From the President

Hello fellow ASCE members! I wanted to take the opportunity to update you with the goings on so far this year. For starters, thanks to everyone that was able to come out and enjoy the showings of Dream Big in September and October. To date, we have now shown this wonderful movie to over 6,000 people, including individual showings to students for over 3,000 so far! Great job to our sponsors and our volunteers to make these opportunities possible! ASCE Headquarters’ next step is to put Dream Big in every US Public School in 2018! Watch for more information as this goal is pushed forward to become a reality, and for more information about the awards this film is achieving, check out the webpage: http://news.asce.org/dream-big-wins-imax-oscars/

We are into the season of giving and have held two out of our three events so far. Beginning on November 4 with a collaborative effort with the Society of Women Engineers, ASCE & SWE volunteers helped to sort and package over 18,000 pounds of frozen foods for the needy around the Kansas City Metro. The Younger Members Group hosted their annual food drive for Harvesters at their November monthly meeting. Lastly, YMG’s December meeting will be their annual toy drive for Toys-4-Tots, on December 5. The toy drive has been a YMG staple since 2009. If you have a chance, please be sure to make some time for this event!

On November 14, the Section had their monthly meeting with a presentation where Jackie White (City of Grandview) and Jason Meyers (Burns & McDonnell) discussed the 2016 ASCE KC Section’s Project of the Year award recipient, Missouri Highway 150 Outer Roads project! Jackie and Jason discussed the details of this design build project and its benefits to the City. Make sure to join us for our next monthly meeting with MSPE as Jason Waldron (KCMO).
discusses the 2017 ASCE Innovation in Sustainability award winning KC Streetcar, on December 19 at Grand Street Café! 

Speaking of awards, as we close out our 2017 calendar year, keep in mind that ASCE Kansas City gives out two awards annually: the Project of the Year and the Engineer of the Year. Can you think of a project that you think deserves some accolades for its impact to the community? Do you have a co-worker or know of someone who exemplifies what it means to be a civil engineer in our industry! Watch for our announcement next month to nominate these well deserving projects and colleagues!

And finally, our ASCE Committees are working hard to bring together some great opportunities coming up in the winter and spring. Keep an eye out for the announcements, but I can tell you, I’m looking forward to what these individuals are pulling together. As this will be our last newsletter for 2017, I want to wish everybody safe holiday travels, enjoy your time with family, and have a wonderful new year!

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**ASCE Convention 2017 Hits New Orleans**

So I (Mike Winckler) survived Hurricane Nate and attended the annual ASCE Convention. Thank goodness the storm decided to take that last minute turn and didn’t hit the New Orleans area; just a bunch of rain! Even though the storm canceled the Sunday technical tours, the event was still a great showcase of the diversity of the industry with various presentations highlighting the innovations of our fellow ASCE members. The conference, following the delay, officially started on Monday, October 9 and ran through mid-day Wednesday, October 11. There were a variety of topics to attend, but I appreciated most the contrast and similarities highlighted between the event and response to Hurricane Katrina (from 2005) and the recent events of Hurricane Harvey and Irma and their impacts on the City of Houston, TX and the island of Puerto Rico. I attended the annual business meeting, seeing the Kansas City Streetcar receiving the 2017 ASCE award for Innovation in Sustainability, and the induction of the current ASCE President, Kristina Swallows, and the ASCE President-Elect, Robin Kemper. Keep your calendars open; the 2018 ASCE Convention will be held in Denver, CO on October 12 through October 15, 2018!

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**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.
President and Governors Forum

KC ASCE President, Mike Winckler, and Director 1, Meagan Malloy, attended the Presidents and Governors Forum at the ASCE headquarters in Reston, VA on September 17-18. The event was sponsored by the Leader Training Committee and representatives from all 10 regions were in attendance. Featured speakers included current ASCE President Norma Jean Mattei and President Elect Kristina Swallow. There were many beneficial presentations on topics related to leadership, resources, membership, and communication. In addition to the general presentations, there were breakout sessions for discussion on specific topics. Winckler attended round table sessions Developing a State Infrastructure Report Card and Section Operations – Program Committee. Malloy attended round tables for Maintaining Vibrancy in your Section/Branch and Creating a Section/Branch Survey. All of the presentations and discussions provided valuable content from which the KC section will benefit.

GPR Committee

The report card volunteers have been busy researching and preparing chapters for the Kansas and Missouri Infrastructure Report Cards. Chapters include aviation, bridges, dams, drinking water, inland waterways, levees, ports, railways, roads, schools, stormwater, and wastewater. We have applied for two State Public Affairs Grants (SPAG) to help with funding of the report card production and promotion. In addition we are applying for a regional grant for additional promotion funds. The report card releases are scheduled for May 2018.

We hope each of you will help promote the updated report cards via social media, word of mouth and other outreach events to be planned to support the release. If you have interest in getting involved in the promotional aspects of the report card, please reach out to Sheryl Gallagher, Bryce Coulter, Tom Jacobs, Jennifer Taylor, Ernie Longoria or Alysen Abel.

Areas in need of volunteers include:

- KS + MO Rail
- MO Stormwater/Wastewater
- KS Drinking Water

Become a Key Contact with ASCE and receive legislative alerts where our engineering input to our Congressmen/women may educate them about the impacts of the proposed legislation. They provide pre-drafted emails but I have found personalizing those emails get a much better response. Be engaged, make a difference. For more information check out this link; applications on this link.
Younger Member Group

December Monthly Meeting & Toys-for-Tots Drive - 12/5

Join us for our next monthly meeting that will include a Toys-for-Tots Drive. This is a yearly tradition and we are excited to share it with you all!

Tuesday, December 5th 6pm-8pm
Tanner’s 119th
10146 W 119th Street, Overland Park, KS 66213

SIGN UP HERE!

Education Outreach Participation At “SCOUTING 500” Event

After several months of planning and coordination, the ASCE Younger Members Group with the Western Chapter of the MSPE and other engineering groups, presented STEM related activities to Cub and Boy Scouts with their families at the SCOUTING 500 event.

The STEM event was a day-long opportunity to bring engineering focused topics to thousands of K-12 students. The event was held on September 22, 2017 at the “KANSAS SPEEDWAY”. The latest estimates have set the total number of participants at the three-day event, with 130 activities, near 13,000.
Hundreds of scouts and their family members passed through our area each hour during the day-long event. The area was located outside the STEM Garage under a 20’ x 20’ open-sided tent. Jim Guthrie (WC-MSPE STEM Committee Chair) organized the event for in an effort to bring STEM activities to Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts in the Heart of America Council. There were various tables set up for the event. Many younger siblings of the scouts became very involved in the demonstrations.

Several volunteers from the American Society of Civil Engineers Kansas City Section, Younger Member Group, spent the day with interactive activities, which included a 20-foot-long suspension bridge, which could be modified to a cable bridge with demonstration on affected deflections determined for similar load distributions. A banner was displayed for promotion of the ASCE sponsored movie “Dream Big: Engineering Our World”, which puts engineering and infrastructure in an inspirational and appreciable IMAX 3D film format.

One table held a display discussing what it means to be a Professional Engineer (PE), and what civil engineers do, and explained the NSPE code of ethics.

The civil engineering table held multiple hands-on displays: a seismic-stable design/build station, a wooden truss bridge, 3D geodesic structures made of balsa wood elements and modeling clay, a demonstration with wooden dowel-rods to show unbraced length concepts, as well as an exhibition with bending and deflection of beam elements with presentation of stiffness per varying section properties.

The third table was focused on the younger Cub Scouts, and had several scale models on display, as well as a poster showing what the requirements are for the BSA’s Nova and Supernova Awards, as well as the BSA booklets. The Boy Scouts of America have initiated STEM awards (similar to merit badges) for Scouts who have an interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math. These awards are designated the “Nova Award” and advanced “Supernova Award”.

Scale models displayed included: a) a trebuchet; b) an elastic cord-powered catapult and a mouse trap spring-driven catapult; c) a tornado maker (in a bottle); d) a battery-powered electrical circuit experiment; e) a “hand boiler” with explanation of Charles’ Law: V1/T1 = V2/T2; and f) several small truss bridges made from toothpicks and soda straws.

The UMKC ASCE Steel Bridge Team erected their 2017 competition bridge (5 feet wide x 20 feet long x 4 feet tall) weighing over 250 pounds. Students from UMKC also assisted Scouts in building 2 small scale Leonardo de Vinci bridge models, which do not require any connecting material as they are held together by friction and gravity.

Overall the event was a large success. Thank you to all of our volunteers that participated. We had a lot of fun serving this high impact event.
Diversity Corner

The past few months have been busy for ASCE-KC! Below are a few of the events the CDI-KC Committee has been involved in.

On October 12th, ASCE-KC in conjunction with the National Society of Black Engineers, hosted a Dream Big screening and STEM event at Union Station. School children from all over the metro area attended the event. Over 700 students and teachers were able to participate in STEM activities and learn more about our exciting profession!

A special thanks to NSBE, ASCE-KC, ASCE Younger Members Group and the ladies from DuBois Consultants for volunteering their time for this fantastic event!

The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers held its annual national convention at the Kansas City Convention Center (aka Bartle Hall) on November 1st – 5th. Over 6,000 students, professionals and industry leaders attended the conference. On Friday, November 3rd, ASCE-KC had the opportunity to participate in the Conversations with Civil Engineers Event, sponsored by the ASCE National Committee for Diversity and Inclusion. Several of our local ASCE members participated in mentoring the hundreds of students in attendance. Special thanks to Lisa Black (ASCE-CDI National), Jimmy Galvaz, Moises Young, Ozzy Bravo, Tony Kulsea, Mike Winckler, and Nicole Tauheed, and all the volunteers for making this a fun and successful event.
The UMKC ASCE student chapter seeks to encourage professional development and lifelong learning in as many ways as possible. This is most often achieved through guest presentations. To start the year, the Steel Bridge Team Captain, Jonathan Daldalion, presented to the student chapter on what they do and how students can get involved. ASCE also hosted Reed Brown from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in October to talk about the ongoing Turkey Creek Project. UMKC ASCE and Steel Bridge officers were excited to team up with the Younger Members Group and volunteer at the Scouting 500 event in Kansas City.

Meanwhile, the Steel Bridge Team has been meeting every week to finalize the bridge design for the 2018 competition season. They will be ordering parts in the next few weeks and will begin fabrication at the end of December.