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Technical Region Directors' Report **April 25, 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 17th 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.

April 2009 Technical Region Board of Governors meeting

On April 22, 2009 the Technical Region Board of Governors (TRBG) met at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City and addressed the following issues of interest to the Technical Region:

- In light of mixed reactions to recent G-I and CI activities (specifically, the draft GI-AIPG-AEG Engineering and Geology Practice Guidelines and the Prevention Through Design initiative), agreed that the Institutes can be more sensitive to the impact of their initiatives on the broader interests of the Society. Decided that the ASCE Technical Region Directors should be included in the distribution of Institute Governor meeting agendas and minutes, and that future TRBG meetings will allow time for each Institute to describe activities that might impact other Institutes, the Society and/or outside organizations.
- Heard an update from John Durrant, ASCE Managing Director, Engineering Programs, on FY2009 and FY2010 budgeting/financial issues. All ASCE organizational entities are being asked to manage expenditures carefully during the remainder of FY2009 in light of anticipated revenue shortfalls from member dues, publications, continuing education, and conferences (See below). It is anticipated that the FY2010 budget will propose additional reductions in expenditures.
- Received a presentation on undergraduate student and section/branch outreach opportunities for Institutes by Ron Smith, Technical Region Society Director. (See PowerPoint slides in the Technical Region e-Room).
- Received a presentation on the status of the Society's increasingly successful Webinar program by John Casazza, ASCE Director of Continuing Education. Discussed opportunities for lagging Institutes to ratchet up their level of participation. (See PowerPoint slides in the Technical Region e-Room).
- Had a working lunch with the ASCE EXCOM and ASCE staff leadership; discussion centered on various issues related to conference management.



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- Received a presentation from Tom Rachford, Technical Region Society Director on opportunities for Institutes to more actively support the ASCE/EWB-USA affiliation. Cathy Leslie, EWB-USA Executive Director, participated in a follow-on Q&A session. (See PowerPoint slides in the Technical Region e-Room).
- Received a presentation from Harry Farchmin, Chair of the Branding Task Committee, on recommendations specifically affecting the Institutes. Proposed adjustments to Institute logos received a positive response from the Technical Region Governors and were subsequently approved by the ASCE Board of Direction. (See further discussion below) (See PowerPoint slides in the Technical Region e-Room).
- Heard a report from Bruce Gossett, ASCE Director of Publications, on the status of ASCE publications. Journals back to 1982 are now available on-line. Conference proceedings back to 1998 are now available as CDs. Accepted papers are now placed on-line within 72-hours after acceptance of the paper for publication, making them immediately citable as references. However, said paper may not appear in the printed journal for up to an additional 6 months or more because of page limitations and backlog.
- Heard a report from Andy Herrmann, Report Card Advisory Council Chair, on the ASCE Infrastructure Report Card. Noted that Report Card Council members and ASCE staff will be available to make presentations at Institute conferences. Herrmann suggested that Institutes nominate representatives to serve on the next round of infrastructure evaluations which will take place in four years.
- Had an open discussion on various miscellaneous topics of interest to the Institutes; including the resolution of conference-related issues, needed improvements in the Institute/Section/Branch Technical Group affiliation process, and Institute points of contact with the ASCE Committee on Critical Infrastructure.

April 2009 ASCE Board of Direction Meeting

On April 23 and 24, 2009 the ASCE Board of Direction (BOD) also met at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA. 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:

- Heard reports from ASCE Executive Director, Pat Natale, and ASCE Treasurer, Mark Woodson. Approved proposed cost reductions in the amount of \$3,000,000 through the remainder of FY2009 and requested that the Executive Director undertake appropriate contingency planning in the event further cost reductions become necessary. Authorized reallocation of \$300,000 from the Information Technology capital budget to fund expenditures related to the Association Management System.



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- Heard a report from the ASCE Audit Committee by Norma Jean Mattei. The Society's FY2008 audit was satisfactory. Reappointed Tate & Tryon as the Society's auditor for FY2009
- Approved a request from President-elect Blaine Leonard, to appoint 2nd year Society Directors and past Society Directors to Board Committee Chairs to lighten the load on 3rd year Society directors.
- Approved revisions to the following existing Society Policy Statements:
 - PS 262 "Radioactive Waste Management"
 - PS 395 "Control of Combined Sewer Discharge"
 - PS 461 "Non-Point source Water Quality"
 - PS 482 "Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Program"
 - PS 516 "Municipal Solid Waste Mangement"
- Renewed the following existing Society Policy Statements:
 - PS 131 "Growth and Development"
 - PS 275 "Atmospheric Water Resources Management"
 - PS 422 "Watershed Management"
 - PS 453 "Federal Capitol Budgeting"
- Elected 10 new Distinguished Members of the Society. Included were the following current or past Institute officers: Bill Iwan (EMI), Billy Edge (COPRI), Rao Surampalli (EWRI), and Jeff Russell (CI).
- Nominated Kathy Caldwell and Moustafa Gouda to compete to become the FY2010 ASCE President-elect. Their credentials and vision for the future will soon appear in various ASCE communications. Election ballots and instructions for voting will be sent to Society members in good standing prior to June 15. The election will close on August 15. Institute members are encouraged to vote.
- Selected Kevin C. Womack to become the next at-large Society Director to commence a two-year term of office beginning November 2009. Dr. Womak is a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Director of the Utah Transportation Center at the Utah State University.
- Heard a report from Harry Farchmin, Chair of the Task Committee on Branding. Approved slight modifications to the ASCE logo and a unifying look for the Institute logos. Approved an overall Branding strategy for the Society.
- After hearing a presentation from Bill Iwan, President of the Engineering Mechanics Institute (EMI), voted to rescind the EMI provisional status. EMI will now become the 8th fully fledged



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Institute. Congratulations to Dr. Iwan, his governing board and the active members of EMI who made this possible.

- Heard a report from Robin Kemper, Chair of the EWB-USA Task Committee on Committee recommendations. Approved 12 Action Items, including the establishment of a follow-on Implementation Task Committee. The approved recommendations provide several opportunities for the Institutes support ASCE involvement in EWB-USA project initiatives.
- Heard status reports on the progress of the Web Advisory Task Force by Charles Anderson. The Society's web update is being coordinated with the Society Branding strategy.
- Heard a status report on the progress of the Task Committee on Sustainable Design from Craig Farkos.
- Also heard reports from the Task Committee on Life Member Involvement, the No Wrist-Watch Task Committee, the Civil Engineering Task Committee, and the Task Committee on the 2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure.

The next meeting of the Technical Region Board of Governors is tentatively scheduled 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

