CECONNECTON



SEATTLE SECTION



**Secretary of Transportation Roger Millar** will discuss transportation during a pandemic and the lessons we can take from this experience going forward. He will also highlight work underway to explore connecting the Cascadia megaregion with ultra high speed ground transportation from Vancouver, British Columbia, to Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon.

Roger Millar was appointed Secretary of Transportation by Governor Jay Inslee in August 2016. Millar oversees a 7,000-employee agency that is the steward of a multimodal transportation system and responsible for ensuring that people and goods move safely and efficiently. Prior to joining WSDOT, Roger served for five years as vice president of Smart Growth America, a national not-for-profit organization. A graduate of the University of Virginia, Millar is a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners. He is the Treasurer of the ASCE Transportation and Development Institute. Click Here to Register & Add to Calendar

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 16 Time: 5:30pm-7:00pm

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting via Zoom.



Section Officers Contact

**Newsletter Editor** 

### **December President's Column**

By Javier Homero Flores Cervantes, PhD, PE ASCE Seattle Section President

Hello Colleagues,

It has been eight and a half months since I last went to work in my downtown office, and have since been working the same job from my house. I know most of you are experiencing something similar because of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is a challenge and I'm surprised at how well we have all adapted to the new circumstances, including having our ASCE meetings online. I want to applaud all of us for our flexibility, and I also want to acknowledge the emotional toll it can take because of the lack of face to face interactions. Knowing that we are all together in this situation, makes it more comforting. Thank you for being a part of this community as we navigate these new waters.

What will the future look like? It's a question I often ask myself,



particularly during these times of change. What will our cities, cars and houses look like in the future? What will be the state of our environment? Will we suffer because of climate change? Will we have salmon and whales by the end of the century or will our grandchildren's generation be able to snorkel among living coral reefs? And what is the role that civil engineers play in what that future will look like, if any?

I chose the civil engineering profession because I saw the large impact that civil engineering projects had on the environment, and I wanted to make those impacts beneficial for humans, and the environment, in the long run. I still feel very passionate about our role in protecting the environment, and I hope that I always do. I feel fortunate to work for an agency that has a tremendously positive impact on human life and the environment, King County's Wastewater Treatment Division. We keep lake Washington, the Duwamish River, and Puget Sound clean, allowing us to enjoy these waters everyday, and allowing salmon, orcas, and other wildlife to call this place home. It was civil engineers who designed the system that today collects and treats the wastewater from the Seattle Metropolitan Area. Before its creation, the lakes, rivers and beaches were so dirty with sewer that it was dangerous to swim in them.

This month's dinner meeting is about the Ultra-High-Speed Ground Transportation study that WSDOT has been carrying out in different phases starting in 2016. The idea of linking Vancouver, BC, Seattle, WA, and Portland, OR, by ultra-high-speed rail, with a speed of 250 mph, may sound crazy in the U.S., but it's a reality in Europe and Asia. This idea, if implemented, like the King County Wastewater Treatment Division, would also have a positive impact on people and the environment: reducing congestion on our highways, reducing the travel time between these cities, and reducing carbon emissions. I can't wait to hear what Roger Millar, the Secretary of WSDOT, has to tell us about this exciting project.

Please join us for this month's virtual joint dinner meeting with the Tacoma/Olympia Section, and meditate on what your role is, as a civil engineer, in shaping our long-term future.

### **ASCE Convention Call for Presentations**



The ASCE 2020 Virtual Convention was a success thanks to the hard work and expert knowledge of our presenters. Do you have professional insights and industry best practices you'd be willing to share? We're looking for you!

The ASCE 2021 Technical Program Subcommittee is currently accepting proposals for presentations for the next ASCE Convention, taking place in Chicago, IL on October 6-9, 2021. Help us make the ASCE 2021 Convention a rewarding experience by submitting an abstract today. Interact with the Industry's best

and brightest civil engineers and engineering students while imparting your knowledge.

### **SUBMIT ABSTRACT**

#### Key Dates:

- Submissions Due: February 8, 2021
- Author notification: Late March, 2021



#### **APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR**

THE RICHARD WILLIAMSON JONES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

> STUDENTS APPLY BY JUNE 25, 2021

\$2,000 FOR YOUR EDUCATION!

### **Membership Survey**

### Help the ASCE Seattle Section better serve you!

As we transition into our new ASCE year, we want to hear from you! Please complete our brief <u>survey</u> to share what you'd like to see from our Section in the coming year.

Share with your coworkers and friends (ASCE membership not required). Participants will be entered into a raffle to win a \$25 gift card to GrubHub.

<ul><li>✓ ———</li><li>✓ ———</li></ul>	

### **ASCE Seattle History & Heritage Committee**

ASCE Seattle's History and Heritage Committee is meeting on December 12th at 8:30am via video and phone call-in. If you are interested in learning more about the committee and/or participating in their meetings, please reach out to <u>Cindy Hirsch</u>.

The Seattle Section History & Heritage Committee's charge is to fulfill the goal of ASCE's History and Heritage Committee (HHC), which is to enhance the knowledge and appreciation of the history and heritage of civil engineering for professionals and the public alike. <u>Read more here</u>.

### **ASCE Distinguished Members Class of 2020**

Check out the videos of this year's ASCE Distinguished Members accomplishments and acceptance speeches <u>on the ASCE website</u>, <u>here</u>.

Congratulations to the Seattle Sections two newest Distinguished Members: Steve Kramer and Ron Klemencic. Distinguished Membership is the highest honor ASCE can bestow. One class of recipients is formally inducted annually. "A Distinguished Member is a person who has attained eminence in some branch of engineering or in the arts and sciences related thereto, including the fields of engineering education and construction." DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS CLASS OF 2020

PROFILE VIDEOS



Thank you to Mike Harney and Doug Lindquist for preparing the nomination on behalf of the Seattle Section.



### LOCAL OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

### **ASCE Seattle Director Openings**

The Seattle Section is seeking volunteers for **Director of Technical Committees**. Please reach out to **Seattle Section President** if you are interested in volunteering!

#### **Director duties include:**

- Provide training, guidance, and assistance to committee leaders as may be necessary.
- Encourage, support, and assist Committee Chairs to apply for grants.
- Act as the committee advocate on the Board.
- Encourage committee activities that will foster ASCE goals and enhance member activity.
- Meet with the Committee Chairs periodically to provide them with positive assurance of Board support.

#### **Technical Committees include:**

- Geotechnical
- Ports & Harbors
- Structural
- Sustainability
- Urban Development & Transportation
- Water Resources
- WASafe

# Coming Soon! FREE Doer-Seller Workshop Series for Engineers!

ASCE Seattle is excited to welcome Mark Wainwright from <u>Wainwright Insight</u> for a 2021 virtual workshop series focusing on effective sales planning for doer-sellers. More information will be coming soon!

**Workshop Overview:** In professional services firms, skilled practitioners like architects, engineers, and other consultants are often responsible for finding and winning new work. These busy Doer-Sellers must balance doing the work and winning the work as they deliver on their current contractual commitments and build long-term client relationships. How can Doer-Sellers prepare for important, high-stakes conversations and meetings with prospective clients? What planning can help Doer-Sellers gain a competitive advantage when pursuing a new business opportunity? How can your firm shift from a "vendor mindset" to become a trusted advisor to your long-term clients? This workshop series is designed to give busy Doer-Sellers the planning concepts and tools they need to be successful "part-time salespeople".

**Intended Audience**: Those interested in effectively acquiring new clients and strengthening already existing client relationships. Professionals involved in revenue generation from any sized firm will find the content applicable.

#### More information, including workshop dates, times, and how to register will be coming soon.

**Speaker:** Mark Wainwright is the Owner and Principal of Wainwright Insight, an independent sales consulting firm focused on the professional services industry. Mark's work addresses a specific need—to improve the sales acumen of busy Doer-Sellers through 1-on-1 sales coaching and part-time, or fractional, sales management. Mark has 25 years of sales and marketing experience, the majority spent

finding and winning work with architecture, engineering, management consulting, and other professional services firms.

### Introducing WAsafe!

WAsafe is a new program to train, enroll and dispatch volunteers to perform post-disaster building safety assessments. These volunteers can assist city and county building officials whose workload, following a disaster such as an earthquake, flood, or catastrophic storm, is expected to be overwhelming.

There will be a pressing need to evaluate homes, businesses and shelters to confirm they are safe to occupy after a large disaster. Local governmental building officials will need additional labor resources to perform thousands of assessments on partially or significantly damaged buildings.

Volunteers will be deployed under Washington State's Good Samaritan Laws (RCW 38.52.180 -Immunity from liability for covered volunteers).



Check out the WAsafe flyer to learn more here!

### **Current Volunteer Opportunities**

### **North Branch Board & YMF**

The North Branch is currently looking for motivated individuals to be part of the North Branch Board starting from October 2020 until September 2021. We have the officer positions of **President**, **Vice President**, **and Secretary/Treasure**r open. The North Branch serves approximately 150 members in the counties of Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan, Island and Snohomish.

The 2020-2021 North Branch Board will help grow the Branch through member engagement and providing value to its members through events and communications such as membership meetings, email newsletters, and other means which the North Branch Board envisions as paths for growth to continue the momentum for the established Branch. The leadership positions will include the full support from the Seattle Section Board and its resources, leadership training opportunities for the new officers, and Society (ASCE National) level resources and contacts. Prior experience in ASCE leadership is not required. Please positions contact Tony Nguyen, Director of Branches, at branches@seattleasce.org for more information.

The North Branch is also seeking YMF volunteers to continue to maintain and grow it's YMF. Please contact Mark Rose, North Branch YMF President, at <u>mrose@geoengineers.com</u> for more information.

### **Diversity Committee**

The Seattle Section is looking for committee members to revitalize the Diversity Committee. If you are interested, please fill out this <u>google form</u> and we will get started on creating a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive community for our membership! The first ask in the committee will be to propose modifications to the mission and responsibilities of the committee.

**Mission:** The mission of the ASCE Diversity Committee is to enhance access to the profession for minorities; to empower existing members to become visible mentors and counteract historical imbalances in the workforce; and to demonstrate that diversity and inclusion contribute to a healthy, productive work environment.

**Responsibilities:** The Diversity Committee shall be responsible for promoting awareness of ASCE policies with respect to diversity, as well as legislation and local regulations regarding equal employment opportunity.

### **Legislative Committee**

If you are interested in joining the <u>Legislative Affairs Committee</u>, please reach out to <u>legislative@seattleasce.org</u>.

ASCE Seattle Section is searching for volunteers to assist with the Legislative Affairs Committee. The level of Involvement can vary and can include providing engineering judgement on current legislative issues to assisting with lobbying. The committee is interested in a Legislative Drive-In to Olympia during the 2020 WA State Legislative Session.

The Legislative Committee functions in the political arena with focus on federal, state, county or other governmental issues that are of interest to the civil engineering profession; such as university engineering budget considerations, issues that affect the practice of or employment of civil engineers, and environmental issues of significance to the profession. The committee reviews proposed legislation and comments on it with regards to its effect on the civil engineering profession and may also be called upon to testify at Legislative hearings or for other governmental committees. It is also responsible for disseminating information from the Architects and Engineers Legislative Council (AELC) pertaining to state legislation. The committee typically sends at least one representative to the Society's annual Legislative Fly-In in Washington D.C.



### **ASCE Seattle Job Board**

### **Current Job Openings:**



#### Principal Engineer | Clark Regional Wastewater District Posted: 11/13/2020

**Clark Regional Wastewater District** is seeking a **Principal Engineer** to join their team as the head of the Transmission and Treatment division. Excellent career development opportunity to apply a specialized knowledge of engineering and managerial principles and practices to achieve the overall goals and objectives of the regional program. The ideal candidate is professional, collaborative, a leader, and a strong communicator. Competitive salary and benefits including PERS retirement, employer paid medical, dental and vision (employee and family), paid time-off, and professional training and development. Great opportunity to join a financially strong, growing utility and work together to build consensus for regional wastewater programs and solutions. Located in Southwest Washington, take advantage of the beauty of the Pacific Northwest, just minutes from the Columbia River Gorge, Cascade Mountains and Oregon coast. Please review the position description and submittal requirements at www.CRWWD.com. The position will remain open until filled. An Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.



#### Geotechnical Engineer - Buff Stability & Coastal Focus | Coastal Geologic Services Posted: 11/16/2020

Coastal Geologic Services (CGS) is currently looking to hire a full time Geotechnical (Civil) Engineer for the Engineering and Design Group at our Bellingham, WA office. The position will cover coastal bluff and beach system analysis, design, and field oversight. The position includes mid-level engineering and project management as part of our small team, which includes engineering and coastal geologists, a senior coastal engineer, CAD, and GIS staff. The successful candidate will be working in conjunction with these staff to support and lead projects through the application of engineering and geologic principles and techniques. The successful candidate needs to have strong communication skills and be able to work independently and with teams to apply critical thinking skills to solve technical issues and develop project-specific solutions.



#### Coastal Engineer - Restoration & Sea Level Rise Resilience Focus | Coastal Geologic Services Posted: 11/16/2020

Coastal Geologic Services is accepting resumes from qualified professionals for a mid-level/ junior to mid-level Coastal Engineer position in our North Puget Sound (Bellingham, WA) office.

#### Responsibilities

Analyze conditions and design project elements for beach and estuarine systems focusing on coastal process restoration, nearshore habitat enhancement, erosion control, and sea level rise utilizing beach nourishment, logs, vegetation, coastal structure removal and modification, and water crossing upgrades. Conduct field measurements, model flooding, waves, sediment transport, and coastal evolution/morphodynamics of mixed sand-gravel beach and estuarine systems including inlet processes. Create and manage project elements, working both independently and as a team member. Effectively manage client needs. collaborate on and/or lead grants and proposals.

## Click to View Full Descriptions & How to Apply!

Advertise your current open positions to ASCE Seattle members today for only \$75 for the first month and \$50 for each subsequent month. Email communications@seattleasce.org to learn more.

### DID YOU KNOW?

All ASCE Seattle Members are always invited to join the Seattle Section Board Members at the monthly Board Meeting. Interested in attending? Check the <u>calendar on the ASCE Seattle website</u> for the meeting time and location and email <u>president@seattleasce.org</u> if you plan on joining us!

