President’s Message

Volunteers Needed for 2011 Engineers Week

It is that time of year again for the National Engineers Week High School Presentations. During the week starting February 21st, ASCE will need guest speakers for presentations at local high schools. These presentations will show future engineers what our profession is about and why we are indispensable to society.

Many students may not even be aware of the exciting possibilities that lie ahead of them in an engineering career. By volunteering just a few hours during E week, you can make a difference by informing and inspiring young students about the opportunities that are available in various engineering disciplines. This is also one of the many ways in which your ASCE branch advances the profession of Civil Engineering in our communities.

To volunteer please contact Rita Escobar at Rita.Escobar@aecom.com, ASCE Branch Vice President. You will be matched with a school and provided with presentation materials. We look forward to this year’s Engineers Week, so volunteer and help make it a success!

Lauren Popescu, PE ASCE President,
San Bernardino/ Riverside Counties Branch of the LA Section of ASCE
January Meeting
Update on National Committee on Levee Safety
and Upcoming District Projects

Dusty Williams is the General Manager-Chief Engineer of the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. As Director of the County’s flood control agency, which serves a population of 1.8 million citizens, Mr. Williams oversees a staff of more than 230 and is responsible for a $150 million budget (including over $30 million annually in construction). During his 33 years with the District, he has gained an extensive background in all aspects of flood control from infrastructure design and construction to floodplain management to environmental permitting and water conservation/quality development.

Dusty has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Cal Poly, Pomona and is a licensed Civil Engineer in California. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and currently serves as Vice President of the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies. In 2008 Dusty was appointed to the National Committee on Levee Safety and serves as one of the two local government representatives on the 21 member Committee. Recently his appointment was extended until 2013.

Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2011
Time: 11:30am to 1:00pm
Location: Cal Baptist University
Copenbarger Dining Room
8432 Magnolia Avenue
Riverside, CA 92504
Cost: $25 members w/ RSVP
$30 non-members or no RSVP
Free - students
Deadline: 1/14/11
Additional Info: Edwin Quinonez
eequinonez@rcflood.org
(951) 955-1345
ASSISTANT NEWSLETTER EDITOR POSITION AVAILABLE

We are currently looking for an Assistant Newsletter editor. If you would be interested in joining our team please feel free to contact your current newsletter editor Brandon Reyes, EIT @ 909.974.4967 or email at breyes@rbf.com we look forward to hearing from you.

ARE YOU HIREING
DO YOU HAVE A POSITION NEEDING TO BE FILLED
LET US HELP YOU
POST YOUR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR LOCAL ASCE NEWSLETTER

For more info or to send a post email Brandon Reyes, EIT @ breyes@rbf.com or call at 909.974.4967
IECES  INLAND EMPIRE COUNCIL OF ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS

Presents

“The State of the State Water Project”

Mr. Douglas Headrick, P.E.
General Manager, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

Mr. Headrick will present a summary of the ongoing efforts of the State Water Contractors to build facilities and provide environmental mitigation to ensure that the State Water Project continues to provide the water needed to maintain and enhance the economic vitality of California.

Date: Tuesday, February 22, 2011
Location: University of Redlands, Orton Center

Times: 6:00 p.m. Social
7:00 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. Society Announcements
7:45 p.m. Program
8:45 p.m. Question and Answer Period
9:00 p.m. Adjournment

Directions:
From eastbound Interstate 10: Take the University Street exit and turn left onto University Street.
From westbound Interstate 10: Take the Cypress Avenue exit and turn left. Drive two blocks to University Street and turn right.
Continue north on University Street 0.8 miles to the Brockton Ave. stop sign and make a right. Go pass Ted Runner Stadium and Farquhar Soccer Field (both on your left). Turn right into the last driveway before Grove St. to enter the parking lot.

Advance Reservations Required

Name: ___________________________ Telephone: ___________________________ Number of Guests: __________
E-mail: ___________________________ Name(s) of Guest(s): ___________________________

Organization:  □ AIAA  □ ASCE  □ ASME  □ CSPE  □ IEEE  □ SAME  □ APWA  □ Other

Meal Selection: □ Roast Prime Rib of Beef □ Chicken Porcini □ Grilled Vegetable Lasagna (Vegetarian)

Total Amount Enclosed: ____________ ($25 per engineer or guest; $15 per student)

Seating is limited.
Please mail reservations and mail checks (payable to IECES) for receipt on or before Feb. 18, 2011 to:

IECES, c/o Tom Crowley, Treasurer, 115 Hillside Way, Redlands, CA 92373
Phone (909) 213-7055  E-mail: tj.crowley@verizon.net
Proud of a Father

The proud father brought home a backyard swing set for his children and immediately started to assemble it with all the neighborhood children anxiously waiting to play on it. After several hours of reading the directions, attempting to fit bolt A into slot B, etc., he finally gave up and called upon an old handyman working in a neighboring yard. The old-timer came over, threw the directions away, and in a short while had the set completely assembled. "It's beyond me," said the father, "how you got it together without even reading instructions." "To tell the truth," replied the old-timer, "I can't read, and when you can't read, you've got to think."
On October 21-23, students, younger members, and professionals attended ASCE’s Annual Civil Engineering Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Baptist sent 10 students to learn about how civil engineers are Innovating a Dynamic Future. Students attended inspiring sessions that provided information on the Vision of 2025 and allowed for discussion on infrastructure & sustainability, the Victorville/Las Vegas high speed rail, the 2010 earthquakes in Haiti & Chili, etc. We also toured the Hoover Dam and the newly constructed Mike O’Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge. After attending this conference, we can all say that we are proud of becoming a civil engineer! We would like to thank the San Bernardino & Riverside Counties Professional Branch for making it possible for us to attend this valuable and memorable conference!

Our Experience

Diana Valdovinos – Cal Poly Pomona ASCE President

The most interesting session I attended was America’s Infrastructure Crisis: How to implement the solutions. The panel discussed the 2009 Report Card for America’s Infrastructure including the 5 Key Solutions. The purpose of the report card is to inform the public (and policymakers) of the condition of our infrastructure and how it can be improved. The 5 Key Solutions for solving infrastructure problems include: increasing the federal leadership in infrastructure; promote sustainability and resilience; develop federal, regional and state infrastructure plans; address life-cycle costs and ongoing maintenance; and increase and improve infrastructure investments from all stakeholders. Basically, the U.S. citizens and policymakers need to pass propositions that will allow for more funds to be allocated to our infrastructure. Investing these funds in infrastructure will benefit our society in the present and in the future. In the present, it will create thousands of jobs in construction, engineering and government. In the future, it will benefit us because our infrastructure will keep up with the growing population and will last longer due to the sustainable elements being applied today.
Bryce Danker – Cal Poly Pomona ASCE Development Chair

To begin I want to thank ASCE for allowing me the opportunity to attend this conference. I found it to be a glimpse into the great society we are proud to be members of. Upon leaving the conference, I felt a strong sense of pride in being a civil engineer as well as being inspired to be part of achieving the goal ASCE has set for the coming years.

The conference was comprised of informative lecture sessions, mixers with industry leaders, and a number of technical tours. The first lecture session I attended was Global Impact of Civil Engineers. The speakers were 3 fascinating civil engineers from around the world. First, a top engineer for Oderbrecht, spoke on an amazing dam project on the Amazon River in Brazil. This company utilized a training program to train their future workforce while reducing future costs that had previously occurred from high workforce turnover. My interest was also peaked by a centuries old turbine system that will be used to provide power to a developing Brazil. This low head bulb turbine realize on flow velocity rather then head to generate power. This allows for much smaller reservoirs behind the dam which leads to less habitat destruction. The next speaker was Xila Lui, who is a distinguished professor from Tsinghua University in china. He spoke on the impressive engineering advances that has occurred in China in the last 60 years. He also spoke on the point that the world civil engineering community must work more cohesively in the exchange of ideas to help combat climate change. The final speaker of this session was an engineer who has worked his whole life in South Africa. His point was much the same as Xila Liu in that the civil engineers from developed countries must strive to help there developing brother throughout the world.

The second session I attended was called Vision 2025 – Leaders in Public Policy: Civil Engineers Protecting Public Safety, Health and Welfare in Tough Timers. The main theme for this session was while working in the public sector, how you achieve needed advancements while the onset of budget cuts and other challenges. Speakers included Brenan Morioka, the former head of DOT in Hawaii, Christine Anderson, the director of public works for the City of Santa Barbara, Mrs. Valentine, the County Manager for Clark County, and finally Frank Lombardi, the head of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. I found this to be one of my favorite sessions because the speakers gave us an inside look to how the public sector is finding innovative ways to avoid layoffs and cut projects. All agreed the water resources sector was relatively un effected by the current economic crisis which was exciting news for me. I was also able to network with both Christine Anderson and Frank Lombardi after the session concluded and asked questions that I have from working at IRWD. Speaking one on one to both of these well respected individuals was very exciting.

The third info session I attended was titled Technical or Management: Making the Choice. I also found this to be a very interesting and informative session because as I plan for grad school I am still. First, Edward Powers from HDR spoke for the case to pursue a technical profession. He spoke on how technical knowledge is the basis of our profession and the it is possible to become an expert in a field you love. Ray Kowalik is the President of Burns& McDonnel. He spoke in favor of a management approach. I am really glad I attended this conference because I was able see the pros and cons for both sides. I have also been able to evaluate myself and see which will likely be the best fit for me.

One of the most interesting parts of the trip is when we went to Hoover Dam and saw the newly commissioned Mick O’Callaghen-Pat Tilmen Memorio Bridge. It was my first time seeing both of the impressive structures and they reminded me of the vital work engineers do.

This trip has instilled a feeling to become an even more involved member of ASCE. The passion and drive of those I interacted with have made me proud of my future profession. I am very grateful of Cal Poly Pomona ASCE for allowing me to attend this conference. I hope to attend next years’ conference in Memphis Tennessee!

Suzanne Ramos – Cal Poly Pomona ASCE Treasurer

I would like to thank the San Bernardino & Riverside Counties Professional Branch for giving us the opportunity to attend the Annual ASCE Conference. I have never been so proud to be studying civil engineering and I look forward to my career as a Civil Engineer.

Heather Nielsen – Cal Poly Pomona ASCE Outreach Program Coordinator

First and foremost, I feel very privileged that I was given the chance to experience an ASCE Annual Conference. This was my first conference of my intended many to come. The amazing seamlessness of the entire weekend, all the seminars and sessions available, the many networking socials to meet current professionals and the encouragement of the students to participate and find you niche was inspiring and uplifting. I found myself many times proud to be a civil engineering student and filled with hope for the future of our profession.

Of the many different and diverse events I attended including a CSI Experience with dinner to a session on Vision 2025 – Leaders in Public Policy: Civil Engineers Protecting Public Safety, Health and Welfare in Tough Times, my personal favorite was the Leading Kids to Engineering session. This session was literally packed full with information, numerous websites for references, and several agendas for different activities to educate kids about what civil engineering is. The activities range in for various age groups starting from pre-school with ‘Curious George building bridges’ to high school ‘City Planning.’ I was inspired so much that as soon as I returned I started working with the Children’s Center to do one of the Curious George activities and my intention is to visit and work with several schools in our range as well as continue to have outreach as an integral part of my career.
I’m grateful for the chance to attend this National ASCE Conference. This Conference was very informative. I learned about a new technology called BIM (Building Information Modeling). Autodesk came up with BIM to help engineers, architects and contractors collaborate throughout the building process of a project. After seeing this presentation, I feel that it’s something that has the potential to be used a lot in the future and it’s definitely is something I want to learn how to use. Another presentation I attended talked about the high speed rail system that would go from Los Angeles to Victorville. There were four presenters and they each talk about the different aspects to building a high speed rail. One of the presenters came from Japan and he presented on the current high speed rail system in Japan. I thought it was very interesting and the fact that the American Society of Civil Engineers would reach out to foreign country to seek for advice on something that we are in the process of planning to build shows that great thoughts went into planning this high speed rail system. Along with the technical information I got from this conference, I also met many Civil Engineers and students that want to get into this profession and it just makes me really proud to be in this major and apart of ASCE.

Ryan Hicks – Cal Poly Pomona ASCE 2012 PSWC Logistics Chair

At the 2010 American Society of Civil Engineers Conference I attended a few concurrent sessions. At these sessions there were a few individuals who talked about a certain topic. One of the sessions I decided to go to was called “High Speed Rail: Innovative Safety and Security Features”. I thought this would be a beneficial session to attend because I am thinking about going into the transportation field. At this session we were given an overview about the high speed rail that is going to be built from Victorville, CA to Las Vegas, NV as well as where they believed the high speed rails will be put in the near future. The rail from Victorville to Las Vegas would go along Interstate 15 and would make no stops along the way. Its top speed would be about 160 mph (the trains can reach higher speeds, however, the government put a speed limit at this speed) which would make the trip a little over an hour long. The trip would cost $50 and trains would be at the station every 20 minutes. This is to get the greatest amount of people to and from Las Vegas with little wait time. Traveling at such high speeds many things can happen before anyone has a time to react. The members of the panel talked about safety features ranging from what would happen if an earthquake hit to someone cutting the fences and getting access to the track to hostage situations. I enjoyed all of the sessions I went to, however this one is more on the track (no pun intended) of something I may be working with in the near future.

Ian Berkland – Cal Poly Pomona ASCE Student Member, Chi Epsilon Honor Society

I attended seminars on globalization, high speed rail projects and career paths. In the globalization meeting I learned about energy projects in the Amazon. Turbines are being installed on the main rivers that utilize velocity head instead of potential energy. This system allows for electricity production without storing water. The river has minimal damming causing minimal environmental damage.

I have attended many conferences, none of which compares to the ASCE Annual Conference. The strong words of encouragement have given me the drive to become even more involved. It has

YMF at the ASCE Annual Civil Engineers Conference
impacted my views of engineering and I look forward to furthering my education and impacting the society with my knowledge.

Joseph Luevano – Cal Poly Pomona ASCE Student Member, Chi Epsilon Honor Society

The phrase of this trip was “Glad to be here.” This was told to us on the last day of conference and it hit home with me. The speaker, John Foley, said explained why this was an important phrase to him. He told us that we are so lucky to be in our positions and we should live our lives to the fullest. John is a former Blue Angel pilot, which is one of the highest honors that can be received as a pilot. He stated that after every flight they would say, “Glad to be here.” We had the opportunity to attend the conference and he reminded us that civil engineering is a top of the line career and we should always be thankful to be where we are.

As engineers we are privileged to be at the forefront of technology and in the advance of civilization. As leaders we must be able to trust others and grow with our team members in order to have a successful year. John mentions that team work is the only way to have a successful flight. As ASCE members encourages us to work on team bonding so that things can run smoothly through the year. As an ASCE member I feel responsible to be a leader for the future generations of civil engineering.

Michael Sampson – Cal Baptist ASCE President

Sustainability

- Green needs to be a way of practice not a secondary practice.
- Green is about lowering cost in the future
- Oil is in the past Solar panels, advancement, growth is our future
- If your company doesn’t start pushing green another company will. You want to be the first not the last.

Sustainable Cities

- China is getting a lot of the big picture correct but seem to be putting on a blind spot on vehicles.
- Driving is the cause of 2/3 of the carbon dioxide production
- Priority needs to be presented this way. Ped. Transit users Bicyclists Motor vehicle
- Masdar City (zero impact city) Example of what to do. (Problem is you have to drive a long distance to get to it.

Risk Management

- Civil engineers will be called upon to make more subjective judgment calls related to planning for avoiding and mitigating risks
- Risk review is intended to provide info on the risk of a project.
- Taking known’s and applying the probability of them happening.
- People react to flood rather then plan for it.
- Engineers need to communicate risk to the people. “keep floods away from people, keep people away from floods”
- Hoover could stop producing electricity as soon as 2013
- When electricity price hits certain levels it will trigger action
- Proper assessment and planning can help you in the future

Matthew Collins – Cal Baptist ASCE Vice President

I went into this conference with very few preconceptions about what I would garner from the speakers and the conference in general. What I left with was a greater excitement for our growing ACSE student chapter and civil engineering in general. I think the important thing that our chapter benefited from the conference was the time spent piking the brains of other established student chapter such as Cal Poly Pomona and USC specifically. We were able to see how they worked together and were encouraged to see we are on the right path in the way we are developing our chapter.

As far as the concurrent sessions are concerned, some of them were definitely many levels over my head and I had a difficult time following the speakers. However, there was one session specifically that spoke to me and to all student members of ASCE. The title of the session was Career Skills: What you need on the job. This session started off with the panel members each giving a short talk on their career experiences and how they ended up where they were today. Along with their history they spoke on their recommendations on how best to transfer from school to a career. They gave many tips on resumes, interpersonal skills and general dos and don’ts of interviews and meetings. After each one spoke they sat down and opened the floor to a QA session and answered many relevant questions that the students had. I definitely felt compelled to bring this information back to our chapter and share it with our members.

Overall the conference was very informative and interesting. By far the most useful aspect to our chapter was the networking that it provided to us. I definitely cannot wait to head east next year to the conference in Memphis.

Thank you to the San Bernardino & Riverside Counties Branch!
Type of Membership and Annual Dues (National)

Students: Free
Associate Member: $50 year of baccalaureate degree and first year after, then incremental increases to $205 over five years.
Member: $205 annually
Affiliate: $205 annually
Section (Branch) Dues: $45/year

1. National ASCE Student Membership is now FREE! Those who have chapters or clubs still must be a member of them before joining National. Log onto https://www.asce.org/online/ fill out the short application and instantly become a member of ASCE or call 1-800-548-ASCE (2723)

2. Online Membership renewal available, go to https://www.asce.org/renewal/inforenewal.cfm. You need your membership number, all payments must be made with a major credit card. An e-receipt is transmitted to the member upon completion of the transaction.

Over the summer your ASCE San Bernardino – Riverside Branch will be contacting you for a business card advertisement in your monthly newsletter. The proceeds from the business card ads defray the costs of newsletter so that the Branch funds can be used for purposes of providing student scholarships, Engineer’s Week in February where the Branch volunteers make presentations to the local high schools to generate interest in the field of engineering, and other community programs. The cost of the newsletter advertisement is $250 for a one-year subscription of 10 issues. Included with the Business Card advertisement is a business spotlight in the monthly newsletter where one or two businesses are highlighted. If you would like to reserve your spot early for next year’s newsletter please contact your Treasurer for next year – Matthew Addington at (909) 477-2710 ext 4202 and let him know which month you would like your Business Spotlight (1st in line gets first choice).
If you'd like to have your business card or company information listed in the Professional Directory, please contact:
The Branch Treasurer, Matthew Addington, at (909) 477-2710 ext 4202 or email at

Available space
Please see contact information below to have your company's business card displayed here.
Wednesday the 19th 2011:
January meeting: Update on National Committee on Levee Safety and Upcoming District Projects