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Technical Region Directors' Report July 27, 2009

All members of the ASCE Board of Direction are expected to communicate effectively with the constituents in their respective regions. This report is the 18th in a series of brief summaries intended to keep the approximately 110,000 members of the eight ASCE Institutes informed of news from the ASCE Board of Direction and the Technical Region Board of Governors. Directors Rachford and Smith jointly produce this report and ask that the Institutes promptly distribute it to their members. Both Directors welcome questions and concerns from the members, especially thoughts about on how ASCE and its Technical Region can better serve the Region's members.

July 2009 ASCE Board of Direction Meeting

On July 25 and 26, 2009 the ASCE Board of Direction (BOD) met at the Keystone Conference Center in Keystone, CO. The ASCE BOD received informational reports and took action on various items. Those items relevant to the Institutes are summarized herein; additional information is available on the ASCE website (www.asce.org). In brief, the ASCE BOD:

- Approved the following change to the ASCE Bylaws, Article 7.3.6.1 Petition Nominees: Only Region Official Nominees who were not selected as Official Nominees by the Board of Direction Nominating Committee may seek a petition route to the election ballot. Signatures from at least fifteen hundred (1,500) voting society members shall place a member on the election ballot.
- Heard a report on ASCE finances from Treasurer, Mark Woodson. Took the following actions:
 - Approved the FY2010 budget as proposed by the Finance Committee
 - Approved the Society's FY2010 operating and capital budgets.
 - Concurred with proposed FY2010 budgets from the Institutes, the Building Security Council (BSC), Civil Engineering Certification (CEC), and the ASCE Foundation.
 - Voted to maintain FY2010 member dues at the present level.
 - Rescinded a previous authorization to allocate 20% of the gross sponsorship revenue from the OPAL Gala to an activity that benefits ASCE student members.
- Heard a report from ASCE President, Wayne Klotz, on recent ASCE ExCom actions as follows:
 - Established ASCE membership and charge for a joint EWB-USA/ASCE Task Committee to further implement the existing ASCE/EWB-USA Affiliation Agreement. TR Director Smith will lead the ASCE committee members on this TC.
 - Established a Task Committee on Student Transition to focus on increasing the percentage of ASCE student members who become associate members subsequent to graduation.
 - Authorized EWRI to pursue a seat on the World Water Council Board of Governors with Dale Jacobson (present EWRI President) as the ASCE-EWRI delegate and Daene McKinney as the alternate delegate.



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- Voted to restructure the Society Awards Committee (SAC) beginning in 2010 by increasing the membership from 5 members to 9 members to include representation from past Geographic and Technical Region Directors, past OPAL award winners, and distinguished members. Directed the ASCE Governing Documents Committee to prepare the necessary amendments for ASCE BOD approval.
- Heard a report from H. Gerard Schwartz, Chair of the “Task Committee on Engineering Review Procedures” TCERP). Approved the new *ASCE Post-Disaster Assessment Manual* and discharged the Task Committee.
- Heard a report from Joe Manous, Chair of the “Post-Hurricane Katrina Critical Infrastructure Guidance Task Committee” and discharged the Task Committee. (Copies of the TC report on *Guiding Principles for the Nation’s Critical Infrastructure* can be purchased through the ASCE Bookstore or downloaded free at www.asce.org). (Continuation of the effort of this TC’s focus on critical infrastructure guidance will be accomplished by expanding the charge of the Committee on Critical Infrastructure. Currently the focus of CCI is predominantly on infrastructure recovery following hazard events.)
- Heard a report from Craig Farkos, Chair of the “Task Committee on Sustainable Design”. Approved the Strategic Issue, Desired Outcomes and Guiding Principles as recommended by the Task Committee.
- Heard a status report from Regina Lemons, Chair of the “No Wrist Watch” Task Committee. (The purpose of this TC is to prepare recommendations on how the Society can produce and provide the products and services that appeal to the profession’s youngest practitioners)
- Heard a status report from Nick Textor, Chair of the “Plus 30 Task Committee”. (The purpose of this TC is to explore practical alternatives for how civil engineers can attain the +30 credits that will be required for licensure as a professional engineer in the future)
- Listened to an invited presentation from EWB-USA President David Stewart. Cathy Leslie, EWB-USA Executive Director and Bernard Amadei, founder of EWB-USA and 2009 ENR Newsmaker of the Year also participated. (TR Director Rachford continues to serve as one of ASCE’s two representatives to the EWB-USA Board of Directors.)
- Approved new Public Policy Statements on “Withheld Payments on Fixed Price Architect-Engineer Contracts” and “Wind Storm Impact Research Funding”.
- Approved revisions to and/or reaffirmed the following existing Society Policy Statements:
 - PS 101 “Appointment of Engineers to Policy Positions in Government”
 - PS 187 “Research in Civil Engineering”
 - PS 256 “Alternative Dispute Resolution”
 - PS 276 “Responsibility for Dam Safety”
 - PS 325 “Unrelated Business Income Tax”



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- PS 359 "Earthquake Engineering Research Funding"
 - PS 382 "Transportation Funding"
 - PS 390 "Earthquake Hazards Mitigation"
 - PS 4343 "Indemnification for Pro Bono Services"
 - PS 444 "The Role of the Federal Government in Civil Engineering Research and Development"
 - PS 445 "Aviation Transportation Program"
 - PS 451 "Life Cycle Cost Analysis"
 - PS 452 "Investing in America's Schools"
 - PS 460 "The Role of Non-Profit Educational Organizations in the Public Sector"
 - PS 470 "Dam Repair and Rehabilitation"
 - PS 471 "Aviation Infrastructure Research"
 - PS 475 "Wind Hazards Mitigation"
 - PS 480 "Waste-, Storm-, and Drinking-Water Infrastructure and Facilities Construction Funding"
 - PS 497 "Surface Transportation Funding"
 - PS 498 "Louisiana Coastal Wetlands"
 - PS 499 "Emergency Preparedness and Response"
 - PS 500 "Physical Infrastructure Security"
 - PS 502 "Professional Ethics and Conflict of Interest"
 - PS 503 "National Parks Infrastructure"
 - PS 504 "Rehabilitation of Historic Bridges"
 - PS 511 "National Levee Safety Program"
 - PS 512 "Access to Space"
 - PS 513 "Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials"
 - PS 520 "Governmental Fee Withholding"
 - PS 521 "Rail Infrastructure Investment".
- Rescinded existing Society Policy Statement 326 "Waste Facilities Construction Funding" (Included issue in revised PS 480).
 - Adopted the following Revised Policy Papers:
 - "Authorization of the Nation's Surface Transportation Program-A Blueprint for Success"
 - "Reauthorizing the Nation's Aviation Transportation Program-A Blueprint for Success".
 - Discussed the SEI draft policy on specialty licensure for structural engineers with SEI President, Jim Harris, including its relationship with the existing ASCE Policy 524 on "Licensure and Advanced Credentialing with the Civil Engineering Profession" and other related Society initiatives.
 - Heard a report on the status of the ASCE Key Contact Program from Brian Pallasch.
 - Heard an update on the ASCE Radar Screen of Association Strategic Issues from Hank Hatch, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee.



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- Learned that sponsorship activities will be relocated from the ASCE Foundation to ASCE staff for the purpose of improving coordination of sponsorship requests.
- Approved a list of ASCE National Committee appointments proposed by President-elect, Blaine Leonard, to be effective at the beginning of FY2010. The number of appointments being filled by current and past Institute Governors continues to increase. TR Director Smith will serve on the ASCE Finance Committee.
- Agreed to change the FY2010 ASCE BOD meeting schedule as follows:
 - January 13, 2010 --- Conference call in lieu of face to face meeting
 - March 26, 27, 2010 --- Face-to-face meeting in the DC area in conjunction with the OPAL event and the annual Fly-in (NOTE: This is a significant calendar change. The 2009 OPAL event had been scheduled for late April.)
 - July 2010 --- Face-to-face meeting in July at a time and location to be determined
 - October 19-20, 2010 --- Face-to-face meeting in Las Vegas in conjunction with the ASCE Annual Conference.

The ASCE Governing Documents Committee will work out the details; which will definitely impact the TRBG nomination & election scheduling and could impact the previously established 2010 TRBG meeting schedule.

The next face to face meeting of the TRBG is not affected by these schedule changes and is still planned for Thursday, October 1, 2009 in Reston, VA, at ASCE headquarters in conjunction with the new officer orientation. Each Institute is expected to send two participants to the TRBG meeting selected in accord with the TRBG Bylaws.

Respectfully Submitted:

Thomas M. Rachford

Respectfully Submitted:

Ron Smith

