

# Civil Engineer<sup>KANSAS CITY</sup> THE NEWSLETTER

April 2021

## CHECK OUT THE NEW ASCE YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_aovGv4\\_hqW6wbx2JBbFi1Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_aovGv4_hqW6wbx2JBbFi1Q)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April**

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> KC  
Geotechnical  
Conference**

**May**

**1<sup>st</sup> - YMG and KC  
Parks Cleanup**

**11<sup>th</sup> - ASCE YMG  
Meeting and Officer  
Elections 2021**

**September**

**25<sup>th</sup> - ASCE  
Centennial  
Celebration!**

## From the President



Hello members of the Kansas City Section,

I hope you're enjoying the nice spring weather. The Section plans to stay virtual for the rest of this term and hopefully we'll be able to meet in person at our annual kickoff meeting in August.

In national news, the ASCE Report Card for America's Infrastructure came out and we got a C- which is better than the D+ we got in 2017 so we're making progress! We still have a long way to go so I encourage you

to join ASCE's Key Contacts program and advocate for investment in our infrastructure to your public officials. We had some members of our Section participate in the annual Legislative Fly-In (which was virtual this year) and they shared the grades and recommendations of the Report Card to the staffs of our congressional representatives.

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual Awards Meeting and announced our 2020 Project of the Year and Civil Engineer of the Year award winners. Also, ASCE President-Elect Dennis Truax gave a presentation on Engineering the Future. Our annual board elections will take place in May. If you are curious about what board members due, please reach out to me.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we've moved our centennial celebration to the fall. The new date for the banquet is Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> (still at the Kansas City Club) so save the date! We'll also have a social outing in early fall. We recently completed our centennial community service project by providing a shed to Community LINC which is an organization that aims to end family homelessness.

The Younger Members Group had another successful virtual Wine & Paint Party recently. They've also started planning for the annual Golf Tournament which benefits the KC STEM Alliance.

## 2020-2021 ASCE Directors

Ph. 816-868-1460

Ph. 913-381-1170

913-609-9565

816-627-6037

816-844-4494

816-627-4777

913-577-8251

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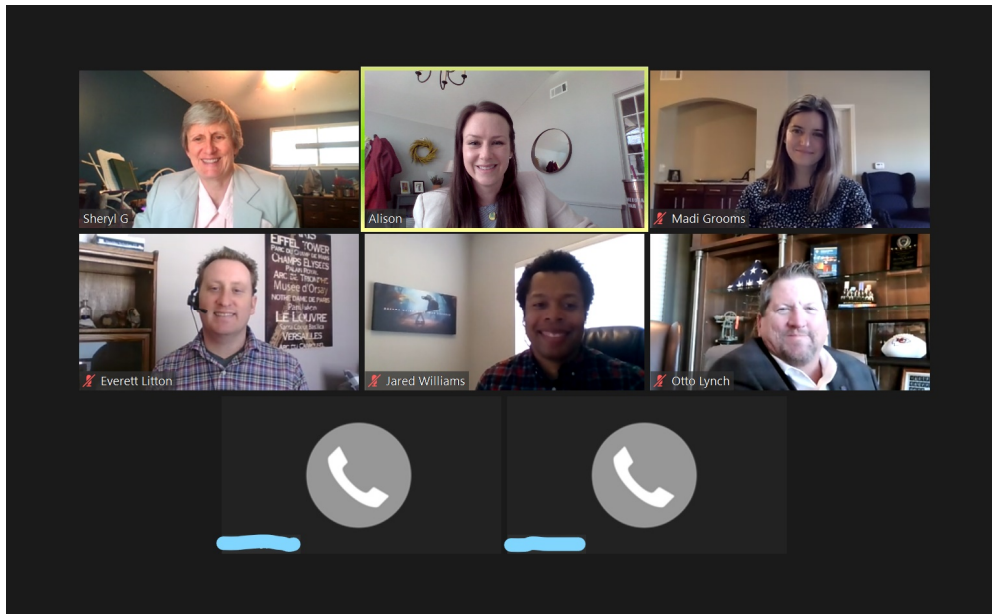
- Stephen Stinger

A big thank you to YM Communications Chair Alle Flamme for the mega-effort of bringing us from the past to the future in web design.

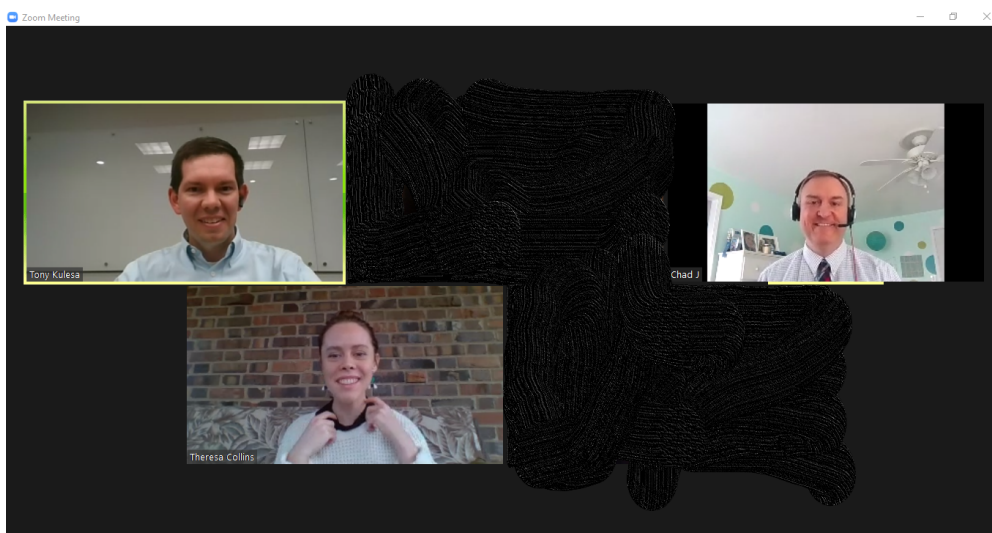


## GPR Committee Update

This year the legislative fly-in was virtual and was kicked off with the release of the [ASCE 2021 Report Card](#). If you missed it, the overall grade is a C-. Over 200 ASCE members participated in the virtual fly-in to discuss with members of congress the new national grade and the importance of reliable infrastructure in our states. ASCE's priorities include: (1) preparing for a sustainable, resilient future (2) prioritizing asset management and operations and maintenance needs and (3) restoring a strong federal partner in infrastructure investment. ASCE also released an updated [Failure to Act](#) report that has great information to reference.



Missouri Call: KC Section - Sheryl Gallagher, Madi Grooms, Jared Williams, and Otto Lynch. St. Louis Section - Allison Graves and Everett Litton.



Kansas Call – Tony Kulesa, Chad Johnson and Theresa Collins



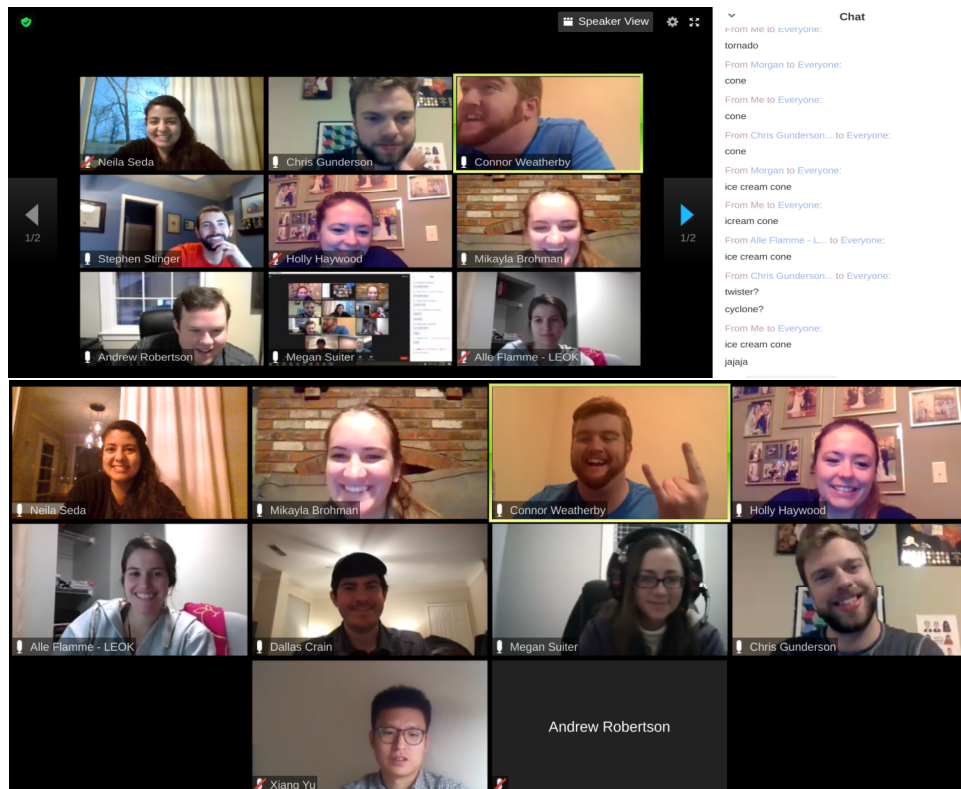


Missouri Ongoing LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: A promising gas tax bill (SB 262) passed out of the Missouri Senate and awaits action in the House. It's critical that we reach out to our MO Representatives and urge them to support the bill and send it to the Transportation Committee for a hearing. The session ends on May 14th, so there is still time to act! The bill increases the gas tax by 2.5 cents a year for 5 years, 12.5 cents in total; includes option for 100% rebate; Increases electric vehicle decal fee. Read more here: <https://themissouritimes.com/schatzs-gas-tax-increase-passed-by-senate/> Member meetings are ongoing – if you're interested in reaching out to your Representative or Senator during the remainder of the session, let us know – we can help! We'd be happy to brief you on the issues and provide some handouts to share ahead of your meeting. [Look up your legislators here!](#) Contact Sheryl Gallagher ([sgallagher@geotechnology.com](mailto:sgallagher@geotechnology.com)) for information.

## ASCE Younger Member Group Update

Our Younger Member Group has continued to work hard to provide engaging virtual events to our members. We are so grateful for the effort put in by our 17 YMG Officers, and we're excited many of them are sticking with us next year when they can hopefully provide in-person events!

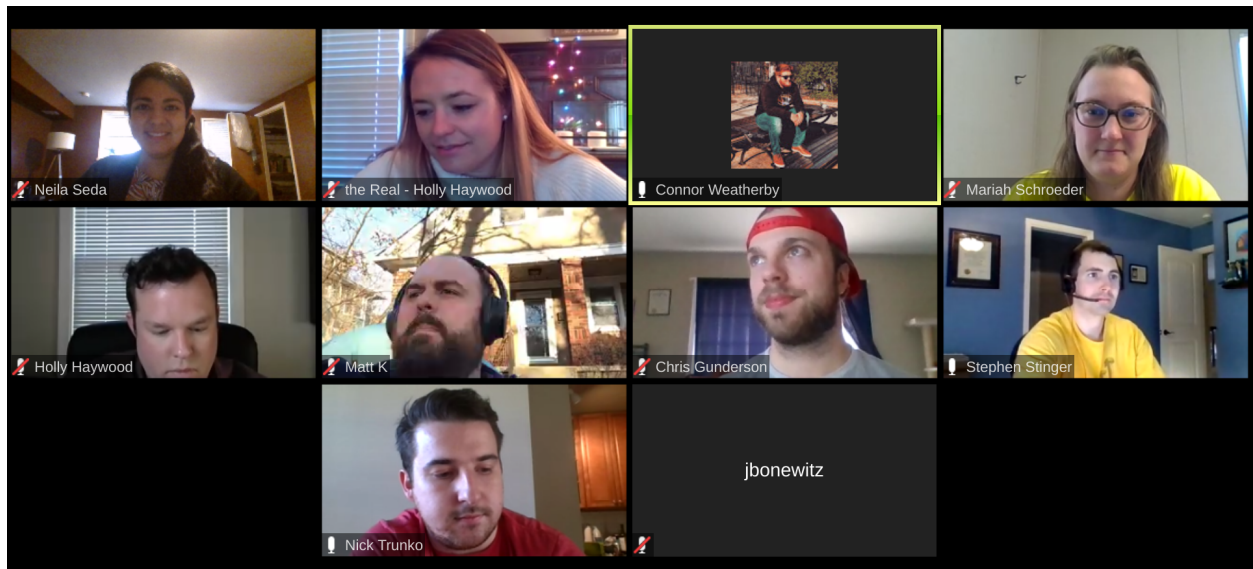
This winter, our Social Chairs hosted our first ever virtual Pictionary on (January 12) and it was a great success! We definitely did not want to stop playing and showing off our drawing and guessing skills.



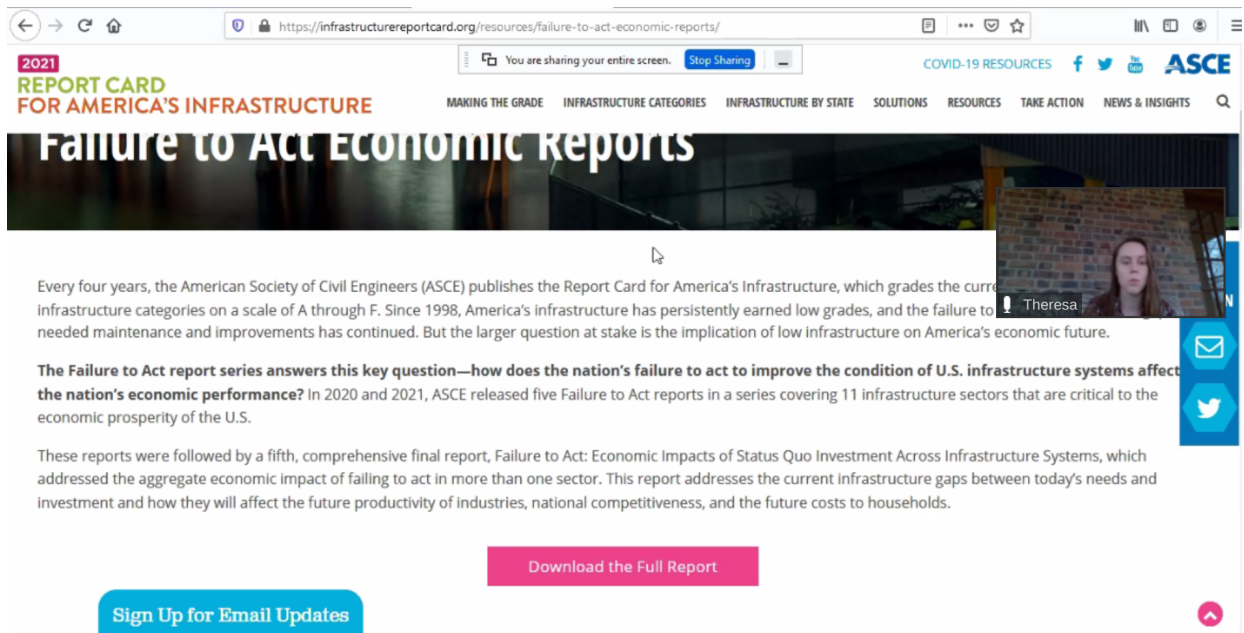


## ASCE - Kansas City Section Newsletter

The social chairs also hosted the second Virtual Trivia and had a lot of fun connecting with other members and working together to find answers to some tough trivia questions!

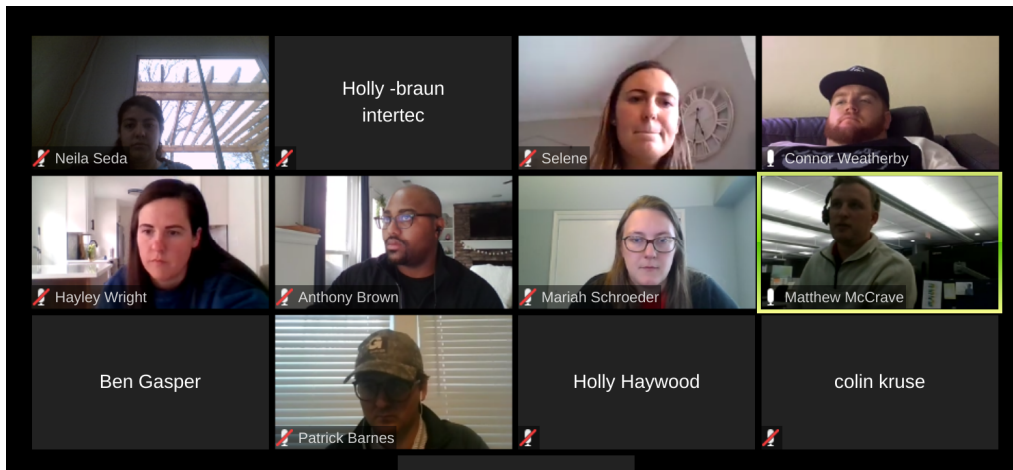


Finally, last month, our social chairs hosted our second Virtual Paint & Sip night (March 16th) and it was a wonderful success with over 25 engineering artists! We also had Theresa, our Government Relations Chair provide some vital information about this year's [Infrastructure Report Card](#). She also attended the virtual Fly-In this past month and talked a bit about her experience speaking with federal representation about infrastructure issues.





Finally, the Golf Tournament Chairs hosted the YMG Golf Tournament Virtual Kickoff Meeting (March 22nd) which had a great turnout with some new faces interested in helping plan this year's event at Shoal Creek Golf Course. Below you may find a picture of very concentrated minds starting to plan what we hope will be a very successful 15th Annual ASCE YMG Charity Golf Tournament to benefit KC STEM Alliance.



We had a great turnout at these events and got to see familiar and new faces. We are excited about upcoming events planned, in particular, this month's Membership Appreciation event hosted jointly by our Social and Membership Chairs. Keep an eye out for it!

### Upcoming Events:

05/01 - [YMG KC Parks Cleanup](#) at 9:00 AM

05/11 - YMG Officer Elections at 5:00 PM

## Missouri S&T Update

The recently completed Plaster Center, UMKC School of Computing and Engineering's new research and teaching laboratory facility, is home to floor upon floor of the latest technology and equipment. In that sense, it is pulling UMKC forward. The new facilities have enabled us to revive along-dormant group: our concrete canoe team. For more than 15 years UMKC has lacked a team to compete in the ASCE-sponsored concrete canoe conference, held regionally in April and nationally in June. There simply wasn't enough space -- but that has changed!

The new student team space on the 1st floor of the Plaster Center (see above) will house the revived concrete canoe team and serve as its construction area. The team will use the incredible equipment within the building -- such as the 5-dimensional CNC machine within the fabrication shop (see below) -- to design, test, and construct the canoe.



UMKC's concrete canoe team plans to compete in the 2022 ASCE mid-continent conference, which will take place in April. Design, testing, and construction will take place throughout the 2021-22 school year, with the canoe being completed in mid-February.

As with any student-led enterprise, financial resources are always required. If you or your organization would like to make a donation to UMKC's revived concrete canoe team, please contact Kaity Woody ([zayk@umkc.edu](mailto:zayk@umkc.edu)) and Sean Purdue ([srpqkm@umsystem.edu](mailto:srpqkm@umsystem.edu)), or click [here](#). Here's to a great year (and more) of canoeing! Roo Up!



## Continuing Education

### Geotechnical Engineering

# In-Situ Soil Mechanics



This course will cover in detail the tools and methods of in-situ soil testing, as well as the interpretations of the test results.

It will combine lectures and a 3-day field testing demonstration and exercise in cooperation with MoDOT testing and data gathering from the two most used in-situ testing methods — Standard Penetration Testing (SPT) and Cone Penetration Testing with Piezometric Readings (CPTU) and Seismic Readings (SCPTU). It will also include lectures on Vane Shear Testing, Pressuremeter Testing (PMT) and Dilatometer Testing (DMT).

## CIV ENG 5001

Coming Summer 2021

**CREDIT:** 3 hours

This course offers students an increased knowledge base of modern testing methods outside of conventional lab settings.

### Students will learn to:

- Conduct specific measurements of soil attributes
- Develop project site soil profiling and characteristics
- Monitor construction such as soil densification

This course supplements the existing courses in geotechnical engineering and gives additional and innovative perspectives on in-situ soil testing.

MISSOURI S&T



**CIVIL, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING**

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Dr. Kevin McLain by email at [kwmb6a@mst.edu](mailto:kwmb6a@mst.edu).