



EVENT CALENDAR:

January

15th - Water Resource
Group Meeting - Lincoln
- UNL Campus

February

12th - Geotechnical Group
Meeting - Omaha

13th - Annual Geotechnical
Conference - Omaha

19th - E-Week Banquet

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

From The President

Civil Engineers and Public
Policy - ASCE Policy
Statements (Part 4)

2008 ASCE Younger Member
Leadership Symposium and
Annual Conference

Civil Engineers and Public
Policy - The U.S. Chamber of
Commerce Report

Future City Judges Needed

Outreach Kits Available

January 2009

PRESENTING

The Water Resource Group Presents:

*"From Design to Experiment - Adaptive Management,
Ecosystem Rehabilitation, and Collaboration on the Platte
River"*

Thursday, January 15th

Featuring: Chad Smith, Director of Natural Resources - Headwaters
Corporation

Chad is Director of Natural Resources for Headwaters Corporation, a natural resources systems management consulting firm that specializes in the integration of science, engineering, policy, and socioeconomics. Chad is chief scientist for the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program) and is leading efforts to implement the Program's innovative Adaptive Management Plan.

In 1996, Chad received a Master of Public Affairs in Environmental Policy and Natural Resources Management from Indiana University-Bloomington's School of Public and Environmental Affairs, and he received a B.S. in fisheries and wildlife from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1994. From 1998 to 2007, Chad was Director of American Rivers' Nebraska Field Office, leading work on water policy issues such as water scarcity and supply, drought, stream appropriation, and river governance.

He was appointed a member of the collaborative Nebraska Water Policy
(Continued Page 3)

Location: University of Nebraska - Lincoln, Othmer Hall, Rm 106
17th and Vine Streets, Lincoln

Times: Social and Pizza 6:30
Meeting and Presentation 7:00

Menu: Pizza and Pop - \$10

Spouses and guests are welcome. Price is \$10.00 without meal. Student meals FREE. RSVP by 12 PM Tuesday, January 13th to rsvp@neasce.org.
Subject Line: ASCE RSVP

Deadline for articles to be published in the
February newsletter will be January 26th. Email
articles to Aaron Grote at editor@neasce.org

2008-2009
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From the President

- Marie Maly, P.E.



Marie Maly, P.E. President of ASCE

Happy New Year! I hope that you had a wonderful December, with time for family and for celebrating. As we dive in to 2009, I would like to propose a New Year's Resolution for all of our members: to be an advocate for Civil Engineering.

There are several tools an advocate can use:

Interest – your desire to contribute and commitment to seek opportunities to grow

Information – become a Key Contact (<http://www.asce.org/keycontacts>), attend meetings, read articles about legislative happenings

Experience – draw on your experience as a practicing Civil Engineer to educate others

Partners – build coalitions for single issue and try to think outside the box

Acceptance – celebrate victories, even the partial victories

To learn more, visit ASCE's new Government Relations website (<http://content.asce.org/gr/>). The website includes quick links, information on the 2009 Federal and State Priority Issues, news, and other resources. The 111th United States Congress begins meeting on January 3, 2009, and the first session of Nebraska's

101st Legislature will convene on January 7, 2009. Through our affiliation with the Professional Engineers Coalition, the Nebraska Section of ASCE will keep you up to date on issues of interest, but please contact any of our Board members if there is an item you would like investigated or you have ideas on how we can help our members be advocates for the profession.

I would like to give a very big thank you to Daren Konda, who planned our November Section Meeting. He did a great job finding a new meeting location and staying on top of things despite last minute speaker changes.

Please join us on Thursday, January 15 for our Joint Section – UNL Student Chapter meeting. The UNL Chapter will be hosting, and dinner is a bargain at \$10. We hope to see you in Lincoln; I'm sure
(Continued Page 3)

(From The President, page 2)

the Student Members and Section members will benefit from the chance to mingle.

The Nebraska Section's February meeting will be a week earlier than usual – on Thursday, February 12. The Annual Geotechnical Conference will be on Friday, February 13, leaving the following week open for E-Week activities, including the banquet on Thursday, February 19. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend all three!

2008 ASCE Younger Member Leadership Symposium and Annual Conference

- Joe Flaxbeard

I recently had the opportunity to attend the ASCE Younger Member Leadership Symposium and Annual Conference, November 6-8 in Pittsburgh, PA. Pittsburgh and surrounding Allegheny County have both shown a commitment to improving public infrastructure in the area. Rebuilding our nation's infrastructure is an incredibly important topic in the engineering community and beyond, therefore the setting for the conference could not have been more appropriate. Topics of the symposium and conference included involvement and leadership in ASCE, political advocacy, communication, ethics in engineering projects, career development, and the importance of repairing our nation's infrastructure. In addition to the many informational sessions, speakers, and activities, the conference was a great opportunity to network with other engineers and my fellow younger members nationwide.

November Meeting Hosted by the Management Group

Thanks to Daren Konda for planning the November Meeting. The list below can be considered official documentation of attendances at the November meeting worth 1 PDH credit.

Daren Konda	Marie Maly
Ron Bottorff	Stacy Heusel
Dan Thiele	Camilo Torres
Pat Douse	Diane Jones
Eric Williams	Keith Mattecheck
Aaron Buettner	Ed Thiele
Jeff Kopocis	Mike Naccarato
Loras Klostermann	Jay Ling
Jorge Rivero	Ed Prost
Amelia Toellner	Steve Bottum
Ticha Perez	Mike Reif
Dan Weber	Tom Jizba
Andy Wester	Brian Havens
Josh Storm	Jeff Euisr

(Featured Speaker, page 1)

Task Force by Governor Dave Heineman in May 2006, and was also a member of the Task Force's Instream Flow Subcommittee. In 2006, Chad accepted a Special Appointment to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Community and Regional Planning Department where he co-taught two courses in Environmental Planning and Policy. Chad is also currently a PhD student in Adaptive Management and Applied Ecology in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Civil Engineers and Public Policy – The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Report

In April of 2008, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce re-leased The Transportation Challenge: Moving the U.S. Economy. The report was summarized in the May 2008 edition of Civil Engineering magazine. A few interesting points:

- Vehicle miles of travel are likely to increase 80% in the next 30 years.
- Transportation infrastructure is vital for the five economic sectors that account for 84% of the U.S. economy (agriculture and natural resources, manufacturing, retail, services, and transportation).
- The average U.S. household spends 1/5 their income on transportation. About 95% of that is for self-provided transportation.
- Transportation spending drops with age, similarly to income.
- Of the approximately 60 cents per mile that drivers now pay to operate the car, only one cent of this is paid in federal fuel taxes to the Highway Trust Fund.

For more, see: <http://www.uschamber.com/publications/reports/0804transportationchallenge.htm>. This page includes an executive summary, as well as links for the full report (119 pages) and a report summary (24 pages).

November Section Meeting Recap

Nearly 30 ASCE members arrived at the Fox and Hound in Omaha for the Nebraska Section's November meeting on Tuesday, November 18. Due to the special session of the Unicameral, Sen. Tony Fulton was unable to join us. Fortunately, Dan Weber, CEO and Executive Coach from Peak Pathways, LLC, gave a wonderful presentation on Career Success and Satisfaction that Endure in Tough Economic Times. Dan suggested that we choose rather than wait to be chosen. His advice: choose your ideal job from here, choose your employer, choose success, and choose to navigate the cycle of renewal (learn, change, grow, and succeed). Thanks for attending!

Civil Engineers and Public Policy – ASCE Policy Statements (Part 4)

A policy statement is a broad overview of policy on a topic of continuing concern to the civil engineering profession. ASCE has 165 policy statements on a variety of topics (two were added at the Board of Direction meeting in Pittsburgh last November). This month, we will take a look at the Procurement/Contract Issues, International, Legal Reform, Water Resources, and Diversity policy statements. Since we had so much news in November, we have more policy statements to cover this month... so in the interest of space, only the topic for the policy statement is given. For more information, see: <https://www.asce.org/pressroom/news/policy.cfm>.

Procurement/Contract Issues

PS 400: Design Build Procurement.
PS 439: Design Competition.
PS 138: Engineering Services for Government Agencies.
PS 520: Government Fee Withholding.
PS 509: Off-shoring of Engineering Services.
PS 304: Qualifications Based Selections of Professional Engineers.
PS 492: Use of Electronic Signatures.
PS 388: Use of Warranty and Guarantee Clauses in Contracts for Engineering Services.

International

PS 506: Capacity Building.
PS 517: Millennium Development Goals.
PS 146: Relationships with International Engineering Organizations.

Legal Reform

PS 256: Alternative Dispute Resolution.
PS 443: Indemnification for Pro Bono Service.
PS 364: Prevention of Frivolous Lawsuits.
PS 318: Professional Liability/Tort Reform.
PS 508: Sole Source Workers Compensation Statue.

Water Resources Management

PS 275: Atmospheric Water Resources Management.
PS 513: Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials.
PS 312: Cooperation on Water Resource Project.
PS 302: Cost Sharing in Water Resources Infrastructure Programs.

PS 407: Desalination.
PS 462: Disinfection of Drinking Water.
PS 348: Emergency Management Planning by Water Providers.
PS 515: Evaluation of Federal Water Resource Projects.
PS 243: Groundwater Management.
PS 447: Hydrologic Data Collection.
PS 361: Implementation of Safe Drinking Water Regulations.
PS 519: Peer Review of Water Resources Projects.
PS 408: Planning and Management for Droughts.
PS 522: Regional Sediment Management.
PS 441: Storm Water Management.
PS 480: Waste-, Storm-, and Drinking-Water Infrastructure Funding.
PS: 337: Water Conservation.
PS 422: Watershed Management.
PS 409: Weather Surveillance Technology.

Diversity

PS 417: Achieving Diversity and Equity.

Outreach Kits Available

Outreach kits are available for your use. See www.neasce.org for more information (including flyers for engineers and teachers/troop leaders) and email outreach@neasce.org if you can volunteer your time to a teacher requesting a kit or would like to check one out for a group of youngsters you already know.

FUTURE CITY JUDGES NEEDED!!

Hello Nebraska Section of ASCE,

I am the Future City Coordinator for the Nebraska Section of ASCE. If you are not familiar with the Future City Competition, it is a hands-on program for 7th and 8th grade students that focuses on engineering (www.futurecity.org). I've been a mentor in the program for 3 years and am organizing the competition in Omaha this year. I've seen so much enthusiasm for engineering from young students that are involved in this program. This is most evident on the day of the competition. This year's competition will be held Saturday January 17, 2009 in Omaha.

I am looking for volunteers to help score written papers (based on a pre-selected topic) that the student wrote before the competition (the week before) and judges to score presentations and models the day of the competition. I also need a volunteers to help with forms, score keeping, and potentially media. Every portion of the competition has a rubric, which makes the judging fairly simple.

If you are interested in helping with this program or have questions please send me your name, company, address, email, and phone number. In order to have a successful event, we will need your help. Please let me know as soon as possible.

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Liz Roesler, EIT
Geotechnical Engineer
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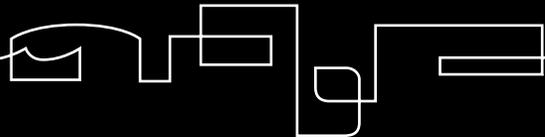
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