

# ASCE NJ SECTION NEWSLETTER

## APRIL 2016



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## You're Invited!

### to the 42nd Annual Awards Dinner

### May 6, 2016

ASCE New Jersey Section's Annual Awards Dinner will be held Friday May 6, 2016 at the APA Hotel Woodbridge (formerly Woodbridge Hilton).

The Annual Awards Dinner is the event where we celebrate the accomplishments of our peers, and where we honor excellence in the field of civil engineering.

The Section is pleased to announce and recognize this year's Award Recipients

#### **Civil Engineer of the Year**

Robert V. Kiser, PE  
Township of Princeton

#### **Government Engineer of the Year**

Lamis T. Malak, PE  
NJ Turnpike Authority

#### **Service to the People**

Kris Kolluri  
Rutgers/Rowan-Camden Board of Governors

#### **Young Civil Engineer of the Year**

Steven Esposito  
WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff

#### **Educator of the Year**

Wen Zhang, Ph.D.  
New Jersey Institute of Technology

#### **Project of the Year**

The BEAST  
Rutgers Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation

Registration is open NOW by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Cost to attend: \$90 per person  
\$850 for a reserved table of 10

**SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE (\$250 Basic; \$1300 Premier)**

## President's Message

Winter is behind us as we've made it to spring! This month I'm officially halfway through my Presidency for the 2015 – 2016 year. I'm proud of what we've accomplished so far this year and I'm looking forward to finishing out my term on a high note. Please reach out to our officers to see how you can be part of making this year a success!



During the Multi-Regional Leadership Conference held in Pittsburgh, I learned about quite a few new Society initiatives. One initiative that peaks my interest is known as the Grand Challenge. As we all well know, investments needed to improve our infrastructure continue to increase well beyond available funding. ASCE has issued a grand challenge to civil engineers and the industry to significantly enhance the performance and value of infrastructure projects over their life cycles by 2025 and to foster the optimization of infrastructure investments for society. To reach this goal, our profession must influence major policy changes and infrastructure funding levels, while challenging civil engineers to focus on innovation, rethink life cycle costs, and drive transformation change.

ASCE launched an Innovation Contest to encourage professionals, educators, and students to share their most creative ideas for reshaping our nation's infrastructure. Contest entries fit into four categories; Green Engineering, Innovative Business Models and Technologies, Internet of Things, and Resilience. From dozens of submissions, 15 winners were named. This first-ever contest met its goal of stimulating interest and providing a platform for ideas to be brought forward. I am looking forward to seeing many of these innovations change society's daily life.

ASCE has also introduced a four-part webinar services on strategies to close the gap between infrastructure needs and funding. If this initiative interests you as much as it does me, please visit ASCE's webpage for additional information.

I want to remind you that this year's signature event for the New Jersey Section will be the 42nd Annual Awards Dinner held on Friday, May 6, 2016 at the APA Hotel Woodbridge. There was tough competition in each of the categories this year. Congratulations to all of our award winners. Sponsorships for the event are still available. This event is a fantastic time to network with colleagues and award winners alike. I hope to see you all there!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Summerville'.

Brad Summerville  
ASCE New Jersey Section President  
bradsummerville@ptconsultants.com

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NORTH JERSEY BRANCH

May 5: Bayonne Bridge Tour & Presentation (morning event)

June 2: Evening Geotechnical Seminar at the Crowne Plaza Fairfield

### CENTRAL JERSEY BRANCH

May 17: See "The BEAST"  
Rutgers CAIT

### SOUTH JERSEY BRANCH

May 26th: SJASCE SEI Inaugural Meeting - SEI National President David Odeh will be presenting on BIM at Maggiano's Cherry Hill

June 10th: Awards Luncheon - (Location TBD)

July 15th: Golf Outing at Pitman Golf Course

\*\*\*\*\*

ASCE National Election has a  
New Jersey 'Twist'

NJ Section's Robin Kemper and Las Vegas Section's Kristina Swallow are this year's candidates for ASCE President-Elect.

See more about the election  
on page 6



# future City COMPETITION

**2016 Theme:  
"Waste Not,  
Want Not"**

## Team Nazif Wins NJ Regional Competition!

The Future City Competition is a program developed for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students to help them discover and foster interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers. Future City is one of the few outreach activities in New Jersey that brings together the education community, local engineering alumni, engineering firms and various professional societies. Program participants are committed to showing students that "STEM" can be fun. In recent years the Regional Competition has grown to over 500 participants, and the feedback from both students and teachers has been exceedingly positive, with exclamations of an excellent engineering experience!

This year's NJ Regional Competition Day was held on Saturday January 16, 2016 at Rutgers University in Piscataway. Students worked in teams and were assisted by a teacher and mentor, generally an engineer or science professional, to: design their city, build a scale model, write a technical essay and make a presentation to judges at the Regional Competition. The winning regional team, Team Nazif, from Valley View Middle School in Watchung, went on to represent the state at the National Competition in Washington D.C. in February. More information can be found at: <http://www.futurecity.org>.



*2016 NJ Regional Future City Competition: Team Nazif from Valley View Middle School in Watchung took home first place in the regional competition. Nazif team members Sam Fechtner, Kaelin Churchill, Cristina Sarrico, and Mario Martino are pictured here with ASCE NJ's Jean Hansen.*



# DISCOVER ENGINEERS WEEK

**FEBRUARY 21-27, 2016**

## New Jersey Celebrates Engineers Week

National Engineers Week is a yearly event celebrated every February to raise awareness about engineering.

The North Jersey Branch of ASCE hosted two days of events (Feb 15 & 21) at the Liberty Science Center to celebrate engineers and showcase the marvels of engineering. The events hosted thousands of children and parents who had the chance to participate in educational programs and activities, with the assistance of nearly 200 dedicated volunteers. Visitors had the chance to try some engineering for themselves and -- through our hands-on activities and interactive exhibits -- learn about different problems that engineers work to solve every day.



## Learn..... and help NJ Section EARN!

Register for any ASCE Webinar using the link and code on the NJ Section Website, and 20% of your purchase will go to the Section! Go to [www.ascenjs.org](http://www.ascenjs.org) and click on the image to take advantage of this offer

TAKE ANY ASCE WEBINAR

**20% OF YOUR PURCHASE**  
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USE CODE: WEBNJSEC

## REPORT CARD for \*\*\* america's \*\*\* INFRASTRUCTURE

### NJ To Roll Out Report Card in June 2016

ASCE NJ Section has been working diligently for the last year preparing the 2016 Infrastructure Report Card. Led by Luis Barragan, Mike Sears and Greg Landry, the Report Card Task Force has engaged Category Leaders to pull together and review data from all across the state for virtually all the major infrastructure areas.

The Report Card was recently reviewed by ASCE's staff, and is in the process of being revised and finalized. After all the hard work and volunteer efforts to bring this important compilation together, the Section anticipates the 2016 NJ Report Card will be released in early June. Watch the newsletter and your email for more details.

Are **YOU** a Gamechanger?



 **GAMECHANGERS**



### 2016 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award: Vietnam's Dragon Bridge

In the end, the fire-breathing dragon could not be denied. Vietnam's Dragon Bridge, owned by the Da Nang Department of Transportation, and designed by Louis Berger and Ammann & Whitney, was named the recipient of the 2016 ASCE Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award during the annual OPAL Gala, March 17, in Arlington, VA. The bridge links the city of Da Nang across the Han River to the country's developing eastern shores, nearby beach resorts, and a route to the town of Hoi An. And its dragon-shaped design has made the bridge an instant tourist attraction and symbol of the city. "We're thrilled to win this award," Ammann & Whitney CEO and President Nick Ivanoff told the Gala audience. "We certainly want to commend all of the finalists as well as all of the individuals who received wonderful honors today." ASCE's annual OCEA Award honors projects that best illustrates superior civil engineering skills and represents a significant contribution to civil engineering progress and society. Honoring an overall project rather than an individual, the award celebrates the contributions of many engineers.

## INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE NEWS: NATIONAL PARKS, AVIATION AND INNOVATION



It's National Park Week, the Senate passed its version of the FAA Reauthorization Bill, and more suggestions for improving infrastructure through technological innovation have been floating around the week's news headlines.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of our National Park Service. According to National Geographic, the National Park maintenance backlog has reached nearly \$12 billion, the worst in the system's history. It is important to invest in our nation's national parks not only because they are popular, but because of the economic value they offer. In March, the House Natural Resources Committee approved the National Park Service Centennial Act, which would provide nearly \$50 million annually for national park needs. Also, the energy bill that the Senate just passed, would add \$25 million for these park projects as well as \$150 million for deferred park maintenance needs. While these funding initiatives are a step in the right direction, much more needs to be done to protect and maintain our National Park System for the next 100 years.

This week was also a big one for aviation as the Senate finally passed the FAA Reauthorization Bill. House leadership must now decide whether to try to amend the Senate's bill to more closely resemble Rep. Shuster's bill, which includes air traffic control privatization, or to pass a less controversial version of the bill. The current extension of FAA runs until July 15. An op-ed in The Hill expands upon the importance of modernizing our airports to make sure they can accommodate increased passenger and cargo demand. The article also suggests that modernizing the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) user fee would be a good step in that direction, as it would allow more local control thereby making airports less reliant on increasingly limited federal funds. Unfortunately neither the House nor Senate bill adjusts the PFC.

Aside from addressing National Parks and aviation, there have been a few articles this week exploring the potential of technology and innovation in improving our infrastructure. The TransitCenter and Center for Neighborhood Technology just released a new interactive tool called AllTransit, which collects data from more than 800 transit agencies into a comprehensive set of metrics and maps that break down public transportation opportunities by census block. All of this information is then collected into a performance score between one and 10, revealing the conditions of the nation's transit agencies.

An article in Fusion magazine also outlined the role of technology in addressing our infrastructure problems, exploring the idea of developing tools to keep our cities from deteriorating further. In Los Angeles, a group of public sector technologists have banded together to try and solve the city's infrastructure problems using home-grown tools like sewer drones and traffic dashboards. Innovative ideas like these are also highlighted in ASCE's GameChangers report, which shows how communities across the country have developed solutions to infrastructure challenges.

In order to innovate and improve our infrastructure needs nationwide, it is important that local, state and federal governments work together to find long-term, sustainable funding that will allow for such improvement.



**ASCE 2016  
CONVENTION**  
PORTLAND, OREGON  
SEP. 28 - OCT. 1



**ISSUES**



**ADVOCACY**

## ASCE Presidential Elections include one of New Jersey's Own

When ASCE's National Election opens up on May 1, members will see a member of the NJ Section on the ballot for President-Elect.

Robin A. Kemper, PE (New Jersey) and Kristina L. Swallow, PE, (Las Vegas) are this year's candidates for the ASCE presidential office. Click the candidate photos below to learn more about them

In order to participate in the election, members at the grade of Associate or above may vote. Members must pay their dues no later than March 15 and have a valid email address on file. Election credentials will be sent by email to eligible members on May 1.

### Voting will be open from May 1 to June 1.

ELECTION CREDENTIALS ARE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE, IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE THEM, PLEASE CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE, 1-800-548-2723.

## Legislative Fly-In: March 13-15

Are you an ASCE member interested in walking the halls of Capitol Hill and learning firsthand how policy is crafted?

Every spring, ASCE holds its Legislative Fly-In Program in Washington, DC, an intensive two-day program that provides participants with an inside look at the political process.

The 2016 Fly-in, held March 13-15th in Washington, DC, included:

- Meetings on The Hill with your Members of Congress or their staff
- Briefing sessions on key legislation active in Congress
- Training on lobbying and influencing your elected leaders
- Networking with your ASCE peers from across the country
- A Younger Member Program
- Tips on continuing relationships with your elected officials once you return home

For additional information about ASCE Advocacy Efforts, contact:

ASCE Government Relations Department  
101 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Suite 375 East  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Phone: 202-789-7850

**Why Join?  
Why Stay?  
Why ASCE?**

5

FREE PDHS PER YEAR

35

TECHNICAL JOURNALS  
TO HELP BUILD  
PROFESSIONAL  
KNOWLEDGE

250

DAYS OF TOP NEWS TO  
STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH  
THE CIVIL ENGINEERING  
INDUSTRY

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## MORETRENCH

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Contact Mona Cavalcoli at [mcavalcoli@gmail.com](mailto:mcavalcoli@gmail.com) for more details.

### 2015-2016 Sponsorship Opportunities

### Make an Impact!



There are over 4,000 ASCE members in New Jersey. By becoming an ASCE Sponsor, your company will gain recognition across a wide audience of professional engineers. Through newsletter distribution, posters displayed at technical dinners, recognition as a supporter of scholarships for engineering students or an Annual Awards Event -- there are many options for your company to be known as a dedicated supporter of the engineering profession in New Jersey.

**Sponsor the Section, your local Branch, or ALL**

**Sign up on one form, with one check!**

**Section Awards Dinner**  
May 2016

**South Branch Awards Luncheon**  
May 2016

Checks should be made payable to:  
ASCE NJ Section.

To pay with credit card, contact Mona Cavalcoli at ASCE (718.728.8469)

**Return this form and your payment, or contact Mona Cavalcoli to sign up now ([mcavalcoli@gmail.com](mailto:mcavalcoli@gmail.com))**

Select the Type of Sponsorship you want, and the demographic (Section, Branch, or combination)	Where in NJ Do you want to make the most impact? You can choose sponsorship in just one branch (North Central or South) or across the entire State/Section -- or a combination! See opportunities available below.				
What Kind of Recognition Do you Want? do you want one-time only at an awards dinner? or year-round recognition in a newsletter?	Section (entire State)	North Branch	Central Branch	South Branch	Subtotal
Newsletter Only	\$250	\$250			
Awards Dinner Only	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
Scholarship Sponsor Only	\$250	\$250		\$200	
Standard Package [includes newsletter, awards dinner sponsorship (recognition only - no dinner tix), and scholarship donation - PLUS, sponsor spotlight article in newsletter - see p.2 for more details]	\$750	\$750 (also incl logo on sponsor poster at all NJB tech dinners)			
Premier Package (includes newsletter, awards dinner sponsorship, table of 10 at Section Awards Dinner and scholarship donation - PLUS, sponsor spotlight article in newsletter - see p.2 for more details)	\$1500				
Subtotal					
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>					<b>0</b>

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