



American Society of Civil Engineers

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Stan R. Caldwell,
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Technical Region Director's Report November 16, 2006

All members of the ASCE Board of Direction are expected to communicate effectively with the constituents in their respective regions. The Technical Region is comprised of the 94,000 members of ASCE's seven Institutes. This report is the sixth in a series of brief summaries intended to keep you informed of news from the ASCE Board of Direction. Tom Rachford was installed as the second Technical Region Director on October 21. He and I look forward to working together, and future reports will represent our joint efforts. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us at any time with your questions and concerns. We would especially appreciate receiving any thoughts that you might have on how ASCE and its Technical Region can better serve you.

ASCE Elections

For the first time, the race for ASCE President-Elect is "wide open" in 2007. Nearly every geographic region can nominate a candidate and the Technical Region can nominate two. Candidates from the Technical Region must be voting members of ASCE and at least one Institute. Additionally, eligible candidates must have completed one full term as a Director on the ASCE Board of Direction or have served as an Institute Representative to the ASCE Board of Direction between 2000 and 2005. All Institutes are eligible to nominate a candidate, but the nominations must be submitted to John Durrant by November 30. The Technical Region Nominating Committee will meet on January 19 to consider the candidates.

October 2006 Board Meeting in Chicago

During October 18 & 19, the ASCE Board of Direction conducted a wide range of discussions and reached a number of decisions that might be of interest to the members of the Technical Region. The following summary of ASCE Board actions is not intended to be all-inclusive. Additional information is available at www.asce.org.

- Approved amendments to the Bylaws of T&DI and COPRI, which had been requested by the Boards of Governors of these Institutes.
- Approved an amendment to Article 1 of the Rules of Policy and Procedure to add Rule 1.0.2, "Development and Approval of Marks: All Society Marks, including those of Organizational Entities, shall be developed in accordance with Society policy relative to look and content. Society marks shall be approved by the Society's Executive Committee." It should be noted that Institutes are included in the definition of Organizational Entities.
- Received a report from the Council of Institute Leaders on the collective status of the Institutes at the tenth anniversary of their founding.



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- Received a report from the Task Committee on the Engineering Mechanics Institute. EMI remains on schedule to begin operations as ASCE's eighth Institute in October 2007.
- Received a report on the Action Plan resulting from recent peer reviews of Membership, Continuing Education, and Management. Section II, 9 of that plan states: "The Membership Committee believes the Society needs to limit the pool for Institute-Only membership to the non-engineer members of the project team." There are currently 920 Institute-Only members, including 314 students. This issue will be addressed by a recently created Task Committee on Membership Relationships, which will be chaired by Bob Costigan. Barry Goodno will also represent the Institutes on this committee.
- Declared urgency and approved by a two-thirds vote an amendment to Article 7 of the Rules of Policy and Procedure for contested elections. The new rules take effect immediately and essentially prohibit campaigning for a Society office. For example:
 - No endorsements shall be permitted from individuals or non-ASCE organizations.
 - ASCE organizations may endorse one candidate, but such endorsement is limited to a factual statement of the vote of their governing body and shall not include any supporting rationale.
 - Neither candidates nor their supporters shall produce campaign literature or promotional materials including but not limited to campaign brochures, signs, websites, press kits, giveaways, buttons or pins.
- Approved criteria for the new position of At-Large Director. The first At-Large Director will be elected next year. On November 3, the Board At-Large Director Subcommittee met and narrowed the list of nominated candidates from twenty to five. Three of these individuals have subsequently agreed to serve if elected. After gathering information from all Regions, the Board Nominating Committee will meet on April 23 to consider these candidates.
- Discussed and approved prioritized lists of professional and association strategic issues. The top issues, which will receive immediate attention, include:
 - The impact of deferred infrastructure investment & maintenance is huge.
 - Increasing breadth, complexity, and rate of change stress CE practice.
 - The image and career appeal of CE practice suffer from commoditization, inadequate compensation, and poor public understanding.
 - Many leaders of large organizations lack commitment to ASCE.
 - ASCE's technical leadership is challenged by easily accessible information.



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- Received a report from the Civil Engineering Forum for Innovation (CEFI) and approved the Bylaws to formally establish CEFI.
- Approved the Bylaws to formally establish Geographic Regions 5 and 10.
- Approved by two-thirds vote two amendments to Section 10.4.2 of the Rules of Policy and Procedure for the Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) Award. The amendments revised the purpose and criteria for this award and added a requirement that all finalists and recipients be approved by the ASCE Executive Committee.
- Approved by two-thirds vote amendments to the Bylaws and Rules of Policy and Procedure to change all references from "National" to "Society-Level."
- Rescinded a previous requirement that the Building Security Council (BSC) certification program receive a SAFETY Act designation prior to issuing certifications. BSC will begin certifying individuals as Building Security Certified Professionals (BSCP) following an examination on November 29. The Board action does not affect the BSC Building Rating Program, which still requires a SAFETY Act designation.
- Adopted two new and three revised Public Policy Statements:
 - Rail Infrastructure Investment
 - Government Fee Withholding
 - Aviation Transportation Program
 - Aviation Infrastructure Research
 - Surface Transportation Research Funding
- Authorized a Special Meeting of the Board of Direction on January 28 & 29 in Reston to address issues related to the Strategic Plan and the Political Action Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Stan R. Caldwell



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