From the President

I recently made the trip to ASCE HQ in Reston, VA for the Presidents and Governors Forum (PGF), an annual workshop hosted by the Leadership Training Committee for Section, Branch, and Region Leaders. It’s a chance for new Presidents and Governors to learn more about resources and benefits that ASCE has and to share challenges and network with neighboring Sections and Branches.

More than once the Kansas City Section was held up as an example of how a Section/Branch could be run. Our activities over the last year to get the Dream Big release screenings to area schools, completing two State Infrastructure Report Cards, successful Life Member activities, and an energetic Younger Members Group that works at developing new engineers and helping students thrive were recognized as successes. Even our Board succession was recognized at the PGF since it ensures that there’s someone next to fill a position if the current person is unable to do so. Having a system in place shows great foresight by past Boards, but it also speaks volumes to the character and quality of the members we have in Kansas City.

I used networking time to talk to other incoming Presidents and Governors and hear what successes they are having. I met Dr. Newbolds who teaches at Benedictine College and is the new Kansas Section President, the new Governor of Colorado Section Liz Staten, and the new President of the Saint Louis Section Brent Vaughn who teaches at SIU in Edwardsville, IL. I also learned about how the Los Angeles Section has a robust mentoring program. The Dallas Branch typically has 200 members at its luncheons and engineering companies have membership champions to introduce ASCE to new engineers, and Cleveland Branch has a mini-golf fundraiser where companies pay to sponsor holes they create.
Lastly, Society staff was available to demonstrate updates and membership tools. ASCE Collaborate has matured and members can easily control what content and chat rooms they participate in. Interestingly, Collaborate is now synced up with the member database so Membership Chairs can see who has joined ASCE, who has left, and what institute(s) they belong to. Members continue to have free access to on-demand webinars equaling 10 PDHs. Smartbrief continues as a daily digest of Civil Engineering in the news and Key Contacts will still receive This Week in Washington, a weekly roundup of legislative issues affecting the Civil Engineering profession across the country. Returning for its second season, a new ASCE podcast called Plot Points will cover a variety of engineering topics and new is a mentoring program called Mentor Match where you can connect to others in the industry to seek advice and career tips. And the Leadership Training Committee has many tools and archived information on its website to help you get the most out of your ASCE membership. If you have any questions about how you can become more involved in ASCE, feel free to reach out to myself, the Board, or any Committee Chair.

Ernie

**KC ASCE Section Volunteer Opportunities**

Open Positions:

- **Life Member**
  
  Involvement—chairing the involvement for Life Members of the Kansas City Section

Please contact Ernie Longoria at ernie.longoria@cityofshawnee.org or Joe Sturgeon, wsturgeon@hntb.com
GPR Committee

Elections are coming up so be watching your districts to know who your candidates are. On the Kansas side, District 11 Senator John Skubal is up for reelection. He is an engineer watching out for issues that affect all engineers.

Both Kansas and Missouri have bills that require companies with a state contract in excess of $100,000 for professional or technical services to purchase and use a software program to verify the hours billed for work done on a computer. Personal data from your computer must be stored for seven years. It is possible that this bill could latch on as an amendment to another bill. We strongly urge you to contact your state legislators to oppose this proposition.

Congress is reevaluating funding for aviation and water infrastructure and ASCE Executives have testified before the House Committee on Budget describing the economic benefits of infrastructure investment. Additionally, ASCE has submitted a statement on resilient ports infrastructure.

It is important that both your state and US representatives know who you are and the importance of infrastructure funding. Do not be a silent voice – become a key contact. Sign up here http://www.asce.org/keycontacts/. As a Key Contact you will receive notifications about upcoming legislation as well as pre-drafted emails to make it easy for you to contact your elected officials.

ASCE Younger Members

Upcoming Events:

http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/calendar/monthview?esco=001BL03CExnX0R14DeOwawhxw==&year=2019&month=9

- 10/5 - YMG Fall Highway Cleanup from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Gregory Boulevard and I-435 (below the bridge), Kansas City, MO 64133
- 10/8 - Dream Big Morning Outreach from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
- 10/18 - YMG-UMKC Mentorship Luncheon from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM CDT
- 11/12 - 35th Milestone Event (Alumni Recognition Meeting)
- 11/16 - Mizzou Tailgate with the St Louis YMG Section
- 11/21 - KC STEM Alliance CEA Day
Past Events:

- Following our well attended Royals Night on June 7th sponsored by Burns & McDonnell, the YMG held the June meeting at Char Bar (4050 Pennsylvania Ave, KC MO).

- July 21st, ASCE KC YMG and Black & Veatch NextGen Professionals co-hosted a refreshment table at the KC Big Picnic at the Nelson-Atkins Sculpture Park. This event featured yard games, music, and over 20 food trucks.

- On July 23rd, the Kansas City YMG held their meeting at Bar K Dog Bar (501 Berkley Pkwy). After the meeting wrapped up, we formed several teams to compete in the Geeks Who Drink trivia contest. If you haven’t been to Bar K, the dogs can hang out outside without their owners as there are employees to monitor the dogs and make sure they are all playing nicely.

- The 14th Annual ASCE YMG Charity Golf Tournament benefitting the KC STEM Alliance was held on Friday, August 9th, 2019 at Hillcrest. A big thank you to all of our sponsors and volunteers who helped raise $19,000!

- The Annual Kick-Off Meeting was held jointly with the Section on August 13th at Johnny's Tavern (119th in OP).

- On August 20th, the YMG held a Personal Finance Professional Development Seminar on Home Buying 101. Thank you to Juan Carvajal, Mortgage Lender from Arvest Bank, who presented to the group.

- The August 31st Sporting KC and Tailgate was a great success. We won! Thank you to our event sponsor, Olsson, who funded the food and drinks.

- The September 17th Meeting was held at the J. Rieger & Co. Distillery (2700 Guinotte Ave, KC MO). The restored building in the East Bottoms which was the location of the old Heim’s Beer Bottling Plant is now open to the public and several members got to take a tour of the facility before the meeting.
ASCE Life Members Tour

Life Members Tour at the Johnson Country Crime Lab

Our ASCE Life Members were given a tour of the Johnson Country Crime Lab by the Crime Scene Investigators. They were able to see various parts of the lab including ballistics, DNA, finger printing, and crime scene laser scanning.

In addition to the tour, a dinner was hosted at Houlihan’s for food and drinks. A good time was had by all.
Upcoming ASCE Events

From the YMG President: Calling all YMG Alumni!

Alumni Recognition Meeting
When: Nov 12th, 6-8pm
Where: BKS Artisan Ales
633 E 63rd St #120
Kansas City, MO 64110
Contact: Andrew Robertson

As the YMG President, I would like to invite all YMG alumni to attend our November meeting at BKS Artisan Ales. For this meeting, the YMG is reserving the entire venue to celebrate the 35th Milestone year of the YMG! The YMG of KC was established in the fall of 1983 or early 1984, and the age of 35 is coincidentally the age for transitioning out of the group. We would like to thank each of the officers, leaders, and members who devoted their time and energy into making the group what it is today. I am very proud of the growing connection between the YMG and Section, and this event is the perfect way to come together to enjoy the history of the group. We want to welcome you and hear about your experiences. We hope to see you there!