



May 2025
Visit ASCE at www.asce.org
or call 800-548-ASCE

ASCE's mission is to provide essential value to our members, their careers, our partners and the public by developing leadership, advancing technology, advocating lifelong learning and promoting the profession.

GREETINGS DULUTH SECTION!

Greetings Duluth Section,

Our next event is our end-of-the-year celebration on May 20 at 5 pm at the Tavern on the Hill on Woodland Avenue. There will be appetizers available, and they will be covered by the ASCE Duluth section, so there will be no cost for this event. You may bring one significant other to the event also. We will be announcing the student scholarship winners, the UMD students will be talking about their competition events that they just completed at the symposium, and we will be talking about some other items that happened over the past year. Please use the collaborate link (coming soon) to RSVP so we can plan for food. If you cannot use the collaborate link, please send me a message.

Our UMD student section announced that they recently competed in Milwaukee at the symposium. The Geowall team took 1st place, the Steel Bridge took 4th place, and the Concrete Canoe was disqualified due to some minor cracking. So overall the teams did well and are looking forward to competing again next year.

We are currently looking for a secretary for next year to keep our board rolling. We are also looking for a Membership Chair. Please let me or another board member know if you are interested. We meet once a month during the months of August to May.

Finally, I want to thank all the current Board Member's for their efforts this year. We accomplished a lot and grew our YMG group and the Student Section group. I have really enjoyed working with all the board members and I am excited for what they will do next year for our Duluth ASCE Section.

Hope to see you on the 20th for our end-of-the-year celebration and please don't forget to RSVP.

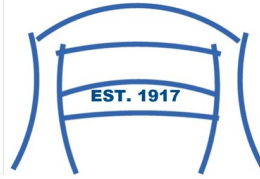
Ryan Swanson
Duluth Section President

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Board of Directors	2
Upcoming Meetings	2
Scholarship Recipients	2
Financial Update	3
ASCE YMG Rundown	4
ASCE Student Section May Newsletter	4-6
Meeting Minutes	7-9
Thank you, Sponsors!	10

Interested in submitting an article for the ASCE newsletter or becoming a Board Member?

Contact Pete Demshar (newsletter editor) for information at 952.913.6392 or pdemshar@barr.com



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2024-2025

President

Ryan Swanson, PE
Ulland Brothers, Inc.
(218) 966-9822
rswanon@ulland.com

President-Elect

Peter Demshar, PE
Barr Engineering Co.
952-913-6392
pdemshar@barr.com

Treasurer

Tyler Yngsdal, PE
SEH
218-279-3001
tyngsdal@sehinc.com

Secretary

Alex Popp, PE
apopp@DuluthMN.gov

Past President

Andrew Lund, PE
Barr Engineering
(218) 308-3077
alund@barr.com

BOARD CHAIRS

2023-2024

Younger Member Chair

Dalton Scharmer
TKDA
Dalton.Scharmer@tkda.com

Membership Chair

Vacant

Government Relations Chair

Vacant

Toothpick Bridge Chair

Travis Jensen
(612) 730-0580
jensio73@d.umn.edu

Web Updates

Rose Kopecky
SEH
(218)-249-1558
rkopecky@sehinc.com

Membership Outreach Chair

Rose Kopecky
SEH
(218)-249-1558
rkopecky@sehinc.com

MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2024-2025

Membership Meetings

May 20, 2025

Board Meetings

May 21, 2025

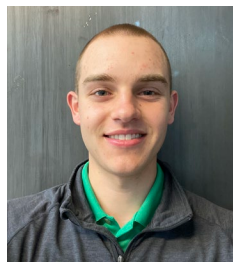
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Adam Euteneuer:

I am honored to be selected as a recipient of the ASCE Duluth Section Scholarship and would like to sincerely thank the organization. Going into my fourth year in civil engineering at UMD, this scholarship will allow me to more fully focus on my academic and career goals. After graduating this coming December, I hope to secure a civil engineering position in the Twin Ports area. I'm currently exploring opportunities and am eager to grow my career quickly while gaining new experiences along the way. I plan to start preparing for the PE exam early and intend to take it as soon as I am able. I'm also excited to expand my knowledge and eventually step into leadership roles in the future.



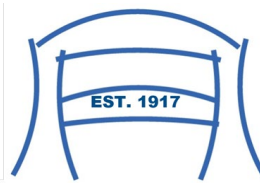
Austin Konrath:



I am honored to have been selected as the recipient of this year's ASCE Duluth Section Scholarship. Receiving this scholarship is not just financial assistance for me; it is a validation of the hard work, dedication, and passion that I have put into my academic pursuits. Your belief in my potential has inspired me to continue striving for excellence in my studies and beyond.

I am in the final year of my undergraduate studies and am on track to graduate next December. I plan to then continue my education through obtaining a Masters degree focused in environmental engineering. My thesis work will largely encompass wastewater technology development for sulfate and sulfide removal from municipal and industrial waste streams.

I am grateful for your commitment to supporting students like myself in their educational journeys. Your generosity has not only made a difference in my life but will also have a positive impact on the lives of others as I strive to contribute to my community and society as a whole. Thank you once again for investing in my education and believing in my potential.



Sam Rittmiller:

I am truly honored to accept this year's Duluth Section ASCE scholarship. Being an active member of the UMD chapter has truly led to great connections both with students and industry professionals, and having access to resources like this scholarship is a blessing. I am currently a Junior at UMD and this upcoming summer will be my third year interning with Bolton and Menk with their bridge and structures group. I am looking forward to continuing my professional career within structures so it is a great fit!



FINANCIALS

National Bank of Commerce

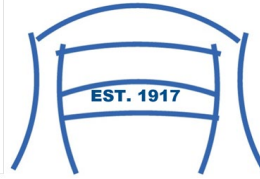
Main Checking	\$5,054.22
Younger Member Checking	\$6,984.01
Savings	\$5,486.53

Other Assets

PayPal	\$0.00
Other cash/checks	\$0.00
Petty Cash	\$100.00
March 2025' Total Assets	\$16,790.20
Increase/(Decrease) in Assets	\$834.56

*Increase from sponsorships, Duluth Section Allotment, & luncheon





ASCE DULUTH SECTION YMG (RUNDOWN)

May 2025

The YMG held its final happy hour last month at Tavern on the Hill. Thank you to all who came and gave us a great turnout! We will see you again in the fall.



Current YMG Board

Chair – Dalton Scharmer
Sappi Cloquet
(Dalton.Scharmer@sappi.com)

Vice Chair – Lukas Ellefson
Barr Engineering Co.
(llelfson@barr.com)

Membership Chair – Austin Willoughby
Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH)
(awilloughby@sehinc.com)

Events Co-Chair – Matt Henderson
Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH)
(mhenderson@sehinc.com)

Events Co-Chair – Josh Tomczak
Northland Consulting Engineers
(josh@nce-duluth.com)

Please reach out to any of the board members if you are interested in taking on a leadership role for the upcoming '25-'26 year.

ASCE STUDENT SECTION MAY NEWSLETTER

The UMD ASCE Student Section brought 38 students and 2 faculty members to the 2025 Western Great Lakes Student Symposium in Milwaukee WI. We had 12 students participate in the ASCE Concrete Canoe competition, 12 students in the AISC Student Steel Bridge competition, and 10 students participate in the ASCE Geo Institute Geo Wall competition.

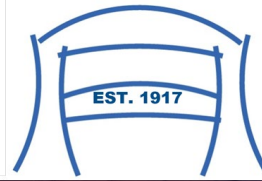
The UMD Geo Wall team took first overall at the WGLSS this year competing against the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. The team consisted of 4 seniors, 5 juniors and 1 sophomore. This is the third year in a row that UMD has won the Geo Wall competition and plan to be back at it again next year. They are hoping to submit a report to the national competition in the fall to compete at a higher level.



The Steel Bridge Team took 4th overall, slightly lower than the last couple years. The bridge ranked 2nd in stiffness and cost estimate, and 3rd in efficiency. UMD Steel Bridge also ranked 1st in aesthetics, which of course is the most important. The top three overall bridges get a chance to attend the national steel bridge competition at the end of May, although we did not rank in the top 3, UMD got admitted to a wild card draw to potentially attend the national competition. We have not heard yet if we have been chosen to attend yet.

The UMD Concrete Canoe team suffered a devastating loss as the canoe was being loaded into the trailer for transport. The canoe cracked almost completely around at a couple points close the mid point. Due to the excessive cracking, they were unable to compete in the races. They did complete a swamp test where the entire canoe is submerged under water to see if it floats on its own, and it did pass. The Concrete Canoe team is excited to get back in the lab next fall to work on optimizing their mix design and potentially researching a new mold type that would be easier to construct and produce a cleaner finish on the canoe.





Thank you to our sponsors from 2023-24 and 2024-25 for helping us bring so many students to this year's student symposium

Attending Students;

Student Section Officers

Zach Huffaker
Hank Miller
Ben Gornik
Emilio Vargas

ASCE Concrete Canoe

Caleb Dirckx

Cecelia Linkert
Gavin Thiry
Kyla Schmidt
Noah Vetter
Nick Mulder
Liam McDonald
Andrew Coddington
Patrick Donohoo
Issac Donohoo

AISC Steel Bridge

Luke Sievert
Evan Eslinger
Kennedy Kruse
Tally Stehr
John DeVries
Austin Konrath
Andrew Howman
Simraj Ravi
Gus Haugen

Finnley Halvorson
Maxwell Moors
Stuart Milne

Geo Wall

Trey Baalke
Isaac Rajkowski
Matt Steiner
Nick Maras
Elizabeth White

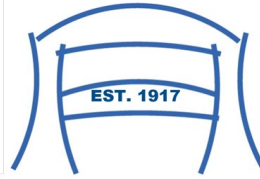
Haley Coda
Tierney Hjelmberg
Nate Umholtz
Parker Gaida
Adam Euteneuer

Faculty

Dr. Brock Hedegaard
Oscar Toftegar

Thank you to our sponsors from 2023-24 and 2024-25 for helping us bring so many students to this year's student symposium





ASCE DULUTH SECTION BOARD MEETING AGENDA

March 25, 2025 - 5:00 PM
Tavern on the Hill, Duluth

Call Meeting to Order:

- Meeting called to order at 5:03 p.m.
- Attendance:
 - Ryan Swanson –President
 - Tyler Yngsdal – Treasurer
 - Alex Popp – Secretary
 - Josh – YMG
 - Lukas Ellefson – YMG
 - Zach Huffacker – Student Section President
 - Rose Kopecky – Website and Outreach Chair

Approval of Agenda (Ryan)

- **A motion was made by Tyler Yngsdal, seconded by Alex Popp to approve the agenda.**
 - The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.

Approval of Minutes (Alex)

- **A motion was made by Tyler Yngsdal, seconded by Ryan Swanson to approve the February Meeting Minutes.**
 - The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.

Government Relations (Vacant)

- Chris was unable to attend and did not provide an update
- 2025 report card was just released
- Report card is coming in 2026 and will be lead by Pete
 - Chris and Peter will likely cover the Duluth items
 - AMI may assist with the Port

Student section update (Zach H)

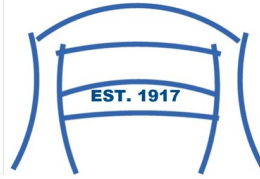
- AMI presentation about the DECC seawall project before spring break
- Last meeting have five YMG members for a panel discussion
 - Meeting was well attended with 30 students.
- Steel bridge is load testing today
- Concrete canoe has been painted
- Symposium is in three weeks in Milwaukee

Younger Member Discussion (Dalton)

- Dalton was unable to attend but sent summary prior to the meeting
- Next happy hour is on 4/15 at Tavern on the Hill
- Not planning any site tours this spring, hoping to get more people in the fall
- Austin summarized MRLC with some notes and will provide a write-up for the newsletter
 - YMG reimbursed Austing for his MRLC expenses
- YMG Board will regroup before next year to finish transferring everything to One Drive and finalize the bylaws

Treasurer's Report (Tyler)

- Main Checking \$4,977.00



- Younger Member Checking \$5,944.14
- Savings \$5,485.38
- PayPal \$133.68
- Petty Cash \$250.00
- **A motion was made by Ryan Swanson, seconded by Alex Popp to reimburse Tyler Yngsdal \$93.30 for food at the Board Bylaw Workshop**
 - The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.
- **A motion was made by Ryan Swanson, seconded by Alex Popp to approve the March's Treasurer's Report**
 - The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.

2024-2025 Speakers (Pete)

- April 15th – West Superior Street recon by Alex Popp and Rose Kopecky @ BARR?
- May 20th End of year banquet @ Pier B or Blackwoods east end
 - **A motion was made by Ryan Swanson, seconded by Tyler Yngsdal to host the year end banquet at Blackwoods if there is sufficient A/V capacity for a presentation, otherwise the 2nd Floor of Clyde Iron Works with a \$500 max cap on food costs (an assortment of appetizers)**
 - The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor
- Sept 16th – Storm chamber system from ACF West Geosynthetics

2024-2025 BOARD MEETING / LUNCHEON SCHEDULE (ALL MEETING SCHEDULED AT 12:00 PM)

Luncheons

- April 15th
- May 20th – Year End Dinner

Board Meetings

- March 25th
- April 22nd
- May 21st

Newsletter Update (Pete)

- President's message (Ryan), meeting minutes (Alex), YMG (Dalton), UMD section (Zack), Sponsorship letter (Pete), Treasurer report (Tyler)
- Submissions Due: Send to Pete by 4/3/2025, Send Newsletter out 4/7/2025 (Pete to send)

Membership Chair(Vacant)

- Contact list update

Website and Outreach Chair (Rose)

- Update

Toothpick Bridge Chair (Travis)

- Event held on March 25th
- Highly successful, 4 schools set a total of 38 teams
 - Teachers said they would plan to come back next year
 - Multiple news organizations came to do stories on the event
- Travis to get receipts to Tyler for reimbursement previously authorized by the Board
- Ryan to set up a debrief meeting while everything is fresh to make notes for next year's competition

Ongoing Business:

- ASCE Archival documents (Rose has)



- Board Seat Email platform – New email ASCEDuluthMN@outlook.com
 - Board seat Cut sheet for positions.
 - Review the Section Bylaws in comparison with the National Template for updates.
 - Austin (YMG attended the Multi region event

Matrix and Bylaw Review

- Matrix was updated by the Board during the bylaw workshop

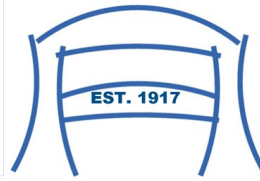
New Business

- Update One Drive files
- Bad emails when inviting members to events??
 - Membership chair to reach out and ask people to update National with correct addresses.
- Sponsorship count (Tyler)
 - Seven sponsorships received, unpaid ones will be removed from the newsletter
- Scholarship applications
 - Three applications received for the three available scholarships
 - Committee met and voted to award on scholarship to each applicant
 - Alex to sent names to the Board and Pete will send congratulations to the recipients
 - Number and value of scholarships should be reviewed during the annual budget process
- End of year banquet date should be evaluated for 2026 to align with UMD calendar to make it easier for scholarship recipients to attend and encourage other students to attend as well.

Next Board Meeting: April 22, 2025 at Blackwoods in Proctor

Adjournment:

- Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



THANKS TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS!

(Consider being a sponsor!)



**BOLTON
& MENK**

Real People. Real Solutions.

BRAUN

INTERTEC

The Science You Build On.

KRECH
OJARD
& ASSOCIATES, INC.

MBJ | MEYER
BORGMAN
JOHNSON



Short Elliott Hendrickson



TKDA

ULLAND
BROTHERS