covered bridges in CT. Amy Petrone will look into topics and contact ASCE for presentation ideas. CSCE could also look into if the National Society of Covered Bridges - <https://www.coveredbridgesociety.org/> offers presentations. A related event could be a scavenger hunt involving taking selfies with bridges around CT.

6. CSCE Executive Board Activities

6.1 ASCE Cities of the Future Showing – CSCE will look into coordinating a Section viewing of this film and will encourage the ASCE Student Chapters to have their own viewings on their campuses. Jodi Constant will also reach out to the CT Science Center about scheduling a showing there. CSCE could also have a pre-screening at an AMC movie theater. Rich Cohen and Jodi Constant will ask some theaters for quotes to host a pre-screening of the film in late September/October.

7. Reports from Institute/Committee Chairs/Fairfield County Branch

7.1 CT Valley Chapter – This Chapter would like to continue to offer the GEO-CT Scholarships and offer programs like a drill day at a university to connect with students. To prepare for these events, the Chapter put together the following budget proposal:

Income

GEO-Connecticut September 2024:

- estimated gross income = \$40k
- estimated total costs = \$24k
- estimated revenue = \$ 16k

Spring Seminar April 2025:

- estimated gross income = \$16k
- estimated total costs = \$8k
- estimated revenue = \$8k

Expenditures

- Scholarships = \$3,500 to \$5,000
- Student outreach activities (e.g., drill demonstration) = \$3,000
- GEO-CT.org website = \$450 (included in GEO-CT costs but added separately here because payment timing doesn't coincide with the events)

Total estimated event revenue = \$24k

Total estimated expenditures = \$5k to \$8k

Estimated contribution to CSCE Scholarship Fund = \$16k to \$19k

The Chapter asked that CSCE accept this proposed budget for consideration and approval at this meeting. This proposed budget was estimated using conservative values from previous years, actual revenue from events may be higher or lower. Expenditures will not exceed this proposed budget unless there is good cause and specific approval from the CSCE board.

The group discussed this proposal. To provide information about CSCE's expenditures for the past year, 2023-24 CSCE Treasurer Eric Hoyt will look at CSCE's records and share insight about them in a few weeks. Aaron Foster made a motion to make the estimated expenditures related to the CT Valley Chapter of the Geo-Institute. Rich Cohen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7.2 Student Chapters Committee - Kim Fletcher will be managing this Committee from 2024-25.

7.3 Fairfield County Branch – The Branch is going to hold a social on August 15, 2024. A location will be chosen soon.

7.4 Younger Members Group – The YMG will start organizing the resume reviews and another university sports outing, possibly to a UConn women's basketball game. To prepare for its activities, the YMG developed the following budget:

Yard Goats	\$2,000	MRLC (2)	\$3,800
Other sports outing	\$400	YMLS (3)	\$1,500
Resume reviews (12)	\$3,000	YMLs Alumni (2)	\$3,800
Industry 101 (2)	\$300	Board Meetings (4)	\$600
Socials (2)	\$1,200	Total:	\$16,600

- The YMG is planning on going to a Yard Goats Game in late August. In 2023, SLR sponsored the event for \$1,000.
- The Industry 101 event will be held once per semester (twice per year).
- YMG events are leading students to be more active in CSCE and ASCE National activities.
- It is anticipated that 2-3 YMGs will attend the conferences (MRLC, etc.) and get their costs reimbursed by their employers in addition to the attendees listed above in the budget.

- YMG members should ask their employers to sponsor and support their employees attending these events.

The Board decided that CSCE expenditure information is gathered in July, CSCE will revisit this budget and vote on it.

Two other events the YMG is interested in hosting are a Trail workday and a Trap Falls Reservoir site tour.

7.5 2026 CSCE Infrastructure Report Card CSCE will need to recruit lead authors and co-authors and hold the first planning meeting for this Report Card in January 2025 to assign chapters and lay out the schedule for submission to ASCE and final release. Rich Cohen will manage the committee and be a co-author of the Roads section.

7.6 CSCE needs leaders/contact persons for the Career Guidance Committee, Continuing Education Committee, History & Heritage Committee, Legislative Affairs Committee, Membership Committee, Past President's Council, Programs Committee, and Website Committee. Jodi Constant will ask George Gerard if he is interested in managing the Past President's Council.

With no more business to discuss, Rich Cohen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m. Aaron Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.