



October 21, 2021

Dear ASCE Institute, Region, Section, Branch, Younger Member and Student Leaders:

As you know, building professional networks and personal relationships through in-person engagement is at the heart of all that ASCE does. While we take great pride in the work our volunteer leaders and staff have done over the past 18 months to provide exciting and informative virtual activities for our members and customers, we also look forward to resuming face-to-face conferences and events in the coming months.

Of course, this enthusiasm must always be balanced against our foremost obligation to consider the health and safety of our members, our staff, and the public. In keeping with the best practices currently recommended by health officials and the meetings industry, and the requirements imposed by many meeting venues, **ASCE's Board of Direction has adopted a policy requiring full vaccination against COVID-19 for all attendees and staff at Society-level events**, excepting those individuals with qualifying medical or religious exemptions.

This policy applies to Society-level events, such as ASCE's national and international technical conferences, committee meetings, workshops, and seminars. While we encourage sections, branches, institute chapters, student chapters and all other constituent groups to adopt a similar policy, ASCE believes that decision should be made by local leadership based on factors specific to their events, including event size, level of community spread, and requirements recommended or imposed by state or local authorities, venues, or hosting entities.

Given the persistent effects of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we will also observe in-person meeting protocols for Society-level events intended to reduce the transmission of communicable illness, including but not limited to the use of masks, enhanced cleaning protocols, modifications to food service, and seating configurations that allow for distancing. Details regarding these protocols, as well as the vaccination requirements, will be posted on the registration page for each event. Guidance regarding best practices to manage health and safety continues to evolve as the pandemic runs its course, and we will adjust these policies as needed.

Please note that previously announced restrictions on in-person meetings, as referenced in the attached earlier memo, remain in effect at least through the end of the calendar year. Virtual meetings offer numerous benefits in support of ASCE's mission and goals, allowing greater participation from individuals who do not have the time or resources to travel, reducing overall meeting expenses, and supporting our sustainability goals by lowering the carbon impact of our organization. We strongly encourage our volunteer leaders to consider these factors in their future planning to conduct in-person events only when the in-person component is critical.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we take this important step to restore our operations, keeping in mind our ethical obligation to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. We appreciate your continued efforts on behalf of ASCE and look forward to moving the Society and the nation to a brighter post-covid future.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis D. Truax". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dennis D. Truax, Ph.D., P.E., DEE, D.WRE, F.ASCE  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas W. Smith III". The signature is cursive and includes a small "III" at the end. There is a horizontal line underlining the signature.

Thomas W. Smith III, ENV SP, CAE, F.ASCE  
Executive Director



August 17, 2021

Dear ASCE Institute, Region, Section, Branch, Younger Member and Student Leaders:

As you know, in our previous memo to Sections and Branches, we encouraged the use of virtual alternatives for all activities through Labor Day. Unfortunately, the advent of the Delta variant has resulted in a significant increase in the number of covid cases with more than two-thirds of all counties in the U.S. reporting high levels of community transmission.

Again, recognizing our professional and ethical responsibility to protect the health and safety of our members and the public at large, ASCE does not believe the current circumstances allow for a relaxation of our existing guidance. Accordingly, all ASCE entities are **encouraged to pursue alternate options, such as the use of virtual platforms, for all meetings and events for the remainder of the calendar year (until Monday, January 3, 2022).**

As noted in our previous guidance, decisions to conduct in-person events should be made only after a thorough consideration of how critical in-person involvement is to attain the desired objectives, and the ability to observe all recommended safety protocols and procedures. This of course includes strict compliance with all applicable state and local requirements for gatherings and events as well as current guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control.

Note that ASCE staff business travel also remains restricted through the end of the year.

We again thank you for your continued diligence in leading our Society and we appreciate the hard-work and resilience you have exhibited in meeting the challenges of these past many months.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Briaud'.

Jean-Louis Briaud, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE, Dist.M.ASCE  
ASCE President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas W. Smith III'.

Thomas W. Smith III, ENV SP, CAE, F.ASCE  
Executive Director