

EVENT CALENDAR:

April

14th - Transportation Meeting (Omaha)

15th - Transportation Conference (Omaha)

14th-16th - 2011 Structures Congress (Las Vegas)

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

April Meeting Information

From The President

March Meeting Hosted by the Environmental Group

2011 ASCE / LOCATE Transportation Conference

ASCE Scholarships

2011 Structures Congress

April Meeting

April 2011

The Transportation Technical Group Presents:

Roadway Wind/Solar Hybrid Power Generation and Distribution System- Towards Energy Plus Roadways

Joint Meeting with the University of Nebraska-Omaha Student Chapter

Thursday, April 14th, 2011

Presenter: Anuj Sharma, Ph.D.

Location: Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano
13655 California Street
Omaha, NE 68154

Times:	Social Hour	5:30 - 6:00 p.m.
	Dinner	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
	Meeting and Presentation	7:00 p.m.

Menu: Family Style Meal (House Salad, Rigatoni Ala Bolognese, Chicken Parmesan, Garlic Mashed Potatoes.)

** If you require a vegetarian option, please contact John Smith at 402-399-1007 or John.Smith@hdrinc.com

Payment: Price is \$20 for meal and presentation. Spouses and guests are welcome. Price is \$10 without the meal. Meals are free for ASCE Student Members. Register online by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday April 12th at www.neasce.org/meal_signup.

Please pay at the door by check or cash only. A receipt will be given upon request. To assure ample preparation of meals, all persons planning to attend, regardless of price, must register at www.neasce.org/meal_signup.

Deadline for articles to be published in the May newsletter will be May 2nd. Email articles to Greg Seib at editor@neasce.org

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From the President

- Aaron Buettner, P.E., M.ASCE

Thanks to Lara Syrocki, our Environmental Technical Chair for her efforts in setting up an interesting and well attended March meeting. The work that Engineers Without Borders (EWB) is doing in undeveloped areas around the world is very commendable. If you would like to become involved with the local EWB group by either volunteering your time or providing a monetary donation, please visit <http://www.ewb-usa.org/chapters.php?ID=1160>.

It was also very interesting to hear from future engineers and scientists from Omaha North High. Students involved in the InvenTeams project associated with MIT gave a presentation on their project that will help provide sustainable methods for cooking in developing countries. These methods include an efficient cooking stove and briquets of fuel that can be manufactured from local sources without having to clear-cut forests. It's good to know that the next generation is already preparing for the challenges of the future.

John Smith and Ticha Rohan have been working on an excellent Transportation Conference that will be held at the Scott Conference Center in Omaha on April 15th. Make sure you have your taxes filed a couple of days early so that you can attend this informative and beneficial conference. Also, mark your calendars for the April Section meeting that will be held on April 14th at Biaggi's in Omaha. The topic will be roadway wind/solar hybrid power generation. This should be an interesting topic and I look forward to seeing you there.



Aaron Buettner, P.E., President of NE-ASCE

Lastly, I wanted to provide a brief update on the partial practice act for licensing as a structural engineer. As I mentioned last month Pete Vaccaro, SEAON President, attended our March Board meeting. After a lengthy discussion, the Board recommended a few edits to the proposed language. Once the updated document is provided to the board we will review it and likely take action in support of this update to the licensing act. If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact me or a Board member.

-Aaron M. Buettner, P.E., M.ASCE

March Meeting Hosted by the Environmental Group

Thanks to the Environmental Group for hosting the March meeting. The list below can be considered official documentation of attendance at the March 24th meeting worth 1 PDH credit.

Lara Syrocki
John Hill
Loras Klostermann
Mike Sklenar
Lauren Swadener
Jordan Engel
Daniela Garcia
Lee Kallstrom
Joe Flaxbeard
Mark Nelson

Brian Havens
Shannon DeVivo
Jo Whitaker
Ticha Rohan
Amelia Toellner
Nicole Essex
Kristi Nohavec
Karla Romereim
Ed Prost

Shannon Bartelt-Hunt
John Smith
Greg Seib
David Holtzclaw
Cassie Brumbaugh
Jesse Epperson
Alex Ives
Aaron Grote

Caleb Beasley
Daren Konda
Mike McMeekin
Bill Arneson
Mike Reif
Aaron Buettner
Janis Pfignsten
Susan Randall

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2011 ASCE/LOCATE Transportation Conference

Date: Friday April 15th, 2011

Location: Scott Conference Center
6450 Pine Street, Omaha, NE

Parking in Lot 9 across from the Scott Conference Center is complimentary.

Registration fee is \$110 before April 11, 2011 and \$135 after this date

The fee covers sessions, continental breakfast, lunch, and handout materials.

Student, speaker, and planning committee registration is free; however, a completed registration form is required.

For registration and payment information go online to <http://NETransCon.eventbrite.com>

6.0 Professional Development Hours will be awarded.

Tentative Agenda

Monty Fredrickson Director NDOR	Issues in Nebraska Transportation
Todd Pfitzer City of Omaha	City of Omaha College World Series Improvements
Mike Piernicky Olsson Associates	
Chad Blahak City of Lincoln	West Haymarket Development
Derek Miller City of Omaha	City of Omaha Master Plan
Sarah Tracy NDOR	NDOR ITS Update
Devin Biesecker City of Lincoln	Selling Roundabouts to a Skeptical Citizenry
Rob Turton HDR	Mike O'Callaghan - Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge
Shane Tucker UNL	Nebraska Highway Paleontology Program
Mike Piernicky Olsson Associates	I-80/NW 48th St. Diverging Diamond Interchange
Micky Jacobs NDOR	Environmental Issues and the Construction Phasing of the Fremont South Bridge
Pat Boyle NDOR	Constructing the Columbus Viaduct



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ASCE Scholarships

By: Dr. Bruce W. Berdanier, PE, LS, Region 7 Governor IA/SD

Having just started my term as Region 7 Governor for IA/SD and just finishing up my four-year term as a member of the Committee on Scholarship (COS), I have made the national scholarship process one of my talking points at the section and conference events that I have been attending. My intent is to try to generate more interest especially with student chapter members and advisors for participating in the national scholarship process.

For the past four years, we have tried to increase the interest level of the students at South Dakota State University in applying for the society level ASCE scholarships. As can be seen in table 1, the number of individual applicants and the number of scholarship applications were both highest in Regions 7 and 8. However, when thinking of the total number of qualified student members within the 10 Regions, the 76 scholarship applications from 45 unique applicants seem like very small numbers.

Region	# Apps	# Applicants
1	9	5
2	6	3
3	11	7
4	7	4
5	0	0
6	2	2
7	17	9
8	15	9
9	9	6
10	0	0
Summation	76	45

Table 1. 2011 ASCE Society Scholarship Applications by Region, # of Apps, and # of Applicants

The amount of money available each year for the main scholarships varies with the size of the scholarship fund as well as the performance of the fund in the investment market. However, some knowledge of past performance would certainly give students the ability to formulate a strategy for pursuing scholarship and fellowship funding in the future. Table 2 shows the scholarships that were awarded this year as well as the number of applicants for each scholarship and the funds that were available.

(Continued on Page 6)

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(Continued from Page 5: ASCE Scholarships)

Scholarship	\$ Available	# Applicants	# Awards	\$ Individual	Total Awarded
Figg	\$3,000.00	7	1	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Tapman	\$27,000.00	19	9	\$3,000.00	\$27,000.00
Tiney	\$2,000.00	22	2	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
Yang	\$6,000.00	15	2	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00
Freeman	\$30,000.00	2	1	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Tuttle	\$6,000.00	11	3	\$2,000.00	\$6,000.00
Total	\$74,000.00				\$48,000.00

Table 2. ASCE Society Scholarship funds available in 2011 with number of applicants and awards.

Besides the rather shocking fact that ASCE Committee on Scholarship had \$74,000 to give away this year and only had valid applications for \$48,000 of the funds, the number and distribution of the scholarship applications is certainly out of alignment with the available funds. For instance, The Freeman Graduate fellowship had \$30,000 of available funding, and COS hoped to make two awards at the \$15,000 level. However, COS was only able to make one award for \$4,000 based on the applications received. The 19 applications for the \$27,000 available in the Tapman fund seem logical, while the 22 applications for the \$2,000 in the Tiney fund seem out of alignment.

Suggestions for the future include that student chapters and advisors should do a better job of advertising scholarship opportunities as well as encouraging active student chapter members to apply for scholarships. Additionally, we can all do better in the future of helping students realize the relative size of the sources of larger funding instead of directing such a large number of students for the smaller funds. Perhaps the society could provide some guidelines or approximate amount of funding available each year from each fund. Finally, the outreach to graduate students for fellowships needs more guidance from the chapter advisor perhaps through coordination with local graduate faculty to direct students to this great source of funding for research support.

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2011 Structures Congress

The Structures 2011 Congress will be held April 14-16, 2011 at the Green Valley Ranch, Resort & Spa in Las Vegas, Nevada. Congress highlights include more than 100 Technical Sessions. View the interactive schedule of sessions to see what is offered. Attend the full congress and earn more than 16 PDHs!

Reserve Your Hotel Room Now

The Green Valley Ranch, Resort and Spa - Make your reservations by March 11, 2011 to take advantage of the special Congress rates!

CASE Spring Risk Management Convocation

Be sure to attend the CASE Spring Risk Management Convocation, which will include four technical sessions on Friday, April 15th. The Convocation is designed to help structural engineers survive in today's competitive and litigious marketplace. Don't miss this great opportunity to discuss topics on indemnity; lessons learned from arbitration, mediation and litigation; as well as sessions on managing risk and project implementation.

Opening Luncheon and Awards Program Plenary Speaker

At Thursday's Opening Luncheon on April 14, 2011, F. David Zanetell, P.E., PMP, of the Central Federal Lands Highway Division, FHWA, will speak on Cradle- to- Grave Project Management Strategies of the Hoover Dam Bypass.

Saturday Closing Session

To enhance your learning experience, a Closing Session has been added to the program on Saturday, April 16. Ron Lynn, Clark County Building Department, will discuss the Unique Challenges of the Built Environment of Las Vegas.

An Evening at the Hoover Dam

A unique opportunity to visit a magnificent monument to man's vision and fortitude... Spend a special evening, Friday, April 15 from 5:30 - 9:00 p.m., at the Hoover Dam and the Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge. Exclusive tours, savory and appetizing hors' d'oeuvres and refreshments will be offered. It's an event you won't want to miss.

Visit 2011 Structures Congress Conference website for more details:

<http://content.asce.org/conferences/structures2011/>

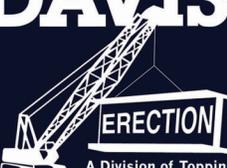
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