



February 2017

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Capitol Consulting Day – February 21, 2017

Join your colleagues in St. Paul for the 2017 Capitol Consulting Day. With issues of major importance to our community in transportation funding, bonding, and more, we need to join together to educate our legislators on why these issues matter not just to consulting engineers, but to Minnesota.

Once again, two tracks will be offered at this event in the newly renovated State Capitol Building. **Track One** is for those members who are familiar with the legislative process and who plan to meet with legislators. ACEC/MN lobbyist Randy Morris will host a brief planning session to coach members on how to effectively interact with legislators to make sure our message is understood and delivered effectively.

Track Two is for members less familiar with the legislative process, but have an interest in learning more about how the legislature works. Members attending this track will tour the Capitol, State Office building, and sit in on a committee hearing. [Register](#) by completing the registration form or by contacting the ACEC/MN office.

2016-17 Engineering Excellence Award Winners Honored

ACEC/MN celebrated 50 years of the Engineering Excellence competition at a banquet on January 27, 2017. The event drew almost 400 attendees—the most in recent history—to the Marriott Minneapolis Northwest in Brooklyn Park.

The evening began with Master of Ceremonies Wendy Nemitz, of Nemitz Enterprises, welcoming members, clients and guests to the event, followed by a panel discussion, including Bridget Osborn of HR Green, Ricky Kirchner of BKBM Engineers, Ann Johnson of Progressive Engineering Services, and Terry Swor of American Engineering Testing. Panelists were asked to answer spontaneous questions, which created some entertainment during the banquet, and proof that engineers are not always stereotypical “engineers.”

ACEC/MN President Dan Murphy, PE of Meyer Borgman Johnson highlighted a few notable projects from the over 1,000 projects that have been entered into the competition over the past 50 years. This year 36 projects were submitted into the competition by 22 firms. The **Grand Conceptor Award**, designed to recognize the highest scoring project based on raw scores by the judges, was awarded to **HGA Architects and Engineers** for their structural design of the **Ordway Center Concert Hall Expansion**.

The People's Choice prize awarded to the firm that received the highest number of votes by those who attended the awards banquet. The 2017 **People's Choice** Winner was **Stantec** for **The Central Park Fountain and Ice**

Skating Loop project.

The evening also recognized the 2017-18 ACEC/MN scholarship recipients, presented by committee chair Mark Hodowanic of HIWAY Federal Credit Union. The Scholarship Committee distributed ten scholarships totaling \$24,000.

Mark Hodowanic was also recognized with a special award at the banquet for his service as chair of the committee from 2015-2017. Mark was the first non-engineer to serve in this role and he came with a new perspective. He added great questions to the interview process and helped ACEC staff streamline some procedures. Thank you, Mark, for your time, support, and dedication to the association and students!

Visit our website for an [event photo gallery](#).

The ACEC/MN 2017-18 scholarship recipients are:

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Noah Germolus, Environmental Engineering

Matt Kluthe, Civil Engineering

Alliant Scholarship – Henry Croll, Civil Engineering

Don Stormoe Scholarship - Matthew Kluthe, Civil Engineering

Earl Oxley Scholarship - Rena Weis, Environmental Engineering

University of Minnesota, Duluth

Ashley Murr, Civil Engineering

Bob Rosene Scholarship - Matthew McDermott, Civil Engineering

Minnesota State University, Mankato

Isabelle Race, Civil Engineering

Austin Rieder, Civil Engineering

St. Cloud State University

Tyler Pogreba, Land Surveying & Mapping

If your firm has an internship program and is looking for candidates, ACEC/MN would be happy to send you the resumes of scholarship applicants and winners. Contact Melissa Langowski at Melissa@acecmn.org for more information.

Thank You Sponsors of the 2017 Engineering Excellence Awards

ACEC/MN would like to thank all of the banquet sponsors for their generous contributions to the event:

50th ANNIVERSARY

Alliant Engineering, Inc.

American Engineering Testing, Inc.

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Braun Intertec Corporation

Kimley-Horn

Stantec

TKDA

WSB & Associates, Inc.

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A special thank you to the following:

ARC Document Solutions – Signage
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The First Impression Group - Printing

A full listing of all sponsors can be found at www.acecmn.org or in the awards issue of the *Framework* newsletter that was distributed to banquet attendees and mailed to members and clients. If you did not receive a copy of the newsletter or you would like additional copies, please contact the ACEC/MN office at 953-593-5533.

Solicitations for Firm of the Year, Emerging Leader, and President's Awards

Do you know a member who has contributed considerable time and effort over the past year and deserves to be acknowledged for his/her achievements? ACEC/MN members are invited to submit nominees for the President's Award, Firm of the Year Award, and the Emerging Leader Award. These awards are designed to recognize individuals and firms that have made significant contributions to ACEC/MN and the engineering profession over the past year.

Nomination forms can be received by contacting the ACEC/MN office or by visiting our website with the links below. The deadline for nominations is **April 10, 2017**. Please send your completed forms to Kristine Cassidy at Kristine@acecmn.org. It is perfectly acceptable to nominate yourself and/or your firm.

The President's Award is presented to an individual employed at an ACEC/MN member firm that has made a significant contribution to ACEC/MN and has been a valuable asset to the consulting engineering profession over the past year. This could include regular or ad hoc committee activity; attendance at the awards banquet, monthly meetings and seminars; promoting ACEC/MN to the public and/or acting in the interests of ACEC/MN; or other activities. Current members of the ACEC/MN Board of Directors are not eligible for this award. [Here is a complete list](#) of President's Award recipients.

The Firm of the Year Award is presented to an ACEC/MN member firm that, through their activities, has made a significant contribution to the advancement of ACEC/MN and the consulting engineering profession. The selection for this award is based on activities or involvement of firm employees that have benefited the association and the

profession. When selecting the recipient, consideration is given to the size of the firm and availability of time and resources. To see a complete [list of firms](#), visit our website.

[The Emerging Leader Award](#) was developed to recognize an ACEC/MN member still in the early stages of their career who has already contributed significantly to the association. [Here is a complete list](#) of Emerging Leaders recipients.

The ACEC/MN Board of Directors will select the recipients of these awards by secret ballot at the April board meeting. The awards will be announced at the ACEC/MN Annual Meeting in May.

Tom Roche Lifetime Achievement Award - Nominations Needed

ACEC/MN is soliciting nominations for the annual Tom Roche Lifetime Achievement Award for any individual member, affiliate member, or a non-member who has played a **significant** role in supporting the association or the consulting engineering profession in general.

[Tom Roche Lifetime Achievement Award](#) – Tom Roche was instrumental in establishing ACEC/MN (then the Minnesota Association of Consulting Engineers – MACE). Not only was he a primary force behind the formation of ACEC, he was also instrumental in establishing chapters in other states. He traveled to other states to assist them in establishing their chapters. His passion for engineering was unparalleled, and his passion for ACEC was a close second, which is why we continue to bestow this career achievement award in his name. Nominations for this distinguished award are due to Dave Oxley (doxley@acecmn.org) by **March 1, 2017**.

A selection committee will review nominations in March. The Tom Roche Lifetime Achievement Award will be announced at the ACEC/MN Annual Meeting in May.

To see a complete list of Tom Roche Lifetime Achievement recipients, visit our [website](#).

Board of Directors Positions Available 2017-2018

ACEC/MN is currently seeking candidates for the 2017-18 Board of Directors. Four director positions are available, as well as the young P.E. position. Participation on the board exposes you to a variety of activities and issues affecting the engineering profession. It is a great opportunity to expand your base of knowledge while giving something back to the profession.

Directors of the board serve two-year terms after which they have the opportunity to move in to an officer position. The young P.E. position is a one-year term for a younger P.E. who is interested in learning how the ACEC/MN board functions. This is an opportunity for an individual to preview future leadership opportunities in the association.

Board members are expected to attend monthly board meetings at the ACEC/MN office (typically the second Thursday of each month from 11:45 am to 1:30 pm) and serve as director for at least one ACEC/MN committee. Board members are also encouraged to attend events including strategic planning meetings, seminars, monthly meetings, the annual meeting, and the awards banquet.

The list of potential candidates will be reviewed by the ACEC/MN Nominating Committee in March. The Nominating Committee will recommend a group of candidates that will be forwarded to the membership for approval at the annual meeting held in May. If any of these positions sound appealing to you, contact David Oxley at 952-593-5533 or doxley@acecmn.org by **Wednesday, March 1** in order to be considered.

Business Practices Summit

ACEC/MN Business Practices Committee has put together a Summit on “Designing the Workforce of The Future”. This program includes two tracks, one focusing on human resources and the other on finance. Register online at [Business Practices Summit](#) or www.acecmn.org.

A Few Highlights Include:

- Great Food and CEU's

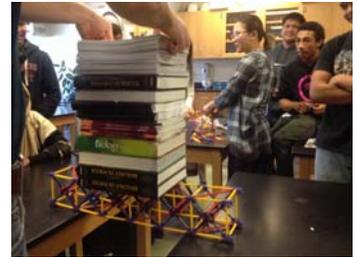
- Keynote: First Order of Business Work Should Be Fun
- Effective Onboarding
- Accounting Overview (New Revenue Rules, R&D and Section 179D Tax Credits)
- Designing and Negotiation Workspaces of the Future
- Facilitated Roundtable Discussion – Bring your Questions!!
- And so much more.....

Registration: [Business Practices Summit](http://www.acecmn.org) ,www.acecmn.org or melissa@acecmn.org

Who should Attend: This presentation is geared towards owners, stakeholders, managers, human resource and finance departments of professional service firms.

ACEC/MN K'Nex Kids with Engineering In February

In an effort to introduce students to engineering as a career choice, ACEC/MN will be visiting several schools again this year during Engineering Week (officially February 20-24) over two weeks - February 22-28, 2017, with the goal to get students excited about engineering. These visits will include an introduction to engineering, a hands-on activity using K'Nex building sets to create bridges and then break them, and a roadmap on how to become an engineer.



ACEC/MN's Workforce Development Committee leads this effort as part of their mission to positively impact the number of students pursuing engineering degrees and to engage, retain and cultivate an increasingly diverse engineering community in Minnesota. To make this week successful **we need volunteers!** If you're interested in helping, please contact Melissa Langowski at melissa@acecmn.org by Friday, February 10 or call the ACEC/MN office (952.593.5533) for more information.

Minnesota's Transportation Conference – Register Now!

Join your colleagues from across the state and all areas of the transportation community March 1-2, 2017 at Minnesota's Transportation Conference—the state's largest transportation event! This annual conference brings hundreds of people together from MnDOT, the Metropolitan Council, local governments, contractors and suppliers, and consulting engineering firms, as well as transportation advocates and policymakers.

Don't miss the 2017 conference at the Saint Paul RiverCentre. Located in the heart of downtown St. Paul. [Registration is now available](#) for the conference, scheduled for March 1-2, 2017. The conference will offer two days of knowledge sharing, networking, and continuing education.

Conference participants may choose to attend either one or two days of the event. When registering, please indicate which day(s) you plan to attend. Conference attendee registrations received after February 20, 2017, will be charged a \$50 late fee. Reduced rates for speakers are applicable only on the day(s) the speaker is presenting. Please select the conference attendee rate for any additional days of attendance.

Check out program highlights and browse the preliminary conference program [here](#).

Attend the ACEC National Annual Conference – April 23-26

The upcoming 2017 Annual Convention will present more than 30 advanced business education sessions led by top industry practitioners, including the following:

- ESOP as an Ownership Transition Option
- Future Markets with USDA Rural Utilities Service
- Markets in Federal Vertical Infrastructure (DOS-OBO, GSA, VA)
- Nurturing Engineering Talent for the Digital Age

The Convention, held in Washington, D.C., April 23-26, also features leading political and business speakers, Capitol Hill visits, federal market opportunities, business roundtables, industry panel discussions, and the 50th Engineering Excellence Awards Gala.

For more information and to register, [click here](#).

ACEC/MN's Got Game!

The annual ACEC/MN basketball tournament will take place on Saturday, March 4 at Bloomington Kennedy High School main gym (same place as last year).

Mark your calendars now for the 37th Annual *ACEC/MN Scholarship Softball Tournament in Memorial of DuWayne "Dewey" Kasma*. This annual event will take place on Saturday, August 5, 2017 at the Dred Scott Fields in Bloomington.

Proceeds raised at these sporting events go toward ACEC/MN annual scholarships. Look for more information for both events to come out soon.

News From Around the Membership

Greg McCool, PE, SE, of **Ericksen Roed & Associates**, passed the Structural Engineer exam and earned his certification in December 2016.

Kadrmaz, Lee & Jackson, Inc. is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dean Anagnost** as the organization's new chief executive officer (CEO).

LHB announced the following certification recipients: **Maia Harold, PE** (civil); **David Booth, Architect**; **John Imholte, PE** (mechanical); **Elizabeth C. Mauban, CDT, LEED AP BD+C, Electrical Designer**, has become a U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional in Building Design and Construction (LEED AP BD+C); and **Nick Vreeland, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, BECxP, CxA+BE, Senior Architect**, passed the Building Enclosure Commissioning Examination.

Mead & hunt welcomes **Ben Dzioba** and **Keith Farquhar** to their transportation team.

Susan Park Rani of **Rani Engineering** was named one of five Women Who Lead by Minnesota Business Magazine for the January issue. There were 40 women total, but she was one of five who was featured in a special spotlight. For more on this exciting news, click [here](#) (scroll through the photos to find Susan's spotlight). Congratulations, Susan!

Sambatek, Minnetonka, is pleased to announce the addition of **Michele Caron, PE**, who joins us as a Client Service Manager in our Land Services Department.

SRF Consulting Group, Inc. is pleased to announce the promotion of five industry-respected professionals to Principal: **James Gersema, PE**; **Joni Giese, PLA, ASLA, AICP**; **John Maus, PE, PTOE**; **Jacob Nordick, PE**; and **Aaron Vacek, PE**.

Stantec has announced the addition of three water specialists to its St. Paul team: EITs **Justin Fasching** and **Alisa McCulloch**, along with environmental scientist, **Anna Varian**. The firms also announced the following: **Brian Bellemare, PE, SE**, received his PE Structural certification and **Steven Voelker, PE**, received his PE certification.

DJ Heinle, AIA, has been named Vice President of **TKDA's** Architecture Division in St. Paul.

Affiliate member, **BPKZ, CPAs & Consultants** has announced its merger with Smith Schafer & Associates, Ltd. This merger was effective January 1, 2017. The combined firms will operate under Smith Schafer's names and will continue to operate out of the firm's Twin Cities office in Valley Square Corporate Center.

Save the Date! Upcoming ACEC/MN Events

Monthly meetings, seminars, and brown bags are planned for the 2015-16 year! Please visit our [website](#) for meeting dates and save the dates.

- [National State of Practice from Around the Country](#) – February 13

- [Business Practices Summit](#) – February 15
 - [Heavy Duty Concrete Floors](#) – February 17
 - [Capitol Consulting Day](#) – February 21
 - ACEC/MN Scholarship Basketball Tournament – March 4
 - ACEC/MN 37th Annual ACEC/MN Scholarship Softball Tournament in Memorial of DuWayne “Dewey” Kasma – August 5
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If you have an announcement you'd like to see included in the next Parameters newsletter, please contact: Kristine Cassidy, kristine@acecmn.org, P: 952-593-5533 F: 952-593-5552