From the President

Happy New Year fellow ASCE members! The Kansas City Section has hit the ground running this year with the launch of our new social media page on LinkedIn. Officially launched on January 15, the move to the LinkedIn page helps to promote KC ASCE on the professional social media platform. Have some civil engineering information to share? Looking for an opportunity to help out with ASCE? Reach out! We are up to 79 members, so if you aren’t a member yet, please become a member, https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12075175

In December, I received word that the ASCE Leader Training Committee selected ASCE Kansas City Section to receive a 2017 Outstanding Section and Branch Award Certificate of Commendation. Thank you to all the volunteers, officers, and you the members who help make our efforts as a part of ASCE such a success!

Last month, the Central Region’s Multi-Regional Leadership Conference was hosted by the Nebraska ASCE Section in Omaha. This conference is a great workshop to network and for our leaders to find out more about ASCE. We had a great showing as leaders from our KC Board of Directors, YMG officers, UMKC and MSU Student Chapter leaders all attended. Congratulations to our Younger Members Group for their efforts with the launch and promotion of Dream Big in the metro, including a single event where 1,500 students and 100 educators were reached; their efforts were recognized with the Central Region Younger Members Project of the Year award!

As a reminder, the week of February 18th is Engineer’s Week! KC Section and the YMG will be representing ASCE at this year’s Engineers’ Week luncheon on Thursday, February 22nd. We are finalizing the table details, so if you are in attendance, please make
sure to stop on by and say hi! Think about ways that we can communicate the importance of engineering during this week of recognition! Share your outreach efforts on our LinkedIn page.

An update on our State Report Cards: our GPR committee is working with the St. Louis and Kansas Sections, as well as the Wichita Branch to update the Kansas and Missouri Infrastructure Report Cards for 2018. These individuals are finishing up the reports and preparing to submit to Society for their review to put on the finishing touches. Efforts are underway for the release of the Missouri report card at the State Capital during the spring congressional session and the group is working on ideas for the Kansas release. I can’t thank this committee and all the volunteers enough for all their efforts so far, as this information is critical to have as discussions at the local and national level are turning towards infrastructure again.

Lastly, ASCE has several opportunities to help out at not only the local, but also the national level. Personally, ASCE has granted me several leadership and team building opportunities that have helped develop me in my professional and personal life. Are you looking for an opportunity to get involved? Not sure how or what you can do to get started? Worried you won’t be able to help? Take the chance and reach out to either me or any of the ASCE officers!

KC ASCE Linkedin Page
The We’re now on LinkedIn! Thanks to all who came out to our Social Media Etiquette Workshop. Our LinkedIn Group is live and we will be archiving the Facebook page in February. You can search for us on LinkedIn or use this link:

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12075175

KC ASCE Section Webmaster
The Kansas City ASCE Section is looking for a volunteer webmaster to provide consistent updates and/or maintain content on the website. The time commitment is anticipated to be 2-4 hours per month. Please contact Mike Winckler, asce.kansascity.president@gmail.com, or Joe Sturgeon, wsturgeon@hntb.com.
2017 ASCE Awards

NOMINATION REQUEST for Civil Engineer of the Year

The Kansas City Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers will recognize a “Civil Engineer of the Year” for 2017. This is an annual tradition to recognize the important contributions to our society provided by civil engineers. The selection will be based on the candidate who best meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Exemplary professional conduct in a specific outstanding instance in 2017;
- Established reputation for professional service;
- Significant contribution toward improving the professional aspects of civil engineering education;
- Professional guidance of qualified young persons who would seek civil engineering as a career, or professional development of young civil engineers in the formative stages of their careers.

The Civil Engineer of the Year will be chosen based on information submitted. The selection committee may ask additional questions during the selection process, at the committee’s discretion, to clarify specific points or gather additional information.

Submittal Requirements:

- 1-3 pages in length on 8.5” x 11” paper.
- Submitted in either electronic .pdf format or as hard copy.
- Submissions may be by email or hand delivery. A .pdf delivered on CD or other common storage medium is also acceptable.
- Include contact information for nominated Civil Engineer
- Include contact information for person nominating, if different.
- Include a description of how and why the Civil Engineer personifies one or more of the selection criteria.

A plaque and cash honorarium will be awarded to honor the selected Engineer of the Year.

Submittals will be accepted beginning February 8, 2018, and shall be delivered prior to 6 PM on March 15, 2018 to:

Attn: Chad Johnson, ASCE KC Section Awards Co-Chair
Olsson Associates
7301 W 133rd St., Suite 200
Overland Park, KS 66213
Email: cjohnson@olsonassociates.com

Questions? – Contact Chad Johnson 913-381-1170
NOMINATION REQUEST for Civil Engineering Project of the Year

The Kansas City Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers will recognize a “Project of the Year” for 2017. This is an annual tradition to recognize the important contributions to our lives and lifestyle that are provided through civil engineering projects. In order to be eligible, the project must have been substantially complete by December 15, 2017 and have been constructed in the KC Section area. The award will recognize the Owner, Civil Engineering firm of record and the General Contractor. The award will be given to the project that is most exceptional in the Civil Engineering design aspects in at least one of the following categories:

- New or innovative technologies, design, or construction.
- Creative Solutions
- New or refined methodology applied to the Project to enhance sustainability

The Project of the Year will be chosen based on information submitted. The selection committee may ask additional questions during the selection process, at the committee’s discretion, to clarify specific points or gather additional information.

Submittal Requirements:

- 1-4 pages in length on 8.5” x 11” paper.
- Submitted in either electronic .pdf format or as hard copy.
- Submissions may be by email or hand delivery. A .pdf delivered on CD or other common storage medium is also acceptable.
- Include organization and contact information for Project Owner
- Include firm and contact information for Civil Engineering firm of record
- Include firm and contact information for General Contractor
- Include total project cost (unless proprietary)
- Include a description of the project and how it demonstrated exceptional Civil Engineering.

Submittals will be accepted beginning February 8, 2018 and shall be delivered prior to 4 PM on March 15, 2018 to:

Attn: Chad Johnson, ASCE KC Section Awards Chair
Olsson Associates
7301 W 133rd St., Suite 200
Overland Park, KS 66213
Email: cjohnson@olsonassociates.com

Questions? – Contact Chad Johnson 913-381-1170
GPR Committee

Report card writing is a little behind schedule in a few chapters but we are on track to finish soon so National can start their review. We received two State Public Affairs Grants (SPAG): $2,500 towards production of the Missouri and Kansas report cards and $1,500 for promotional items for events (summary flyers, poster boards, stickers, etc.). The combined Kansas, St. Louis and Kansas City Sections and Wichita Branch also received a Region 7 grant for $500 for video clips about infrastructure to be shared on social media.

The committee is working on release of the report card. A teaser promotion is planned at the E-week luncheon and the committee submitted for a presentation at the Public Works Expo in August.

Please contact Sheryl Gallagher, Bryce Coulter, Jennifer Taylor or Tom Jacobs with ideas or for more information. (sgallagher@geotechnology.com, coulterbryce@gmail.com; jctaylor@burnsmcd.com; tomajacobs@ci.lenexa.ks.us).

The Missouri drive-in will coincide with a release of the grades at Jefferson City as part of the St. Louis Section SPAG late April – more details to come. A drive-in for Kansas to Topeka is under discussion. As always, know who your state and US Senators and Representatives are and contact them so they know your position on infrastructure and professional matters!
Membership Committee

ASCE LIFE MEMBERS FOR 2018 ANNOUNCED

ASCE National Office has announced the achievement of LIFE MEMBERSHIP by several members in our Section. Our Chapter will recognize the new Life Members at our April Awards Luncheon. Please plan on attending and help us to honor and thank the Life Members for their many years of service. Following is a list of our new Life Members:

Craig Buhr  David Gaboury  Robby Rakestraw  Rao Surampalli
Larry Chapple  David Greene  David Rensing  F. Wiley
Ronald Freyermuth  Thomas Hickey  Thomas Rewerts

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Name: Mike Winckler
Employer: City of Independence, MO Public Works Engineering
Alma Mater: K-State, go Cats!
Years in civil engineering: 11
Current position: Kansas City Section President
Previously: Continuing Director and Associate Members Director; Kansas City YMG – President, Vice President, Community Service Chair and the Golf Tournament Chair

What is your favorite memory from school?

The 2005 Steel Bridge competition. Getting the opportunity to go to nationals that year in Salt Lake City and the fun our group had between the competition and the foosball table we found!

What is the best vacation you’ve ever been on?

I loved our last vacation in August. My wife, my son and I went camping with a popup trailer in South Dakota to visit the Black Hills. Hit the sites – Crazy Horse and Mt. Rushmore and saw where the Winckler’s started here in the US.

What are some of your hobbies?

My favorite – home brewing. Between the craft itself and the competitions we’ve entered, I just love the nerdiness of the hobby! Of course, enjoying home brew with friends, and playing card and board games.
Name one fun fact that most people may not know about you.

When I started band in the fifth grade, the instructor lured me into playing the tuba because in middle school, I would be taught the electric bass guitar. Little did I know, my family decided to move that winter, and I continued to play tuba through middle school, never once getting to play the electric base guitar.

What is the best career advice you’ve ever been given?

Don’t take items personally; you have to let things go just like water off a duck’s back.

Multi Region Leadership Conference – Omaha, NE

Kansas City had a strong showing at the Multi Region Leadership Conference in Omaha, NE, in late January. Several Section members, YMG members, and student groups met for two days of leadership training with Region 3, 6, and 7 Governors, ASCE President Kristina Swallow, and ASCE President-Elect Robin Kemper.

Tony Kulesa and Mariah Schroeder hosted a Best Practices session on *Dream Big* where attendees learned about initiating contracts with theatres, licensing challenges, and outreach strategies. *Dream Big* will be streaming on Netflix this summer, and the push to deliver a *Dream Big* educational DVD to every school in the country will begin shortly after.

The YMG received the 2018 Younger Member Group Project of the Year Award for their *Dream Big* efforts in Kansas City. Most notably, the outreach coordinated during the National NSBE Conference impacted 1,500 K-12 students and 100 adults in one day. The selection committee was impressed with this HUGE event as well as the continued effort to bring *Dream Big* to Kansas City kiddos.

Thank you to all who attended MRLC and helped in KC ASCE’s *Dream Big* effort this year!

KC ASCE attendees (L-R): Stephen Stinger, Zac Coppersmith, Tom Greer, Jennifer Taylor, Tony Kulesa, Megan Dierks, Mariah Schroeder, Mo Ibrawish, and Ozzy Bravo
KC ASCE Members with Project of the Year Award (L-R): Tony Kulesa, Mariah Schroeder, Jennifer Taylor, and Tom Greer

KC ASCE Members at the Region 7 Breakout Session with UMKC and Missouri State University Students.
Younger Member Group

Past Events

The YMG had a quieter holiday season but still made time for the annual Toys-4-Tots drive. The December monthly meeting was held in conjunction with the Toys-4-Tots drive at Tanner's in Overland Park, where over 25 toys were collected, and all enjoyed drinks and appetizers. A couple lucky members even went home with a gift card prize as a holiday treat.

January picked up again, when the YMG held their annual Mavericks hockey game and pre-game bash at Buffalo Wild Wings. The group of 45+ had a good time at BWWs eating and drinking and then enjoyed watching the Mavericks on the ice. Unfortunately, the Mavericks lost 0-3 to the Toledo Walleye. Better luck next year.

Upcoming Events

Look out for the upcoming Personal Finance Q&A hosted by the YMG, presenting former civil engineer and now financial advisor Philip Jennings. Philip won't bore you on the common sense topics but will certainly spark some thoughts, and hopefully motivation. Have you been thinking “How could I do something different with my money?” or “Where is my money going?” He’ll answer your questions and then some. The event will include dinner at Terracon in Lenexa, Feb. 20th. [http://conta.cc/2GBKPHU](http://conta.cc/2GBKPHU)

Are you a soccer fan and have some time to give back to the game? Join the KC YMG for a fun filled day of volunteering with the Special Olympics of Kansas for an all day soccer tournament on April 15th. We need two shifts of volunteers to referee and score the games. Previous soccer knowledge not required.
Did you miss the great webinar about Work/Life Balance on Feb. 6 by ASCE President Swallow? Check out the upcoming FREE webinars hosted by ASCE here!

Save the date for the Royals Tailgate on June 15th and the Sporting KC Tailgate on August 19th. We hope to see you all there!

**Diversity Corner**

_The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy._

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

As many may know, February is Black History Month. Although many of us have celebrated, participated in, or at least learned a lesson in school about Black History, but many may not know the origins of the month. Carter G. Woodson established the first “Negro History Week” in 1926. He chose February to honor two important people who shaped Black history, Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, who were born within the month. It was not until 1976, that the week was expanded into a full month.

Below is a brief list of events being held metro-wide in honor of Black History Month. Other events can be found on Kansas City, Missouri’s [www.kcmo.gov/black-history-month](http://www.kcmo.gov/black-history-month), and [www.visitkc.com](http://www.visitkc.com). Please note that events happen year-round at places like the Negro League Baseball Museum, and the American Jazz Museum.

February 10 – American Jazz Museum – “An Evening with Artist Rashid Johnson”, Free, 6:30pm

February 12 – KC Public Library Central Branch – “The Buffalo Soldiers: Their Epic Story and Major Campaigns”, Free, 2pm.

February 17 – UMKC – Black History Month Luncheon with Congressman André Carson, $50 per ticket, 11:30 am. More information on UMKC’s website.

February 19 – Gem Theater - “10th Anniversary Screening of the 100 Best Black Movies Ever”, Free, 3pm.

February 23 – National Archives at Kansas City – “Birth of a Movement”, 6:30pm.

February 25 – UMKC – “Crisis in Education”, Black History Month Luncheon with Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II, $50 per ticket, 11:30am. More information on UMKC’s website.


Year-Round – National World War I Museum and Memorial – Showcase of African Americans in WWI.

“An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.”

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

**UMKC Student Chapter**

The UMKC ASCE student chapter sent six of their executive officers to the Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders. The event was hosted by ASCE in Omaha, Nebraska. While there, the students learned the benefits of staying involved in ASCE throughout their career, some strategies to manage and grow their student chapter, and the challenges that face the civil engineering profession of today. In between these seminars, the students also were able to enhance their networking skills between other student chapter leaders, young members, region and section leaders. The UMKC student chapter leaders have now built up their creativity and passion to tackle the events of their chapter for the remainder of the year.

Meanwhile, the Steel Bridge Team has been meeting every week to get the bridge fabricated before the regional competition in April. The team is excited about their bridge this year and believes they can once again go to the national competition.
MSU Student Chapter

The MSU Student ASCE chapter has had a busy year so far. In September 2017 we completed a successful stream clean up of a section of Jordan Creek in Springfield near our engineering building.

November 2017 we had guest speakers, ASCE Region 7 Governor Aaron Frits and Director Marsia Geldert-Murphy come visit with students at our engineering building. They also helped us break some concrete cylinders for our Concrete Canoe design.
December 2017 we held elections for our new student officers. We voted to change the terms from school year to calendar year, that way we get better turn over. The seniors who graduate in the Spring won’t be so overwhelmed with their last semester, ASCE requirements and the concrete canoe/steel bridge competitions in their final semester. We are hopeful this term change will create more continuity for our ASCE Student chapter commitments. Our new officers are Sabrina Keeling-President, Nathan Webb-VP, Kason Schwalm-Treasurer, Brittany Martin-Secretary, Evan McMahon-Social Coordinator, and Luther Harris-Underclassmen Representative. We also hosted a successful ASCE Bowling night at Sunshine Lanes. This gave students a changes to relax and socialize, and for underclassmen to get to know some of the upperclassmen in a laid back, non-school environment.

Upcoming events:

- We are sending 4 students to the ASCE Multi Region Leadership Conference in Omaha, NE this weekend, January 25-27th. Our officers learned a lot at last year's conference in Minnesota, and are excited to be able to send some new officers to it this year!
- Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge teams are working hard on designs, themes and raising funds for this year's competitions. Both teams will be opening their Crowd Funding accounts on February 1st, allowing anyone and everyone to donate monetarily to help with materials. Lily Kozlowski and Mason Olsen are this year's Concrete Canoe Co-captains, (lkkc@mst.edu mso5g9@mst.edu) and Jon Farr (jsfb9b@mst.edu) is the Steel Bridge Captain. I've included their emails if anyone has questions about those teams. Our competition is at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale April 19-21 2018.
- Feb 1st we are helping STEAM students at McBride elementary with academics. We will be sending a few of our students over to tutor elementary students in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math, and grade some of their assignments.
- February 2018 we will be assisting with the Springfield Public Schools Bridge Competition. Our MSU engineering students will advise youth teams on bridge design over several days, as well as assist in the Bridge Breaking Contest with is held at Missouri State. The dates on this event vary over the month of February.
- We will be participating in some capacity at Discover Engineering Day Feb 17th, the Science Olympiad Feb 24th, MSPE Model Bridge Competition March 28th, and the Ozarks Science and Engineering Fair March 27-29th.
New Engineering Building at UMKC

Plans to build a new $32 million building for the School of Computing and Engineering are officially underway, thanks to significant contributions from several major donors to UMKC Foundation.

Reflecting the school’s emphasis on research and technology, the building will be equipped with $3 million in virtual reality and augmented reality equipment, a clean room, scanning electron microscope, robotics, and biomedical applications. The cornerstone of the new building will be a structural engineering high bay laboratory with a strong floor for testing full-scale structural elements and million pound capacity universal testing equipment.

The School of Computing and Engineering has experienced rapid growth—enrollment has more than doubled since 2008, driven in part by demand for skilled professionals in a community that is home to four of the nation's top 50 engineering firms.

The new building, which will be connected to the current School of Computing and Engineering in Flarsheim Hall, is the result of tremendous state and community support. The Sunderland Foundation provided the lead gift, and the second largest in its history, of $6 million. Other major donors include DST, Black & Veatch, Burns and McDonnell, J.E. Dunn, the Marion and Henry Bloch Family Foundation, the Hall Family Foundation, the Illig Family Foundation, the Jack and Glenna Wiley Foundation, the Debruce Family Foundation, KCP&L, the Forsee Family Foundation, Van Trust Real Estate and the McDonnell Family Foundation.

“We are honored and grateful, though not surprised, that our donors shared our vision and commitment to UMKC and Kansas City,” said Steven Norris, president of the UMKC Foundation. “The success of this project is undoubtedly a product of Dean Kevin Truman’s leadership. He has been essential to the growth of the school and making the building and research center a reality.”

Mayor Sly James noted that Kansas City is signaling to the world, “We are open for business,” thanks to current advances in Kansas City’s infrastructure, the growth of the arts scene, thriving neighborhoods, a reinvigorated downtown and a growing tech community. “We are adding a final piece to the equation,” James said. “A high-tech research and development center where great minds from academia and industry come together.”

The building’s estimated completion date is Fall 2020. If you are interested in supporting projects within the School of Engineering’s new facility, please contact Elizabeth Wheeler at 816-235-1277 or wheelerei@umkcfoundation.org.